



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

30 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 news of interest, included posts to social media by the Institute. Links to articles are checked at the time they are put into *Dispatches* but may be unavailable at a later date or in some countries other than Canada.

If you are not a direct recipient of *Dispatches* but wish to be so, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. If you do not want to receive *Dispatches*, or wish to receive it at some different frequency, please inform RUSI(NS). If you wish to receive *Dispatches* at a different address (i.e., not your work address), please inform RUSI(NS). Past editions of *Dispatches* may be requested by contacting RUSI(NS).

Everyone is encouraged to submit 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 or other government department, the Canadian Armed Forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Events:

To list an event in *Dispatches*, email RUSI(NS) 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.

New: Canadian Defence Academy "The Torch: Upcoming Events"

<https://cfc-ca.libguides.com/c.php?g=709488&p=5097594&preview=8d01d4c58cd1fa4b02bc759f34e935be>

Also has links to recordings of past events.

4 May, Tuesday - Evenings @ Government House "Canada's Role in the D-Day Invasion of 1944." 7-8 pm. Government House, 1451 Barrington Street. To register: <https://lt.gov.ns.ca/news-events/evenings-government-house/2021-05-04/canada%E2%80%99s-role-d-day-invasion-1944>.

New: 7 May, Friday - Centre for Strategic and International Studies webcast "Project Overmatch: A Conversation with RADM Douglas Small, USN." RADM Small is Commander, Naval Information Warfare Systems Command, USN. 1-1:45 pm EDT. To register: <https://www.csis.org/events/project-overmatch-conversation-radm-douglas-small-usn>

New: 13 May, Thursday - Center for Homeland Defense and Security Executive Education Program Lecture and Webinar Series "Disrupting Disinformation." 2pm EDT. In this webinar, technology and communications experts discuss the latest research in disinformation and actions local, state and federal leaders can take to counter the influence and impact of online and off-line disinformation. To register: <https://www.chds.us/c/item/18367>

13 May, Thursday - AEI webinar "The Joint Expeditionary Force: A European asset." 9:15-11:15 am ET.
To register: <https://www.aei.org/events/the-joint-expeditionary-force-a-european-asset/>

19 May, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speakers Colonel David Moar, RCAF, Commander 4 Wing; and Colonel Travolis Simmons, USAF, Commander 3rd Wing. The topic of their presentations is "Arctic Air Operations: Canada and United States Agile Fighter Employment in Defence of North America." To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Sunday, 16 May. As the subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speakers 19 May 2021 Registration. Zoom joining instructions will be emailed to registrants by end Monday, 17 May.

Recent Publications:

Except where otherwise indicated, publications are available on request to RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

RUSI(NS) Paper "Why Pilot Training Production for the RCAF is Failing and Why are Pilot Losses Mounting" by Murray Lee, 31 March 20210
<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/>

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.

The United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island Newsletter Vol 29, No 04, April 2021.

The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) Newsletter Volume 20, Issue 1, March 2021.

Naval Association of Canada Ottawa Branch Presentation "The Davie Strategic Journey: Generation 2040" by Mr James Davies, President Chantier Davie Shipbuilding, 12 Apr 21.

Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association "On Watch" 21 April edition
https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=f625ee79-9e99-446c-ba17-f54f274ac197.

New: The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) Occasional Volume 5, Issue 6, 26 April 2021.

New: The Edmonton United Services Institute President's Enews May 2021.

New: The Military Institute of Windsor Communiqué Volume XXXIX Number 5, May 2021.

New: US Naval Institute "The American Sea Power Project," 22 April 2021


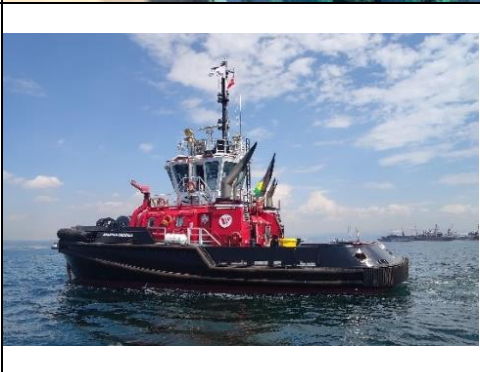

https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/console/EventConsoleApollo.jsp?&eventid=3028015&sessionid=1&username=&partnerref=&format=fhvideo1&mobile=&flashsupportedmobiledevice=&helpcenter=&key=0A992CB47E4E88F5BA8527CF3F1B458A&newConsole=true&nxChe=true&newTabCon=true&text_language_id=en&playerwidth=748&playerheight=526&eventuserid=418890344&contenttype=A&mediametricsessionid=373536813&mediametricid=4236671&usercontent=418890344&mode=launch

