



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia Dispatches 6 November 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.



Remembrance Day

RUSI(NS) will not be parading at Royal Artillery Park this Remembrance Day. Rather, to honour our veterans we encourage all Institute members (really, everyone) to attend a ceremony at their local cenotaph or memorial, or watch a ceremony television or online.

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.

18 November, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) and NORAD & USNORTHCOM Distinguished Speakers to speak on "Arctic Continental Defense: Canada and U.S. Perspectives." LCol Steve Burke Director of Operations, Joint Task Force North, will present "Op Nanook: Meeting northern challenges with regional

collaboration.” Mr Todd 'Charley' Davis, Chief, NORAD Campaign & Arctic Branch, J5 Strategy, Policy & Plans, NORAD and USNORTHCOM, will present "NORAD and USNORTHCOM perspectives on Arctic Defense and Security." 1300-1500, via Zoom. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by end Sun, 15 Nov. Zoom instructions will be emailed by end Mon, 16 Nov.

9 December, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Derek Moss, Canadian Coast Guard, to present “Canadian Coast Guard Fleet Renewal.” 1300-1500, via Zoom. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by end Sun, 6 Dec. Zoom instructions will be emailed by end Mon, 7 Nov.

Recent Publications:

RUSI(NS) Presentations “Marine Industry Supply Chains of Canadian Shipyards in the Era of the National Shipbuilding Strategy” by Philippe Flébus, Lindsey Kettel and Steve Christiansen, 14 October 2020

<https://rusi-ns.ca/marine-supply-chain/>

"The Newsletter" of the UNTD Association of Canada Volume 4, Number 14, October 2020 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

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

New: The Military Institute of Windsor Communiqué, Volume XXXVIII Number 10 November 2020 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

New: The United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island (USINNI) Newsletter Vol 28 No 11 November 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.

"Misgoverning the Canadian Arctic"
<https://excal.on.ca/misgoverning-the-canadian-arctic/>" CAN🇨🇦 approach (to defence in #Arctic) deviates (from other countries) in preferring to focus on a strategy that relies on technology over physical military presence such as army and navy bases."



"Kingfisher Joins RCAF Flock"
http://www.canadiandefencereview.com/featured_content?blog/205 #CC295 #Kingfisher search&rescue #SAR aircraft 295501 1st of 6 to be delivered to @RCAF_ARC #RCAF in 2020; 16 total from Fixed-Wing Search&Rescue #FWSAR project <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/procurement/fixed-wing-search-and-rescue-procurement-project.html>



CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 30 Oct tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Our 3rd of 3 reports on @NORADCommand modernization - a project that had hundreds of people from academia, industry & US/CAN military engaged in web-based & in-person brainstorm sessions about security gaps + tech solutions. (NORAD Modernization: Report Three: JADC2/JADO <https://cdainstitute.ca/norad-modernization-report-three-jadc2-jado/>)



"Invisible Warfare: #NATO and the Geopolitical Storm on the Market Economy Horizon" <https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/invisible-warfare-nato-and-the-geopolitical-storm-on-the-market-economy-horizon/> Considering relationships between conflicts & (global) economies: "More than ever, the Alliance needs to shore up relations between its member-states."



Commander Helga Budden, Commanding Officer, Canadian Armed Forces Transition Unit Nova Scotia/Newfoundland & Labrador, spoke to RUSI(NS)&guests 28Oct20 about transition from @CanadianForces: "Transition – A Step We All Take." Taking care of our own!



