



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia Dispatches 11 June 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, including 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.

Your Institute Needs You!

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia is seeking Institute members to serve in the front trenches as *Dispatches* editors, Facebook admin and website admin. To enlist or to seek more information about these essential and other positions, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

You Can Help! Step Up Now!



Events:

To list an event in *Dispatches*, email RUSI(NS) by noon Thursday. RUSI(NS) events are by invitation. 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.

15 June, Tuesday - Navy League of Canada Maritime Affairs Virtual Speaker Series with Andy Smith, Deputy Commissioner Strategy and Shipbuilding, Canadian Coast Guard, “NSS Navigational Track – A Coast Guard Perspective. 1200 EDT. Via MS Teams. To register: <https://navyleague.ca/maritime-affairs/special-events/>

16 June, Wednesday - Military Institute of Windsor Guest Speaker Major Indira Thackorie "A Reflection of 25 Years of Service." 1300 Windsor time. Via Zoom. To register, email: [Morris Brause morbrause@gmail.com](mailto:Morbrause@gmail.com). See poster at end of *Dispatches*.

New: 17 June, Thursday - United States Northern Command and the Command's "The Watch" Magazine, United States European Command, United States Indo-Pacific Command, and the Center for Arctic Security and Resilience - University of Alaska Fairbanks Arctic eTalk "A View from Norway: Security in the High North" by Mr Svein Efstad, Policy Director, Norwegian Ministry of Defence. 0800 AK/ 1000 MT/ 1200 EST/ 1800 CET. To register: https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ju3GpnO6SYiEEzpsOzB8mg. See poster at end of *Dispatches* and https://www.uaf.edu/casr/activities/etalks_jun_2021.php.

23 June, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Major Scott Roach, Canadian Joint Warfare Centre, will speak about Canadian Armed Forces use of wargaming. 1300 Atlantic time. Via Zoom. To register, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com by close of business Sunday, 20 June. As the subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speakers 23 June 2021 Registration. Zoom joining instructions will be emailed to registrants by end Monday, 21 June. Advance reading for Maj Roach's talk: Canada to launch wargaming course <https://www.shephardmedia.com/news/training-simulation/canada-launch-wargaming-course/>

New: 23 June, Wednesday - Center for Naval Analyses and International Institute for Strategic Studies webinar "The Arctic Region and Freedom of Navigation: Balancing National and International Interests." 11 am Eastern time. To register: https://iiss.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BEGc7S_IRC2NH4e-OVW_9g

New: 24 June, Thursday - UK Fight Club (Wargaming Experimentation Group) Urban Warfare Webinar with John Spencer, Chair of Urban Warfare Studies, Modern War Institute. 1800-1930 (BST, UK time). Free. To register: <https://www.ukfightclub.co.uk/event-details/urban-warfare>. See poster at end of *Dispatches*.

Recent Publications:

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

New: RUSI(NS) Presentation "The Canadian Army at an Inflection Point – Delivering Excellence Today and into the Future" by Brigadier-General J.J. Major, 2 June 2021
https://rusi-ns.ca/canadian_army/

New: RUSI(NS) Paper "The Princess Louise Fusiliers Diversity Soldier Experience Program" by Second Lieutenant Ahmed Elkar and Captain Michael Gray, 5 June 2021
<https://rusi-ns.ca/dsep/>

RUSI(NS) Information Note "Inshore to Offshore: Coastal Zones and Canadian Coast Guard Vessel Capabilities" by Phil Hanbidge, 28 May 2021
<https://rusi-ns.ca/coastal-zones-and-ccg-vessel-capabilities/>

RUSI(NS) Presentations "Arctic Air Operations: Canada and United States Agile Fighter Employment in Defence of North America" by Colonels Moar and Fesler, 19 May 2021
https://rusi-ns.ca/arctic_air_operations/

The Military Institute of Windsor *Communiqué* Volume XXXIX Number 6, June 2021.

