

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia provides a forum for the study, promotion and debate of defence and security issues.

Dispatches is a weekly collection of links and news of current interest, included those tweeted and posted by the Institute on social media. Links to articles are checked at the time they are put into *Dispatches* but may be unavailable at a later date or in some states other than Canada.

If you are not a routine recipient of *Dispatches* but wish to be so, email the Institute's Chief Information Officer (CIO) at <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>. If you do not want to receive *Dispatches*, or wish to receive it at some different frequency, please inform the CIO. If you wish to receive *Dispatches* at a different address (i.e., not your work address), please inform the CIO. Past editions of *Dispatches* may be requested by contacting the CIO.

Everyone is encouraged to email to the CIO links and other content to be included in *Dispatches*.

Submissions and feedback are welcome anytime. Comments to articles can be from members or nonmembers of RUSI(NS). Any comment in *Dispatches* is the sole opinion of the author and does not necessarily represent the views of the Canadian Department of National Defence, the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

RUSI(NS) also publishes:

1. a weekly Dimensions Newsletter, (formally called *Defence & Security Newsletter*) aimed at opinion leaders and industry. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter, email <u>admin@duncom.ca</u>; and 2. a weekly *China Open Source Newsletter* of articles curated from Chinese military-related websites based inside mainland China. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter, email <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>.

COVID-19

The Canadian Armed Forces and COVID-19 – July 3 update

Colleagues and Partners in Defence,

I hope you were all able to celebrate a safe and enjoyable Canada Day however and wherever you chose to celebrate it this year.

On June 26, 2020, the CAF began a conditions-based, deliberate draw-down from long-term care facilities, based on transition criteria agreed-upon by provincial health authorities. In total, the CAF assisted 47 facilities in Quebec and 7 in Ontario. As announced last week, the Government of Canada will continue to support these facilities until mid-September with teams from the Canadian Red Cross. Before transitioning out of these facilities, CAF members ensured that conditions were stable and that staff were well equipped to continue to meet their residents' needs. CAF personnel have also been working closely with the Red Cross, sharing lessons learned and best practices to help prepare them for their duties in these facilities. The CAF will continue to maintain a reserve of ten Augmented Civilian Care shifts – teams of medical and support personnel – who will be ready to assist Quebec facilities, in case the situation becomes critical.

In recognition of the risks to CAF members working in long-term-care facilities, and in other situations where they have operated in a COVID-19 risk environment, the Government is issuing a <u>new hazard</u> <u>allowance</u> to eligible members. Eligible Canadian Armed Forces members deployed on Operation LASER and Operation GLOBE who were/are at risk of exposure to COVID-19 due to their duties will receive the allowance. The \$78 per day allowance is retroactive to when they commenced their duties, and will be in effect until September 30, 2020.

CAF support to provincial contact tracing efforts also concluded on June 25th. A team of 30 CAF members from 1 Dental Unit contacted a total of 1536 people to help stop the spread of the virus.

We will continue to post updates about the DND/CAF response to COVID-19 on the <u>DND/CAF</u> <u>COVID-19 Webpage</u> and the CAF mobile app. You can also find information on departmental priorities in the <u>Deputy Minister's Friday tweets</u>.

As the CAF draws down activities related to Operation LASER, the department is continuing to move forward with business resumption. On Monday, General Vance and Deputy Minister Thomas hosted a virtual town hall with regional leaders to answer questions and provide direction about business resumption. Also on Monday, the Government of Canada announced the <u>award of an in-service support</u> <u>contract</u> to Fleetway Inc. of Halifax, Nova Scotia. This contract will provide a full range of technical data management and systems engineering support services for the RCN's fleet of Halifax-class ships. It will enable the frigates to maintain their operational capability in support of CAF missions. And last week, the RCN announced that HMC Ships *Winnipeg* and *Regina* will participate in Exercise RIMPAC this August.

For those of you following last year's CT114 Tutor accident in Georgia, DND's Airworthiness Investigative Authority has issued the <u>final report in relation to the crash</u>. The investigation determined that the most probable cause of the accident was a fuel delivery system failure within the engine. The report provides a number of recommendations to improve safety and prevent this kind of accident from occurring again in the future.

