



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

14 August 2020

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 RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. 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 non-members 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 admin@duncom.ca; 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 RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

Events:

To list an event in *Dispatches*, email the CIO by noon Thursday. RUSI(NS) events are by invitation only. If you are interested in attending and have not been invited, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice – email RUSI(NS) if there is a question of an event occurring.

19 August, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Dr Peter Kikkert, Irving Shipbuilding Chair in Arctic Policy, Brian Mulroney Institute of Government, St Francis Xavier University, will present "The Canadian Rangers: Cornerstone for Community Disaster Resilience in Canada's Remote and Isolated Communities." 1300-1500. Registration is required. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Mon, 17 Aug. Zoom instructions will be emailed by end Tue, 18 Aug.

New: 26 August, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speakers Insp Blair Bannerman, New Glasgow Regional Police; Cpl Deepak Prasad, RCMP; and Cpl Shawn Reynolds, RCMP; will present "Policing in a Pandemic Environment." 1300-1500. The talks will cover the challenges to operations, wellness and resiliency, and emergency planning under the unprecedented conditions of the COVID-19

pandemic. Registration is required. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Mon, 24 Aug. Zoom instructions will be emailed by end Tue, 25 Aug.

New: 27 August, Thursday - Ocean Frontier Institute webinar for Amundsen Science. 2-3 pm ADT. More information about Amundsen Science can be found at <https://amundsenscience.ulaval.ca/>. Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zCIWgUzERDWr0ZeahhI3FQ.

16 September, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker TBA.

21 October, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker TBA.

Recent Publications:

RUSI(NS) Information Note “The Navy’s Barber Pole” by David J Freeman, 22 July 2020 <https://rusi-ns.ca/barber-pole/>

RUSI(NS) Presentation "MV *Asterix* - Government of Canada Leased Replenishment Vessel" by RAdm Couturier, RCN (ret'd), CEO Federal Fleet Services Inc., 15 July 2020

<https://rusi-ns.ca/mv-asterix-government-of-canada-leased-replenishment-vessel/>

Recording of the video-conference is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

RUSI(NS) Information Note “Canadian Warship Acceptance,” 15 July 2020

<https://rusi-ns.ca/canadian-warship-acceptance/>

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

The Edmonton United Services Institute President’s Enews August 2020 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

The United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island (USINNI) Newsletter Vol 28 No 08 August 2020 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

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

Original article title in parentheses.

Survival, logistics, good learning points for allies/partners operating in CAN🇨🇦#Arctic/North
<https://taskandpurpose.com/news/navy-arctic-warfare-equipment> Looking forward to #HMCSHarryDeWolf #RCNavy's 1st Arctic & Offshore Patrol Vessel #AOPV participating in #OpNANOOK2021
(The Navy is putting 'the proper equipment' back on its ships to operate in harsh Arctic conditions)



United Nations @UN 8 Sug tweeted: Urban search and rescue teams supported by @UNOCHA are in #Beirut following the devastating explosion that hit the city on Tuesday. Learn about how these teams help countries like Lebanon respond to & recover from disasters. <https://unocha.exposure.co/insarag> (INSARAG - 30 years of urban search and rescue)
RUSI(NS) retweeted: Light urban search & rescue is a capability of @CanadianArmy Reserve. Might #ARes #LUSAR teams someday deploy overseas in response disaster? "Light Urban Search and Rescue capability a perfect fit for Army Reserve" <https://www.army-armee.forces.gc.ca/en/news-publications/national-news-details-no-menu.page?doc=light-urban-search-and-rescue-capability-a-perfect-fit-for-army-reserve/jt0eb5kx> #USAR #SAR



See also: CAF Urban Search and Rescue Capability <https://www.cfc.forces.gc.ca/259/290/318/192/lake.pdf>

Robert Hampton Gray #RCNavy, winner of #VictoriaCross at end Second World War in Pacific, honoured with naming of 6th #Arctic&Offshore Patrol Vessel #AOPV to be built by @IrvingShipbuild for @RoyalCanNavy <https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-national-defence/news/2020/08/sixth-arctic-and-offshore-patrol-ship-to-be-named-in-honour-of-canadian-naval-hero-robert-hampton-gray.html> <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/gal/vcg-gcv/bio/gray-rh-eng.asp>



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

French Navy Starts Trials of Variable Depth Sonar aboard Loire-class Offshore Support Vessel

<https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2020/08/french-navy-starts-trials-of-variable-depth-sonar-aboard-loire-class-offshore-support-vessel/>



A variable-depth sonar (VDS) in a 20-foot ISO container and can be fitted aboard vessels as small as 300 tons. That could considerably add to a navy's anti-submarine capability, particularly in the littorals. Imagine a fleet of 'vessels-of-opportunity' taken up from the civil sector and fitted with VDS containers (and boxed comm fit, etc.). Highlights (again) the idea of looking at vessels as 'trucks' in which to embark sensors and weapons when needed. Hmm, hopefully there are naval planners closely examining what ships might be available in the federal government and civilian fleets.

