



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

7 May 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: 12 May, Wednesday - Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island webinar with Dr Perry Biddiscombe, Associate Professor of History, University of Victoria. presenting "SS Werewolf Guerrilla Resistance, 1944-47." 1-2:30 pm Victoria time. To register, email: RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

13 May, Thursday - Center for Homeland Defense and Security Executive Education Program Lecture and Webinar Series "Disrupting Disinformation." 2 pm 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>

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.

New: 26 May, Wednesday - Women in Defence and Security (WiDS) Creating Connections event "Commanding in COVID: Keeping Cyber Security Operations in Full Force." 3:30-4:30 pm EDT. Via MS Teams. LCol Marilyne Lafortune will share her experience leading a tactical cyber unit through COVID-19. Benefit from understanding challenges her unit encountered, how she adapted her leadership style, important lessons learned from the front lines, and more. Free; to register: www.wids.ca.

New: 2 June, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Brigadier-General J.J. Major, Chief of Staff Operations, Canadian Army Headquarters. The topic of his presentation is "The Canadian Army at an Inflection Point - Delivering Excellence Today and into the Future." To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Sunday, 30 May. As the subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speakers 2 June 2021 Registration. Zoom joining instructions will be emailed to registrants by end Monday, 31 May.

New: 23 June, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker from Canadian Joint Warfare Centre speaking on Canadian Armed Forces use of wargaming. Details to be announced.

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.

Recent Publications:

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

New: Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association "On Watch" 5 May April edition https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=15f6d018-8ce6-42a4-8d84-97969e47a361.

New: The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) Occasional Volume 5, Issue 7, 3 May 2021.

New: Veterans Ombud Newsletter Volume 5: January - April, 2021

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/>

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.

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

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

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&mediametricssessionid=373536813&mediametricid=4236671&usercd=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>JTFA FOIA @JTFA_FOIA 30 Apr tweeted: Military removes, detonates World War II bomb in Yarmouth County CBC News https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/world-war-two-bomb-detonated-yarmouth-county-1.6008607</p> <p>MARLANT @RCN_MARLANT 30 Apr retweeted: Members of the Maritime Explosive Ordnance Disposal (MEOD) Team from Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic) CA&I remove and detonate a 500 lb UXO from the Second World War in vicinity of Chebogue Point, #NovaScotia making the area safer for local residents. #BravoZulu!</p> <p>RUSI(NS) retweeted: UXO = Unexploded Explosive Ordnance: military explosives (bombs, rockets, grenades, artillery shells, flares, mortars&hazardous residue that may remain after partial detonation) that did not explode or function as intended https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/uxo/unexploded-explosive-ordnance.html @CanadianForces keeping CAN🇨🇦 safe</p>	 
<p>@RCAF_ARC Strategic Tanker Transport Capability project to provide 6 aircraft for air-to-air refueling, strategic airlift, aeromedical evac & strat transport of 🇨🇦 officials https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/procurement/strategic-tanker-transport-capability-project.html Airbus A330 Multi-Role Tanker Transport only a/c qualified https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/airbus-solely-qualifies-for-canadas-tanker-procurement (Strategic Tanker Transport Capability project) (Airbus solely qualifies for Canada's tanker procurement)</p>	

"Experimentation using combat simulation: How CAN🇨🇦 Army is revitalizing a critical capability" https://cradpdf.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/PDFS/unc356/p812774_A1b.pdf Wargaming has come a long way. "As this...capability continues to rapidly mature, it is once again being positioned at the forefront of procurement projects."



CSIS Canada @csiscanada 5 May tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Earlier this year Director Vigneault gave a speech to @CIGIonline highlighting the need for a sophisticated dialogue on #CdnNatSec. To learn more about what he said on topics like #ForeignInterference and #CyberSecurity, read here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/security-intelligence-service/news/2021/02/remarks-by-director-david-vigneault-to-the-centre-for-international-governance-innovation.html>

Note the concluding questions:

For instance, what are the national security implications of Canada's economic recovery post-pandemic?

What expectations do citizens have regarding how Canadian authorities should use powerful data driven technologies for the public good?

How do we prevent our data and research from inadvertently advancing hostile foreign military, intelligence and commercial interests?