@CoastGuardCAN icebreakers & @RoyalCanNavy Arctic&Offshore Patrol Vessels perfectly suitable "to help protect the nation's maritime sovereignty and security" in #Arctic <https://seapowermagazine.org/icebreaker-polar-star-to-make-unusual-arctic-deployment/> No need for heavily armed major combatants. Balanced navy=right ship for each mission (Icebreaker Polar Star to Make Unusual Arctic Deployment)



Considering how much info is being used for own purposes by foreign states, militaries, individuals (CAN & others), is important @NationalDefence develop&practice techniques to op in info domain. Ok, make errors & figure out limits & no-go areas <https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-military-to-establish-new-organization-to-use-propaganda-other-techniques-to-influence-canadians> #StratComm (Canadian military wants to establish new organization to use propaganda, other techniques to influence Canadians)



DRDC-RDDC @DRDC_RDDC tweeted 3 Nov: We are always looking for innovative ways to support our #CAF members, even as they start their next chapters into civilian life. Are you working on programs or technologies that can help? Submit your #DefenceIDEaS online today: <https://canada.ca/en/department-national->



defence/programs/defence-ideas/current-opportunities/navigating-your-next-chapter-the-transition-back-to-civilian.html

RUSI(NS) retweeted: Just coincidence that this Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security #IDEaS solicitation comes out shortly after RUSI(NS)&guests received presentation on transition, by Cdr Helga Budden CO Transition Unit NS/NL "Transition – A Step We All Take" <https://rusi-ns.ca/transition/>

VAdm/Vam Art McDonald @Comd_RCN 4 Nov tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: The right ship for the @RoyalCanNavy, , the right ship for Flag of Canada. Enjoy this well written, informative article on the Future Canadian Surface Combatants written by my #Shipmate Capt(N) Christopher Nucci on the benefits of the CSC project for decades to come (The Future Canadian Surface Combatant <https://www.usni.org/magazines/proceedings/2020/november/future-canadian-surface-combatant>



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

Norwegian Coast Guard sails high-latitude Arctic voyage to Beaufort Sea

<https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/arctic/2020/10/norwegian-coast-guard-ship-sails-high-latitude-arctic-transit-voyage-beaufort-sea>



"KV SVALBARD is called in to recover three moored instruments vital for measuring temperatures throughout the Arctic Ocean."

Such science-related missions are the sort that Canada's Harry DeWolf-class Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessels can undertake, if the need to recover instruments, particularly those in Canadian waters, arises. Albeit we have a great Canadian Coast Guard who have lots of capacity, so calling on the Navy to do so is less likely.

See: "Canadian Ocean Science and the Role of AOPS" (<https://rusi-ns.ca/canadian-ocean-science-and-the-role-of-aops/>)

Canada decides it wants to be a launching state

<https://spaceq.ca/canada-decides-it-wants-to-be-a-launching-state/>



The article by Marc Boucher of the publisher "SpaceQ at on 29 Oct 2020 is a most hopeful sign.

It is hoped that several projects including one for Nova Scotia will rapidly come to fruition. Prior to this, Canada has been using foreign nations to launch our satellites, all of which are a critical part of our overall national infrastructure. The current government has placed security and our relationship with allies in what can only be described as naïve - the sale of a military communications company to Chinese interests is an example.

Building our own satellites and launch platforms is a step in the right direction. Using foreign systems is always a major security risk. Canada has been naïve enough to use Chinese launch systems at times. Canada needs to move forward with its own capabilities and maintain firm control over our own technology. Even using US systems is problematic given US views on the Canadian Arctic as just one example. Key Canadian assets were incorporated into an American-based firm. One hopes this is a sign of things to come if this open source article is true.

Decision 2020 Report: The Past, Present, and Future of the Trans-Atlantic Alliance

<https://www.hoover.org/news/decision-2020-report-past-present-and-future-trans-atlantic-alliance>



"... growing skepticism in the United States toward international institutions, ... but cautioned that disengagement of US leadership would allow other major state actors to fill the proverbial power vacuum."

Report to Congress on Constellation-class Frigate Program (FFG-62)

<https://news.usni.org/2020/10/29/report-to-congress-on-constellation-class-frigate-program-ffg-62>



Though this report may be more of interest to those involved in the Canadian Surface Combatant project as a comparison, the questions posed in the report can be taken as worth consideration by anyone involved or interested in a government ship project. Of course, a relevant point is whether Canadian government staff, the media and general public ask similar questions.

