



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

9 April 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:

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.

Retirements and other factors have led to the unavailability of the Distinguished Speaker (and alternatives) for April 2021. Options are under consideration, and plans will be announced later.

New: 12 April, Monday - the Naval Association of Canada Ottawa Branch extends an invitation to RUSI(NS) to their April Speaker's Event with Mr James Davies, President and CEO of Chantier Davie Shipbuilding. 1900=2100 EDT. To register: <http://ow.ly/WddE50EiGGx>. See poster at end of *Dispatches*.

21 April, Wednesday - Navy League of Canada Virtual Speaker Rear-Admiral Brian Santarpia, Commander Maritime Forces Atlantic, will provide an update on current initiatives, operations and the future fleet. 1230 EST. Via MS Teams. Spaces are limited. To register, email rsvp@navyleague.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>).

New: 23 April, Friday - USNORTHCOM and Arctic eTalks Team event with Janne Kuusela, Defense Policy Director and Deputy Director General at the Defense Policy Department of the Ministry of Defense of Finland. 8 am Alaska time. To register: https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5_Y0s952QqiwsV8-IvQshA

Recent Publications:

RUSI(NS) Paper "Why Pilot Training Production for the RCAF is Failing and Why are Pilot Losses Mounting" by Murray Lee, 31 March 2021
<https://rusi-ns.ca/pilottraining/>

RUSI(NS) Presentation "Marine Security Operations Centre - East" by Cora Pictou, 17 March 2021
<https://rusi-ns.ca/marine-security-operations-centre-east/>

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>

Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University "The Americas Series" (Zoom recording) presentations
"Canada and USA," 18 February 2021
"Seapower from a South American Perspective & Colombian Naval Strategy," 8 March 2021
"Brazilian Naval Strategy & China and IUU Problems in South America," 11 March 2021
<https://kielseapowerseries.com/en/the-americas-series.html>

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

The Newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island, Volume 54, 2nd Quarter 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

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

The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) Newsletter Volume 20, Issue 1 – March 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

New: The Royal United Services Institute Victoria (Australia) Occasional Volume 5, Issue 3 – 5 April 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

New: The Military Institute of Windsor Communiqué Volume XXXIX Number 4 April 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

New: The United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island Newsletter Vol 29, No 04, April 2021 is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

New: Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association "On Watch" 7 April edition https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=1ccf9809-d538-4e55-84ad-e12a6fd38cb6. Includes links to articles including “Seaspan Shipyards starts construction of Canada's most modern science research ship,” “\$1.8M contract to dismantle former navy ship challenged by rival bidder” and “Saanich-based robotics company charting new course for ocean exploration with autonomous boats.”

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.

<p>CNA @CNA_org 3 Apr tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: CNA analysts combine functional and regional expertise with #science, #technology, #engineering and #math (#STEM) and social science methodologies to better understand the #nationalsecurity challenges posed by the #ModernInfoEnvironment. https://cna.org/centers/cna/cip/information-environment#disinformation (Propaganda, Disinformation, & Other Influence Efforts: The Modern Information Environment)</p>	
<p>Ekaterina Uryupova @Polar_Katya 6 Apr tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: A new #Arctic military activity tracker created by @CSIS https://arcticmilitarytracker.csis.org</p>	
<p>CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 6 Apr tweeted: Interesting read from @f_mb "It's time for the Canadian government to publish a strategy and fund transdisciplinary research to prepare the country for what's to come." We'll soon be publishing an #ExpertSeries piece on this topic. https://lawfareblog.com/canadas-defense-strategy-falls-behind-quantum-age RUSI(NS) retweeted: "Canada's Defense Strategy Falls Behind in the Quantum Age" https://www.lawfareblog.com/canadas-defense-strategy-falls-behind-quantum-age Call for CAN🇨🇦 government & funding agencies to support corporate, university & start-ups quantum research & development "to strengthen Canada's relevance in the quantum sector"</p>	
<p>MARLANT @RCN_MARLANT Apr 4 tweeted: Happy 25th Anniv to Fleet Maintenance Facility Cape Scott and its 1,200 military & civilian staff who provide effective and efficient naval engineering, repair and maintenance services to support Canadian Fleet Atlantic to generate, employ, & maintain an effective fleet. RUSI(NS) retweeted: Capable navies are more than just sea-going ships. Maritime countries & their navies need strong shore support infrastructure including engineering units like</p>	

@RoyalCanNavy's Fleet Maintenance Facilities Cape Scott (Halifax) & Cape Breton (Esquimalt). One #DefenceTeam Brian Santarpia @BrianSantarpia 6 Apr retweeted: FMF is key to the delivery of combat capable maritime forces with its responsiveness and flexibility. When an RCN ship needs maintenance help at home or around the world, FMF is there with expertise and determination. Happy birthday.