You have no doubt been following yesterday's events at Rideau Hall in Ottawa. The CAF has confirmed that the individual arrested by the RCMP, on 2 July, is a member of the Canadian Armed Forces. We are cooperating fully with the RCMP in their investigation into the incident. Further details will be released by the RCMP as appropriate.

Finally, while Canada Day festivities may have looked different this year, Canadians still have a lot to celebrate and feel fortunate for, including having a reliable and agile military that they can always count on. The Canadian Armed Forces represent *so much* of what makes this country great. Right from the beginning of the year, when a snowstorm struck Newfoundland and Labrador, the CAF has come to the aid of Canadians across the country when we were most in need. Their support during the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly helped us get through these difficult times. <u>This Canada Day, it felt incredibly meaningful to celebrate our nation</u> and salute our CAF personnel for everything they do.

I would also like to thank all of you for everything you do for our country, and for the Canadian Armed Forces. We appreciate your continued engagement, and hope that you're able to find the time this summer to relax and unwind.

Quinn Watson

Director, Outreach and Speechwriting

Assistant Deputy Minister (Public Affairs)

Department of National Defence | Government of Canada

Organizing for Chaos: COVID, Complexity, and Command https://fromthegreennotebook.com/2020/07/05/organizing-for-chaos-covid-complexity-and-command/

Can a pandemic drone help stop the spread of COVID-19? https://thebulletin.org/2020/07/can-a-pandemic-drone-help-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19/

Keeping Up with the Digital COVID Jungle <u>https://isnblog.ethz.ch/technology/keeping-up-with-the-digital-covid-jungle</u>

How pandemic modelling failed policy-makers, and how to do better <u>https://macdonaldlaurier.ca/files/pdf/July_Commentary_Schipper_FWeb.pdf</u> "...preparedness is about resilience, the ability to observe with an open mind and adapt."

Events:

To list an event in *Dispatches*, email the CIO by noon Thursday. If you have an idea for a topic or speaker, please email <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>. RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice – email RUSI(NS) if there is a question of an event occurring.

15 July, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker RAdm Gilles Couturier, RCN (ret'd), CEO, Federal Fleet Services Inc., speaking about "MV *Asterix* - GoC leased replenishment vessel." 1300-1500, by Zoom. Registration is required. To register, email <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u> by close of business Mon, 13 Jul. Zoom instructions will be emailed by end Tue, 14 Jul.

New: **16 July**, Thursday - Centre for Ocean Ventures & Entrepreneurship "(Virtual) Ocean Connector" with CAPT Zdenka Willis, USN (ret'd) (Meteorology and Oceanography), CEO of Veraison Consulting and President of the Marine Technology Society. 1500-1600. To register: https://coveocean.com/events/2020-07-16/-virtual-ocean-connector-featuring-zdenka-willis

Recent Publications:

RUSI(NS) Presentation "5 XX Army Reserve Update" by BGen Pelletier, 24 June 2020, <u>https://rusi-ns.ca/5-xx-army-reserve-update/</u>. Posted on our website are slides used by BGen Pelletier regularly during external engagements to promote the Army Reserves. The full deck as used by the Comd for his presentation is available to RUSI(NS) members on request to <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>.

The Office of the Veterans Ombudsman quarterly Focused on Fairness, Volume 2, is available on request to <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>.

