



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

28 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. If you have an idea for a topic or speaker, please 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.

New: 8 September, Tuesday - Naval Association of Canada extends an invitation to RUSI(NS) members to its September Speaker's Event "Here Be Dragons? Chinese Submarine Operations in the Arctic" by Adam Lajeunesse and Tim Choi. 1900 EDT by GoToMeeting. To register: <http://nac-o.wildapricot.org/event-3952966>. See more at end of *Dispatches*.

Changed: TBA, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker LCol Barry Pitcher, CO Princess Louise Fusiliers, will present "Reservist Leadership during Crisis: CAF Response to COVID-19 in Atlantic Canada." Changed from 16 September. 1300-1500. The talk will cover the Land Component Command of Operation LASER, the CAF response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Registration is required. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Mon, 14 Sep. Zoom instructions will be emailed by end Tue, 15 Sep.

Changed: 28 October, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Cdr Helga Budden, Commanding Officer, Canadian Armed Forces Transition Unit Nova Scotia/Newfoundland and Labrador, speaking on transition from serving to retirement. Changed from 21 October. Call for registration to follow

Recent Publications:

New: RUSI(NS) Presentations "Policing in a Pandemic Environment" by Insp Blair Bannerman, Cpl Shawn Reynolds and Cpl Deepak Prasad, 26 August 2020

<https://rusi-ns.ca/policing-in-a-pandemic/>

New: RUSI(NS) Presentation "The Canadian Rangers: Cornerstone for Community Disaster Resilience in Canada's Remote and Isolated Communities" by Dr Peter Kikkert, 19 August 2020

<https://rusi-ns.ca/canadian-rangers/>

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

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.

VAdm/Vam Art McDonald @Comd_RCN 26 Aug tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: The Naval Enhanced Combat Uniform (NECU) is in final stages of trials before full production & incremental issue begins next year (2021). Happily, it's getting great reviews! #DYK that we'll issue it by rank from junior to senior beginning with new recruits - ResF as well as RegF
(Canadian navy introduces new combat uniform
<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1780852291947>)



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

Tapping for Gold - Data, Submarine Cables and the Defence Review

<https://thinpinstripedline.blogspot.com/2020/08/tapping-for-gold-data-submarine-cables.html>



Canada would be wise to develop underwater drones (UUV, unmanned underwater vehicles) to monitor and if necessary respond to any intrusion affecting submarine/undersea telecommunication

cables in the Canadian areas of responsibility. Electronic/communications warfare in a time of confrontation and conflict. Certainly the undersea domain needs more attention as technology opens it up.

Surprise! The Chinese Navy Just Transformed This Cargo Ship Into An Instant Helicopter Carrier

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2020/08/22/surprise-the-chinese-navy-just-transformed-this-cargo-ship-into-an-instant-helicopter-carrier/>



Some thoughts. This is another demonstration of taking an approach of treating warships as 'trucks' whereby capabilities (weapons, helicopter landing pads, etc.) are 'bolted on.' A country can take a look at all vessels available to it, not just its Navy's warships, as forces-in-waiting to be fitted out and employed when needed.

'Base ships' (a type from at least the Second World War) are very useful in situations short of major conflict (e.g., humanitarian assistance/disaster response). And in major conflict if you can keep them out of the way of the shooting.

Is Canada looking at (identifying, planning, arranging, acquiring kit to bolt on) its civil ships for what they can offer in conflict and other operations?

Comment from Facebook: Nothing new...we were discussing mounting container housed missile systems on cargo ships in the early 1980s.

3 Types Of Go-Fast Narco Boats The Coast Guard Faces

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/hisutton/2020/08/21/3-types-of-high-speed-smuggling-boats-facing-the-coast-guard/#5111ee4c21ef>



What would a RCMP and Canadian Coast Guard version of this summary of maritime threat vessels read like?

Underwater microphones help save endangered right whales – at a cost to fishermen

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-underwater-microphones-help-save-endangered-right-whales-at-a-cost/>



"...acoustic listening technology attached to underwater buoys and autonomous gliders that slowly travel beneath the waves..."

Kinda wonder what collaboration there could be between Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Royal Canadian Navy for acoustic surveillance using floating and bottom sensors, and using drones (underwater and surface). One suspects there is but it would be very much not public.

Coast Guard Icebreaker Healy Suffers Fire on Arctic Mission;
All Arctic Operations Cancelled

<https://news.usni.org/2020/08/25/coast-guard-icebreaker-healy-suffers-fire-on-arctic-mission-all-arctic-operations-cancelled>



The lack of icebreakers, and keeping what they've got for too long, has caught up with the US. Lessons there for Canada. The Canadian Coast Guard should have a robust icebreaker fleet, one that gets re-capitalized at a reasonable rate.

