



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

19 March 2021

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:

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;

Events:

RUSI(NS) Annual General Meeting 2021

1900 hours, Wednesday 24 March, via Zoom

Tom Birchall, Secretary/Treasurer, in an email (Fri, 26 Feb 2021 at 15:43), distributed:

Notice of Meeting

Agenda

Draft minutes of 04 Mar 20

2020 Compiled Financial Statements

2021 Budget

Programme Report

Security Affairs Committee (SAC) Report

Veteran's Affairs Committee (VAC) report

President's Report

If you haven't got his email, check with Tom.

Zoom joining instructions will be emailed Monday, 22 March.

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: 23 March, Tuesday - Amundsen Science Expedition Planning and Outreach Workshop 2021. 1300-1500 EDT. Online. To register:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScVjHL8a1FJLLpr5EBWXYxjkrcoOoW77Pij7jY-Js5TYKkiLw/viewform>.

Amundsen Science website: <https://amundsenscience.ulaval.ca/>.

Amundsen Science newsletter: <https://landing.mailerlite.com/webforms/landing/q0i9I2>.

For details, see poster at end of *Dispatches*.

30 March, Tuesday - Centre for International Governance Innovation presentation "National Security Challenges in the 21st Century: A discussion with Vincent Rigby, National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister." 1:30-2:30 pm EST. See: <https://www.cigionline.org/events/national-security-challenges-21st-century-discussion-vincent-rigby-national-security-and>.

New: 8 April, Thursday - Royal Alberta United Services Institute and Valour Canada presentation "The Battle of Vimy Ridge ." 6pm MST (8pm EST). Free video-conference. To register, e-mail contact@valourcanada.ca.

22 April, Thursday - US Naval Institute "The American Sea Power Project" virtual event to "reinvigorate thinking about the role of sea power in U.S. national security." 10 am EDT. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com and a link will be emailed back. Also see: The American Sea Power Project (<https://www.usni.org/magazines/proceedings/2021/january/american-sea-power-project>).

Recent Publications:

New: RUSI(NS) Presentation “Marine Security Operations Centre - East” by Cora Pictou, 17 March 2021

<https://rusi-ns.ca/marine-security-operations-centre-east/>

RUSI(NS) Presentation “NORAD Modernization: Enabling Forward Operations” by Cmdre Jamie Clarke, 17 February 2021

<https://rusi-ns.ca/norad-modernization/>

RUSI(NS) Information Note "Change of Command – The Ceremony," 5 February 2021

<https://rusi-ns.ca/change-of-command-the-ceremony/>

New: The Royal United Services Institute Victoria (Australia) Occasional Volume 4, Issue 8, 15 March 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

New: Naval Association of Canada Toronto Branch presentation "Canadian Naval Heraldry" by LCdr (ret'd) Donald Williamson, 2 March 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLLES3VQK-Y>

New: Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association "On Watch" 4th edition
https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=2b8dad74-f615-4d50-b71b-b17a64d5380d

Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University "The Americas Series" (Zoom recording) presentation
"Americas as a Market & Mexico Naval Strategy," 10 February 2021
<https://kielseapowerseries.com/en/the-americas-series.html>

The Edmonton United Services Institute President's Enews March 2021 is available on request to
RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

The Military Institute of Windsor Communiqué Volume XXXIX, Number 3, March 2021 is available on
request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

The United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island Newsletter Vol 29, No 03, March 2021 is
available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

US Northern Command's The Watch, Issue 3, Great Power Competition
<https://thewatch-magazine.com/v3-eng/>

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.

CDN Naval Review @CdnNavalReview 12 Mar tweeted:
Canada participates with 31 other states in Exercise Obangame
Express 2021 ashore and at sea in Gulf of Guinea and West
Africa. Training includes boarding techniques, search and
rescue ops, medical casualty response, radio communication
and info management techniques.
RUSI(NS) retweeted: For a @RoyalCanNavy sailor's
experience in conducting boarding party training of African
partners, see RUSI(NS) paper "Exercise CUTLASS
EXPRESS" <https://rusi-ns.ca/exercise-cutlass-express/> Small
@CanadianFroces training teams can be effective means for
CAN🇨🇦 to build capacity of partner nations