Royal Alberta United Services Institute *Dispatches* June 2021
<https://rausi.ca/component/acym/archive/74-security-issues-in-the-arctic-region-part-ii?userid=306-QqXJ7Y1xfzfd0M&tmpl=raw>

Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association *On Watch* 2 June edition
https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=476d037b-cf33-401c-8fb6-7ee3d20e0c5c

Royal Canadian Naval Association Admiral Hose Branch *Scuttlebutt* June 2021 Edition.

The United Services Institute of Nanaimo and North Island *Newsletter* Vol 29 No 06 June 2021.

New: The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Occasional* Volume 6, Issue 4, 7 June 2021.

Company of Master Mariners of Canada Maritimes Division Newsletter *The Foghorn* June 2021

The Newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island, Volume 54, 2nd Quarter 2021.

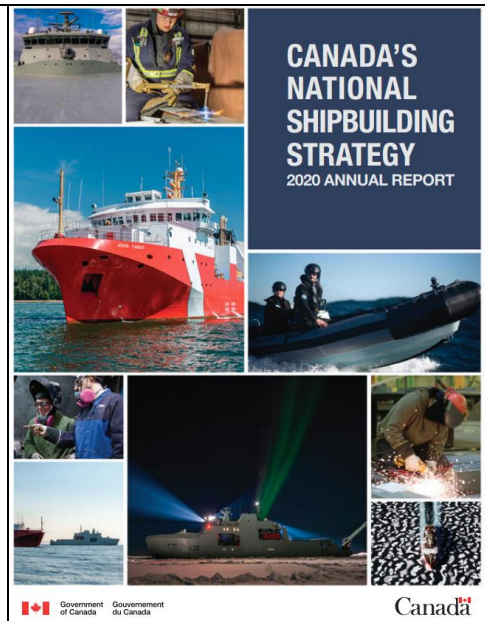
The Edmonton United Services Institute President's Enews May 2021.

New: Transcript of Centre of International Governance Innovation discussion "National Security Challenges in the 21st Century: A Discussion with Vincent Rigby, National Security & Intelligence Advisor to the Prime Minister," 8 June 2021

Tweeted by @RUSI_NS:

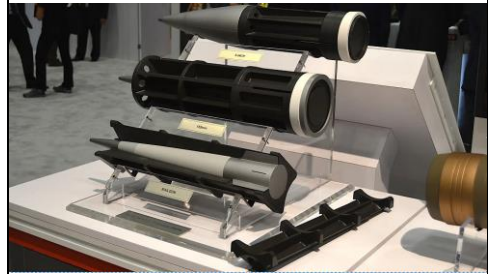
RUSI(NS) tweets may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something tweeted or retweeted, email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com.

Public Services @PSPC_SPAC 4 Jun tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Despite some challenges, 2020 was an important year for the #NationalShipbuildingStrategy. Thanks to solid partnerships, we were able to deliver strong socio-economic benefits to Canadians. Read the 2020 NSS Annual Report → <http://ow.ly/UEwr50F35Uj> (Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy 2020 Annual Report <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/app-acq/amd-dp/mer-sea/sncn-nss/rapport-report-2020-eng.html>)



Dr Phil Weir @navalhistorian 5 Jun tweeted: 1) The @USNavy appears to have ended development not only of electromagnetic rail-guns but also the hypervelocity rounds for the conventional 5in guns that will equip the @RoyalNavy 's new Type 26 Frigates (Long In Development Hypervelocity Rounds For Navy Railguns And Deck Guns Killed Off In Budget <https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/40938/long-in-development-hypervelocity-rounds-for-navy-railguns-and-deck-guns-killed-off-in-budget>)

Design of new ships to be built by @IrvingShipbuild for Canadian 🇨🇦 Surface Combatant project is based on @RoyalNavy Type 26 frigate & have 5 inch gun. Will @USNavy cessation of development of hypervelocity rounds preclude possibility of availability for @RoyalCanNavy?



Canadian Armed Forces Operations @CFOperations 7 Jun tweeted: Over the past two months, @RCAF_ARC CC-177 Globemaster III and CC-130J Hercules aircraft conducted resupply flights to Alert, NU. Both Airplane flew nearly 164 hours, delivering 649,155 kilolitres of fuel and more than 49,137 kilograms of cargo to northern CAF facilities. #OpBOXTOP

RUSI(NS) retweeted: Operation BOXTOP - @CanadianForces @RCAF_ARC semi-annual airlift mission to supply Canadian Forces Station Alert, northeast tip of Ellesmere Island, Nunavut, 817 km from North Pole <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-boxtop.html> #OpBOXTOP



Halifax Fire News @HRMFireNews 7 Jun tweeted: Halifax, meet your new fire boat.