3CdnDiv/3DivCA @3CdnDiv3DivCA May 4 tweeted: #DYK: the @RCAF_ARC's Air Task Force plays an integral role within #OpVECTOR's TF AURORA by providing mobility to #CAF personnel assisting ISC and FNIHB at #COVID vaccination clinics in Manitoba. Thanks for the lift! RUSI(NS) retweeted: Task Force AURORA = joint Task Force (Land & Air Task Forces) assigned to #OpVECTOR in Manitoba <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-vector.html> Operate primarily from logistical & tactical hub at Thompson MB in support Indigenous Services Canada & First Nations & Inuit Health Branch



RUSI(NS) retweeted: .@RCAF_ARC Air Field Activation Surge Team in #OpVECTOR providing vaccine support to First Nations MB. AFAST=rapidly deployable contingent, first to arrive on location & create necessary operating conditions for follow-on air detachment or air task force <https://skiesmag.com/news/military-airlift-supports-northern-manitoba-vaccinations/>



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

Sunnybrook's Mobile Health Unit (MHU)

<https://sunnybrook.ca/content/?page=mobile-health-unit>



Looks a lot like a Canadian Armed Forces Field Hospital, of which there is only one in the CAF. How many, if any, of the old Health Canada National Emergency Stockpile System 'hospital-in-a-box' have been deployed, or are even deployable (all 200 may have been disposed of some years ago) is a question.

Hopefully the lessons (and equipment) of such mobile health units are being collected and analyzed in order that health authorities are better ready for the next emergency when such units are needed. Of course, a if not the critical component is staff - how will Canada ensure it has the right number and types of medical personnel? A National Medical Reserve? A Canadian Forces Medical Reserve of greater size than just required for military operations and plans?

Editor: There isn't much official info online about the Canadian Forces Health Services Group. The following was provided by the Royal Canadian Medical Service Association:

Royal Canadian Medical Service

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Canadian_Medical_Service

and

Canadian Forces Health Services Group

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Forces_Health_Services_Group

State of Defense

<https://www.defenseone.com/feature/state-of-defense-2021/?hi#army>



"The country's largest service is on a public-relations campaign to convince Americans, Congress, and anyone willing to listen that it is more than merely relevant; rather, officials argue, it has a key role to play in great power competition and that its requested weapons are worth buying and virtually everything is worth modernizing."

Inter-service rivalry about strategy (and therefore budgets), in the public domain (appropriate for a democracy). Interesting to follow and compare with the Canadian Armed Forces, whose budget battles seem to remain internal and not go so public.

And this could demonstrate a benefit in having a joint rather than a service public affairs (as opposed to public relations) branch in the CAF.

The article addresses other US services, too.

Girl Scout cookies take flight in Virginia drone deliveries

<https://apnews.com/article/health-technology-lifestyle-business-coronavirus-fdb288e4c4dc285b9eefae46ebe67201>

"Federal officials started rolling out new rules in mid-April that will allow operators to fly small drones over people and at night, potentially giving a boost to commercial use of the machines. Most drones will need to be equipped so they can be identified remotely by law enforcement officials."



Traffic monitoring of drones could a huge demand on law enforcement resources.

National security threats are changing, but Canada is mired in conventional thinking

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/opinion-national-security-1.6003674>

"We've entered an era in which national security is not just about protecting the state against adversaries."



"Government, political parties, and civil society must all pivot to a new understanding of what national security means and how threats are expected to be met."

Sounds (reads) like there is a need for greater public education and discussion about national security.

Note also, from the article:

2020 Annual Report of the National Security and Intelligence Committee Of Parliamentarians Tabled in Parliament

<https://www.nsicop-cpsnr.ca/press-releases/pr-cp-2021-04-12/pr-cp-2021-04-12-en.html>

and

Canadian Security Intelligence Service Public Report 2020

<https://www.canada.ca/en/security-intelligence-service/corporate/publications/2020-public-report.html>

Wargaming Contested Narratives in an Age of Bewilderment

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2020/1/16/wargaming-contested-narratives-in-an-age-of-bewilderment>