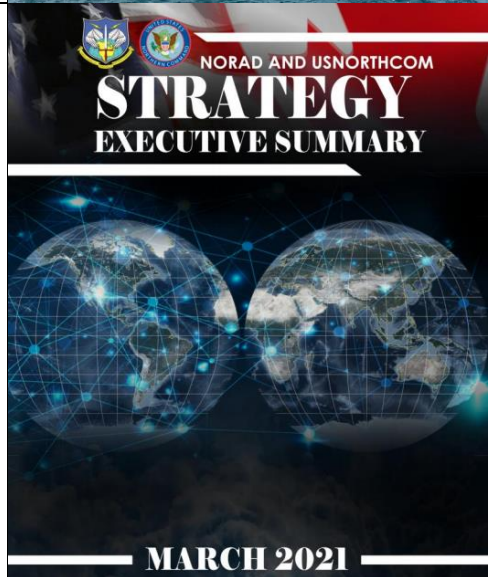
Canadian Armed Forces Operations @CFOperations Mar 12 tweeted: #CAF medical specialists and support personnel have arrived in Mathias Colomb Cree Nation in northwest Manitoba. A 41-person CAF team will work with local residents, officials & partner agencies to assist residents in response to a #COVID19 resurgence in the community. #OpLASER
RUSI(NS) retweeted: #OpLASER = @CanadianForces response to global pandemic. @CFOperations has empowered Regional Task Force Commanders to task Canadian Rangers to provide emergency relief & help identify emerging needs in remote communities without need for formal activation (Request for Assistance)



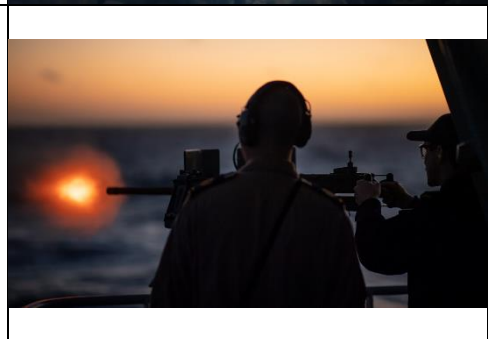
Last week Canadian Maritime Engineering @CME_LTD built&delivered four 500-series barges to @RoyalCanNavy Queen's Harbour Master Esquimalt. Progress with CAN 🇨🇦 National Shipbuilding Strategy #NSS. Capable harbour service is part of balanced navy



North American Aerospace Defense Command & US Northern Command Strategy. Commander's views on shaping op conditions to meet future challenges & importance of adopting globally integrated mindset to outthink outpace competitor s& potential adversaries <https://www.northcom.mil/Strategy/>

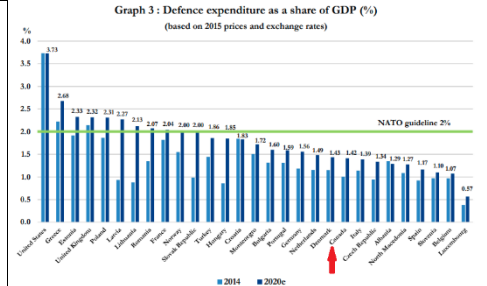


Royal Canadian Navy @RoyalCanNavy 15 Mar tweeted: Where is your Navy this week? HMCS SASKATOON and HMCS BRANDON are patrolling the Eastern Pacific Ocean as part of #OpCARIBBE. HMCS Calgary is travelling through the Pacific on #OpPROJECTION. HMCS Halifax is working alongside European allies as part of #OpREASSURANCE Brian Santarpia @BrianSantarpia 15 Mar retweeted: Note that COM SNMG1 is a Canadian and embarked in HAL and that COM CTF150, another Canadian, and team are based in Bahrain and you can see that the RCN is delivering strategic



effect for Canada around the world
twitter.com/royalcannavy/s...
 RUSI(NS) retweeted: Whilst attention in CAN🇨🇦, esp Ottawa, is on procurement & people issues, @CanadianForces continues its main duty at home & away: operations. As units (ships, battle groups, air task groups) & individuals&groups (commanders, training teams, staffs), our #CAF is globally engaged

Report - Defence Expenditures of NATO Countries (2013-2020)
https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2021/3/pdf/210316-pr-2020-30-en.pdf