What Can Be Salvaged from the UK's Integrated Review?

<https://rusi.org/commentary/what-can-be-salvaged-uks-integrated-review>



"... the government should consider issuing a top-level policy paper which defines a vision for the UK's role in the world ..."

Canada, too, should be conducting an integrated review of security, defence, development and foreign policy. Too, there should be first a consideration of what Canada wants to be able to do in the world and what we want from the world. Then decisions can be made about how Canada wants defence to contribute to that, and about what resources to procure to do so. Hmm, defence statements which are focused on what the country will buy should come last...

A Reckoning Postponed? The Defence Arithmetic of the Integrated Review

<https://rusi.org/publication/occasional-papers/reckoning-postponed-defence-arithmetic-integrated-review>



The "technological complexity (of large defence programmes), together with the changing nature of requirements over time, typically leads to large increases in costs over initial estimates, as well as significant delays. To have the best chance of tackling these issues, the (insert your country's name here) government needs to set clear requirements at an early stage, invest in resolving key design questions before moving to full development, and then ensure that sufficient resources are available to take the programmes to completion over the next decades."

Anti-Submarine Warfare Enhanced by Autonomous Tech

<https://i-hls.com/archives/104864>



Towed active and passive sonar systems integrated into drones "... capable of being deployed both at surface and sub-surface depths enabling detection, classification and localisation of craft on the surface or below the water ..." And capable of "covert communication to allies below the surface using long-range low frequency underwater communications." Could make for interesting theatre anti-submarine operations.

The Headwinds Looming for the U.S. Army

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/10/the-headwinds-looming-for-the-u-s-army/>

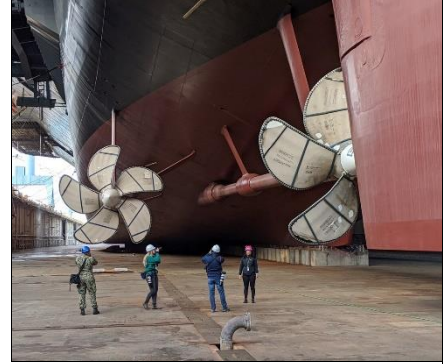


Whilst this article discusses the US and the US Army, the geo-strategic and technological conditions that are cause for consideration of the need for change in that army are the same that are affecting Canada and the Canadian Army. How much (again!) does the relationship between the Regular and Reserve Force components of the Canadian Army need to be adjusted in response?

"It is going to get smaller, and become a supporting service in the nation's primary theater of potential conflict. Its missions will also expand to include a greater role in homeland security, and the importance and relevance of its reserve component may eclipse that of its active forces in some domains of future conflict."

American shipbuilding: An anchor for economic and national security

<https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/commentary/2020/10/30/american-shipbuilding-an-anchor-for-economic-and-national-security/>



"...investment in shipbuilding will leave a wake of prosperity for our economic security and send waves of strength for our national security." Can apply to Canada as much as other countries.

"Expansion in capacity and capabilities of our shipyards will again incentivize commercial shipbuilding, increasing industry efficiency and creating competition, eventually lowering the overall cost of production. This must be our policy goal." This may be a little too challenging for Canada. There're other factors at play. Not necessarily would increased shipbuilding capability lead to more commercial shipbuilding for Canada. At least, not to any great extent.

Russia's fleet to receive ten new icebreakers by 2030





<https://tass.com/defense/1219675>



"Russia will receive ten new icebreakers by 2030, which will reduce the average age of its icebreaker fleet from today's 37 years to 25 years..."

Hmm, 37 is a bit elderly. Of course, icebreakers have longer lives than warships (destroyers were 16 years a century ago, now in Canada are planned for 30 but often go 35 or so). How would this compare to the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker fleet? Canadian government acquisitions and planned procurements will have a good effect on the average age here. Are there public figures for ship ages? Does the National Icebreaking Centre (<https://icebreakercentre.ca/>) have figures?

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.