RUSI(NS) retweeted: Kjiptuk - Mi'kmaw for 'great harbour' as #Halifax once was known <https://halifax.mediacoop.ca/story/ta%E2%80%99n-weji-sqalia%E2%80%99tiek-mi%E2%80%99kmaw-place-names/34005> Boat appears to be a MetalCraft FireStorm A RUSI(NS) member identified the boat as a FireStorm 36 http://metalcraftmarine.com/html/firestorm_36.html



RCAF Operations @RCAFOperations 9 Jun tweeted: We have #AirPower on the move! Members from 3 Wing, Bagotville, are on their way to @NORADCommand's #AmalgamDART. The arctic air defence exercise that runs until June 18th. @RCAF_ARC #WeHaveTheWatch <https://bit.ly/3goTDU4>

RUSI(NS) retweeted: RUSI(NS) Presentation "#Arctic Air Operations: Canada and United States Agile Fighter Employment in Defence of North America" https://rusi-ns.ca/arctic_air_operations/ #ExAmalgamDart @CFOperations @RCAF_ARC #RCAF



Containerization of sensors, weapons provides greater capabilities to @RCNavy Kingston & #HarryDeWolf-class vessels, makes them much more multi-role <https://www.streetinsider.com/dr/news.php?id=18525604> @KrakenRobotics Containerization is flip side of considering ships as 'trucks' to be re-configured as needed (Kraken and SH Defense Sign Cooperation Agreement for Containerized MCM Solutions)



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

Defence chief 'seeing some cracks' as Canadian military hit with multiple challenges

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/cracks-appearing-as-canadian-military-faces-confluence-of-challenges-defence-chief>



"The acting defence chief in March sent a message to the troops directing them to focus on four major areas: people, including the military's culture; operations; training and readiness; and the need to prepare for future threats."

Yes, the Canadian Armed Forces needs a 'reconstitution plan' to get it back up to full strength, training towards operational readiness and working on the four priorities.

U.S. to give ransomware hacks similar priority as terrorism

<https://www.reuters.com/technology/exclusive-us-give-ransomware-hacks-similar-priority-terrorism-official-says-2021-06-03/>



The move to treat cyber crimes as terrorism is interesting. What makes cyber crime viable is the criminals' ability not to attract enough attention so law enforcement (or any other type of enforcement) tracks them down. The change in US policy, starting with the appointment of a senior person in the US Justice Department, pretty much ends the happy days times hackers have had so far.

Hackers believe they are smarter than other people. They also believe they are invisible behind their false names and firewalls. These fallacies are promoted by a lot of media created by Hollywood. The take away is that many hackers will continue to consider themselves 'invincible'. (Yes, as bad as Boris in 'GoldenEye').

The motivation for criminal hackers is money. BILLIONS of dollars are paid to hackers. The Zeus group in Russia was the first cyber unicorn - over 1 billion USD stolen. The predecessors to REvil, who hit JBS meat plants, broke up their group when they cleared 2 billion dollars stolen. Why? They had attracted too much attention to themselves. Back to money. In addition to ransomware there are many types of fraud: direct attacks, theft of intellectual property, various types of extortion, and I don't know what else.

I believe hacking will not change until the cash flow is interrupted. The prosecution part is important but the more important part is removing the ready cash supply.