The Project aim is to "reinvigorate thinking about the role of sea power in U.S. national security." This talk was about naval strategy, applicable to more than to the US.


See also: American Sea Power Panel: U.S. Should Have Public Discussion on Naval Strategy, Not Fleet Size

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/23/american-sea-power-panel-u-s-should-have-public-discussion-on-naval-strategy-not-fleet-size>

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 RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

<p>CAN 🇨🇦 National Shipbuilding Strategy isn't just about high-end frigates & ocean science vessels but also essential tugs & shipboard boats such as Multi-Role Rescue Boats for @RoyalCanNavy. Bravo @RosboroughBoats for new composites manufacturing facility https://www.facebook.com/RosboroughBoats/posts/4075883555839206 (Rosborough Launches Composite Manufacturing Division)</p>	
<p>Seaspan @MoreThanShips acquires 2 RAMparts 2400 SX tugboats, design by @RobertAllanLtd which is basis for 4 Naval Large Tug project vessels building at @Groupe_Ocean for @RoyalCanNavy https://www.maritime-executive.com/corporate/sanmar-delivers-second-powerful-modern-tug-to-canadian-operator https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/app-acq/amd-dp/mer-sea/sncn-nss/naval-largegros-eng.html Opportunities for cross-training& parts sparing? (Sanmar Delivers Second Powerful Modern Tug to Canadian Operator)</p>	
<p>UK Defence Journal @UKDefJournal 27 Apr tweeted: The Royal Navy has decided to give the newer River class ships a distinct identity to recognise their extended missions. https://ukdefencejournal.org.uk/patrol-ships-to-be-painted-in-dazzle-camouflage/ RUSI(NS) retweeted: In contrast, CAN 🇨🇦 & @RoyalCanNavy painted frigate @HMCS_NCSMRegina & patrol vessel #HMCSMoncton #SWW Admiralty disruptive pattern to commemorate 75th anniversary end of Second World War (Ships' commemorative paint scheme to mark 75th anniversary of the end of the Battle of the Atlantic</p>	

<http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/en/news-operations/news-view.page?doc=ships-commemorative-paint-scheme-to-mark-75th-anniversary-of-the-end-of-the-battle-of-the-atlantic/k0wpm9wc>)

"Canada renews its military contribution to multinational initiative to counter North Korea's maritime sanctions evasion" <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/04/canada-renews-its-military-contribution-to-multinational-initiative-to-counter-north-koreas-maritime-sanctions-evasion.html> #OpNEON-CAN  contribution to multinational effort to support UN Security Council sanctions against North Korea <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-neon.html>

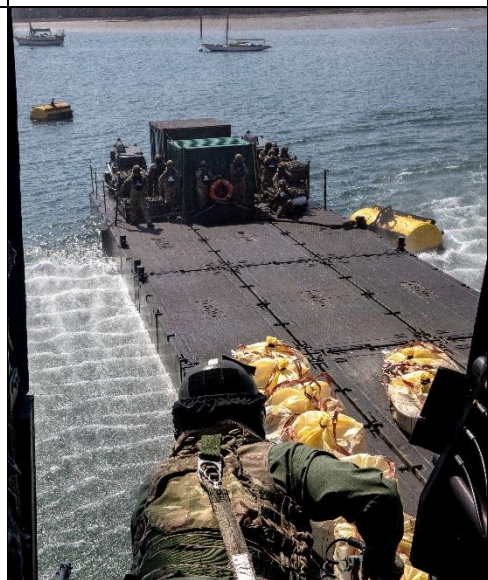


British Army @BritishArmy Apr 26 tweeted: Members of @17_RLC supported a @RoyalAirForce Chinook from Joint Helicopter Command, with a special project for the @HantsIWWildlife. Read more: <https://army.mod.uk/news-and-events/news/2021/04/armed-forces-swoop-to-protect-bird-sanctuary/>

(Armed Forces swoop to protect bird sanctuary)

RUSI(NS) retweeted: #Mexeflote in environmental support op. Another role for 5 mexeflote-like powered barges being built by Navamar under Ship-to-Shore Connector project for @RoyalCanNavy & to be operated with Joint Support Ship project replenishment oilers & #MVAsterix?