Shipboard directed energy weapons (lasers) becoming more the norm <https://news.usni.org/2021/04/07/navy-installing-more-directed-energy-weapons-on-ddgs-conducting-land-based-laser-testing-this-year> CAN🇨🇦 Surface Combatant will have laser detection & countermeasures system. Will future @RoyalCanNavy frigates have power for bolt-on or built-in directed energy systems?
(Navy Installing More Directed Energy Weapons on DDGs, Conducting Land-Based Laser Testing This Year)



Navy submarine suffered long-term damage to ballast tank from errant test: Report

<https://nationalpost.com/pmnn/news-pmnn/canada-news-pmnn/navy-submarine-suffered-long-term-damage-to-ballast-tank-from-errant-test-report>



Timothy Choi @TimDotChoi 5 Apr tweeted (stream): New article from @leeberthiaume on HMCS Corner Brook's delayed repairs: during drainage of ballast tanks post-test, contractors overpressurized, leading to rupture. <https://msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/navy-submarine-suffered-long-term-damage-to-ballast-tank-from-errant-test-report/>. My thoughts in potential limitations (i.e. what ADM(Mat) & DND won't say) follow: She'll still play a serious deterrent role. Without knowing exact limits of the now-weakened tank, enemies don't know how deep she can go. How deep she NEEDS to go to avoid detection depends on WHERE she's operating due to seabed terrain & thermoclines, which vary from location. Then there's the mission: not all submarine missions require, or indeed benefit from, staying very deep. Covert surveillance of surface vessels, such as they did off North Korea in 2018, require shallow depth anyway. Same for electronic intelligence collection. While a shallow (relatively speaking) submarine is easier to find than a deeper one, the amount of resources that an adversary will spend to look for it will not be reduced just because they now know there are unspecified limits to how deep it can go. If the opponent is coming into an area where a sub is suspected, it doesn't really matter how deep they think it can go: they're not going to say "oh it's way easier now" and go with one hand tied behind their backs. They're going to bring all the ASW forces they can to bear. That, or they'll seek to avoid the area where the sub is suspected of being, and doing things that might trigger that sub to attack - that's where the deterrent effect comes in. So yes, a weakened ballast tank will reduce Corner Brook's capabilities, and the Corner Brook's captains will have reduced options in some tactical situations. But as long as the opponent doesn't know what those reductions are, they're going to treat Corner Brook as though it's just as fully capable and threatening as any of her sisters. For the RCN, the main concern now is going to be how many more dives the repaired tank can take before it, and the sub overall, needs to be replaced. Remaining service life, rather than tactical capability, will be the main high-level consequence of this.

Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

Type 83 Destroyer concept phase to begin ‘in next few years’

<https://ukdefencejournal.org.uk/type-83-destroyer-concept-phase-to-begin-in-next-few-years/>



“The Type 83 will replace our Type 45 destroyers when they go out of service in the late 2030s. We anticipate the concept phase for Type 83 to begin in the next few years with the assessment phase following.”

Shipbuilding projects take many years from initiation until hulls enter the water (and, really, last many years thereafter, until the last hull of a project is disposed of and sent to the breaker). Canada needs to be looking now at what are the concepts for replacing its Kingston-class multi-role coastal/regional patrol ships and its Victoria-class submarines.

'Deficient' shipment of Chinese aluminium forces delay to Navy's Cape Class patrol boats

<https://www.defencealert.com/defence-industry/28515-deficient-shipment-of-chinese-aluminium-forces-delay-to-navy-s-cape-class-patrol-boats>



"... the new (Australian patrol boat) fleet has been delayed after a "quality issue" was detected in a batch of aluminium sourced from China."

Hmm, are the Chinese playing a form of economic warfare? Yes, sourcing maritime equipment from China (indeed, even vessels, noting the North West Territories recently bought large barges from China) may be cheaper. But if the quality of the equipment and the material is that much poorer, shouldn't national resiliency dominate as a purchasing factor and buys be from domestic sources?

Rights groups in Russia condemn Moscow's role in Syria war crimes

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/rights-groups-in-russia-condemn-moscow-s-role-in-syria-war-crimes/ar-BB1fevfQ>



One, that Russia is finally being called out for war crimes and secondly, that the war crimes are being called out by Russian sources. Russia has done much to prolong the agony of Syria and is in a large measure responsible for a large number of civilian casualties through their bombing efforts which were more akin to bomber tactics of the Second World War. The tide is changing in Russia and the regime's ability to act without consequences is rapidly receding.

Time will tell whether this will have a lasting effect, or, will it cause the regime to attack the messengers again?