Permission given for expansion of Kishorn dry dock

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-56814448>



This article about a different and interesting foreign drydock, used for shipbuilding and shipbreaking, leads to some thoughts about Canadian yards and their drydocks. The Canadian National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS) has a strong 'build up the shipbuilding industry' ("create jobs") aspect to it. Arguably, the economic aspect is the priority of the strategy, ahead of ensuring the marine services actually have all the resources to undertake their missions (after all, funding will ultimately limit procurement of all the equipment that departments assess they need and want). As a big-dollar government strategy, the measures of progress and success of the NSS should be of interest to Canadians. It's easy enough to count the number and timeliness of ships built or refitted (the infographic at <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/app-acq/amd-dp/mer-sea/sncn-nss/rapport-report-2020-6-eng.html> leans that way). The number of jobs in yards and dollars spent are other easy measures. But what about the shipbuilding industry as a whole? That is, what has been achieved between the start of the strategy and now? For that, one has to know what we started with. Obviously of concern enough for government to develop the strategy in the first place. But, other than maybe buried deep within government and academic staff studies, is there information about the capability of the shipyards that can be and should be public? Drydocks, their numbers, locations, capacities, and the like, are an indicator of the strength of the industry. What information about drydocks is public? Is Canada better off now than when the NSS started?

See: Canada's National Shipbuilding Strategy 2020 Annual Report

<https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/app-acq/amd-dp/mer-sea/sncn-nss/rapport-report-2020-eng.html>

Are the Middle East's 'electronic armies' the most dangerous of all?

<https://www.dw.com/en/the-middle-east-electronic-armies-most-dangerous/a-57782768>

'Electronic armies.' Another term. "Elsewhere they have been described as troll farms, cyber armies, keyboard armies or web brigades." Can electronic armies be added to the vocabulary of information operations in a useful manner?



RADSAR report: Sharing of competence within search and rescue in a maritime radiological/nuclear scenario

<https://oaarchive.arctic-council.org/handle/11374/2620>

"The main goal of the (RADSAR) project was to identify possible challenges and further improve national and international emergency preparedness and response related to SAR (search and rescue) operations in a radiological hazardous environment in the Arctic."

Hmm, just think of a nuclear-powered submarine (obviously no Canadian) search and rescue (SUBSAR) incident in Canadian Arctic waters. How would response to that work?



Close the Gaps! Airborne ASW Yesterday and Tomorrow

<https://cimsec.org/close-the-gaps-airborne-asw-yesterday-and-tomorrow/>

"A compelling solution is to establish an unmanned sea control squadron (VUS) squadron. These squadrons would provide Sea Combat Commanders with a dedicated medium-range ASW (anti-submarine warfare) aircraft that would allow commanders to detect, classify, track, target, and engage submarines outside their WEZ (weapons engagement zone)."

Canada does not have aircraft carriers from which to fly medium-range anti-submarine drones. But it does have a large deck in the form of the leased replenishment oiler *Asterix*, will have large decks when the Protecteur-class replenishment oilers are built, and could have large decks by leasing civil vessels for multi-role employment. With the right kind of drones (vertical take off and landing?) and probably a lot of engineering (hmm, shouldn't drones be looked on as multi-role 'trucks' anyways?), a tremendous capability could be added to Royal Canadian Navy task groups.



Navy to Christen Littoral Combat Ship Canberra

<https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2646551/navy-to-christen-littoral-combat-ship-canberra/>

Naming warships is a government prerogative and a political act. Interesting to see a country use a ship naming as an aspect of international relations and to honour another country.



It'll be interesting, too, when Canada announces the names of the 15 Canadian Surface Combatant project ships and of the four Naval Large Tug vessels. There will be messaging in the selection of names.

An article titled “**Chinese Media See a Propaganda Opportunity in 215 Children’s Graves**” by Tom Blackwell of the National Post (<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/chinese-media-see-a-propaganda-opportunity-in-215-children-s-graves/ar-AAKHwBs>) shows the use of moral equivalency by propagandists of the Communist Chinese Party (CCP) to obfuscate and distort the actual story of their own major human rights abuses.



The article also shows that the CCP will use everything at its disposal to further its own ambitions and views and taint other countries’ faults and errors. In Canada’s case, the country does have answering to do for the residential school system. It can only be described as horrific, but at least it is being examined and there is consensus amongst the citizens of Canada that something must be done. There is no question about that at all.