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2019/09/providing-the-royal-canadian-navy-with-greater-flexibility-for-ashore-operations.html>



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia with comments:

US Army Explores Equipping Robots with Living Muscle Tissue

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2021/04/army-explores-equipping-robots-living-muscle-tissue/173559/>

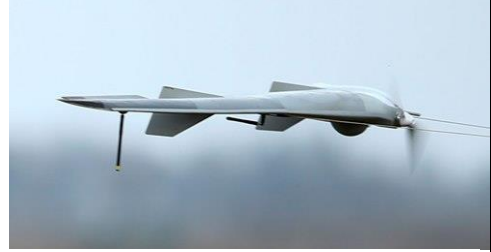


"... Army Research Laboratory scientists are embarking on fresh, high-risk studies in biohybrid robotics that could eventually fuse organic tissue with machines."

Okay, the tech is definitely getting freaky.

‘Aerial Minefields’? Russia Tests Miniature Kamikaze Drones in Syria

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/%E2%80%98aerial-minefields%E2%80%99-russia-tests-miniature-kamikaze-drones-syria-183368>



'Loitering munitions' is not a new concept but is becoming increasingly practical.

"... reports claim the Lancets, which currently are assembled by hand, are less costly than Western loitering munitions or even smart artillery shells like the laser-guided Krasnopol system..."

A lot of the measure effectiveness at the strategic level comes down to cost of production.

"...different application of the Lancet drone: as formations of hovering sentries serving as a sort of aerial minefield to intercept and destroy incoming hostile drones."

Aerial minefields - now that's an idea!

An MQ-9 Drone Is Teaming Up with a Navy Warship to Obliterate Targets at Sea

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2021/04/22/mq-9-drone-teaming-navy-warship-obliterate-targets-sea.html>



"... pairing an MQ-9B Sea Guardian drone with a guided-missile cruiser capable of firing anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine missiles as a hunter-killer team ..."

Surface Action Groups are not going to be the same, increasingly developing into effective air-ship teams.

Navigating Beneath the Arctic Ice – Without GPS

<https://scitechdaily.com/navigating-beneath-the-arctic-ice-without-gps/>



"Basically, what we want to understand is how does this new Arctic environment brought about by global climate change affect the use of underwater sound for communication, navigation, and sensing?"

"... naval operations and future trade vessels may be able to take advantage of the changing conditions in the Arctic to maximize navigational accuracy and improve underwater communications."

The utility of acoustics in the Arctic for communications, navigation and sensing. Using acoustics this way isn't new, but anyone who has used acoustics elsewhere can appreciate the challenges of doing so in the waters of the Arctic. Good to read about this research. More is needed. One can suspect Canada is much involved in such efforts.

And a statement from the article on what navies essentially are for: "The U.S. Navy's goal is to preserve peace and protect global trade by ensuring freedom of navigation throughout the world's oceans."

U.S. Navy showcases new type of unmanned surface vessel

<https://defence-blog.com/news/u-s-navy-showcases-new-type-of-unmanned-surface-vessel.html>

A "... rugged, man-portable, X-class unmanned surface vehicle designed around a modular payload capability." Reads like the sort of drone which a ship, even a small ship, could carry a large number (need a collective noun for that).

Easy to operate, easy to repair, expendable. Naval warfare is changing across the board, fast.

"The X-Class is a small (defined as 3m or less), non-standard class of systems capable of supporting SOF requirements and MIO operations. It provides a 'low-end' Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR) capability to support manned operations and is launched from small manned craft such as the 11m Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) or the Combat Rubber Raiding Craft (CRRRC). The X-Class, primarily based on its size, is limited in endurance, payload capability, and seakeeping abilities. Endurance will ultimately be based on the payload." See: Unmanned Surface Vehicles: An Operational Commander's Tool for Maritime Security (<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a494165.pdf>).