The Longest Telegram: A Visionary Blueprint for the Comprehensive Grand Strategy Against China We Need

<https://warontherocks.com/2021/04/the-longest-telegram-a-visionary-blueprint-for-the-comprehensive-grand-strategy-against-china-we-need/>



Okay, check the date of this article before launching into it, otherwise you'll find yourself nodding in agreement until the point you realize (!), then you'll be nodding that there are still good points being made even if in a roundabout way.

Whilst the article was written as US grand strategy, it is thinking that others (us, meaning Canadians, our leadership particularly) should be reading and considering. What is Canada's grand strategy for dealing with China?

The Military-Photographic Complex

<https://musgrave.substack.com/p/the-military-photographic-compl>



Some good considerations in this blog for us Canadians. What is the strength of our military imagery capability? (Do I recall rightly that our Canadian Armed Forces Combat Camera Teams were once considered for disbandment?) What are the imagery capabilities in the communications organizations of other government departments? Is there an integrated whole-of-government approach to imagery? An OPTASK VI (milspeak = operational tasking order, visual imagery, providing unifying direction) for the Government of Canada? You would think there would be great utility in shared standards, techniques, training and equipment between government agencies and departments. And what about some governance structure, at least to attempt to ensure an integrated approach to messaging using imagery?

I have seen what Combat Camera Teams can do, both operationally deployed and domestically, in mainstream and social media. Imagery is capable of achieving significant effects. It should be treated with due consideration (and respect).

Pixels on target!

The Suez Grounding Was an Accident. The Next Blocked Chokepoint Might Not Be.

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2021/03/suez-grounding-was-accident-next-blocked-chokepoint-might-not-be/173011/>



The use of blockships to close a port has long been a naval tactic. It remains viable. Under conditions (e.g., surprise in a pre-conflict situation), it could be a relatively easy operation. The security of ports, and the resiliency of states to respond to port blockage whether accidental or deliberate, needs to be a matter of multi-departmental, not just military, planning and exercising.

Canada's Joint Task Force Atlantic included a scenario of a vessel blocking a harbour in Exercise FRONTIER SENTINEL 2012, one of a series of annual Canadian-US home defence exercises. See: "Frontier Sentinel 2012 – Multi-jurisdictional Exercise or Ship Raising Event?" (<https://rusi-ns.ca/frontiersentinel2012/>). The lessons learned and relationships built in that exercise are the sort needed to respond to situations such as a blocked port or seaway. Contingency planning and exercising are good ways for authorities and planners to envision possibilities of and responses to blockship scenarios.

Marines' Drone-Killing Lasers Get Even More Powerful After Upgrades

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/04/01/marines-drone-killing-lasers-get-even-more-powerful-after-upgrades.html>



The 'Compact Laser Weapon System,' capable of destroying smaller drones at closer range and of disrupting sensors of bigger drones at longer range. Lasers are becoming more capable and more a routine part of military forces. When will we see them in use by Canadian Armed Forces, deployed in army air defence units, as part of airfield defence, and aboard ships?

To write the obvious, there will be improvements and increased use of lasers. An example of a very portable (shoulder-fired) laser was "Drone-Killing Gun Spotted at US Base in Iraq" (<http://www.defensetech.org/2016/07/26/drone-killing-gun-spotted-at-us-base-in-iraq/>). Where in the Defence Research and Development Canada are lasers being developed, and what military units are studying doctrine and tactics for their use?

How to Fix the Financial Gymnastics of Police Misconduct Settlements

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/how-fix-financial-gymnastics-police-misconduct-settlements>



The article, US focused, speaks of 'qualified immunity.' Better termed indemnification in the Canadian environment. With respect to RCMP officers, see: "Policy on Legal Assistance and Indemnification" (<https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pol/doc-eng.aspx?id=13937>). "Providing legal assistance and indemnification to Crown servants is essential to the protection of the Crown's interest, the fair treatment of its servants, and the effective management of an organization. Crown servants may be subject to legal claims/actions despite the fact that they are acting in good faith, within the scope of

their duties or in the course of their employment. It is therefore necessary that they receive appropriate legal representation and be protected from personal liability as long as they are not acting against the interests of the Crown."

CNO: Pentagon Force Posture Review Will Inform Future Carrier Missions, Arctic Presence

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/05/cno-pentagon-force-posture-review-will-inform-future-carrier-missions-arctic-presence>



"But, as part of this global posture review, one of the areas that I think we need to look at as an Arctic nation is that area that, essentially you have three combatant command commanders who bound the Arctic (EUCOM, INDO-PACOM and U.S. Northern Command), and so as a force provider, as the CNO, I'm providing forces that the secretary of defense ultimately decides in a prioritized fashion how to allocate those and use those across the combatant commands."

Hint of a possible US re-organization in order to focus forces on the Arctic?