Sunday marked the 32nd anniversary of the massacre at Tiananmen Square, where thousands were killed by the “Peoples’ Liberation Army” when the commemoration was ruthlessly put down. The CCP also ensures that the general population is not made aware of the tens of millions killed in China by the CCP in order to create what they call ‘stability.’ They also tend to forget the CCP’s own disastrous population control methods in the ‘one child policy’ that aborted untold millions of children. The CCP will never allow its own deficiencies to be examined as we have most recently seen in their protest against a proper investigation into the origins of Covid 19.

As Canadians, we see the CCP’s ongoing gray area campaign against Canada using information, legal and financial actions against us on an ongoing basis - we need to be more vigilant. We have seen Canadians such as the Garrets and the “two Michaels” kidnapped, harassed, threatened and used as hostages. We should remember that although we are not perfect by any stretch of the imagination, we do not come close to the malignant, authoritarian and genocidal regime that is the CCP’s China. We must remember that Canada is under an ongoing assault in a different way than anything we have seen in the past, an assault using multiple types and methods of operation other than war, except for some clumsy efforts by the Soviets. The CCP’s China is not a friend nor a partner but a brutal adversary and we need to act with thought and decisiveness. Canadian citizens of Chinese origin and all Canadians need to know our country will stand up to the CCP and protect our interests.

Competing in the Arctic Through Indigenous Group Engagement and Special Reconnaissance Activities

<https://mwi.usma.edu/competing-in-the-arctic-through-indigenous-group-engagement-and-special-reconnaissance-activities/>



Hmm, not once in the article are the Canadian Rangers mentioned...

Mobile Force Protection Program Concludes with Successful Demonstration

<https://www.darpa.mil/news-events/2021-06-07>

A Counter-Unmanned Air System (C-UAS) "that could be employed in and around civilian areas. The primary drone negation mechanism shoots strong, stringy streamers from reusable interceptors that foul propellers causing loss of propulsion."



The Invisible Rules That Govern Police Use of Force

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/invisible-rules-govern-police-use-force>

"Who gets to impose rules governing officer conduct: the police or the communities the police serve?"



Interesting to reflect that use-of-force rules can vary and are not as national as one would presume.

The military's rules of engagement (RoE) make for an interesting comparison.

Note paper of same name: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3817771

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China has built the world's largest navy. Now what's Beijing going to do with it?

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/05/china/china-world-biggest-navy-intl-hnk-ml-dst/index.html>



A Leader’s Guide to Navigating Social Media in the Military

<https://fromthegreennotebook.com/2021/06/05/a-leaders-guide-to-navigating-social-media-in-the-military/>



The Arctic—Economic Growth or Future Battlefield?

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2017/9/27/the-arcticeconomic-growth-or-future-battlefield>



Other Sources:

#climate #security

International Military Council on Climate and Security “The World Climate and Security Report 2021”

<https://imccs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/World-Climate-and-Security-Report-2021.pdf>

Other:

NATO Multimedia Library Thematic Bibliography no. 6/21 "Refugees and Migration Policies"

https://natolibguides.info/ld.php?content_id=33623267

AETE Roundel

Interesting roundel (is that the right word for it?) on the side of the Cyclone doing Shipboard Helicopter Operating Limits and other trials with HMCS *Harry DeWolf*. Anyone got info on this, other than AETE = Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment?



From: Timothy Choi @TimDotChoi 6 Jun tweeted: Pundits: Harry's 25mm gun is too small and shortranged! It needs to be bigger!

RCAF+RCN: okay how about being able to drop a torpedo anywhere within a few hundred kilometres (<https://twitter.com/TimDotChoi/status/1401620184788467712>)

From 12 Wing: the roundel pictured was applied to the aircraft as a method of recognizing the hard work of a team of individuals from AETE, 12 Wing Shearwater and the RCN, in support of furthering the operational capabilities of the CH-148 Cyclone in support of RCN operations.

Ship Spotting

Ship spotting (akin to plane and train spotting) is a fairly common pastime/hobby and at times can be seen as a form of OSINT (open source intelligence). This tweet was a little different, not just reporting the ship but analyzing the cargo onboard. Makes one think about aspects of OPSEC (operational security). “Cargo spotting?”