Biden Confronts \$1 Trillion Cost for Trump's 500-Ship Navy Plan

<https://about.bgov.com/news/biden-confronts-1-trillion-cost-for-trumps-500-ship-navy-plan/>

"The 30-year shipbuilding plan would average \$34.1 billion per year—an amount that would be “unprecedented since World War II,” the CBO said in its analysis ..."

Kinda puts the Auditor General of Canada report to the Parliament of Canada, "National Shipbuilding Strategy" (https://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/parl_oag_202102_02_e_43748.html) into context.

Whilst we can share sticker shock with our southern allies, there hasn't been the same discussion up here about overall fleet numbers and how drones will fit in.

Note from the article the Congressional Budget Office report: “The Capacity of the Navy's Shipyards to Maintain Its Submarines” (<https://www.cbo.gov/publication/57026>). What would be the Canadian comparison?



The Real Reason Britain Gambled at Gallipoli

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/04/17/the-real-reason-britain-gambled-at-gallipoli/>

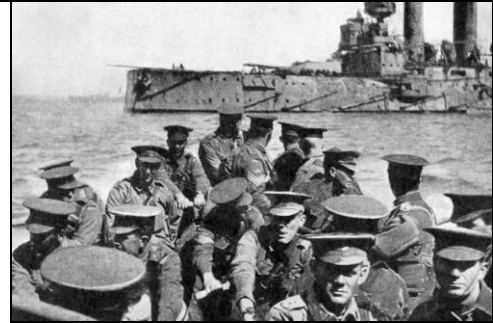
If unable to access the article, it is available on request from RUSI(NS).

"A new book argues that Churchill's famous folly was ultimately about food, fear, and free trade."

"Rather, Gallipoli was all about wheat."

"... a timely reminder that politics and economics always color military decisions, then and now."

Students of warfare have to appreciate that ultimately it's about economics. We get enamoured with 'big battalions' but need to look at "big budgets." And not just when the lead is flying but before, when there are public information, cyber, legal and financial/logistics wars ongoing. Economics and warfare needs to be a topic of study by military people early in their careers.



The Navy's Destroyer Fleet Needs a Bridge to the Future. Here's the Obvious Solution.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/lorenthompson/2021/04/23/the-navys-destroyer-fleet-needs-a-bridge-to-the-future-heres-the-obvious-solution/?sh=14a82d16c6ae>

There're some thoughts in this article for Canada and the Canadian Surface Combatant (admittedly, no one has declared that the CSC is meant to be a destroyer or Large Surface Combatant, though on the other hand it has the size, weapons and sensors approaching that of a destroyer). Get the hull and propulsion right (with concomitant volume, power and cooling) and then use it for incremental sub-class development (call them flights or some other project term if you wish). That has worked successfully in the past (think Treaty cruisers) and recently (the Burkes) - seems to be an approach to shipbuilding well worth following.



Biden Must Press Armenia to Hand Over Minefield Maps

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2021/04/biden-must-press-armenia-hand-over-minefield-maps/173573/>

Handing over minefield maps by belligerents needs to be made a practice of modern conflict de-escalation (we used to say 'conflict termination' but so many conflicts these days don't seem to be really terminated).



Unmanned Systems, Passive Sensors Help USS John Finn Bullseye Target With SM-6

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/26/unmanned-systems-passive-sensors-help-uss-john-finn-bullseye-target-with-sm-6>

"Using a blend of information from unmanned and manned ships and aircraft, a guided-missile destroyer launched an anti-surface missile from over-the-horizon to hit a target more than 250 miles away without using active sensors ..."

Unmanned Integrated Battle Problem 21 demonstrates another aspect of future warfare with the employment of drones.



Federal budget 2021: defence and security

<https://opencanada.org/federal-budget-2021-defence-and-security/>

"... government has chosen to focus on issues that fall under provincial jurisdiction ... and to avoid confronting the serious challenges Canada faces in the world. With no foreign policy statement, no Asia-Pacific strategy, no chapter on the defence of North America in an era of heightened great power rivalry, this postponement is part of an unfortunate pattern of procrastination."