Valkyrie drone launches even smaller drone from inside payload bay

<https://www.defensenews.com/air/2021/04/05/the-valkyrie-drone-launches-an-even-smaller-drone-from-inside-its-payload-bay/>



An aerial drone successfully launched a small aerial drone from an internal bay (potential to carry and launch more than one of the small drones?). To write the obvious, drone capability is developing fast. Are doctrine and tactics under development to keep up? Is the Canadian Department of National Defence (research, development, procurement) and Canadian Armed Forces (organization, training) ready for broad employment of drones, including drones operating drones?

Caruso

<http://shipfax.blogspot.com/2021/04/caruso.html>



"Nevertheless, the department (Fisheries and Oceans Canada) is ultimately at the root of the problem for trying to recoup a few dollars by selling old ships instead of paying to have them scrapped."

There can be an argument either way of whether the government should send a ship to a breaker or sell her for further use. In the latter case, maybe there should be some sort of strong rider to the sale to ensure the vessel is put to good use (define that?) or at least doesn't end up at a foreign breaker where the labour and environmental laws are lax.

There doesn't seem to be a shipbreakers association in Canada to allow for government-industry relations.

RUSI(NS) has written about shipbreaking in the past. See: "Breaking Up Iroquois – Good for Nova Scotia Economy" (<https://rusi-ns.ca/breaking-iroquois-good-nova-scotia-economy/>) and "Breaking Up Former Canadian Warships" (<https://rusi-ns.ca/breaking-up-former-canadian-warships/>).

Water Wars: Philippines 'No Fool' about Chinese Maritime Militia, While China Keeps Pressure on Taiwan

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/water-wars-philippines-no-fool-about-chinese-maritime-militia-while-china-keeps-pressure-taiwan>



Canada needs to be prepared to respond to China's use of its 'fishing' and research fleets for Chinese intrusion/expansionist purposes. Is there a Canadian whole-of-government plan?

Navalny Supporters Detained Outside His Russian Penal Colony

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2021/04/06/navalny-supporters-detained-outside-his-russian-penal-colony-a73493>



A Moscow Times article written by the editorial staff of AFP. Russian authorities are continuing their crackdown but it appears they are losing the public relations battle overall. They apparently arrested well-known CNN contributor Matthew Chance at the same time they arrested Navalny's physician, Dr Anastasia Vasilyeva, head of the Medical Doctor's Trade Union. Apparently, it is going around that Russian prison authorities have let TB run rampant in the prison putting all at risk. It is not playing well anywhere including in Russia.

In recent polls, one-in-two Russians believe that the government was right to arrest and jail Alexei Navalny. One might suspect that the other half are young folks who are more likely to oppose the actions of the regime, fail to show up for conscription and do show up for increasingly active anti-Putin regime demonstrations. Putin supporters are more likely to be pensioners or government workers. Given that the press is highly controlled, it is not a good sign longer term for the regime.

Putin also signed new legislation that would allow him to run for two more terms of six years. He is 69 years of age now. His current term ends in 2024 and thus two more terms means he could remain in power until 2036 at the age of 84. What an interesting fate for a country that deserves better from its leaders. One can only imagine what levels of authoritarianism may be possible if he succeeds, as we can see by his reaction to Navalny's efforts to point out corruption. The question is, with his popularity waning, will he make it?

U.S. salvage firm hired to assess shipwreck leaking oil off Vancouver Island

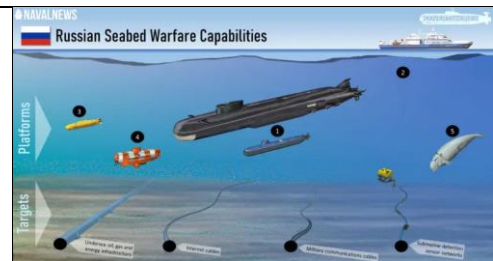
<https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/u-s-salvage-firm-hired-to-assess-shipwreck-leaking-oil-off-vancouver-island-1.5369857>



It would appear from the article that Canada does not have salvage companies on the country's west coast that can undertake the shipwreck assessment job. Not apparent whether there are any salvage companies at all, though one would think with as much marine activity as we have there that some Canadians would be operating salvage companies. Certainly on the east coast a few years ago there was a dearth of capability. What is the salvage industry in Canada? Having a strong salvage industry is important for defence and security operations.

5 Ways The Russian Navy Could Target Undersea Internet Cables

<https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2021/04/5-ways-the-russian-navy-could-target-undersea-internet-cables/>



"Cable wars" have long been and need to be a matter of concern for Canada and the Royal Canadian Navy. A number of undersea telecommunications cables, which carry by far the majority of electronic communications, come ashore in Atlantic Canada. And the security of bottom-laid sensor cables has to be a priority

History has demonstrated that one of the first actions by major powers in a major conflict is to cut undersea cables.