Soldier-Scholar (Pick One): Anti-Intellectualism in the
American Military

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/08/soldier-scholar-pick-one-anti-intellectualism-in-the-american-military/>



To what extent this assessment is applicable to the Canadian military (and non-military forces) is an over-two-scoches debate but there should be careful reflection that we are ensuring development of thinking strategists for our highest positions and not bureaucrats or tacticians, no matter how good they are in those fields. And learning strategy has to start early in a career, with foundation laid (reading lots) whilst at the same time becoming a master in leadership, tactics and <sigh> administration.

China urges Canada to remove obstacles in bilateral relations

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-08/26/c_139318978.htm



The article "China Urges Canada to Remove Obstacles in Bilateral Relations" edited by Huaxia of Xinhua news is to say the least an interesting tale.

Our Foreign Minister met with the Chinese Foreign Minister yesterday. It did not go well. The CCP Foreign Minister, Wang Yi, forgets that the CCP essentially kidnapped two Canadians, also referred to as the Two Michaels, as a way of getting the Chief Financial Officer of Huawei, Meng Wanzhou, who allegedly to have committed several counts of bank fraud, out of jail although Canada is obligated to follow its own agreements with the US regarding requests for extradition. The Foreign Minister also neglects that China has "attacked" Canada using the doctrinal "Three Wars Concept" adopted by the

Central Military Commission of the CCP. The Three Wars Concept is information warfare (this includes economic warfare), psychological warfare and "lawfare."

China has attacked Canada's agriculture several times, the attacks including counter measures on canola, beef and pork. China has used psychological warfare by arresting Canadians or imposing the death penalty on Canadian citizens in an arbitrary way. China has also used our own legal system against us, the latest an attempt to gain access to classified documents which would have given them access to sources and methods. Canada has ample proof that the CCP is untrustworthy and any agreement would be only as value as the paper upon which it is written.

The article does seem to show that our Foreign Minister was ineffective. The Canadian statement on this issue was less than strong. It does not sound like he pressed the Chinese on any issue effectively nor protected any of our interests as a country or in defence of Canadian citizens at all.

Exercise Arctic Edge: Making magic in the Arctic

<https://www.skiesmag.com/features/exercise-arctic-edge-making-magic-arctic/>



Innovation and tech. That's our people!

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.



<https://www.facebook.com/Royal-United-Services-Institute-NS-618819224873298/>



An AI Just Beat a Human F-16 Pilot In a Dogfight — Again

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2020/08/ai-just-beat-human-f-16-pilot-dogfight-again/167872/>



Possible F-35 Jet Sale to U.A.E. Puts Israel in Bind

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/possible-f-35-jet-sale-to-u-a-e-puts-israel-in-bind-11597947360?>



Canadian Armed Forces Takes Delivery of First of Two New Challenger 650 Aircraft

<https://defpost.com/canadian-armed-forces-takes-delivery-of-first-of-two-new-challenger-650-aircraft/>



Roland Paris: Threats, Allies, and Canadian Strategy

<https://cdainstitute.ca/cda-institute-interview-with-roland-paris-rethinking-canadian-foreign-policy-for-a-new-era/>



The Israel-UAE Deal Won't Bring Peace, but It Will Prolong the War in Libya

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/21/the-israel-uae-deal-wont-bring-peace-but-it-will-prolong-the-war-in-libya/>



Taiwan's Military Has Flashy American Weapons but No Ammo

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/20/taiwan-military-flashy-american-weapons-no-ammo/>



Canadian intelligence assessments of Saddam's Iraq got it right, new paper says

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/SOMNIA-1.5697028>



Maintenance on Snowbirds aircraft will be increased, some flight restrictions put in place after two crashes

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/maintenance-on-snowbirds-aircraft-will-be-increased-some-flight-restrictions-put-in-place-after-two-crashes>



Add Taiwan to the International Atomic Energy Agency

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2020/08/add-taiwan-international-atomic-energy-agency/167927/>



Whispers of 076, China's Drone Carrying Assault Carrier

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/08/whispers-of-076-chinas-drone-carrying-assault-carrier/>



'Ball in Russia's court' on nuclear treaty talks: US

https://www.spacewar.com/reports/Ball_in_Russias_court_on_nuclear_treaty_talks_US_999.html



F-35 Will Finally Go into Full Production Next March, Acquisitions Chief Says

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/08/21/f-35-will-finally-go-full-production-next-march-acquisitions-chief-says.html>



A fatal military helicopter crash was tragic – and the stark reality of unnormalized risk