Can the US Save Its Sealift Fleet?

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/08/can-the-us-save-its-sealift-fleet/>



Canada's military sealift requirement is much smaller than that of the US but there is one. Would shipping be available in a crisis? Is there sufficient Canadian-controlled shipping on a day-to-day basis to respond to suddenly arising Canadian government missions?

The concept of a National Security Multi-Mission Vessel is interesting. Could Canada, not just the Royal Canadian Navy but all government and non-government organizations, benefit from there being a shared vessel for sealift, training, scientific research, humanitarian assistance and disaster response?

There is already a design. See: "NSMV – National Security Multi-Mission Vessels" (<https://www.maritime.dot.gov/national-security/nsmv-%E2%80%93-national-security-multi-mission-vessels>) and "Philly Shipyard Wins Major Training Ships Contract" (<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200408005624/en/Philly-Shipyard-Wins-Major-Training-Ships-Contract>). One of the three major Canadian shipbuilders could readily take up this project (questionable which yard has capacity right now without expanding).

If Canada had such a vessel, it could well be one its way to Lebanon today.

PBO to examine \$60 billion price tag of new warships and compare to other less expensive foreign programs

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/pbo-to-examine-60-billion-price-tag-of-new-warships-and-compare-to-other-less-expensive-foreign-programs/wcm/83defb32-7567-4cd9-b800-3b8a3b0e3a61/>



The PBO examination should (will - trust PBO) be equitable ("apples to apples, not oranges"). Canadian domestic defence procurement is more expensive because of national/political economic investment priorities. Often infrastructure (jetties, school buildings) development is part of domestic equipment builds/acquisition.

The UK Type 31 is not an option that would meet the Canadian Surface Combatant requirements. The Type 31 is a light frigate with less capabilities than most frigates, and is meant for export and to complement (cheaper ship for less demanding missions) more capable ships as part of a balanced navy. Canada's balance is different.

Fugro cements uncrewed evolution strategy with order for two SEA-KIT USVs

<https://www.nsenergybusiness.com/news/fugro-cements-uncrewed-evolution-strategy-with-order-for-two-sea-kit-usvs/>



"The first of the 12m SEA-KIT X class USVs ... will feature remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) launch-and-recovery systems and station-keeping capabilities. The vessel will be used to conduct completely uncrewed ROV pipeline inspections in up to 400m water depth ..."

Capable of operating ROV and AUV. Imagine drones like this being used by militaries and non-state actors for conflict over submarine telecommunication cables, sea bottom acoustic sensors and other underwater systems. #FutureWar!

What Role Does Marine Trade Play In the Arctic?

<https://clearseas.org/en/blog/role-marine-trade-play-arctic/>



"In the Arctic, community resupply via ships is crucial."

As the Arctic opens up and state and non-state maritime activity increases, development of marine infrastructure, sealanes and regulation of the Northern waters becomes even more important. Interference in the movement of ships in the North cannot be accepted. Support and protection of ships, whether resupply or not, is an important function of multiple federal departments and other parties. There needs to be robust planning and exercising (escort) by the Royal Canadian Navy and others.

Good role for the Navy's new Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessels.

Interesting link in the article: "The Value of Commercial Marine Shipping to Canada" (https://clearseas.org/en/research_project/the-value-of-canadian-commercial-shipping/).

U.K. Royal Navy Dispatching Survey Ship to Aid in Lebanon Crisis, CENTCOM Sending Supplies

<https://news.usni.org/2020/08/06/u-k-royal-navy-dispatching-survey-ship-to-aid-in-lebanon-crisis-centcom-sending-supplies>



Survey ship HMS ENTERPRISE has been deployed by the UK to Lebanon to help survey the Port of Beirut and assess the damage there after the recent explosion. This is a lesson from past disasters -

ensure that seaports, airports and other transport infrastructure are cleared and have the equipment (cranes, mobile support equipment, etc.) and people to operate so relief supplies and commerce can flow. Sometimes the best resource that a state can deploy to another state in response to a disaster isn't a front line first rate warship, but an auxiliary or logistics capability. Navies (and other services of the military) have to be balanced. Canada is acquiring powered barges, being built by Navamar (<http://navamar.com/en/maritimeen/>) to be carried and launched from the Royal Canadian Navy's replenishment oilers, that can get aid ashore when conditions do not otherwise allow.