Cora Pictou @Transport_gc spoke to RUSI(NS)&guests 17Mar21 with "Marine Security Operations Centre - East"
<https://rusi-ns.ca/marine-security-operations-centre-east/> 3
 MSOC are multi-agency collaborations to detect, assess & respond to marine security threats, to ensure security of CANFlag of Canadawaters & approaches



Canadian Army @CanadianArmy 18 Mar tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Check out our recent podcast about Arctic Training. Learn about the challenges members face when dealing with the extreme cold and ways this is overcome to achieve operational success. Listen here.
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=5T2mfAzo3w4>



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

Moscow's Plans for New Kind of Aircraft Carrier Unlikely to Be Realized
<https://jamestown.org/program/moscows-plans-for-new-kind-of-aircraft-carrier-unlikely-to-be-realized/>



Russia is destitute. The state will continue to decline because of the age of their population and the out-migration of the young.

The Russian nuclear capability is their only real long term asset. One has to wonder about the condition of their nuclear weapons as the state has a very limited capacity for maintenance and upgrades.

The Russian navy will continue to decline to a green water navy in the long term. They may get assault ships, though, within five to ten years. Carriers are beyond their capacity and economy.

U.S. Coast Guard to send icebreaker through Northwest Passage with Canada's consent

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/icebreaker-northwest-passage-1.594847>



Will the US position of considering the North West Passage an international strait come back to bite and become an issue when China decides to take the same position when seeking to transit a ship through those Canadian waters?

Vaccine rollout: Are military leaders the right people for this job?

<https://www.macleans.ca/news/canada/vaccine-rollout-are-military-leaders-the-right-people-for-this-job/>



"Sometimes it's better to slow down a bit and make sure you have everything you need, rather than rushing to do something as quickly as possible."

A quote from Dr Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health for Nova Scotia, quoting from Canadian Armed Forces members assisting with the pandemic response: "Go good, then go fast and go big."

What with the extent of military and civil integration in modern operations (and reflecting that for the majority of history military and civil affairs were greatly integrated), there is great utility in military personnel and civilians learning how each other does logistics.

Spanish police seize 30ft narco-submarine designed to stealthily carry two tons of illegal drugs at sea

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9355425/Spanish-police-seize-30ft-narco-submarine.html>



'Narco-submarines' (really, semi-submersibles) have for some time been a target for law enforcement, supported by navies including the Royal Canadian Navy (i.e., Operation CARIBBE). Interesting in this article is that the semi-submersibles boat was being built in Spain, the country to receive the drugs. Makes one wonder whether Canadian-based drug rings would consider building something in Canada to travel that (dare I write) 'last golden mile' from just off our coasts to our shores. Theatre

(large area) anti-submarine operations could become very localized, with Canadian law enforcement working with (learning from?) the Navy in coastal operations.

Chaos, cash and COVID-19: How the defense industry survived — and thrived — during the pandemic

<https://www.defensenews.com/industry/2021/03/15/chaos-cash-and-covid-19-how-the-defense-industry-survived-and-thrived-during-the-pandemic/>

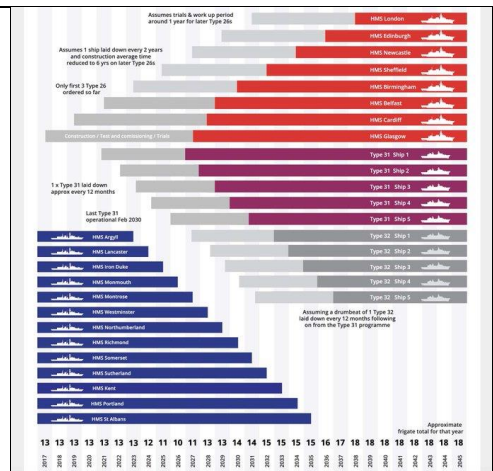


"Having domestic supply is a strategic strength,' Roper said. 'And one that the department — the nation — needs to think about more critically, what it's willing to trust overseas sources for. They may be trusted, but what happens if you don't have access to them? And that's something that we should not learn a second time. That lesson was learned during COVID-19.'"

How will Canada approach heeding this lesson and ensuring strategic strength?