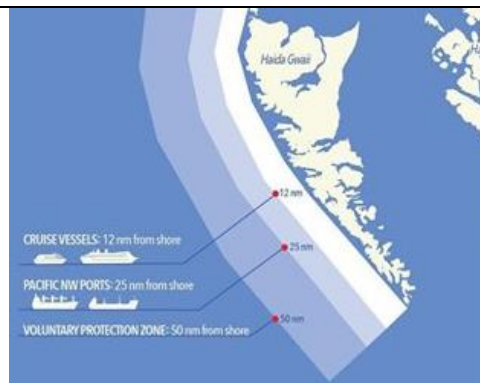
"Wargamers are exploring ways to integrate modeling and simulation to test constructed narrative scripts in virtual social media ecosystems. Strategists from the U.S. and U.K. also are investigating how wargame insights could inform campaign decisions."

Interesting, and challenging, gaming narratives and other aspects of information activities. These days and for wargames focused on current affairs, information activities including narrative duels should be a regular part of game design.

Trial Haida Gwaii Voluntary Protection Zone for shipping reporting changes

<https://shippingmatters.ca/trial-haida-gwaii-voluntary-protection-zone-for-shipping-reporting-changes/>

This just came up to our attention thanks to our colleagues in the Company of Master Mariners of Canada. A voluntary protection zone, though Transport Canada Ship Safety Bulletin 26/2020 states "commercial vessels that are of 500 gross tonnage or more must travel at least 50 nautical miles away from the shores of the west coast of Haida Gwaii." 'Must' is not voluntary in mil speak. And 50 miles is outside territorial waters and the contiguous zone. Is Canada setting a bad precedent that China and other authoritarian regimes will utilize to reduce the 'freedom of the ocean common' and the passage of trade thereon?



Further, the rationale for the zone (which is linked from the Safety Bulletin to a website by the Council of Haida Nation and Transport Canada) seems to be environmental. One wonders what consideration was given to a marine protection zone.

The U.S. Navy Finally Has a Universal Missile — and That Means More Firepower for War with China

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidaxe/2021/04/29/the-us-navy-finally-has-a-universal-missile-and-that-means-more-firepower-for-war-with-china/?sh=7707f2518305>



"Each Mark 41 cell is compatible with Standard air-defense missiles, Tomahawk land-attack cruise missiles, Evolved Sea Sparrow point-defense missiles and ASROC anti-submarine rockets."

The Canadian Surface Combatant project ships will carry the Mark 41 missile vertical launch system with 32 cells. Not the number of cells to put the CSC ships in league with destroyers and cruisers, but that capability will make them potent multi-role frigates, well capable of independent operations (which currently appears to be the Canadian naval strategy). See: http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/assets/NAVY_Internet/docs/en/fleet/rcn_csc_factsheet-8x11_web.pdf.

There are other measures differentiating corvettes, frigates, destroyers and cruisers, but increasingly number of missile cells is becoming the measure of significance.

Next major war will be 'very different:' Pentagon chief

<https://www.dw.com/en/next-major-war-will-be-very-different-pentagon-chief/a-57395358>

"... to harness technological advances in the face of emerging cyber and space threats and the prospect of larger wars. He singled out quantum computing, artificial intelligence and so-called edge computing. ..."



Xi Likes Big Boats (Coming Soon to a Reef Near You)

<https://warontherocks.com/2021/04/xi-likes-big-boats-coming-soon-to-a-reef-near-you/>

"elevate marine fishing to a 'strategic industry. To do so, they argued, the country should take advantage of excess capacity in the country's shipyards to 'accelerate the upgrading of fishing equipment.' The scholars recommended that the state support the construction of elite, or 'backbone' (骨干), fleets in the South China Sea. Vessels in the fleet would have 'advanced equipment, high mobility, and good safety characteristics."



Hmm, fishing as a strategic industry. Well, fishing certainly has been the cause of inter-state confrontation and even conflict, in the past and now. All part of differing takes on the 'freedom of the ocean common.' Interesting, too, for a government to subsidize the building of highly capable ('backbone' has something to the word) fishing vessels. Of course, China makes use, good use, of such vessels and the maritime militia who crew them as part of their whole-of-government (really, whole-of-society) and hybrid warfare approach to inter-state relations.