United States Marine Inc to supply 15 explosive ordnance disposal response craft boats to Azerbaijan

<https://www.navyrecognition.com/index.php/news/defence-news/2020/august/8810-united-states-marine-inc-to-supply-explosive-ordnance-disposal-response-craft-to-azerbaijan.html>



United States to build fifteen 9-metre Multi-Use Explosive Ordnance Disposal Response Craft to Azerbaijan. These rigid-hull inflatable boats (RIB or RHIB) "can be used for missions such as harbor patrol, passenger transport, diving operations, casualty evacuation and unmanned system operations."

A balanced navy includes special, at times small, craft. Maybe single role but better (and boats are good for that) usable for a variety of tasks.

NORTHCOM Nominee Supports Building New U.S. Arctic Base for Icebreakers

<https://news.usni.org/2020/07/28/northcom-nominee-supports-building-new-u-s-arctic-base-for-icebreakers>



The majority of new Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) ships will be utilized for icebreaking both in the North (summer) and the South (winter), thus basing in the Arctic is not practical. The Canadian Polar Icebreaker is designed for autonomous operations, and if two were to be built that would enable 365 day per year Arctic presence.

Closing of CCG bases for ships in St John NB, Charlottetown PEI and Dartmouth NS have left the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Halifax NS, and St John's NL as the only government owned, large facilities. The CCG Atlantic Region leases space in St John's and Argentia NL for overflow for large ships (as space has been a problem), although some space is being gained from the Naval Reserve Division HMCS Cabot in St John's.

There is no basing in the Arctic. The CCG will likely get some use out of the new commercial facility under construction in Iqaluit although competition for berth space will be high during the annual sealift. Churchill MB is really too far south to be of practical value. For the Nanisivik Naval Facility, there is a CCG/Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) working group on shared use and joint conduct of Arctic operation. The design (cost) reduction in the tank farm from 15M litres to 7.5M litres may or may not have an impact. CCG's usage in the Arctic is roughly 3M litres but that may go up with an extended season. Ship-to-ship transfer from tankers is a present method of refueling and could be used in

combination with Nanisivik. An issue with Nanisivik is that the airport is in Arctic Bay - not sure how well the road between the two will be maintained in the future, if at all. Arctic Bay is limited to smaller passenger/cargo aircraft although First Air has landed their C-130 there. What might the Royal Canadian Air Force have attempted? When the airport was at the mountaintop it was logistically better for Nanisivik for crew changes and was jet capable, but fog or low cloud could sock it in for weeks at a time. There was talk several years ago now about a public-private partnership type venture at Grays Bay in the Coronation Gulf (Western Arctic), with berthing, a jet capable airstrip and fuel storage mainly to support mining activity inland.

Russia to unveil latest submersible vehicle at Army-2020 arms show

<https://www.navyrecognition.com/index.php/news/defence-news/2020/july/8790-russia-to-unveil-latest-submersible-vehicle-at-army-2020-arms-show.html>



A deep ocean drone. That's a suitable environment for using such vehicles. I wonder what Canada's unmanned underwater vehicles (UUV) are capable of diving.

US Navy and US Coast Guard participates to Canadian Operations NANOOK-TUUGAALIK 2020

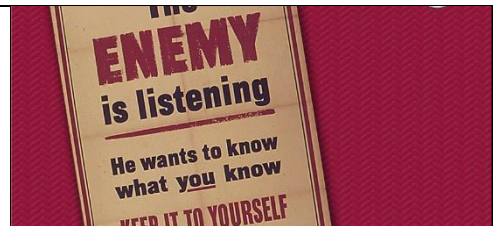
<https://www.navyrecognition.com/index.php/news/defence-news/2020/august/8828-us-navy-and-us-coast-guard-participates-to-canadian-operations-nanook-tuugaalik-2020.html>



Nice photo of MV ASTERIX, leased by the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN), replenishing US Navy and Coast Guard ships during Canada's Operations NANOOK-TUUGAALIK 2020. Having a replenishment oiler like ASTERIX is a great team builder and multi-national operations enabler for a navy like the RCN. When the RCN has more oilers, even better.