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-a-fatal-military-helicopter-crash-was-tragic-and-the-stark-reality/>



'Polishing the gun': China, U.S. tensions raise Taiwan conflict fears

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-taiwan-china-security-analysis/polishing-the-gun-china-u-s-tensions-raise-taiwan-conflict-fears-idUSKBN25M0VE>



Vietnam condemns new Chinese military drills in South China Sea

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-vietnam-china-southchinasea/vietnam-condemns-new-chinese-military-drills-in-south-china-sea-idUSKBN25M0Y5>



Report: China test-fires 'carrier killer' missile in disputed sea

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2020/08/27/report-china-fires-carrier-killer-missile-in-disputed-sea/>



US imposes sanctions on Chinese defense firms over maritime dispute

<https://www.defensenews.com/industry/2020/08/26/us-sanctions-chinese-defense-companies-over-south-china-sea-dispute/>



Taiwan warns of accidental conflict as regional tensions rise

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-taiwan-diplomacy/taiwan-warns-of-accidental-conflict-as-regional-tensions-rise-idUSKBN25N0QD>



South China Sea: Chinese military told not to fire first shot in stand-off with US forces

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3096978/south-china-sea-chinese-military-told-not-fire-first-shot>



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

#COVID

Lessons from the Pandemic

<https://www.cigionline.org/articles/preface-lessons-pandemic>

Pandemics: The Need for New Thinking on Security

<https://www.cigionlin.org/articles/pandemics-need-new-thinking-security>

#cyberwar

Inside the Chinese military attack on Nortel

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7275588/inside-the-chinese-military-attack-on-nortel/>

#defence budget

Long-term funding shifts due to COVID

<https://defence.frontline.online/article/2020/1/14154-Long-term-funding-shifts-due-to-COVID>

#information operations

Moscow Sets Conditions for Kinetic Intervention in Belarus Through New Information Operation

<http://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/warning-moscow-sets-conditions-kinetic-intervention-belarus-through-new-information>

And the Little Green PAOs march on...

#law of war

Hiroshima and the Myths of Military Targets and Unconditional Surrender

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/hiroshima-and-myths-military-targets-and-unconditional-surrender>

#leadership

Leading Through Crisis; A Practitioner's Guide

<https://thearmyleader.co.uk/leading-through-crisis/>

Guide available at: <https://thearmyleader.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Leading-Through-Crisis.pdf>

#maritime security

Blue crime: Conceptualising transnational organised crime at sea

Behind a paywall but there may be those interested/able to access:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0308597X20300270?via%3Dihub>

#NATO

Pandemic not affecting NATO budgets

<https://defence.frontline.online/article/2020/1/14651-Pandemic-not-affecting-NATO-budgets>

#Royal Canadian Navy

RCN Rank Change Initiative Poll Results & Rank Designation Change Decision

<https://navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/en/news-operations/news-view.page?doc=rcn-rank-change-initiative-poll-results-rank-designation-change-decision/kdxnh8ed>

#strategy

Machiavelli's Technological Insights Have Lessons for U.S. Strategists

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/20/america-crumbling-strategy-needs-machiavellian-answers/>

The Interface: Reestablishing the Relationship Between Tactics and Politics

<https://warroom.armywarcollege.edu/articles/the-interface/>

#warfare

Besieging Wei to Rescue Zhao: Combining the Indirect Approach with the Centre of Gravity

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2020/8/24/besieging-wei-to-rescue-zhao-combining-the-indirect-approach-with-the-centre-of-gravity>

Other:

The Naval Association of Canada extends an invitation to RUSI(NS) members to its September Speaker's Event:

Here Be Dragons?

Chinese Submarine Operations in the Arctic

Adam Lajeunesse & Tim Choi

8 Sep 2020 19:00 EDT

You must register for this event which is limited to 150 participants.

The meeting will be conducted using GoToMeeting, and registrants will receive a confirmation email containing instructions on how to join the meeting.

Please register for this event at <http://nac-o.wildapricot.org/event-3952966>.

Best regards,
Dave Soule
Executive Director
Naval Association of Canada

In the wake of new academic and government attention paid to China's growing Arctic security interests, this talk examines the strategic advantages of deploying Chinese submarines to the polar waters, as well as the disadvantages and dangers inherent in such a mission. In contrast to growing assumption that a Chinese under-ice presence is both imminent and dangerous to the Western allies, we argue that a more nuanced understanding of the Arctic's value to China is needed. This talk looks beyond the big picture assertions of circumpolar geopolitics to the operational realities of actually working and fighting in the North.