Canada could do well to study this. Is Fisheries and Oceans Canada ready to experience and manage (contend with?) such situations, especially if it is IUU (illegal, unreported and unregulated) fishing? Other agencies, the Royal Canadian Navy and Canadian Coast Guard, need to have this as part of their thinking and planning.

Illegal Fishing Is a National Security Problem

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2021/04/illegal-fishing-national-security-china/173660/>

"While the United States should not be involved in directly policing the waters of sovereign states, it can help with detection and monitoring of suspicious and illicit vessels and pass intelligence to regional authorities or international law enforcement agencies. The United States can also do more to provide training for international law enforcement agencies in maritime policing, vessel boarding, search and seizure procedures, and by focusing joint exercises on combating IUU (illegal, unreported and unregulated) fishing."



"IUU fishing is also a vehicle for transnational organized crime and is connected to issues such as slavery and forced labor, human trafficking, smuggling, money laundering and tax evasion."

Canada would do well, too, if it looked at intelligence sharing, training, and free-rider law enforcement agreements as means for enhancing inter-state relations and for contributing to the good order of the ocean common. This needs to be a multi-agency effort, involving the navy, coast guard, fisheries and other government departments and industries.

See also:

United States Coast Guard Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Strategic Outlook
<https://www.uscg.mil/iuufishing/>

Lessons for Australia after loss of Indonesian submarine

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/lessons-for-australia-after-loss-of-indonesian-submarine/>

The Royal Canadian Navy has capable submarine search and rescue organizations on Canada's east and west coasts, and routinely exercises it (e.g., "Rescue of HMCS Ojibwa a SMASHEX success"

<https://www.lookoutnewspaper.com/rescue-hmcs-objibwa-smashex-success/>). There are arrangements with other states to collaborate in submarine search and rescue (SUBSAR) through the International Submarine Escape and Rescue Liaison Office (ISMERLO). To what extent that Canadian and foreign resources could conduct a SUBSAR in the Arctic is unknown. The article makes a good point about an approach that takes advantage of technology and adds some SUBSAR capability to more ships, naval and civil. The Harry DeWolf-class Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessels and similar ships could make excellent SUBSAR vessels-of-opportunity (VOOP).

It is not certain at this time of writing whether the Indonesian submarine was lost due to maintenance issues, aging material, environmental conditions ('internal wave') or something else. It is certain that Canada's Victoria-class submarines are aging. Likely the boats are costing more now to maintain. It is time to be planning, and for public discussion, about their replacement, whether that be with crewed boats, underwater drones or some combination. The National Shipbuilding Strategy needs a refresh.



French sci-fi writers set out to 'scare' the military establishment

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2021/04/30/french-sci-fi-writers-set-out-to-scare-the-military-establishment/>

Innovative, a 'Red Team' of 10 science-fiction writers and artists has begun a round of envisioning threats to French security in 40 years or so.



Commentary: Submariners face huge challenges underwater - where there's no margin for error

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/commentary/indonesia-submarine-tragedy-missing-kri-nanggala-life-on-14703776>

A submarine force is a strategic asset to a state. Maintaining and operating submarines calls for high competences at the national, fleet and individual levels. Whilst so many occupations in a military have their challenges and can be considered special, being a submariner can rightly be considered very special. If a state lets a submarine capability wither, it would be long and hard to reconstitute. Canada needs to be looking at replacing its Victoria-class submarines now. It could be years before they are replaced, years that will go by quickly. We need to keep up our numbers in boats and especially in people.



How the Decarbonization Dilemma Will Impact Shipbuilding and Great Power Competition

<https://cimsec.org/how-the-decarbonization-dilemma-will-impact-shipbuilding-and-great-power-competition/>

"The advantage gained by the simple number of ships may be dubious in certain respects, but the industrial advantages China's expansive maritime industrial capacity could offer in a prolonged, large-scale conflict cannot be understated."

The strength of a state's navy, and other state marine service, is based on the strength of the state's maritime industrial capacity. An appreciation by leaders and maritime operators of the strength of Canada's maritime industries is important in geo-strategic and other planning.