Canada needs an integrated foreign, defence and security policy.

Pakistan vaccinates 100,000 people in 24 hours, looks for alternative sources of oxygen

<https://gulfnews.com/world/asia/pakistan/pakistan-vaccinates-100000-people-in-24-hours-looks-for-alternative-sources-of-oxygen-1.78833448>



"... directing all the oxygen manufacturing units/plants to stop oxygen supply to steel, glass and ship breaking industry and divert it to health units."

The inter-relationships of industries. The availability of oxygen affecting ship breaking. Logistics matters!

CNO: Hypersonic Weapons at Sea to Premiere on Zumwalt Destroyers in 2025

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/28/cno-hypersonic-weapons-at-sea-to-premiere-on-zumwalt-destroyers-in-2025>



Converting Zumwalt-class destroyers to carry hypersonic weapons and become "blue-water strike platforms" is interesting. Certainly gives the three ships significant roles within the fleet. Like aircraft carriers, the Zumwalts could become strategic assets, the location of which is diplomatic messaging. (Would the ships be re-typed from destroyer to something else? 'Destroyer' is historically a flotilla vessel meant to defend capital units.)

If this capability is delivered by 2025 as announced, and the "... rapid development of directed energy weapons to counter the missile threat ..." occurs about the same time, by allies and adversaries, then the naval operating environment into which the Canadian Surface Combatant frigates are introduced will be challenging.

See also: Report to Congress on Hypersonic Weapons

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/28/report-to-congress-on-hypersonic-weapons-2>

Aussies progress towards buying up to a dozen SkyGuardians

<https://www.shephardmedia.com/news/uv-online/aussies-progress-towards-buying-dozen-skyguardians/>



Hmm, would Canada acquire the MQ-9B SkyGuardian as part of its Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) project

(<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/procurement/remotely-piloted-aircraft-system.html>)? Would be useful if there were common systems across the two allies. Also buying weapons for the aircraft may not be part of RPAS.

The five stages of military equipment acquisition

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/procurement/defence-purchases-and-upgrades-process.html>



A pretty general description but a reasonable primer. What with the attention these days on equipment requirements (Canadian Surface Combatant project comes to mind), a more detailed description, though still fit for the general public and media, could be useful.

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

Canada's military facing challenges like pilot training, part shortages amid COVID-19

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7791110/covid-canada-military-pilot-shortage-training/>

Also, RUSI(NS) paper: "Why Pilot Training Production for the RCAF is Failing and Why are Pilot Losses Mounting"

<https://rusi-ns.ca/pilottraining/>



War in All but Name

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2021/4/26/war-in-all-but-name>



A Better Way to Spot Deep-Faked Satellite Images

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2021/04/better-way-spot-deep-faked-satellite-images/173586/>



New warship will serve Canada well — at a fair price

<https://ottawacitizen.com/opinion/mccoy-new-warship-will-serve-canada-well-at-a-fair-price>



Military to provide medical personnel to help Ontario

<https://toronto.citynews.ca/2021/04/26/military-to-provide-medical-personnel-to-help-ontario-2/>



BNH's ADVISOR Enterprise Selected to Manage Training Requirements for the Canadian Surface Combatant Program

<https://shipsforcanada.ca/our-stories/bnhs-advisor-enterprise-selected-to-manage-training-requirements-for-the-canadian-surface-combatant-program>



Other Sources:

#airpower

USAF Releases New Airpower Doctrine - Air Force Magazine

<https://www.airforcemag.com/usaf-releases-new-airpower-doctrine/>
and

Air Force Doctrine Publication 1, "The Air Force"

<https://www.airforcemag.com/app/uploads/2021/04/AFDP-1-1.pdf>

#Arctic

Establishing an Arctic Security Institution: Essentials from NORAD and NATO

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2020/3/3/establishing-an-arctic-security-institution-essentials-from-norad-and-nat>

#Army Reserves

A Reserve Force that is an integral element of the Whole Force

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/04/23/a-reserve-force-that-is-an-integral-element-of-the-whole-force/>

#China #innovation

China's Creative Challenge—and the Threat to America

<https://www.commentarymagazine.com/articles/hal-brands/chinas-geopolitical-challenge-threat-to-america/>

#combat aviation

Maximising the Utility of the British Army's Combat Aviation

<https://rusi.org/publication/occasional-papers/maximising-utility-british-army-combat-aviation>

#cyber operations

Current International Law Is Not an Adequate Regime for Cyberspace

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/current-international-law-not-adequate-regime-cyberspace>

When Should U.S. Cyber Command Take Down Criminal Botnets?