Oliver Sesemann @OllisSeaViews 3:38 PM · May 30, 2021 tweeted: US flag general cargo ship #SLNCMagothy entered the Baltic Sea y'day via the #KielCanal, from Sunny PointFlag of United States to PaldiskiFlag of Estonia. Containers stowed on deck indicate she may be carrying US military cargo, some of which appears to be classified as dangerous. #shipsinpics #NordOstseeKanal (<https://twitter.com/OllisSeaViews/status/1399072823222718471>)

From a US colleague: This for Defender 21 exercises in Eastern Europe. The US does not load large yield explosives on the Roll-On/Roll-Off vessels when they ship over vehicles and aircraft. Typically they use specially chartered ships like MAGOTHY to ship over the ammunition.

Vehicle Growth Margins

Think Defence @thinkdefence 4:30 PM · Jun 8, 2021 tweeted: One of the constants in recent vehicle programmes has been the overriding desire to ensure there is weight growth potential over the life of the vehicle. If Ajax enters service, how much weight growth margin will it enter service with? (<https://twitter.com/thinkdefence/status/1402347384886206467>)



Ajax is a family of armoured fighting vehicles being developed by General Dynamics UK for the British Army.

There has been some discussion of late of growth margins (weight, volume, power, cooling) in the Canadian Surface Combatant and other Type 26-derived ships – Australian Hunter-class appears to have a small margin, not the 10% one would expect with a frigate. So it was interesting to appreciate that vehicles would have growth margins, too.

Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

Iran

Iran has again been beset by a series of fires and bombings including a steel mill after losing a warship, *Kharg*, last week off the Iranian coast. Whilst there are many who wish to pin responsibility on the US or the Israelis, there is another option and that is incompetence. It is hard to keep conspiracy theories quiet though; I am still reminded of the old saying many of analyst instructors used to say: “Never put down to conspiracy when it could be just plain old incompetence.” Iran has lost three vessels in the relatively recent past. One was a relatively new destroyer of the Caspian squadron which ran into a breakwater, second a naval vessel was accidentally hit by a missile during a live fire (the ship was saved

but was a constructive write-off) and now *Kharg*. One also has to remember last year the IRGC barge made to look like a Nimitz-class carrier sank as it entered the harbour as a result of damage during a showcase attack. It took days to remove. So is it possible that with the airbase explosion that ammunition safety wasn't followed or at a drone plant or even a steel mill?

The new Iranian elections are coming up on 18 June 2021 and the Guardian Council has pretty much eliminated anyone who is moderate or reformist so Iranian voters will have the choice of hardliner or another hardliner. Although one candidate did say he would be willing to meet President Biden, the former head of the Iranian Central Bank, Abdolnasser Hemmati has made an almost diplomatic statement regarding the nuclear deal and the return to talks with the US. He is not likely to win, though, and is well back in the pack of seven candidates for president. Still, it is of note. The real losers are the people of Iran, who are expected to largely ignore the election. As mentioned in last week's synopsis, opposition groups are advocating the election be boycotted. It should be interesting.

Russia

The Putin regime is continuing its crackdown on independent media both internal and foreign. Some, like Vtimes, a virtual entity, will cease publishing now that they have been declared a "foreign agent." This term has been used a legal stick to beat media outlets and reporters and it has been devastating overall to the quality of reporting in Russia. Pretty bad when Pravda and Tass or RT are your sources. Even small social media efforts are now receiving scrutiny and, if necessary, threats if they are outspoken about the Putin regime.

In order to further disquiet local opposition in the future and to bring Russian authoritarianism to a higher standard, President Putin has signed a bill founding the National Genetic Information Database which will be greatly assisted by a known Putin supporter, Mikhail Kovalchuk. The main effort once this is founded is to create a "genetic passport" by 2025. Mr Kovachuk's efforts will be greatly assisted by those well-known humanitarians, the FSB; reassuring to everyone no doubt.

Russia has sanctioned nine Canadians for their unfriendly behavior towards Russia including LGen Mike Rouleau and CF Int Com's outgoing commander, RAdm Bishop. As well, the head of the RCMP, Commissioner Brenda Lucki. Well done, sirs and madame, wear it with honour.