British Royal Marines have been practicing storming a ship at sea with jet packs

<https://www.businessinsider.com/video-royal-marines-board-ship-at-sea-with-jet-packs-2021-5>

Ohh, Boarding Party is going to be fun, now. Hmm, will there need to get air clearance before boarding?...



What does a digital thread mean and how it differs from digital twin

<https://www.challenge.org/insights/digital-twin-and-digital-thread/>

"... the digital twin is the current representation of a product or system, mimicking a company's machines, controls, workflows, and systems. The digital thread meanwhile is a record of a product or systems lifetime, from its creation to its removal."

"The aerospace and military aircraft industry has been at the forefront of the digital twin concept with their desire to improve future program performance."

Hmm, one can suspect we'll see more of both of these terms in defence and security procurement and support.



Canadian Military Picks (according to GunBlog) SIG P320 As Its New Pistol

<https://thegunblog.ca/2021/05/03/canadian-military-picks-sig-p320-as-its-new-pistol/>

The assessment of the RFP (Request for Proposals) for the Canadian Armed Forces pistol program is pretty much spot on (though the post title is misleading). It looks like the RFP is highly stacked in favour of the SIG Sauer P320. There is no technical or tactical reason for this other than whoever wrote the RFP thinks the Sig's features are must haves. It appears that it is not a fair procurement process from the get go.



Trudeau government promises coast guard two new heavy icebreakers for Arctic operations

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/coast-guard-heavy-icebreaker-1.6016127>

Ottawa doubling icebreaker orders as one ship goes to Quebec yard, another to Vancouver

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7838942/canada-icebreaker-contract-awarded/>



Hopefully the design of the two heavy icebreakers to be built by different companies will be the same. That would make sparing and training for the Canadian Coast Guard easier.

Presuming the design is the same, it will be interesting to compare costs, time, etc., between the two yards once the two ships are built. Let the game begin!

A RUSI(NS) contributor noted the words about ocean science research in a communication by Mario Pelletier, Commissioner, Canadian Coast Guard, to colleagues: "... these new Polar icebreakers represent an important strategic asset for Canada and the Coast Guard. They will allow the Coast Guard to exercise year-round sovereignty in the high Arctic and enable ground breaking ocean science research in the north."

See also:





Government of Canada announces Polar Icebreakers to enhance Canada's Arctic presence and provide critical services to Canadians

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-coast-guard/news/2021/05/government-of-canada-announces-polar-icebreakers-to-enhance-canadas-arctic-presence-and-provide-critical-services-to-canadians.html>
and

Polar icebreakers and the National Shipbuilding Strategy

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-coast-guard/news/2021/05/polar-icebreakers-and-the-national-shipbuilding-strategy.html>

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.

<p>Canadian military's COVID-19 medical task force assuming duties at Toronto's Sunnybrook hospital</p> <p>https://globalnews.ca/news/7819938/covid-canadian-armed-forces-sunnybrook-health-sciences-centre-toronto/</p>	
<p>Canada and Japan move to expand security cooperation in Indo-Pacific</p> <p>https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-japan-garneau-china-north-korea-1.6013747</p>	
<p>Canadian military laying groundwork for arrival of armed drones</p> <p>https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/canadian-military-laying-groundwork-for-arrival-of-armed-drones-1.5415255</p>	
<p>Federal government to reveal plans for building long-overdue heavy icebreaker</p> <p>https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/federal-government-to-reveal-plans-for-building-long-overdue-heavy-icebreaker/ar-BB1gpBfx</p>	

Other Sources:

<p>#Arctic</p> <p>Arctic Sovereignty: Preoccupation vs. Homeland Governance and Defence https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/421/FAAE/Brief/BR10026311/br-external/CanadianGlobalAffairsInstitute-e.pdf</p> <p>Assessing the operational impact of infrastructure on Arctic operations https://cradpdf.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/PDFS/unc356/p812844_A1b.pdf</p> <p>Northern Approaches: Strengthening the Army's Role in the Arctic https://cradpdf.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/PDFS/unc352/p812664_A1b.pdf</p>

#Canadian Armed Forces

DM/A-CDS message to the Defence Team regarding culture change

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/maple-leaf/defence/2021/04/dm-acds-message-defence-team-regarding-culture-change.html>

Note new LI organization: "A new Chief, Professional Conduct and Culture organization has been created to lead cultural transformation, and ensure that our behaviours reflect the very best parts of our organization, and Canadian society. This new Level 1 organization will be the functional authority and principal advisor to the Deputy Minister and Chief of Defence Staff on all matters related to professional conduct and culture in the Defence Team."