Defense Personnel to Get Crash Course in OpSec

<https://www.defenseone.com/policy/2020/08/dod-orders-personnel-take-crash-course-opsec/167557/>



In Canada, Canadian Armed Forces and Department of National Defence personnel undertake a considerable amount of not-operational but required online training. Hmm, wouldn't hurt to reduce some of that (does absolutely everyone have to take financial training?) and replace it with something like operational security (OPSEC) training. After all, there're cyber, information and public information 'wars' ongoing these days and everyone is on the front line.

What is a Tiger Team and Why is the Opportunity Valuable?

<https://fromthegreennotebook.com/2020/08/11/what-is-a-tiger-team-and-why-is-the-opportunity-valuable/>



This commentator recalls tiger teams from the early 1980s, focusing on the ADLIPS ship plotting system. Concept worked then, can work now.

On Rare Earths, the Pentagon Is Making the Same Mistake Twice

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2020/08/rare-earths-pentagon-making-same-mistake-twice/167585/>



An aspect of economic warfare. Is the West losing?

Canada to spend \$1.5B to maintain its fleet of frigates well into 2040s

<https://www.rcinet.ca/en/2020/08/12/canada-to-spend-1-5b-to-maintain-its-fleet-of-frigates-well-into-2040s/>



"Docking maintenance work periods are critical to ensure the RCN has at least eight of its 12 patrol frigates ready for deployment at all times..."

Enough to form two task groups, per the defence policy "Strong, Secure, Engaged," for deployment.

It is going to be interesting how the government, Department of National Defence, Royal Canadian Navy and the shipyards ensure there is no 'bathtub' (drop in ship availability) in the fleet schedule timeline in as the Halifax-class pay off and Canadian Surface Combatant frigates are accepted.

Unusually Large Narco Submarine May Be New Challenge For Coast Guard

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/hisutton/2020/08/10/unusually-large-narco-submarine-might-smuggle-8-tons-of-illegal-drugs/#6bd63c895afd>



100-foot long narco-submarine (semi-submersible, really). Such vessels are now a global challenge for law enforcement. And for Navy theatre anti-submarine operations where such forces are assisting law enforcement.

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



This Week

<https://mailchi.mp/rusi.org/7-august-2020?e=a539211a30>



Israel Needs Help Rebuilding Its Munitions Stockpile

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2020/08/israel-needs-help-rebuilding-its-munitions-stockpile/167497/>



Germany floats a new NATO spending yardstick: 10 percent

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2020/08/06/germany-floats-a-new-nato-spending-yardstick-10-percent/>



Normal Is Over for Russia's Hinterland

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/07/khabarovsk-furgal-putin-siberia-normal-isnt-ever-coming-back-to-russias-hinterland/>



The Defense Reforms Taiwan Needs

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2020/08/defense-reforms-taiwan-needs/167558/>



US-China relations: America is looking to outgun PLA in Indo-Pacific, observers say

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3096600/us-china-relations-america-looking-outgun-pla-indo-pacific>



Arctic patrol vessel named after Robert Hampton Gray, Second World War navy pilot

<https://www.halifaxtoday.ca/local-news/arctic-patrol-vessel-named-after-robert-hampton-gray-second-world-war-navy-pilot-2626212>



America's 5G Capabilities Are About to Get a Big Boost

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2020/08/americas-5g-capabilities-are-about-get-big-boost/167595/>



Fighter jets cross a line in Taiwan Strait, says Taipei as it hosts US health official amid rising US-China tension

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3096776/fighter-jets-cross-line-taiwan-strait-says-taipei-it-hosts-us>



Hong Kong Police Mix Colonial and Communist Brutality

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/11/hong-kong-police-china-national-security-law-pro-democracy-arrests-tony-chung-jimmy-lai/>



North Korea nuclear reactor site threatened by recent flooding, U.S. think-tank says

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-nuclear-floods/north-korea-nuclear-reactor-site-threatened-by-recent-flooding-u-s-think-tank-says-idUSKCN25908S?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2008.13.20&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



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

#COVID

Canadian and Global Military Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://hillnotes.ca/2020/06/03/canadian-and-global-military-responses-to-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

Open-Source Intelligence in Pandemic Early Warning

<https://hillnotes.ca/2020/04/28/open-source-intelligence-in-pandemic-early-warning/>