Royal Navy to have 24 frigates and destroyers by 2030

<https://ukdefencejournal.org.uk/royal-navy-to-have-24-frigates-by-end-of-the-decade/>

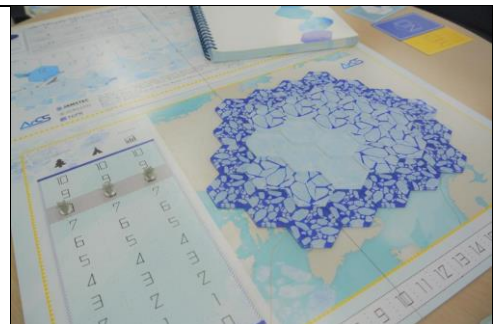


The RN is already past the Type 31. The Type 31 was used in a cost comparison by the Canadian Auditor General in a review of the Canadian Surface Combatant project, not as a capability comparison. The Type 31 is a light frigate for low end national security missions and is inappropriate for the Royal Canadian Navy.

Good graphic. A depiction which the general public can find useful in understanding their navy.

Japanese Scientists Create Board Game About a Changing Arctic

<https://www.highnorthnews.com/en/japanese-scientists-create-board-game-about-changing-arctic>



An understanding of economic, social and environmental developments is essential for military and civil operators in the North. Games like this can contribute to that understanding.

Mississippi, Maine Congressional Delegation Letter to Pentagon Leadership on Shipbuilding

<https://news.usni.org/2021/03/16/mississippi-maine-congressional-delegation-letter-to-pentagon-leadership-on-shipbuilding>



"Furthermore, a strong shipbuilding industrial base is a prerequisite for ensuring the Navy's maritime superiority."

And, a strong shipbuilding industrial base is a prerequisite for ensuring a Navy's maritime capability.

429 Transport Squadron forges a new path with mixed reality aircraft maintenance

<http://rcfarc.forces.gc.ca/en/article-template-standard.page?doc=429-transport-squadron-forges-a-new-path-with-mixed-reality-aircraft-maintenance/kllerb1>



Tele-maintenance!

What with increasing connectivity, especially to remote and austere sites like forward operating locations and deployed ships, and with increased complexity of equipment, requiring special and sparse expertise and tools to maintain, we have and are likely to see more and more of this. Augmented reality is an interesting capability addition.

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://mailchi.mp/rusi.org/weekly12march2021-171302?e=a539211a30>



How Norway Is Folding Civilians into National Defense

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2021/03/how-norway-folding-civilians-national-defense/172630/>



Defense panel rips into British Army over ‘deplorable’ state of armored vehicles

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2021/03/14/defense-panel-rips-into-british-army-over-deplorable-state-of-armored-vehicles/>



US-EU cooperation pitch on military mobility gets positive response

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2021/03/15/us-eu-cooperation-pitch-on-military-mobility-gets-positive-response/>



UK To Increase Its Nuclear Warhead Stockpile For The First Time Since The Cold War: Report

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/39782/uk-to-increase-its-nuclear-warhead-stockpile-for-the-first-time-since-the-cold-war-report>



Taiwan's military to build high-altitude missile defense network

https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2021/03/15/Taiwan-US-missile-defense-China-Taiwan/1221615814012/



NORAD readies for Arctic air defense exercises

<https://www.upi.com/Defense-News/2021/03/17/canada-norad-exercises-amalgamdart/4941615999162/>



Taiwan boosts South China Sea deployments, gets submarine nod

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/17/taiwan-boosts-south-china-sea-deployments-gets-submarine-nod?>



'Global Britain' to put more attention on China and Indo-Pacific

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3125858/global-britain-put-more-attention-china-and-indo-pacific>



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

#Arctic

The Polar Policies in China's New Five-Year Plan

<https://thediplomat.com/2021/03/the-polar-policies-in-chinas-new-five-year-plan/>

Draft Arctic Research Plan 2022-2026

<https://www.iarpcollaborations.org/draft-plan.html>

#artificial intelligence

The Artificial Intelligence Battlespace

<https://rusi.org/commentary/artificial-intelligence-battlespace>

#armour #United Kingdom

Ageing equipment puts Army at risk, MPs warn

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-56386446>

Army's tanks date back to when 'Elvis was the Christmas No.1'

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9359661/British-Armys-ageing-tanks-date-Elvis-Chr>

Obsolescent and outgunned: the British Army's armoured vehicle capability

UK House of Commons Defence Committee report:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/5081/documents/50325/default/>

#China

Will Taiwan's Dongsha Islands Be the Next Crimea?