The U.S. Navy Is About To Buy A Whole Lot Of Frigates—It Matters Who Builds Them

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2021/04/07/the-us-navy-is-about-to-buy-a-whole-lot-of-frigates-it-matters-who-builds-them/?sh=4f11bbca347c>



"But a lack of shipyard capacity is holding back efforts to maintain and repair existing ships while also building new ones."

"Big orders for new frigates could drive investment in yards that, in addition to building the frigates themselves, also could work on other ship types."

"Naval shipbuilding is political."

Whilst the article is US, there is something to take away for Canadians. There is a symbiosis between the shipbuilding industry and government fleets (whether they are navy, coast guard or otherwise). A strong shipbuilding program builds strong fleets. Having strong fleets (with all that can be done with them for national defence, security and safety) requires governments to ensure a strong shipbuilding industry. Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS) recognizes this and puts an emphasis, one could argue the main emphasis, on economic (shipbuilding industry) development. There is a question though, that is, what is the NSS aiming for? Not to say there is a real end-state - in many respects the NSS is inherently an ongoing/continuing program. But there should be at least some target balance between what Canada has for government fleets and what Canadian shipbuilding can support. Of course, that gets into a lot of analysis of foreign, defence, security and other policies, trying to determine requirements and affordability. Politics!

US Navy welcomes Seahawk autonomous vessel

<https://www.navaltoday.com/2021/04/08/us-navy-welcomes-seahawk-autonomous-vessel/>



Seahawk, a medium-displacement unmanned surface vehicle (MDUSV). As more MDUSV, and larger and smaller drones, whether "long-range, high-availability autonomous surface vessel" or other, but all with long-initialism names, enter the navies of the world, there's going to be a confusing mix of terms. Terms not necessarily agreed between navies - the NATO publication on type designations will definitely need review. There are a number of ship type names not currently in much use. Maybe some of those can be resurrected. After all, the type names corvette and frigate as currently used are creations of the Second World War. Hmm, how about sloop (was an inter-war light escort) or brig or brigantine or galiot? Maybe not cog.

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.

How the U.S. Should Respond to Russia's New Escalation in Ukraine

<https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/29541/can-the-u-s-avert-an-escalating-ukraine-russia-war>



Report of Russian navigation gear on German submarines has lawmakers on alert

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/global/europe/2021/04/01/report-of-russian-navigation-gear-on-german-submarines-has-lawmakers-on-alert/>



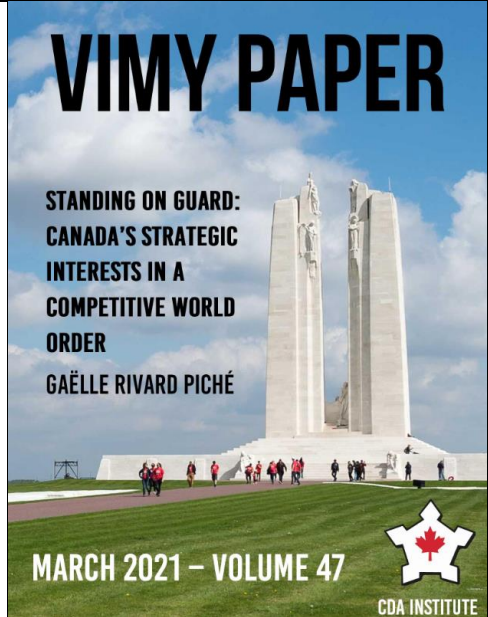
Could Latvia become NATO's 5G military test hub?

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/battlefield-tech/2021/04/01/could-latvia-become-natos-5g-military-test-hub/>



Standing on Guard: Canada's Strategic Interests in a Competitive World Order

<https://cdainstitute.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/CDAI-Vimy-Paper-47.pdf>



NDP to debate phasing out Canada's Armed Forces at policy convention

<https://tnc.news/2021/04/01/ndp-to-debate-phasing-out-canadas-armed-forces-at-policy-convention/>



Airbus deemed only qualified supplier for new RCAF refueling and VIP aircraft

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/airbus-deemed-only-qualified-supplier-for-new-rcaf-refueling-and-vip-aircraft>



Putin Ups Efforts to Intimidate Ukraine and Its Allies

<https://www.defenseone.com/threats/2021/04/putin-ups-efforts-intimidate-ukraine-and-its-allies/173150/>



PBO predicted another multibillion-dollar cost increase for the project in February

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/SOMNIA-1.5975443>



Canadian submarine may have permanent damage due to errant test: report

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7738702/canadian-submarine-damage-errant-test/>



Navy submarine has long-term damage to ballast tank from bungled test, report says

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/SOMNIA-1.5975659>



Philippines warns China of ‘unwanted hostilities’ in sea dispute

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/4/6/philippine-warns-china-of-unwanted-hostilities-over-sea-dispute>