 <h1>Focus</h1> <p>MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE</p> <p>https://mailchi.mp/rusi.org/highlights-from-rusi-in-october2020?e=a539211a30</p>	
<p>Coast Guard icebreaker contract to be awarded to Quebec shipyard</p> <p>https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/coast-guard-icebreaker-contract-to-be-awarded-to-quebec-shipyard</p>	
<p>NORAD Modernization: Report Three: JADC2/JADO</p> <p>https://cdainstitute.ca/norad-modernization-report-three-jadc2-jado/</p>	
<p>China's J-20 stealth fighter shown in training dogfight on state television</p> <p>https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3107674/chinas-j-20-stealth-fighter-shown-training-dogfights-state</p>	

China would 'seize' the Philippines in a war with the US: former military chief Bautista

<https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/politics/article/3107664/china-would-seize-philippines-war-us-former-military-chief>



US moves forward with seizure of Iranian missiles, petroleum bound for Yemen, Venezuela

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/us-seizure-iranian-missiles-petroleum-yemen-venezuela>



Russian and Chinese Combat Air Trends: Current Capabilities and Future Threat Outlook

<https://rusi.org/publication/whitehall-reports/russian-and-chinese-combat-air-trends-current-capabilities-and-future>



Boeing would perform Canadian Super Hornet final assembly in US

<https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/boeing-would-perform-canadian-super-hornet-final-assembly-in-us>



Chinese, U.S. military chiefs hold crisis communication, says China defence ministry

<https://www.reuters.com/article/idUSKBN27E1XJ>



China Set To Beat US, Russia Again In Space Launch Race

<https://breakingdefense.com/2020/10/china-set-to-beat-us-russia-again-in-space-launch-race/>



North Korea's Hackers Target Tech Secrets

<https://breakingdefense.com/2020/10/north-koreas-hackers-target-tech-secrets/>



Boeing projected to deliver \$61B to Canada if selected for Canada's next fighter

<https://vanguardcanada.com/2020/10/27/boeing-projected-to-deliver-61b-to-canada-if-selected-as-canadas-next-fighter/>



Is the National Shipbuilding Strategy failing to sufficiently support Canada's domestic maritime industry?

<https://vanguardcanada.com/2020/10/26/is-the-national-shipbuilding-strategy-failing-to-sufficiently-support-canadas-domestic-maritime-industry/>



UK government to retake control of its atomic weapons management from industry

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2020/11/02/uk-government-to-retake-control-of-its-atomic-weapons-management-from-industry/>



South Korean military reports capturing North Korean border crosser

<https://www.stripes.com/news/pacific/south-korean-military-reports-capturing-north-korean-border-crosser-1.650950>



China says U.S. sends out wrong signals to Taiwan on potential drone sale deal

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-taiwan-arms/china-says-u-s-sends-out-wrong-signals-to-taiwan-on-potential-drone-sale-deal-idUSKBN27K0TX>



North Korean man who crossed border wants to defect: South Korea's military

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-southkorea/north-korean-man-who-crossed-border-wants-to-defect-south-koreas-military-idUSKBN27L0AU>



World's Most Powerful Combat Aircraft Jet Engine Is Back In Production For Russia's New Bombers

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/37426/worlds-most-powerful-combat-aircraft-jet-engine-is-back-in-production-for-russias-new-bombers>



Aussie F/A-18 Hornet Bristling With Missiles Joins Others For Jaw-Dropping Photo Shoot

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/37445/aussie-f-a-18-hornet-bristling-with-missiles-joins-others-for-jaw-dropping-photo-shoot>



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

#Arctic

Four autonomous vessels sailed the Arctic to more precisely map its seafloor

https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/arctic-sea-mapping-saildrones/2020/10/30/d3ceac22-196f-11eb-aeec-b93bcc29a01b_story.html

For those unable to access the article through the paywall, a copy is available from RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

#armour

The Key to Armenia’s Tank Losses: The Sensors, Not the Shooters

<https://rusi.org/publication/rusi-defence-systems/key-armenia-tank-losses-sensors-not-shooters>