Russia has also stated that it intends to leave the International Space Station by 2025 and will continue to work on its own program in cooperation with the Chinese.

On another note, on Tuesday, 8 June 2021 Alexei Navalny was awarded the "courage award" by the Geneva Summit for Human Rights and Democracy. It was accepted by his daughter, Daria, who also mentioned that her father was accepting it on behalf of all Russia's opposition leaders, especially those who are less well known but still keep up the efforts against the corruption of the regime. Mr Navalny is apparently out of hospital and is back enjoying the comforts of his normal jail cell in a penal colony. It was announced by numerous media outlets that all of Alexei Navalny's organizations and those organizations with connections to his Anti-Corruption Foundation have been declared as "extremist" organizations and are therefore outlawed. It will set the opposition back but at the same time it will also make ordinary Russians think about their own government. The Navalny organization has pointed out gross examples of corruption by government officials and their oligarch supporters, causing considerable embarrassment. What polls have shown is that most Russians have accepted that their government is fundamentally corrupt, but that they have two opinions, one for the public face and one an internal view. While the government has bought time, has it increased its level of survivability?

Jens Stoltenberg, NATO Secretary-General met with President Biden to discuss issues for the 14 June 2021 NATO Security Summit. This emphasized commitments to push Russia when necessary but to cooperate on major issues such as climate change and cyber threats.

Hungary

Hungary is undergoing considerable unrest over the policies of Prime Minister Victor Orban. Hungary has lately been vetoing many European Union (EU) decisions on key issues such as the recent Israel-Hamas conflict. The Orban government has also been supporting a more pro-Beijing point of view within the EU. This is difficult given issues regarding Chinese actions. Many people are demonstrating against the new Fudan University Campus to be built in Budepest. The city mayor who is quite anti-Orban government has renamed streets to ones such as 'Free Hong Kong' and similar meant to aggravate the Chinese Communist Party. As time has gone on the populist government of Mr Orban has steadily lost popularity. Still, he is quite capable of stirring up issues and thus remains possibly to remain the man in charge. Time will tell.

Belarus

Since the air piracy of Alexander Lukashenko, which was both unexpected due to its rashness, new video footage has been played on the government television station, showing Roman Protosevich confessing his guilt and now supporting the dictator. His face is according to reports showing bruises. His girlfriend, also arrested at the same time, has been treated in a similar manner. The fallout from Lukashenko's actions have been swift but limited and caused the Belarusian national airline to cease operations as they literally cannot land anywhere in Europe. Still, what Lukashenko has done requires a bit more and sanctions just will not do the job in this case. If one authoritarian regimes takes such action to stop an opposition leader at the potential expense of innocent lives of other passengers, what is to stop other authoritarians from doing the same? Perhaps declaring Lukashenko a wanted criminal along with key members of his government and supporters either charged or heavily sanctioned might be an answer. Lending any legitimacy to this regime would be a mistake.

China

In practical terms, China the country is used as a heading, but in real terms, it is the Communist Chinese Party (CCP) that is the cause of most of the difficulties. Untold millions have died at their hands and even today, cultural genocide is being refined to perfection to eliminate alleged 'terrorist' behavior. The CCP denies all of this as Western propaganda despite the real testimony of victims who managed to escape the horrors of CCP indoctrination camps. The CCP has done everything that the Third Reich has done to eliminate opposition, both real or imagined, and has been efficient about it. Colonization has also taken place with Han Chinese colonists. In many areas there are no capacity for actual independent media and reporters to investigate. When one thinks of the founding of the UN post Second World War, there was a vow to not let the holocaust happen again. Here we are in the 21st century and the CCP and of course others such as Iran and North Korea are being allowed to escape legal action against their leadership for committing genocide and mass murder. Whether the victims are Tibetans, Uyghurs, Mongolians and other minority groups, the CCP seems to think that whole cultures can be relegated to "happy dancing videos" so recently provided on the internet. Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Falun Gong practitioners and others have also been persecuted by this regime. It is appalling and the world has failed...again.