#civil affairs

Civil Affairs and the Second Battle of Fallujah

Lessons: <https://mwi.usma.edu/civil-affairs-and-the-second-battle-of-fallujah/>

#communications

HF Radios Make a Comeback and Enable Global Command and Control

<https://modernbattlespace.com/2020/03/05/hf-radios-make-a-comeback-and-enable-global-command-and-control/>

#cyber operations

'Defend Forward' and Sovereignty

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/defend-forward-and-sovereignty>

#emergency response

Surrounded on all Warm and Cold Fronts: How the Canadian Army can Combat the Climate Crisis

https://cradpdf.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/PDFS/unc350/p812543_A1b.pdf

#information operations

Ideas for pan domain exercises: information operations and the impact of the strategy of winning hearts and minds

https://cradpdf.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/PDFS/unc356/p812801_A1b.pdf

#intelligence

The Intelligence Community's Deadly Bias Toward Classified Sources

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2021/04/intelligence-communitys-deadly-bias-toward-classified-sources/173255/>

#National Shipbuilding Strategy

Why is Canada paying so much for 15 CSC combat ships

<https://www.hilltimes.com/2021/04/29/295475/295475>

If you are unable to access the article behind the paywall, a copy is available on request to RUSI(NS).

#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>

If you are unable to access the article behind the paywall, a copy is available on request to RUSI(NS).

#policing

Pattern-or-Practice Investigations and Police Reform

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/pattern-or-practice-investigations-and-police-reform>

#reading

Read Voraciously: General Miller's Reading Recommendations

<https://fromthegreenotebook.com/2021/05/02/read-voraciously-general-millers-reading-recommendations/>

#robotics

On 'Grapeshot and Grenadiers': An Engineering Primer

<https://researchcentre.army.gov.au/library/land-power-forum/grapeshot-and-grenadiers-engineering-primer>

Current and Emerging Technology in Military Robotics

https://cradpdf.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/PDFS/unc356/p812832_A1b.pdf

#Taiwan

The most dangerous place on Earth

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2021/05/01/the-most-dangerous-place-on-earth>

If you are unable to access the article behind the paywall, a copy is available on request to RUSI(NS).

#wargaming

Note that the RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker in late June will speak about CAF wargaming.

Connections Online 2021 After Action Review

<https://paxsims.wordpress.com/2021/04/18/connections-online-2021-after-action-review/>

Wargaming for the New Great Game

<https://mwi.usma.edu/wargaming-for-the-new-great-game/>

Wargaming in the Reserve

<https://wavellroom.com/2021/04/30/wargaming-in-the-army-reserve/>

Other:

Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

Afghanistan

The Afghan withdrawal and the moral and ethical decision to withdraw pose a problem not only personally but also to the West as a whole. I have always found it surprising that many felt that nation re-construction/building could take so little time. There was fairly common knowledge amongst the diplomatic corps that this was a multi-generational task. This would not create a Canada in Afghanistan but a functioning Afghan democracy based on Afghan traditions and culture. Yet less than a full generation we are expecting a "victory," what were people thinking? More importantly, what will be the personal cost to those who supported us? Women? And to the former workers on NATO bases. With this withdrawal, we have told the world made up of countries like Afghanistan that they are not worth it. The West will simply write off 27 million folks. Can anyone trust the West to

follow through with action when the going gets tough? How do similar countries now look at Western assurances in future; does anyone trust us? Look at what happened to the Kurds. Have we become the enemy? Afghanistan will fall back into a civil war, many lives will be lost, lives of people who trusted us. For what it is worth, I believe that Canada had it right by guiding folks to take on jobs more complex than “trigger pullers.” Our young diplomats, development, justice, civil police and corrections folks amongst others were the real ‘big guns’ but they were only there for three years in insufficient numbers to make a difference - but they did make a difference. It is a pity we as Canada were not made of sterner stuff. As I have said then and I say now, twenty-seven million folks are worth it.