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/when-should-us-cyber-command-take-down-criminal-botnets>

#defence policy

Britain should be more Italy?

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/04/24/british-should-be-more-italy/>

#drones

DARPA's plan to use drones to find drones

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/show-reporter/c4isrnet-conference/2021/04/22/darpas-plan-to-use-drones-to-find-drones/>

Military researchers consider robots able to navigate underground caves for combat search and rescue jobs

<https://www.militaryaerospace.com/unmanned/article/14201900/robots-caves-search-and-rescue>

#economic warfare

How China Could Shut Down America's Defenses

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/06/11/how-china-could-shut-down-americas-defenses-rare-earth/>

Rare earths. If unable to access, article is available on request to RUSI(NS).

#information operations

Navy to Experiment with Information Warfare Commanders Operating from Maritime Operations Centers

<https://news.usni.org/2021/04/22/navy-to-experiment-with-information-warfare-commanders-operating-from-maritime-operations-centers>

Psychological Warfare: Principles for Global Competition

<https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/psychological-warfare-principles-global-competition>

#intelligence

Intelligence and the Tyranny of Process

<https://mwi.usma.edu/intelligence-and-the-tyranny-of-process/>

Military Intelligent Systems Pose Strategic Dilemmas

<https://www.usni.org/magazines/proceedings/2021/april/military-intelligent-systems-pose-strategic-dilemmas>

#irregular warfare

China's Irregular Approach to War: The Myth of a Purely Conventional Future Fight

<https://mwi.usma.edu/chinas-irregular-approach-to-war-the-myth-of-a-purely-conventional-future-fight/>

#land warfare

How to Tell the Story of a War: The OIF Study

<https://warroom.armywarcollege.edu/podcasts/how-to-tell-the-story-of-a-war-the-oif-study/>
and reports:

The U.S. Army in the Iraq War 2003-2006 <https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/AD1066345.pdf>

The U.S. Army in the Iraq War 2007-2011 <https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/AD1066346.pdf>

#logistics

Water from Fresh Air

<https://www.thinkdefence.co.uk/2021/04/water-from-fresh-air/>

Shaping the Eco-System for Logistics Innovation: The Impact of Automation and Autonomous Systems

<https://logisticsinwar.com/2021/04/26/shaping-the-eco-system-for-logistics-innovation-the-impact-of-automation-and-autonomous-systems/>

Sustaining Machines – Logistics and Autonomous Systems

<https://logisticsinwar.com/2021/04/16/sustaining-machines-logistics-and-autonomous-systems/>

Sustaining Machines – The Logistics of Autonomy in Military Organisations

<https://logisticsinwar.com/2021/04/18/sustaining-machines-the-logistics-of-autonomy-in-military-organisations/>

#naval warfare

Four Ways a China-U.S. War at Sea Could Play Out

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2021-04-25/u-s-china-sea-war-could-spread-to-japan-australia-india>

The article author, James Stavridis, is someone to read. If you are unable to get the article behind the paywall, a copy may be requested from RUSI(NS).

#surveillance

A Multilateral Surveillance Accord: Setting the Table

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/multilateral-surveillance-accord-setting-table>

#technology

AR system allows operators to see drone swarms

<https://electronics360.globalspec.com/article/16619/ar-system-allows-operators-to-see-drone-swarms>

#warfare

4GW is Groundless, and Here's Why

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2017/1/25/4gw-is-groundless-and-heres-why>

2080 Defense Force and Beyond

<https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Journals/NCO-Journal/Archives/2021/March/Warfare-2080/>

Other:

Harvard Kennedy School of Government Mis/information Review Special Issue "Propaganda Analysis Revisited."