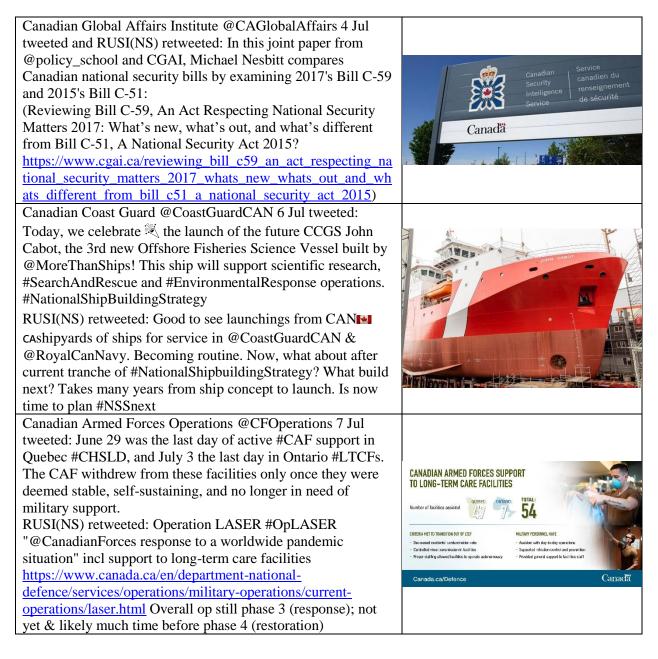
Dalhousie University Centre for the Study of Security & Development paper ""Living with Giants and Inconvenient Truths: The US, China, and Everyone Else" by Dr David Beitelman, 24 June 2020, is available on request to <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>.

The United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island (USINNI) Newsletter Vol 28 No 7 July 2020 is available on request to <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>.

New: The Edmonton United Services Institute President's Enews July 2020 is available on request to <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>.

New: The Military Institute of Windsor Communiqué, Volume XXXVIII Number 7 July-August 2020 is available on request to <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>.

Tweeted by @**RUSI_NS:** RUSI(NS) tweets may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <u>https://RUSI-NS.ca</u>. To have something tweeted or retweeted, email the CIO at <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u>. Original article title in parentheses.



COVE *COVE* Ocean 7 Jul tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: From the @USNavy to the @NOAA, and now as the President of the @MTSociety, Zdenka Willis is this ONNECTO month's #OceanConnector guest speaker! Join us on Thursday, July 16 at 3:00 PM (ADT) on Zoom or YouTube. Register at https://coveocean.com/events/2020-07-16/-virtual-ocean-BY COVE connector-featuring-zdenka-willis Canadian Armed Forces Operations @CFOperations 8 Jul tweeted: 1/2 From 26 June to 4 July 2020, the #CAF supported France under #OpFREQUENCE by successfully transporting cargo between France and the Sahel region of Africa using a CC-177 Globemaster. RUSI(NS) retweeted: Operation FREQUENCE #OpFREQUENCE "@CanadianForces support to France -#RCAF aircraft move French military equipment & personnel between France & Sahel region of Africa" https://www.canada.ca/en/department-nationaldefence/services/operations/military-operations/currentoperations/operation-frequence.html

Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

Destroyers Continue to Prowl 4th Fleet As Coast Guard, Navy Rack Up \$1B in Drug Seizures

https://news.usni.org/2020/07/02/destroyers-continue-toprowl-4th-fleet-as-coast-guard-navy-rack-up-1b-in-drugseizures



There was a blog post titled "Wasted Resource" that RUSI(NS) editors considered posting but then realized some virus checkers would not allow. The post commented on the mis-use of high-end combatants such as destroyers to carry out routine tasks such as drug busts (the blog actually used the same PREBLE narcotics picture as the USNI article has). The RUSI(NS) comment originally intended for the blog was:

"Yes, to have a balanced navy (a worthwhile aim) means to have vessels of lesser capability and lesser cost to carry out non-high-end-conflict tasks such as those of the constabulary missions. The Royal Canadian Navy has its Kingston and Harry DeWolf classes of patrol vessels. The Kingstons are coming up for replacement. A small patrol vessel (multi-role, e.g., mine warfare, diving support, drone operations, science at sea support) should be part of the National Shipbuilding Strategy next round (NSS 2.0 if you will)."

This USNI article provides some insights into the use of high-end ships, especially that of needing endurance for the patrol mission. Patrol vessels can (should) have high endurance, too. The USNI article also makes the point of balancing navies without using the term, in this case about having sufficient personnel parties (Law Enforcement Detachments) for the mission.