<https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/29494/a-small-island-chain-could-be-the-next-flashpoint-in-taiwan-china-relations>

#civil-military cooperation

Learning Painful Lessons from Afghanistan

<https://warroom.armywarcollege.edu/articles/painful-lessons-afghanistan/>

#COVID

The New Necessary: How We Future-Proof for the Next Pandemic

Report available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

#cyber operations

Tackling Maritime Cyber Threats: A Call for Cross-Stakeholder Cooperation

<https://cimsec.org/tackling-maritime-cyber-threats-a-call-for-cross-stakeholder-cooperation/>

#defence policy

Ambition versus Affordability: Tackling the Defence Review Dilemma

<https://defenceindepth.co/2021/03/15/ambition-versus-affordability-tackling-the-defence-review-dilemma/>

Watch and learn from the UK.

The Armed Forces can help define Global Britain

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/03/15/armed-forces-can-help-define-global-britain/>

Available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com for those unable to pass the paywall.

#drones

Drone art of war

<https://defense-and-freedom.blogspot.com/2021/03/drone-art-of-war.html>

Department of the Navy Unmanned Campaign Framework

<https://news.usni.org/2021/03/16/document-department-of-the-navy-unmanned-campaign-framework>

RFI for RCN ISTAR UAS Project (W8472-175664/C)

<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/tender-notice/PW-QD-050-28078>

and LOI:

https://buyandsell.gc.ca/cds/public/2021/01/28/1eabefa1692d40567ffbddace7b8dc7b/ABES.PROD.PW_QD.B050.E28078.EBSU000.PDF

Small UAS to be carried in the torpedo magazine of a Halifax-class frigate.

#information operations

What's in a Meme?

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/03/12/whats-in-a-meme/>

#intelligence

Top Secret Canada: Understanding the Canadian Intelligence and National Security Community

Book: <https://utorontopress.com/ca/top-secret-canada-2>

Anyone reading it is invited to write a book report for RUSI(NS).

#land warfare

The 'Rear Area' no Longer Exists

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/03/10/the-rear-area-no-longer-exists/>

#law enforcement

Botched no-knock raids prompt calls to limit police tactic

Dynamic entries: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/no-knock-raids-dynamic-entries-calls-limit-police-tactic-1.5942819>

#procurement

Foreign Involvement in the Defense Supply Chain

<https://www.aei.org/research-products/report/report-foreign-involvement-in-the-defense-supply-chain/>

#security policy

Enhancing the role of the national security and intelligence advisor for briefings and advice to the PMO would result in a coherent defence strategy

<https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/march-2021/canada-needs-a-better-national-security-policy/>

#warfare

Producing fear in the enemy's mind: How to adapt Cold War deterrence for gray-zone aggression

<https://www.aei.org/research-products/report/producing-fear-in-the-enemys-mind-how-to-adapt-cold-war-deterrence-for-gray-zone-aggression/>

#wargaming

Australian Defence College Wargaming Series

<https://theforge.defence.gov.au/wargaming>

Other:

Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

I was saddened to see that Elinor Taylor has resigned her commission. She was a LCol in The Royal Canadian Regiment and Chief of Staff, 36 Canadian Brigade Group at the time of her resignation. She was and is 'good folks' whose patience has been mightily tried. Good luck to her and her future endeavors.