<https://misinforeview.hks.harvard.edu/#0>

contents

Unseeing propaganda: How communication scholars learned to love commercial media

“A most mischievous word”: Neil Postman’s approach to propaganda education

Constructing a suitable platform for public health: Radio propaganda, instruction, and “The case of Elisa Cedillo”

Propaganda, obviously: How propaganda analysis fixates on the hidden and misses the conspicuous

Overlooking the political economy in the research on propaganda

Data dependencies and funding prospects: A 1930s cautionary tale

Propaganda, misinformation, and histories of media techniques

Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

Russia - Again

Russia has officially ended its exercise near the Ukrainian border and allegedly is moving the troops back to their garrisons in other Military Districts. Some movement has been seen but elements in the West are watching the situation carefully as Russia has chosen to keep forces near a problem area and uses the exercise as the cover for reinforcing an area where they are attempting to pressure other countries such as Ukraine. One has to keep in mind that Russia is becoming more involved in the Mediterranean; at sea and in Syria and Libya and throughout Africa such as Sudan, Central African Republic and other places usually with private military companies such as the Wagner Group. Although these are PMCs, they are closely connected to the Kremlin and the Putin regime through Putin’s chef and owner of the Wagner Group, Yevgeny Prigozhin. The Wagner Group and others are used to further Russian foreign policy. Russia therefore has a need to keep rapid deployment forces in the area to help support and reinforce PMCs if necessary thus there is actually some reason for them to reinforce the Southern Military District in a permanent way. This being said, Putin’s use of this exercise to meant take the West’s eyes off the continuing drama of Alexei Navalny and the regime’s crackdown on Navalny’s organization throughout Russia.

In a ‘state of the country’ address, Putin discussed the accomplishments of the regime and the way ahead but he also spent about a quarter of it with a message for the West - do not cross Russia’s ‘red lines’ or they will regret it. (Actually, it was more threatening). He also focused on an attempted coup attempt in Belarus against the Lukashenko regime. No one really had heard this story until the statement however it is not beyond the realm of possibility that it is an excuse for further Russian intervention in Belarus. The Lukashenko regime has lost its moral authority to govern and no amount of posturing or threatening will make this less of a fact on the ground. Belarus will become yet another problem for the Kremlin with its already precarious economy.

This week saw the courts used for calling the Navalny organization a radical entity under foreign influence. Up to a thousand members have been arrested. New legislation has been used to crackdown on social media as well in an effort to quell ongoing demonstrations and actions by the opposition. It is the start of demonstration season; how the regime handles it will be telling. Russia’s regime is not well and at some point someone is going to click to the fact internally. Will Putin be able to hang on until he is 84 years of age? Unlikely and it could get messy.

Ethiopian Africa

Ethiopia continues to have troubles in the Tigray Province. Eritrean troops have been involved but have indicated a willingness to withdraw from Tigray Province. The fighting has been intense and there are strong indications of war crimes on all sides. This has been a particular disappointment as Ethiopia has a democratically elected government and the return to a more brutal way of business is not helpful for the continued health of the area. One consideration for this event may not even be Ethiopian at all, but outside influence as the Ethiopian government is getting ready to complete a major dam project that essentially controls the waters of the Nile. This effects Sudan and Egypt in a major way. Could the decision by Tigrayan guerrillas be a way of distracting Ethiopia from completing the project? May be — it is worth watching.

China And Taiwan

The Financial Post published an article 28 April 2021 by Patricia Adams on China and the environment called “China’s Energy Actions on Climate Speak Louder than Its Climate Pledges” (<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/money/topstories/patricia-adams-china-s-energy-actions-speak-louder-than-its-climate-pledges/ar-BB1g8ymA>). It outlines the efforts regarding Chinese Communist Party’s real efforts in climate change as one of rampant buildup of climate risking industries with the view in mind of dominating world trade and control. The article from a reputable source makes it clear that the CCP is a ‘climate criminal’ especially in view of the CCP’s own carbon production at home and the building of a large number of coal fired plants in the developing world.

The Peoples’ Liberation Army (PLA) Air Force (PLAAF) has continued its ongoing harassment of Taiwan using Y8 Surveillance Aircraft at low level seeking the edges of Taiwanese radar envelope. This was coupled with further incursions into the Taiwanese Air Defence Identification Zone (ADIZ) to gain further information on Taiwanese air defence capabilities.