Pandemic, Social Unrest, and Crime in U.S. Cities

<https://www.hsdl.org/?abstract&did=842514>

#defence procurement

Defence Procurement Organizations Worldwide: A Comparison

https://lop.parl.ca/sites/PublicWebsite/default/en_CA/ResearchPublications/201952E

#defence strategy

Australia’s Defence Strategic Update: It’s All About China

<https://rusi.org/commentary/australias-defence-strategic-update-it%E2%80%99s-all-about-china>

#deradicalization

What About the Camp Followers – and their Children?

by RUSI(NS) member Ian MacVicar: <https://journals.sfu.ca/jd/index.php/jd/article/view/331/219>

#information operations

Deepfakes Are Getting Better, Easier to Make, and Cheaper

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2020/08/deepfakes-are-getting-better-easier-make-and-cheaper/167536/>

The Risks of Exaggerating Foreign Influence Operations and Disinformation

<https://www.cigionline.org/articles/risks-exaggerating-foreign-influence-operations-and-disinformation>
Politically focused but there is overlap with defence and security affairs.

#leadership

Sympathy or Empathy? How feeling enhances leadership in training

<https://thearmyleader.co.uk/sympathy-or-empathy/>

Though the article is worth including in *Dispatches* on its own merit, the Star Wars-like helmets in the article's photos make it doubly so/ FutureWar!



#policing

The Right to Be Left Alone and Police Powers in Canada: Is an Update Needed?

<https://hillnotes.ca/2020/05/07/the-right-to-be-left-alone-and-police-powers-in-canada-is-an-update-needed/>

#professional military education

PME, Defence and the need for Reform

UK but consider points: <https://wavellroom.com/2020/08/11/pme-defence-and-the-need-for-reform/>

#Report to Congress on Changes in the Arctic

<https://news.usni.org/2020/08/06/report-to-congress-on-changes-in-the-arctic-6>

#space

Policy in a Vacuum: Why the UK Needs to Rethink How it Approaches Space

<https://rusi.org/commentary/policy-vacuum-why-uk-needs-rethink-how-it-approaches-space>

#weapons

DoD Drafts Guidelines For Laser Design

<https://breakingdefense.com/2020/08/dod-drafts-guidelines-for-laser-design/>

Other:

The Department of National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces update -- August 5

Colleagues and partners in defence,

We were shocked and saddened to learn of yesterday's devastating explosion in Beirut, which killed more than one hundred people, injured thousands, and displaced thousands more. One of our own CAF members sustained non-life threatening injuries, and is in contact with government officials who are providing support. All other CAF personnel in the region are safe, and have been accounted for. Canada joins the entire world in mourning those lost to the devastation, and we extend our deepest condolences to Canadian and Lebanese citizens, as well as everyone else affected by this tragedy.

Last week was busy for our East coast Navy. On July 31st in Halifax, DND [formally received HMCS *Harry DeWolf*](#), the first of six new Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ships (AOPS) built for the Royal Canadian Navy. This is the first ship delivered through the National Shipbuilding Strategy. These modern and multifunctional ships will be at the core of our enhanced Arctic presence, and will complement the capabilities of our warships.

The ship has been moved from the Halifax Shipyard to the CFB Halifax Dockyard for post-acceptance work. This is a standard part of any shipbuilding project. During this stage, the ship will undergo final preparations, including outfitting and integrating onboard systems to meet RCN operational requirements. As this ship is a new capability, the RCN will conduct a period of operational readiness activities and training to ensure the crew is familiar with how it functions before it officially enters into RCN service next year.

The acceptance ceremony followed an emotional homecoming a few days earlier, when HMCS *Fredericton* arrived back in Halifax from Operation REASSURANCE. Canadian Armed Forces members take on risk every time they deploy to defend Canada and its interests. We will never forget our six fallen members, nor the resilience, strength, and professionalism of the entire crew who persevered in their mission after the tragic accident. It was truly moving to see Canadians across the country demonstrate their support for *Fredericton*. HMCS *Toronto* has now deployed on Op REASSURANCE, and will continue Canada's contribution to NATO's maritime assurance and deterrence measures alongside our Allies.

Contributing to NATO is one of the cornerstones of Canada's engagement in the world. Another is contributing to humanitarian efforts. On July 21st, a CC-177 Globemaster arrived in Panama [to provide airlift support to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#). Over the following week and a half, it delivered over 82,500 kg of COVID-19 related humanitarian and medical supplies across Latin America and the Caribbean, including Honduras, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Guatemala.