I want to start with the announcement of a death of an old friend, LCol Ralph Verge, MMM,CD, whom I have known for over thirty years as a member of The Royal Canadian Regiment Association, Halifax Branch. He, like so many others in the branch, was a veteran of the Korean War; many, many early peacekeeping operations and the Cold War. He had a rack of medals that quite frankly I don't know how he stood up straight. He was a typical soldier of his time and one of a kind. He had a great love of life and loved the Armed Forces and felt the current series of governments have served veterans poorly. When I first met him, I was still a young sprog with only 23 years service when I took over as the Branch Secretary of the association and was serving at Land Force Atlantic Area Headquarters. He and his fellow veterans greeted me as a long lost brother and we never looked back from that relationship. Look back over our respective history and lives we did do. Some of their comments and stories I brought to my own war in Afghanistan, unfortunately, these stories are not for the faint of heart nor for general knowledge. There are the official histories and stories and then there are always the other stories, both good and bad and mostly self-deprecating humour. Ralph was one of a dying breed, with so few Second World War and Korean veterans left with us. Covid prevents folks from honouring yet another soldier from that era of conflict. It was a great pleasure to have known him and so many others who served their country in times of need and conflict. Rest in peace , Ralph.

I will start with my favourite place, Russia. Alexei Navalny is apparently still in IK-2, a penal colony in Vladimir Oblast near the town of Vladimir, about 100 kms east-north-east of Moscow. It has a relatively notorious reputation and was the site of the imprisonment of one of Putin's original and still considered enemy, the head of the Yukos Oil Company, Mikhail Khodorkovsky. Mr Khodorkovsky is

famous for having first criticized President Putin publicly in front of virtually all the oligarchs in Russia. Putin moved quickly and allegedly orchestrated criminal charges against his new enemy. It resulted in Mr Khodorkovsky being imprisoned at the same location for ten years. The battle over the resulting downfall of Yukos Oil is still being fought in the European courts as thousands of investors were cheated as a result by Russian pro-Putin oil companies that feasted on the body of Yukos Oil with the support of the Russian legal system. The battle in the courts continues as does Mr Khodorkovsky's ongoing attack on President Putin...safely from the US.

In past notes, the Russian economy has been commented on as being smaller than Canada's, although only slightly smaller at about 1.7 trillion. Canada's economy is relatively diverse and capable of absorbing fairly major fluctuations in the economy or to a specific sector, say, oil and gas. Russia takes most of its economy on two areas, oil and gas and the armaments industry. Details of this can be found at "Trading Economics" (<https://tradingeconomics.com/russia/weapons-sales>) which shows how the Russian arms industry has collapsed in the last couple years. This may change as Turkey is allegedly looking to buy SU-35 and SU-57 fighters.

The Russians also announced that they will be re-building Armenia's armed forces after their disastrous showing in the most recent conflict in Nagorno Karabakh, which will also help. Most of the manufacture however is for the Russian armed forces; a sale to itself and not for foreign exchange. The real reason for the decline of Russia's armaments industry is China's ongoing reverse engineering of major Russian weapons systems, including most of China's missile systems and recent aircraft development. China generally has improved on these systems and added their own refinements. China is proving to be more of an enemy than friend.

On another financial note, the US is about to slap more sanctions, said to be some of the toughest in recent years, against the Russian government and individuals for interference in US elections and for the Solarwinds hack. Both issues are major issues for the Biden Administration who will not be nearly as kind as the Trump organization. The US report on the most recent election and previous issues has been especially damning against key members of the Trump Administration. The word "treasonous" has been used with all the potential legal challenges that might take.

Russia's increased cooperation with China on a number of key areas such as ballistic missiles, aircraft and most recently a joint Moon base seems almost farfetched in the long term because of the cost and an image of Putin and Xi with one arm behind their backs with a hidden weapon, each ready for the inevitable fallout between two countries who have actively fought one another before. Keep in mind, it is only a couple months since China made a claim on the Vladivostok - Khabarovsk area of Siberia, which China states is part of historical China. I would not necessarily hold my breath that this will be a long-term relationship.

A final note on Russia involves Belarus. The General Secretary of the Union State between Russia and Belarus has to be replaced this year. This program was an invention of the Putin-Lukashenko regimes to ensure Lukashenko remained in power. It would also give the necessary pretext for the Russian National Guard to be "invited" into Belarus to act against anti-government forces. This was never brought to the people of either state, however, any opposition leader as well as those in the West have to consider this possible action by Russia.

There is a growing relationship between Greece, Israel and Cyprus to counter increasingly aggressive Turkish actions. This includes naval exercises and exchanges. This will only increase as Turkey's Erdogan government takes a more independent course in the Mediterranean. This is not over.