China

New Zealand Prime Minister PM Jacinda Arden has publicly criticized China in a recent interview. She and her Foreign Minister were harshly criticized for the lack of support from New Zealand for the views of the other members of the Five Eyes community. She basically stated that as China rises, there is growing aggression towards the world and a greater crackdown internally in areas such as Tibet, Xinxiang, Inner Mongolia, Hong Kong and efforts against Taiwan. These changes have been increasingly evident under Chairman Xi. It was also interesting that Xi is now being called the ‘Great Helmsman,’ the final piece as Xi has now taken on the title last used by Chairman Mao. What can we expect next from the Great Helmsman? I suspect a major miscalculation.

Speaking of a miscalculation, China’s much vaunted carrier rocket for the first piece of the new independent Chinese Space Station is now hurtling out of control and will enter the atmosphere in an uncontrolled fashion and is heading for a crash somewhere on Earth. The rocket is approximately 22 tons and will have leftover fuel and other toxic materials which are not expected to completely burn up in the atmosphere. The expected debris field has yet to be determined but could cover hundreds of square kilometers and leave solid pieces and perhaps serious contamination. Strangely, the Chinese media have only talked about the success without telling the other side of the story, one of a complete debacle.

The Philippine Coast Guard is being blocked by Chinese Coast Guard in Philippine waters as described by the International Courts. President Duterte has spent most of his term trying to gain influence and support of China only to be continually rebuffed. This time, however, the Chinese may pay a greater price as the Philippines were going to cancel agreements with the US on defence. This act appears to be on hold. US warships were instrumental in removing the Chinese Maritime Militia from concentrating in Philippine waters.

China has always wanted to have a way of breaking through the First Island Chain and has tried to make headway in many of the smaller island nations in the Pacific. This week, Kiribati signed a deal to rebuild their airfield with China. Kiribati is a small island state of approximately 120 k people on 32 islands. Its capital is Tarawa of USMC fame in the Second World War. It recognized China after China offered routine flights through a Chinese airline and brand-new ferries for inter-island travel. The rebuilt airport is the latest Chinese effort and is typical of debt diplomacy. It is an interesting choice, it might be useful at some point, but it is more likely part of the Communist Chinese Party’s efforts to further isolate Taiwan.

China’s actions are more aggressive abroad and more repressive at home and will be discussed at this week’s G7 meeting of foreign ministers hosted by Britain. Marc Garneau to attend in person. This will be the first in- person meeting since Covid 19 pandemic. It is hoped a more determined outlook will be developed to meet autocratic regimes such as Russia, Iran and China.

Russia

There is a much larger crackdown on independent Russian media by Russia declaring most independent outlets as foreign agents and imposing fines on people who forward an article without declaring the article's source, i.e., a foreign agent. Meduza, an actual Russian paper has been declared a foreign agent despite being completely Russian. Thus even espousing outside views is now seen as 'foreign.' Another method of this crackdown is pro-Putin regime oligarchs suing media outlets, stating they have been maligned in some form. Most media outlets have shallow pockets and even a minor lawsuit can cause collapse them. Lawsuits also can be directed at individual reporters in order to shut them up.

Russian forces in the Central African Republic (CAR), along with the local troops, have been accused of various crimes in regard to their operations by the CAR government. There is little actual information available as yet but accusations by Russian forces in regard to war crimes and allegations of abuse and corruption should materialize. It should be mentioned that most 'Russian troops' in the CAR are likely to be from private military companies (PMC). Russia has used PMC to provide plausible deniability for their actions. This allows a fair amount of latitude in their operations and their actions are seldom brought to light in public and the Russian media, if any, will be friendly, so there is very little oversight.

Belarus

Lukashenko has been indicted on charges in Germany brought by ten Belarussians who had been arrested and tortured by Belarussian security forces. Germany has previously prosecuted members of the Syrian Security Forces as well for their actions. The UN set up an investigation team in March as well to investigate Belarus Security Force actions. It is likely that Lukashenko will also be affected by these investigations. Putin will not appreciate the actions.