China Has an Image Problem—but Knows How to Fix It

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/04/06/china-image-problem-wolf-warrior-international/>



China's paramilitary ships 'swarming' South China Sea reef by the hundreds

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/china-paramilitary-ships-swarming-south-china-sea-reef>



Panel: Japan Needs More Offensive Firepower to Counter Chinese Ambitions

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/06/panel-japan-needs-more-offensive-firepower-to-counter-chinese-ambitions>



China flanks Taiwan with military exercises in air and sea

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/07/asia/china-taiwan-military-surrounded-intl-hnk-scli-ml/index.html>



Canadian military to improve uniforms as new camouflage pattern selected

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-military-to-improve-uniforms-as-new-camouflage-pattern-selected>



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

#A2R

Navy Recruiting Could See Changes Following Diversity Listening Sessions

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/07/navy-recruiting-could-see-changes-following-diversity-listening-sessions>

Lessons for Canada?

#air power

An interview with the editor of ‘Air Forces the Next Generation’ Dr Amit Gupta

<https://wavellroom.com/2020/11/20/an-interview-with-the-editor-of-air-forces-the-next-generation-dr-amit-gupta/>

#China

A Future Chinese Indian Ocean Fleet?

<https://warontherocks.com/2021/04/a-future-chinese-indian-ocean-fleet/>

Keep an eye on the Indian Ocean theatre.

#cyber operations

What Is DevSecOps, Anyway?

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2021/04/what-devsecops-anyway/173082/>

DevSecOps = combined software development and security operations.

Hybrid CoE Trend Report 6: The future of cyberspace and hybrid threats

<https://www.hybridcoe.fi/publications/hybrid-coe-trend-report-6-the-future-of-cyberspace-and-hybrid-threats/>

#drones #land warfare

Looking to 2040: The Swarm Advantage

<https://researchcentre.army.gov.au/library/land-power-forum/looking-2040-swarm-advantage>

The U.S. Army Goes to School on Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/03/30/army-pentagon-nagorno-karabakh-drones/>

“We need to be thinking about greater camouflage than just this...”

If you cannot access this article, a PDF is available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

Meet the future weapon of mass destruction, the drone swarm

<https://thebulletin.org/2021/04/meet-the-future-weapon-of-mass-destruction-the-drone-swarm/>

#humanitarian assistance/disaster response

Three Block Community Support: An Australian Defence Force Capability

<https://researchcentre.army.gov.au/library/occasional-papers/three-block-community-support-australian-defence-force-capability>

#information operations

If You Build It, They Will Lose: Competing with China Requires New Information Warfare Tools

<https://cimsec.org/if-you-build-it-they-will-lose-competing-with-china-requires-new-information-warfare-tools/>

National Priorities to Combat Misinformation and Disinformation for COVID-19 and Future Public Health Threats: A Call for a National Strategy
https://www.hsdl.org/?abstract&did=851482&utm_source=hsdl_cr&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=hsdl_cr_2021-04-07

#intelligence

Connecting Partnerships for the Co-Production of Full-Spectrum Threat Intelligence
<https://cimsec.org/connecting-partnerships-for-the-co-production-of-full-spectrum-threat-intelligence/>
In light of our recent Distinguished Speaker topic: "Marine Security Operations Centre – East" (<https://rusi-ns.ca/marine-security-operations-centre-east/>).

Intelligence NEEDS to go Digital
<https://staging.wavellroom.com/2019/09/12/intelligence-needs-to-go-digital/>

The Unique Intelligence Challenges of Countering Naval Asymmetric Warfare
<https://cimsec.org/the-unique-intelligence-challenges-of-countering-naval-asymmetric-warfare/>

Connecting Partnerships for the Co-Production of Full-Spectrum Threat Intelligence
<https://cimsec.org/connecting-partnerships-for-the-co-production-of-full-spectrum-threat-intelligence/>

Old Books, New Ideas: Realigning Naval Intelligence for Great Power Competition
<https://cimsec.org/old-books-new-ideas-realigning-naval-intelligence-for-great-power-competition/>

#land warfare

Urban Warfare at Echelons Above Brigade
<https://mwi.usma.edu/urban-warfare-at-echelons-above-brigade/>
Cool, deployable wargaming.