Meet our speakers

Adam Lajeunesse, PhD, is the Irving Shipbuilding Chair in Canadian Arctic Marine Security Policy and an Assistant Professor at the Brian Mulroney Institute of Government, St. Francis Xavier University. He is the author of *Lock, Stock, and Icebergs* (2016), a political history of the Northwest Passage, as well as co-author of the 2017 monograph *China's Arctic Ambitions and What They Mean for Canada*, and co-editor of *Canadian Arctic Operations, 1941-2015: Lessons Learned, Lost, and Relearned* (2017). Lajeunesse works on questions of Arctic sovereignty and security policy and has written extensively on CAF Arctic operations, maritime security, Canadian-American cooperation in the North, and Canadian Arctic history.

Timothy Choi is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Calgary's Centre for Military, Security and Strategic Studies, where his dissertation is entitled, "*Maritime Strategies of the North: The Seapower of Smaller Navies in an Era of Broadened Security*," which assesses how the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea affected the development of Danish, Norwegian, and Canadian maritime forces. He was a Smith Richardson Predoctoral Fellow at Yale University's International Security Studies, and he

has most recently published in *Ocean Development and International Law* and *Grey and White Hulls: An International Analysis of the Navy-Coastguard Nexus* edited by Koh and Bowers. He also serves on the editorial board of the *Canadian Naval Review*.

The Watch

The United States Northern Command Magazine *The Watch* Second Edition

<https://thewatch-magazine.com/>

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Royal Canadian Navy Adopts More Inclusive Rank Designation

August 27, 2020 – Ottawa – National Defence / Canadian Armed Forces

The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) is continuing to work to create a more inclusive environment within the workplaces, whether that is at sea or at home. Following survey with over 18,000 respondents, the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) has chosen a new English rank designation for its junior ranks that will result in more gender-neutral terms than the current titles, which are not reflective of the modern, progressive Service that is the RCN today.

The RCN's junior ranks will soon be known as Sailor Third Class (formerly Ordinary Seaman), Sailor Second Class (formerly Able Seaman), Sailor First Class (formerly Leading Seaman), and Master Sailor (formerly Master Seaman).

These changes help retain the history of these roles and aligns the English rank designation with the existing ranks in French. These new rank designations will be effective upon the issuance of a CANFORGEN in early September. At that point, the junior ranks will begin referring to shipmates using the new rank designations.

By ensuring that the RCN continues to be an accepting and inclusive organization, we can demonstrate to Canadians that we uphold the values they hold as the RCN continues to protect them, both at home and abroad.

Quotes

“By adopting gender neutral designation for junior members of the Royal Canadian Navy, we demonstrate to all Canadians that the Canadian Armed Forces will welcome anybody who wants to serve their country and uphold the values of inclusion and diversity. We will continue to work to build a diverse force that is representative of the Canadians they protect.”

The Honourable Harjit S. Sajjan, Minister of National Defence

“The Royal Canadian Navy, our senior service, continues to adapt to better reflect Canadian society. Today's announcement of changes to junior ranks nomenclature is just one example of how we continue to work to remove barriers to a more inclusive Canadian Armed Forces.”

General Jonathan Vance, Chief of the Defence Staff

“The Defence Team is delighted to hear that the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) has changed the rank names of the most junior sailors for more gender inclusive rank names. This initiative is another important step for all members of our Defence family members to be recognized and proudly serve in the RCN.”

Jody Thomas, Deputy Minister of National Defence

“The Royal Canadian Navy has profited immensely from the dialogue regarding the rank change initiative this summer. We emerge from it with a greater insight into who we are, including the sobering reality that we all need to do more – individually and collectively – to be diverse, inclusive, and welcoming. More positively, we can now take satisfaction in knowing that through this initiative we have taken another important and far from symbolic incremental step in ensuring that the RCN remains the modern Service that all shipmates deserve – indeed, that our nation deserves.”

Vice-Admiral Art McDonald, Commander Royal Canadian Navy

Quick Facts

- In an effort to ensure that this new rank designation reflects the thoughts and ideals of the Royal Canadian Navy, and Canadians, a survey was completed internally and externally, the results of which helped to inform decision making for this new designation.
- The decision for the new rank designation was shaped by the clear preference of the junior ranks for sailor classes. Further, this new English designation aligns with the existing designations in French.
- This rank change represents an opportunity to reinforce our commitment to be an inclusive, diverse, gender-neutral, welcoming and safe organization.
- Diversity and inclusion are viewed as a source of strength and flexibility, and play a pivotal role in making the RCN a modern, forward-looking organization. To achieve that objective, the RCN is committed to increasing diversity and promoting inclusiveness amongst its personnel.