#airpower

Russian and Chinese Combat Air Trends: Current Capabilities and Future Threat Outlook

<https://rusi.org/publication/whitehall-reports/russian-and-chinese-combat-air-trends-current-capabilities-and-future>

#command

Rethinking Planning and Improving Survivability

<https://thearmyleader.co.uk/rethinking-planning-improving-survivability/>

A New Approach to Command Post Training

<https://wavellroom.com/2018/07/10/a-new-approach-to-command-post-training/>

Radio Silence – A Lesson in Mission Command

<https://wavellroom.com/2017/12/14/radio-silence-a-lesson-in-mission-command/>

#cyber operations

Cybersecurity as Attack-Defense: What the French Election Taught Us About Fighting Back

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2018/9/12/cybersecurity-as-attack-defense-what-the-french-election-taught-us-about-fighting-back>

Five Principles for the Next UK Cyber Strategy

<https://rusi.org/commentary/five-principles-next-uk-cyber-strategy>

#international relations

Report to Congress on Great Power Competition and National Defense

<https://news.usni.org/2020/11/03/report-to-congress-on-great-power-competition-and-national-defense-3>

Our Distinguished Speaker plan has a great power competition-related speaker for February 2021.

#naval warfare

DARPA’S Newest Sunb-hunting Weapon is ... Shrimp

<https://www.sandboxx.us/blog/darpas-newest-sub-hunting-weapon-is-shrimp/>

Engage goblin with krill!

#Royal Canadian Navy

Digital Navy - A Strategy to Enable Canada's Naval Team for the Digital Age

Seems to be a new edition?: [http://www.navy-](http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/assets/NAVY_Internet/docs/en/innovation/rcn-digital-navy-initiative_v2.pdf)

[marine.forces.gc.ca/assets/NAVY_Internet/docs/en/innovation/rcn-digital-navy-initiative_v2.pdf](http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/assets/NAVY_Internet/docs/en/innovation/rcn-digital-navy-initiative_v2.pdf)

#strategy

How Good Order at Sea is Central to Winning Strategic Competition

<http://cimsec.org/how-good-order-at-sea-is-central-to-winning-strategic-competition/45247>

#United States

Esper's Curious Partners-and-Allies Initiative

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2020/10/espers-curious-partners-and-allies-initiative/169690/>

It would be interesting to read the "Guidance for Development of Alliances and Partnerships" and see what it means for Canada. Pending finding the GDAP online, see:

Defense Secretary unveils a new strategy for bolstering allies and partnerships in an era of great-power competition

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/defense-secretary-unveils-a-new-strategy-for-bolstering-allies-and-partnerships-in-an-era-of-great-power-competition/>

#warfare

The West Is Surprisingly Well-Equipped for Gray-Zone Deterrence

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2020/10/west-surprisingly-well-equipped-gray-zone-deterrence/169612/>

Other:

The Department of National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces update – October 30

Colleagues and Partners in Defence,

October is Women's History Month. For more than 100 years, women have played an important role in Canada's defence – both here at home, and overseas.

On October 31st, Canada will join the rest of the world to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. UNSCR 1325 calls upon nations to increase women's meaningful participation in the peace and security process. Under General Vance's leadership, the Women, Peace, and Security Chiefs of Defence Network has grown to 54 member states who are committed to applying gender perspectives into their armed forces and peacekeeping operations. Over the past 20 years, Canada has made important progress on this front, including launching the [Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/gender_equality-egalite_des_genres/elsie_initiative-initiative_elsie.aspx?lang=eng) (https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/gender_equality-egalite_des_genres/elsie_initiative-initiative_elsie.aspx?lang=eng), which aims to increase uniformed women's meaningful participation in UN operations.