Taiwan also reported an increased espionage effort against Taiwan’s computer chip industry. China has offered bribes, etc., to Taiwanese scientists to work in mainland China as well as major efforts to infiltrate Taiwanese tech industries to steal data. Taiwan is introducing legislation to curtail these activities. China will do virtually anything to gain access to more modern chip development. Taiwan has one of the most developed capabilities in the world. China will need this information to achieve China 2025 when China is to gain the world lead in technology.

Within the past week, the CCP Foreign Minister Yang Yi gave an almost comical set of “suggestions” to the US. This can be found at: <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202104/1221929.shtml> and includes that the United States should

1. understand and view China's development objectively and rationally.
2. work with China on a new path of peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation.
3. respect and tolerate the path and system that China has independently chosen.
4. practice multilateralism in real sense. and
5. should not interfere in China's internal affairs.

And What About China?

The China under the CCP is a brutal genocidal regime with few redeeming features especially under the Xi regime. The CCP’s development is not in anyone’s interest, especially the people of China. As mentioned before less than 8% of the Chinese population are members of the CCP. China’s military buildup and coercion of its neighbours along with its failure to abide by the ruling of international

courts give lie to their ‘coexistence.’ With China under the CCP there is no win-win, it is China wins or China will win by other means. The Chinese people have never been able to choose—the death of tens of millions of folks under their ‘tolerant’ rule shows that this is an exaggeration in the extreme. The CCP still shows multilateralism by supporting debt trap diplomacy around the world. What China calls internal affairs is also subject to questioning, as for example and pointed out before, the CCP’s PLA invaded and occupied East Turkestan and Tibet in 1950; therefore not an internal problem but an illegal occupation further cemented by their ongoing culturally genocidal efforts in both locations. Hong Kong’s current issues are a direct result of the CCP’s breaking of an international agreement and therefore is now an international issue because the CCP failed to keep its word or promises. The China currently under the CCP’s dictatorship is not a trustworthy partner for any country, as they have proven over and over again.

One might suggest to all Western countries looking to recover from Covid that one might start ramping up taxes on all industries and companies that invest in the CCP’s China. Every dollar invested is potentially at the mercy of the CCP as there is no actual ‘rule of law,’ merely the whims of the CCP. These companies lack any moral or ethical behaviour given China’s ongoing genocide and aggressiveness. It is time to take a more realistic approach to China and to take action with allies against their ongoing actions.



A message from the Commanders of the RCN and RCAF on the unveiling of the Stalker 22 memorial

29 April 2021

A year ago, we lost six members of our team in a tragic accident. Today, we pay tribute to our fallen as we unveil a memorial at the Shearwater Aviation Park at 12 Wing Shearwater in Nova Scotia, and remember their dedication, commitment, and devotion to serving their country, and their communities.

The Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) hold their family and friends in our thoughts, and we grieve with them knowing that they continue to mourn the loss of their loved ones. We stand with you and continue to offer our unwavering support.

We are also thinking of the crew of Her Majesty’s Canadian Ship *Fredericton* and 423 Maritime Helicopter Squadron, who demonstrated great compassion and resilience.

And again, we would like to convey our gratitude to our Allies who worked tirelessly to provide their assistance during the difficult days that followed this accident.

As we remember our fallen, we look to the many tributes from across the nation, and around the world, knowing they will never be forgotten.

As we bow our heads in silence, we will remember:

- Master Corporal Matthew Cousins, Airborne Electronic Sensor Operator, from Guelph, ON
- Sub-Lieutenant Abbigail Cowbrough, Marine Systems Engineering Officer, from Toronto, ON
- Captain Kevin Hagen, Pilot, from Nanaimo, BC
- Captain Brenden MacDonald, Pilot, from New Glasgow, NS
- Captain Maxime Miron-Morin, Air Combat Systems Officer, from Trois-Rivières, QC
- Sub-Lieutenant Matthew Pyke, Naval Warfare Officer, from Truro, NS

Vice Admiral C.A. Baines
Commander RCN

Chief Petty Officer First Class D.H. Steeves
RCN Command Chief Petty Officer

Lieutenant General A.D. Meinzinger
Commander RCAF

Chief Warrant Officer J.R.D. Gaudreault
RCAF Command Chief Warrant Officer