#NATO

The China plan: A transatlantic blueprint for strategic competition
<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/in-depth-research-reports/report/china-plan-transatlantic-blueprint/>

#space

New Report Tracks Counterspace Capabilities of World's Militaries
<https://www.airforcemag.com/new-report-tracks-counterspace-capabilities-of-worlds-militaries/>
and "Global Counterspace Capabilities" <https://swfound.org/counterspace>

#staff

Tips for Task Force Engineers
<https://angrystaffofficer.com/2021/04/05/tips-for-task-force-engineers/>

#warfare #irregular warfare

"Once More unto The Breach Dear Friends": From English Longbows to Azerbaijani Drones, Army Modernization STILL Means More than Materiel
<https://madsclublog.tradoc.army.mil/300-once-more-onto-the-breach-dear-friends-from-english-longbows-to-azerbaijani-drones-army-modernization-still-means-more-than-materiel/>

Why Special Operations Oversight Should Matter to Every American
<https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/why-special-operations-oversight-should-matter-every-american>

The 'Rear Area' no Longer Exists

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

Other:

Security Affairs Committee Notes 2 April 2021

I have to start with Canada. The New Democratic Party have chosen to allow a motion to disband the Canadian Armed Forces to be debated at their next national convention. We always jokingly said they were the 'No Defence Party' and they seem determined to achieve this title once again despite the efforts of people like Peter Stoffer. Their argument is the usual one. Look at what we could do if we didn't spend money on new fighter aircraft or modern equipment, see what we could do. In a perfectly utopian world even I might support this view. No soldier sailor or aviator who has been in conflict or even near to one on UN duty wants to fight and potentially pay the ultimate price. In my career I have seen far too many funerals of service personnel who died far too early because of lack of preparedness, poor equipment and poor political decisions. I would hope that they would never happen again...but the reality is the world is heading in a poor direction with the rise of authoritarian regimes. The world seems to go through periods or cycles of these regimes sometimes requiring good people to act in ways that we would hope would not be necessary. There have been other movements such as the 'Oxford Movement' of the 1930s, there were attempts to placate authoritarian regimes such as the 'Munich Accord,' all to no avail. So many of the young members of the Oxford movement saw the light and realized that authoritarian regimes had to be faced. Many laid down their lives to meet the foe, many unprepared as we are now to deal with increasingly difficult regimes who will not stop their aggression. The price of naivety is very high. All of the projects that they mention and want are being dealt with in some fashion, but successive governments also realize that there has to be a price paid for the security of the country's sovereignty and our ability to act decisively when necessary. The Armed Forces is that insurance policy for our sovereignty. If we don't protect ourselves than someone else will to do it for us whether we like it or not and that is also the end of our country as we know it. Our freedom and independence are not free, they have come from the expenditure of blood, money and resources to achieve it. Once lost, they are difficult to regain - just ask the Tibetans or the people of occupied East Turkistan and now the people of Hong Kong. This is something that the NDP have not considered in their calculation. The Halifax Chronicle Herald also provided a large space on the editorial page for similar views.

Now for other reasons why the move mentioned above are really incredibly naïve. Alexei Navalny has started a hunger strike this past week to protest the lack of access to medical support for his condition. Mr Navalny was not completely well from his poisoning, which was known to the judges. Navalny's ally Lyubov Sobol, a well-known member of the anti-corruption foundation that has embarrassed the Putin regime on numerous occasions, has been arrested and is now on trial in Moscow. She also famously tracked down one of Mr Navalny's poisoners at his home and confronted him on video, since lifted to the internet. This was considered criminal infringement and thus the trial. One can readily guess the probable outcome. She was removed from court today for filming inside the court and not stopping when ordered; she will likely face other charges similar to contempt of court as well.

Russia is continuing its massive buildup of troops along Ukraine's border. There are also unverified reports of Belarussian troops moving to the Belarus-Ukraine border which is risky as Lukashenko's regime is not secure and movement of security forces to the border coincides with a renewed effort to restart the demonstrations. Most open source analysts seem to think this is posturing prior to renewed peace talks. The US, on the other hand, has said it will support Ukraine, something that wasn't totally

clear. So why the ramp up in tensions in the first place? The Russians maintain it is Ukraine's own anti-Russian actions against Russian language news media outlets that have caused this tension. Ukraine, however, has maintained that Russia has continued its support for the separatists that are also supported by 'volunteers' on leave from the Russian Army. More than 20 Ukrainian soldiers have been killed, including four more this week, as well as more than 80 soldiers wounded in action. Russia has constantly worked towards creating instability in its neighbour but Ukraine seems to be even less inclined to cooperate with Russia because of its actions.

China is continuing to rein in Hong Kong with the virtual elimination of the democratic movement's ability to operate. It is suspected that the Communist Chinese Party (CCP) authorities will start to eliminate the Hong Kong court system, in past noted for its impartiality, and it will likely impose the more traditional CCP directed court system with its 99% conviction rate. The One Country, Two Systems is well and truly dead. The CCP's deceit in regard to the Sino-British Agreement on Hong Kong will be well noted by Taiwan and the world.

The CCP's Maritime Militia is continuing to sow problems in the South China Sea for both Viet Nam and the Philippines. The Chinese use their fishing boats as battering rams against a country's coast guard equivalent to remove them from areas claimed by China and the country. In the Philippines case nearly 220 vessels were used to intimidate Philippine forces. The US considers the Maritime Militia as military vessels.