We also need to ensure that all those who serve Canada can do so in an environment that is safe, and free from harassment and sexual misconduct. On October 28th, the Canadian Armed Forces released The Path to Dignity and Respect, a new culture change strategy designed to prevent and address sexual misconduct in the CAF. The Path provides a detailed approach to aligning the behaviours and attitudes of CAF members with the core values expected of all persons within the profession of arms in Canada. This strategy expands Operation HONOUR into a comprehensive, long-term effort, and will help ensure a safe and healthy culture within the CAF that promotes the success of all members.

Around the world, women in the Canadian Armed Forces are demonstrating their leadership on operations. Women like Lieutenant-Colonel Sarah Heer, who, on October 5th, became Joint Task Force Ukraine's first woman commanding officer. She is leading over 200 Canadian Armed Forces members working to provide military training and capacity building to the Ukrainian Government as part of

[Operation UNIFIER \(https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-unifier.html\)](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-unifier.html). LCol Heer stands as an example to women and girls across Canada and around the world of the impact women can make on the global stage.

Recognizing role-models like LCol Heer is important, but our goal is to get to a place where having women lead on operations is normalized, rather than an exception or a “first” to be celebrated. In order to be an effective force and an inclusive organization, women need to be meaningfully engaged and employed across all levels, and in all trades. That’s why Canada and Norway funded the creation of a new methodology that looks at the barriers for women in police and military organizations. It has been tested in four pilot countries, and the CAF will soon begin to assess its own barriers to women’s participation.

Here at home, the effects of the global pandemic are taking a significant toll on Canadian women, many of whom have to work from home due to strict public health measures—and it is often women who have the burden of striking the balance between bringing home an income, and taking care of their families.

These challenges have been referred to as a “she-cession.” National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces are committed to being an employer of choice for women across the country. We know that women are crucial to our effectiveness. We have come a long way, but we know we still have work to do to address gender bias and discrimination in the defence and security field. That is why we apply a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens to everything we do, from our COVID-19 directive that ensures our employees are able to work safely in our new environment, to our procurement projects. For example, the new Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ships all have single or double occupancy crew cabins and individual washroom facilities. This allows for greater comfort, and easier accommodation of a mixed-gender crew. Moreover, all CAF equipment is designed to be operated by a broad range of physical characteristics to accommodate varying body types and strengths. These procurement projects are crucial to creating safe and inclusive spaces for the women in our ranks, as well as important economic opportunities for Canadians and their businesses.

This year marks several milestones including the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War – a time when the military was expanding the roles available to women. Some worked as mechanics, others as photographers, and some worked as parachute riggers. The Second World War created career opportunities for women like Private Marion Miller from Six Nations of the Grand River, who pursued her goal of becoming an Army driver. Private Miller joins a long list of Indigenous women who have served Canada with pride and with honour.

This year also marks the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife. We remember women like Georgina Fane Pope – the first Matron of the Canadian Army Medical Corps (CAMC) and the first Canadian military nurse to receive the Royal Red Cross Class 1 medal. She served in the South African War (1899-1902) and the First World War, where she suffered from shell-shock and was forced to return home and retire from the CAMC. Pope is renowned for establishing nursing as an integrated role for women in the military.

Even though we’ve just observed Women’s History Month and we celebrated the successes of women in defence and security, we must also acknowledge that we still have a long way to go, and that we are at risk of regressing on the progress made. As Jacqueline O’Neill, Canada’s Ambassador for women, peace and security, said during an appearance in front of the House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence, a growing number of attacks against defenders of the human rights of women and LGBTQ2S+ persons are happening in this new COVID-19 environment, and it is putting progress in

peril. According to Mrs. O'Neill, the pandemic and particularly authoritarian responses to it represent existential threats for many women peace-builders and local organizations. In certain places, it remains a challenge for them to be heard in peacebuilding and conflict resolution discussions. This is an important issue that needs to be solved and prevented. Women play a big part in conflict prevention, peace negotiation, peacekeeping and reconstructing postwar societies. They are not just an addition to peace and security operations; they're an integral part of it - we must promote their participation and prevent them from losing their voices and participation during the pandemic.