Senegal has achieved a bit of quiet after violent riots which killed at least seven people and also recorded many accusations against the police. The main targets appeared to have been grocery stores and key property of the president's own family. Both the opposition leader and the President gave

fairly moderate speeches condemning the violence and asked people to refrain from violent action. It seems to have worked.

Now for China, or rather the actions of the Communist Chinese Party (CCP).

The CCP has always stated that it represents all the people of China - it certainly does not. The CCP makes up only 7 to 8% of the Chinese population. The CCP controls the armed forces, in fact, there is no Chinese military but rather the military arm of the CCP. The same applies to the police, prison system and the courts and essentially anything else one might imagine. As pointed out before, the CCP is only interested in its own survival and the accumulation of power over the people through Party organs such as virtually all its media outlets. So number one, they do not represent the people of China, just themselves. The people of China are not responsible for the CCP's aggressive and illegal actions including genocide and lesser acts against Uyghurs, Tibetans, Mongolians and now Hong Kong (HK). The people of China are not responsible for the CCP's illegal actions in the South China Seas or against its neighbours such as Nepal and India and its decisions not to abide by decisions of the International Courts. The CCP is able to conduct illegal actions against the world because of the efforts of Russia to give them top cover.

The CCP has often commented that other countries should stay out of China's internal affairs, but East Turkistan, also known as Xinjiang Province, and Tibet were separate countries attacked and occupied by the CCP. Therefore, these areas are of concern to the international community because of the CCP's illegal acts of invasion. Hong Kong (HK) is another example of the CCP's inability to follow legal and international norms by arbitrarily changing an international treaty with the United Kingdom in relation to HK and the most recent action to place the CCP in total control of HK and not as per the original agreement. Only Chinese 'patriots' can be members of the Legislative Council, thus eliminating any opposition. The CCP's actions are illegal and it affects the whole of humanity. The world is right to hold them accountable for these very clearly illegal international events.

WHO finished its investigation in China on a source of the outbreak of Covid 19. One spokesman said China cooperated fully and gave great support. What wasn't stated was that China did not give them access early enough, did not have the same conditions and delayed access until everything was cleared up amongst other things. The WHO investigation is likely to be of limited value and once again the CCP will be let off the hook for their ongoing efforts to hide disasters of all types including major health scares such as Covid 19 and SARS, both characterised by CCP opaqueness and "baffle-gab" - anything but being responsible.

The CCP claims it has made headway in defeating poverty even as reporters continue to report on the failure of the CCP to properly deal with their aging population. Currently about 250M people are above age 65. This will continue to climb to more than 500M by 2050 all coupled with a declining population courtesy of the CCP's 'one child policy.' The CCP is totally to blame for these circumstances befalling the people least able to defend themselves.

Canada's two Michaels remain imprisoned. They were arrested in December 2018 and have not been tried. The CCP spokesman stated that they will soon go to trial but nothing specific has been announced. Some Canadians have been held since 2006 without proper access to Canadian Government officials. There are currently 123 Canadians held in CCP prisons.

The CCP does not deserve to hold the Olympics in Beijing. The IOC's comments that they are not political, but they can be considered immoral and unethical.

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Outreach Workshop



March 23, 2021

13:00 - 16:00 EDT



Online and open to all
Registration required

Learn about this National Research Facility, the history of the *Amundsen* and get involved in the future of the infrastructure.

Schedule

- 13:00 Introduction, objectives and review of the Planning Workshop
- 13:10 Opening remarks from the Canadian Coast Guard
- 13:20 The CCGS *Amundsen*: a leading force in Canadian-led international Arctic research
- 13:50 Evolution of best practices in field oceanography based on the CCGS *Amundsen*
- 14:10 A tribute to Professor Louis Fortier
- 14:25 Break
- 14:40 Amundsen Science: a unique infrastructure management model in Canada
- 15:00 The *Amundsen*: Canada's premier networking platform, supporting the integration of indigenous and western science knowledge in the Arctic.
- 15:20 The CCGS *Amundsen* for major international initiatives
- 15:35 The future: upcoming funding cycle, new programs, and a successor to the *Amundsen*

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Speakers

Alexandre Forest, Anissa Merzouk, David Barber, Canadian Coast Guard, Jean-Éric Tremblay, Marcel Babin, Marlon Lewis and Martin Fortier