Last month, the CAF were authorized to extend their support to UN Peacekeeping operations in Africa by 12 months, under Operation PRESENCE (Uganda). The CAF will continue to provide support through the Tactical Airlift Detachment which consists of one CC-130J Hercules aircraft, and roughly 20 personnel. The CAF play an important role in delivering critical supplies and equipment to the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).

As part of Canada's coordinated response to the pandemic, on July 30th, [DND awarded two \\$1 million contribution agreements](#) focussed on diagnostics and testing in response to COVID-19. DND also

released an additional call for proposals under the Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEaS) program. This call is looking to Canadian innovators for state-of-the-art research on “moral injury”—that is, the lasting negative effects from failing to prevent, or witnessing acts that transgress deeply held moral beliefs—and cutting edge prevention models and treatment strategies in support of DND/CAF personnel, healthcare workers, and first responders at the front lines of the pandemic.

As you may have seen, the Government of Canada also launched a [new COVID exposure notification app](#) on July 31st. COVID Alert helps us break the cycle of infection. The app can let people know of possible exposures before any symptoms appear. Notably, it does not use GPS or track your location. Ontario is the first province where people can use COVID Alert to report a COVID-19 diagnosis.

The need to create an inclusive work environment free of discrimination remains a top issue for senior leadership. Following on recent discussions, there was a [special Defence Management Committee on Racism](#) held on July 27th. Senior military and civilian leaders met to listen and learn directly from Visible Minority Defence Team members about the lived experiences and systemic barriers that they and other colleagues face on a daily basis. It resulted in a number of recommendations, including improving reporting and clarifying accountabilities.

In all of these activities, and in everything that we do, we are taking all necessary precautions to ensure the ongoing and future operational effectiveness of our military while protecting the health, safety, and overall well-being of our personnel. An example of this is in the attached graphic depicting the CAF’s Layered Risk Mitigation Strategy.

Finally, as you have no doubt seen, General Vance recently announced his upcoming retirement from the Canadian Armed Forces. As Canada’s longest-serving Chief of the Defence Staff, General Vance was central to the development and implementation of Canada’s defence policy, *Strong, Secure, Engaged*. Throughout his tenure as CDS, he has maintained a dual focus on the importance of supporting our people, and on the primacy of operations. He pushed the CAF to establish and maintain a culture of respect that recognizes the value of diverse and inclusive teams. From his first major act as CDS—launching Operation HONOUR to eliminate sexual misconduct—to his tireless focus on setting the conditions for the CAF to succeed in, and throughout, mid-century competition and conflict, Gen Vance has set the tone for the future. It will be up to all of us to carry on with the mission.

He will continue to serve as the CDS until the Government selects his successor from the highly professional, experienced, and dedicated group of Generals and Flag Officers. Whomever is selected will ensure that the members of the Canadian Armed Forces are well-supported, and that the CAF continues to be a highly capable force to protect Canada and Canadians, defend North America, and contribute to international security and stability.

Sincerely,
Quinn Watson
Director, Outreach and Speechwriting
Assistant Deputy Minister (Public Affairs)
Department of National Defence | Government of Canada



Royal Canadian Navy "Your Navy Today - July 2020"

<http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/en/news-ynt/2020/07-your-navy-today.page>

'Nuff said!

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S E C R E T.

W.P.(G)(40) 211.

COPY NO. 51

9TH AUGUST, 1940.

WAR CABINET.

BREVITY.

Memorandum by the Prime Minister.

To do our work, we all have to read a mass of papers. Nearly all of them are far too long. This wastes time, while energy has to be spent in looking for the essential points.

I ask my colleagues and their staffs to see to it that their Reports are shorter.

- (i) The aim should be Reports which set out the main points in a series of short, crisp paragraphs.
- (ii) If a Report relies on detailed analysis of some complicated factors, or on statistics, these should be set out in an Appendix.
- (iii) Often the occasion is best met by submitting not a full-dress Report, but an Aide-memoire consisting of headings only, which can be expanded orally if needed.
- (iv) Let us have an end of such phrases as these:
"It is also of importance to bear in mind the following considerations.....", or
"Consideration should be given to the possibility of carrying into effect.....".
Most of these woolly phrases are mere padding, which can be left out altogether, or replaced by a single word. Let us not shrink from using the short expressive phrase, even if it is conversational.

Reports drawn up on the lines I propose may at first seem rough as compared with the flat surface of officialese jargon. But the saving in time will be great, while the discipline of setting out the real points concisely will prove an aid to clearer thinking.

W.S.C.

10, Downing Street.

9TH AUGUST, 1940.