We know that we must continue the work we are doing to ensure that DND and the CAF are welcoming spaces that encourage women to thrive in all aspects of their careers, and to ensure they grow into the leaders our organizations need.

Take good care.

Quinn Watson

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

The Canadian Army Journal Vol. 18; no. 1; 2020

<http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.505131/publication.html>

The Royal Canadian Air Force Journal 2020 - Volume 9 - Issue 2 Spring

<https://www.rcaf-arc.forces.gc.ca/en/cf-aerospace-warfare-centre/elibrary/journal/archives.page>

NATO Multimedia Library Thematic Bibliography no. 5/20

Authoritarianism, Populism and Democracy in the 21st Century

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Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

As you are aware, the Communist Chinese Party (CCP) has just released its 14th Five Year Plan which will set conditions and expectations in development of China in the next period which includes extensions to 2035. Here is a link to the article by Xinhua http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-10/29/c_139476536.htm.

One of the pieces not specifically mentioned in the article is the CCP's move to further increase security efforts against Taiwan and Hong Kong. It does mention further modernization of the People's Liberation Army. One can assume the CCP's crackdown on dissent will continue if not increase in at least these locations. As a sidebar, Canada is actually making provisions to extract Canadian citizens from Hong Kong in view of this crackdown on basic freedoms. One has to wonder what this may be given that our country does not have the wherewithal to support any large-scale extractions especially if one talks about 300k citizens. One is sure of one thing, the CCP has not and will not tolerate is an independent and successful Taiwan as a separate entity without a fight.

The CCP is especially incensed that the Trump administration has now approved three major deals including for jet fighters, land-based cruise missiles and most recently, drones to help even the playing field in the Taiwan straits. The new equipment will enable to inflict tremendous damage if the PLAN

tries to cross the Taiwan straits. Keep in mind that Taiwan has also created indigenously produced land-based missile systems to counter bombard nearby launching sites

Belarus demonstrations are continuing despite the efforts of President Lukashenko. So far security forces have not shown any signs of breaking with the self-proclaimed president. This will have to happen in some form if the opposition is to have any success.

Azerbaijan and Armenia continue to fight despite international efforts for a ceasefire. Both presidents have stated that they will continue to fight. Casualties on both sides have been fairly high. "You Tube" is full of fairly graphic imagery of artillery/mortar strikes as well as a copious amount of drone footage. Russia has remained relatively hands off so far and Turkey is not doing anything too obvious so as to cause a reaction beyond the current combatants. The wild card is Iran which has sent large all arms forces into the area along the Iran Azerbaijan border. Iran is alleged to have shot down several Azerbaijani drones. Strangely, Russia is also alleged to have shot down drones using electronic counter measures. None of this can be independently verified, so the war drags on.

There is an apparent truce between warring parties in Libya that appears to be holding for that long-suffering country. It is an excellent example of what happens when one does not finish the job. Turkey and Russia are on the opposite sides of this conflict.

Syria continues to be a cesspool including new Russian bombings of Turkish held areas against alleged terrorists. In case one is counting that is three areas where Russia and Turkey are fighting through proxies. Keep in mind Russia also has areas of concern in Kyrgyzstan, Luhansk and Donetsk in Ukraine, South Ossetia, Abkhazia and Transnistria just to name a few plus its own internal unrest. Putin himself remains in a bubble not seeing anyone who has not been quarantined for 14 days...strangely different from another world leader.

There is a wonderful Economist article on how dazzling Russia's military build up is...it is amazing what a good disinformation campaign can do. Russia has displayed an amazing ability to play an awful hand of cards beautifully. Their military continues to deteriorate and most of their equipment except for some show pieces are mainly Soviet era including some of their most advanced submarines which are being built using incomplete hulls. They still suffer from an inability to create modern jet engines for the SU 57 nor are they able to mass produce the TU 160 or its much announced but never seen new bomber. Conscripts still make a large portion of the armed forces and they are poorly trained and motivated. It does not appear that the Russian armed forces are dazzling but are rather tarnished.