The UK's Integrated Review Has Restarted: Are Key Questions and Assumptions Still Valid?

https://rusi.org/commentary/uk-integrated-review-has-restarted-are-key-questions-and-assumptions-still-valid



"...systematic investment in strengthening networks of alliances and building new ones is needed to ensure the <insert medium power's name here> has a critical mass of friends and allies."

"Questions of resilience and Defence's role in (the experience of the current health crisis) will have a higher priority than before..."

Canada needs to conduct an integrated defence and security review as soon as our control of the pandemic situation allows (which should mean within the next year). There are lessons, questions, answers, etc., that can be taken from the UK as that state goes through its review.

Election monitors allege Putin referendum saw unprecedented ballot fraud

https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/election-monitorsallege-putin-referendum-saw-unprecedented-ballot-fraud/ar-BB16m4iu?ocid=spartan-dhp-feeds

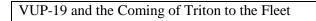


This article by ABC News should come as no surprise to anyone watching Russia.

Russia is long suffering. It is a country of fine folks and vast natural resources and capability. It has been amazing that the country is led by a person that lives in the past glories of the Soviet Union. He could have used Russia's natural strengths to bring the economy to leadership in the world. Instead the country languishes with the economy being worse than some third world countries. He has also engaged in unnecessary conflicts and have extended the rule of some very noxious national leaders; his reasoning being to show Russia's reach and vitality. His government is noted for corruption. His changes to the pensions of Russians to pay for military rearmament has not gone over well with his natural base and there is growing unrest nationally. It does not bode well in the long term.

This past week, Russia ran a referendum that would allow Putin to remain as president until 2036. It was judged by Russia's electoral commission as "opaque" and that unusual methods were being used. Keep in mind that the Electoral Commission is appointed by the Russian President Putin, as reported by the Moscow Times this week.

Putin is weakening steadily. The fact that his own appointed Electoral Commission and outside observers are openly commenting on the veracity of the referendum is quite extraordinary and indicative of his weakened state. Time will tell if this is the start of a leadership change in Russia.



https://sldinfo.com/2020/07/vup-19-and-the-coming-of-tritonto-the-fleet/



Note the nine takeaways. Lessons for Canadian Armed Forces use of its broad area maritime (or not maritime) surveillance (BAMS, for acronym collectors) capability when that works towards going operational.

Army Records Most Successful Recruitment Year Since 2015

https://www.forces.net/news/army-records-most-successfulrecruitment-year-2015



A2R (attraction, recruitment, retention) is a concern, whether for Canadian Armed Forces, the Army or the Army Reserve. Are there lessons in the UK experience/success?

Trans-Atlantic Leaders Gather for Fourth Battle of the Atlantic Tabletop Exercise

https://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=113453



"The name 'Fourth Battle of the Atlantic' acknowledges a return to great power competition by recognizing the first three 'battles of the Atlantic,' first during World War I, next in World War II, and most recently during the Cold War. The Fourth Battle of the Atlantic TTX is one way NATO is strengthening its joint presence in the North Atlantic, which it reduced at the end of the Cold War as threats subsided."

The North Atlantic was the main operating theatre of the Royal Canadian Navy. The RCN is now much more of a globally-deployable force (albeit usually in small groups or single ships), for diplomatic, training and constabulary missions. But the North Atlantic is still well known to the RCN, and the Navy could and should take a leading role in planning and preparing for operations there.

How the U.N. Can Mitigate the Coronavirus Pandemic's Impact on Peacekeeping

https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/28890/how-theu-n-can-mitigate-the-coronavirus-pandemic-s-impact-onpeacekeeping



"...U.N. officials must think creatively about how to address new crises, with an emphasis on smaller and less costly options. The organization's range of crisis management tools that could fit the bill include largely civilian political missions and small monitoring teams."

"The pandemic will place significant strains on peacekeeping, but it may be an opportunity for U.N. officials to experiment with new ways to tackle crises tailored to the organization's unique strengths and advantages for doing so."

Chinese miners' deal frenzy seen stalling on regulatory hurdles

https://whtc.com/news/articles/2020/jul/06/chinese-minersdeal-frenzy-seen-stalling-on-regulatory-hurdles/1036365/



Good to see some push back on Chinese economic imperialism/expansion. One of many 'wars' going on.