North Warning System Tender Notice - Notice of Proposed Procurement

CDSS @cdssuofm 31 Mar tweeted: And they're off! RFP for North Warning System is out (for maintenance) <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/tender-notice/PW-NX-005-28175>
Timothy Choi @TimDotChoi retweeted: It's massive. So massive there's a separate .zip file for the Statement of Work, which has its own subfolders within subfolders, and the main .pdf is 314 pages long with 11 pages of Table of Contents.

Recall our February 2021 Distinguished Speaker topic was "NORAD Modernization: Enabling Forward Operations" (<https://rusi-ns.ca/norad-modernization/>).

US Army University Press Military Review March-April 2021

<https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Journals/Military-Review/English-Edition-Archives/March-April-2021/linkId/115331477/>

contents include:

The Eighteenth Gap: Preserving the Commander's Legal Maneuver Space on "Battlefield Next"

One Profession, Two Communities, and the Third Rail We Cannot Ignore

Thinking outside of the Sandbox: Succeeding at Security Force Assistance beyond the Middle East

Mobilizing in the Twenty-First Century

The Red Ball Express: Past Lessons for Future Wars

Army Counter-UAS 2021-2028

Leveraging Multi-Domain Military Deception to Expose the Enemy in 2035

Analytic Tradecraft Standards: An Opportunity to Provide Decision Advantage for Army Commanders

From Cambrai to Cyberspace: How the U.S. Military Can Achieve Convergence between the Cyber and Physical Domains

Operationalizing Culture: Addressing the Army's People Crisis

The Impact of Subordinate Feedback in Officer Development: Assessments, Feedback, and Leadership

The Well-Intentioned, Zero-Defect Officer Corps

Adaptation under Fire: How Militaries Change in Wartime

Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans' Association 75th Anniversary Project (PK75)

The Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans' Association (CPVA) intends to publish an anthology in 2023 to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Peacekeeping by Canadians (<https://www.cpva.ca/pk75>). Since 1948 approximately 125,000 thousand Canadians (military, police, civilians) have served in UN Peacekeeping missions around the world. Another 5,000 plus have served in other missions such as MFO, NATO, or AU PK constructs. 130 Canadians have died in PK missions.

Scheduled to be completed in early 2023, the anthology will be distributed freely with the intent to educate young people as well as to enhance public awareness of Canada's longstanding contribution to peacekeeping. As such, schools and universities will be key target audiences and recipients of the anthology, as will institutions, media outlets, government departments, military and police organizations, relevant humanitarian organizations, public figures of influence, and industries with a connection to peacekeeping.

The CPVA online magazine *Blue Beret* is showcasing PK anecdotes after minor editing for grammar and provocative political statements. Other than that one caveat, veterans are free to recount their experiences - as lived - as the intent of this anthology is to depict peacekeeping to Canadians as it really is rather than what successive generations have been led to believe, e.g. the UN blue beret is a well-respected shield.

I would appreciate you sharing this information with your varied networks seeking volunteers to contribute a personal peace keeping anecdote to enrich the anthology.

Photos of the veteran – either contemporary or at the time of the mission are welcomed to illustrate their anecdotes. Everything should be sent by e-mail to Greg Mitchell (CPVA.Anthology@gmail.com), preferably all together attached to one message.

While the other articles are predominantly from retired CAF members, there is also one RCMP and one civilian article thus far. More submissions are welcome as the CPVA wishes to depict all ranks, the varied contributing organizations, and of course, the personal stories of our PK veterans.

Best wishes, and a shout out to our PK veterans,

Ian

Ian MacVicar, CD, DSS, CYT, TIYT
UNAMID, OSCE ACV, NATO ACV Veteran
(902) 476-2200

North American and Arctic Defence and Security Network Research Publications

<https://www.naadsn.ca/research/>



Naval Association of Canada - Ottawa Branch
April Speaker's Event
Monday 12 April 2021 - 19:00

An Overview of the Davie Shipbuilding Strategic Journey



Mr. James Davies
President and CEO
Chantier Davie Shipbuilding.



Our guest speaker is Mr. James Davies, President and CEO of Chantier Davie Shipbuilding.

His primary focus will be the Davie Strategic Journey: Generation 2040. This outlines Davie's long-term vision as it looks forward to a period of sustained success under Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS).

Mr. Davies will provide a review of current projects in the shipyard, and showcase the National Icebreaker Centre. He will also examine the potential for Canada to create a vibrant and internationally competitive maritime cluster.

Mr. Davies will be joined by RAdm (Ret'd) Gilles Couturier, CEO of Federal Fleet Services



RAdm (Ret'd) Gilles Couturier
CEO
Federal Fleet Services.