"'It's still our hope that Canada will ... provide a fair, just and nondiscriminatory environment for Chinese companies to invest and operate in Canada,' Chinese ambassador to Canada Cong Peiwu told Reuters in a June 11 interview."

It's our hope that China will provide a fair, just and nondiscriminatory environment for Canadians in China, period.

Elbit Systems Integrates a mini-UAS Onboard the Seagull USV

https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2020/07/elbitsystems-integrates-a-mini-uas-onboard-the-seagull-usv/



Drones embarking/integrated with drones. The future of warfare...

Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS: RUSI(NS) postings may be viewed by clicking on the icon at <u>https://RUSI-NS.ca</u>. To have something posted or commented, email the CIO by noon Thursday.

https://mailchi.mp/rusi.org/5-june-this-week- 168966?e=a539211a30	
This Time, Russia Is in Afghanistan to Win <u>https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/07/01/russia-afghansitan-united-states-bountygate/</u>	
Cyber Strike By Foreign Force Caused Iran Explosion: Israeli Experts https://breakingdefense.com/2020/07/cyber-strike-by-foreign- force-causes-iran-explosion-israeli-experts/	Handberger SSM Facility Explosion's (26 June 2020) Aftermath
Could China's unwanted FC-31 Gyrfalcon stealth fighter finally land a role in the navy? <u>https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3091563/could-chinas-unwanted-fc-31-gyrfalcon-stealth-fighter-finally/</u>	

Artificial Intelligence and Your Military Operations https://vanguardcanada.com/2020/07/02/artificial-intelligence-and-your-military-operations/	THE LOW COMPANY AND
India accelerates weapons purchases in wake of border clash with China <u>https://www.defensenews.com/global/asia-</u>	
pacific/2020/07/06/india-accelerates-weapons-purchases-in- wake-of-border-clash-with-china/	
Israel launches Ofek 16 satellite to complete intelligence coverage	Í.
https://www.defensenews.com/space/2020/07/06/israel- launches-ofek-16-satellite-to-complete-intelligence-coverage/	
Britain lifts ban on Saudi weapons exports	
https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2020/07/07/britai n-lifts-ban-on-saudi-weapons-exports/	
China's Second Wave of Coronavirus Censorship Is Here	the second second second
https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/07/07/china-virus-censorship- death/	

Defence Department still assessing cyber attack on leading Canadian military college <u>https://business.financialpost.com/technology/tech-news/defence-department-still-assessing-cyber-attack-on-leading-canadian-military-college</u>	DE3100A16C20Data Breach220 8 2202E6F6163686573204C697 BA7 01Cyber Attack696EA1 106564207368 06E61
China Is NATO's New Problem https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/07/08/china-nato-hybrid- threats-europe-cyber/	
National Defence's supply chain for the Canadian Armed Forces delivers late 50% of the time	
https://www.oag- bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/mr_20200708_e_43596.html	
CBSA has lost track of 34,700 people due to be deported: auditor-general <u>https://globalnews.ca/news/7152195/cbsa-deportation-</u> removal-auditor-general/	Border Services
	Serie

Cold Lake air force base recruits army of animal weed-whackers

https://www.cbc.ca/news/SOMNIA-1.5642130



Other Sources: Recommendations for 'themes' (e.g., #drones) to list in this section are welcome.

#China #Russia

The People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation as Strategic Allies <u>https://www.stratcomcoe.org/peoples-republic-china-and-russian-federation-strategic-allies</u>

#headquarters

How to Quit Fighting with Your Higher HQ <u>https://fromthegreennotebook.com/2020/07/09/how-to-quit-fighting-with-your-higher-hq/</u>

#NATO #China

China Is NATO's New Problem https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/07/08/china-nato-hybrid-threats-europe-cyber/

#wargaming

The need for diversity in wargaming <u>https://paxsims.wordpress.com/2020/07/02/the-need-for-diversity-in-wargaming/</u>

Other:



Royal Canadian Navy "Your Navy Today - June 2020" http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/en/news-ynt/2020/06-your-navy-today.page