There is a story in Wednesday's South China Morning Post, now owned by a pro-CCP publisher, which ran a story on the Tibetan province of Qinghai which was mainly populated by Tibetans and is the birth province of the Dalai Lama. It has been colonised by the Han Chinese who now make up

75% of the population. (It should be clearly noted that the Peoples' Liberation Army of the CCP attacked, invaded and occupied Tibet in June 1950. It remains occupied by invading forces to this day.) The article speaks favourably about how the CCP has managed to 'convert' Tibetans to patriotic Chinese citizens. The role of the local party secretary was highly praised by President Xi who suggested that the province is now considered a blueprint for Xinjiang Province. (Xinjiang Province is the country of East Turkistan, which was attacked, invaded and occupied by the PLA of the CCP in June 1950. It is occupied to this day.) Most of the effort seemed to be focused on the introduction of Han Chinese and the virtual elimination of Tibetan culture in real terms. President Xi has continued these cultural genocidal actions despite being well aware of the definition of genocide, which means that the CCP is and continues to be a historical criminal organization by definition.

The Globe and Mail has published a number of relatively positive views of China. While it is noted that all sides of any position should be examined, one has to wonder about the ethical and moral decision to praise the CCP's China, especially knowing that the CCP has committed mass murder in the vicinity of tens of millions, and continues activities that will relegate minorities to 'happy cultural dance videos' now prominent on various social media platforms. Considering the CCP has committed more murders than the Nazis, is it not time to hold them to account?

O Canada

This week saw the Prime Minister leave for the G7 and NATO Security Summit in Cornwall, UK, and Brussels respectively. The main discussion will be climate change, Covid response and China, according to the media. The last topic will be interesting to watch as the current government has been somewhat less than forthright about the CCP's China. There is talk that President Biden is looking to develop a G7 +3 group to counter China's ongoing aggression in all its forms. This group will include three other democracies, South Korea, India and Australia. While it is expected that Canada will be supportive of the moves in regard to climate change issues and Covid response, it will be especially informative to see how our government positions itself on the issue of the CCP's China. Our positions so far has been as strong as a wet spaghetti noodle. It was painful to watch Minister Garneau suggest that our quiet diplomacy was doing well...by all normal metrics, it is not because of a strangely persistent thought that the CCP's China will provide a panacea of economic benefits. The excuse is that they are constrained by the 'Two Michaels' who are held as hostages by the CCP to pressure Canada in regard to Meng Wanzhou's incarceration by house arrest as opposed to imprisonment and torture and kangaroo courts in China's penal system.

Canada also saw another mass killing by vehicle in London Ontario, where a family of five was brutally hit by a vehicle; four were killed and one, a boy of nine, was injured and orphaned. Political leaders from all levels of government have all beaten their breasts in public, but where is the considered action? This is not the first time. One has to also wonder where is our education on immigration and refugees. These people have chosen Canada to be there home. It isn't as if we can maintain our population with our low birth rates. Without immigration, our country will fail. It also means accommodation on all sides to get along and prosper and grow as a country. As a country we should celebrate this aspect and not treat it as a threat. The accused is being charged with four counts of first degree murder, the highest possible charges available and one that carries the maximum penalties available in Canada.

Canada is not perfect, but we are a lot less imperfect than most any other countries. We are all privileged to be here in relative freedom, peace and prosperity, it is something to celebrate but at the same time not rest on our laurels but recognize our imperfections whether residential schools, water issues on reserves or anti-immigrant actions and most importantly then act.



MILITARY INSTITUTE OF WINDSOR



JUNE SPEAKER'S PRESENTATION ON ZOOM

Guest Speaker

MAJOR INDIRA THACKORIE, CD

Maj Thackorie's military experiences have been extensive, including tours in the Golan Heights, Israel and Kandahar, Afghanistan. She has trained military personnel at many bases including Jakarta, Indonesia. She served as Public Affairs Officer and Air Show Narrator for the SkyHawks and the Snowbirds. Her current tasking involves Inclusion and Diversity, Employment Equity and Communications, for the Directorate of Human Rights and Diversity.



Topic

“A Reflection of 25 Years of Service”

Wednesday 16 Jun 2021

1300 Hrs

***Special Guest:* Mayor Drew Dilkens**

Prior to Maj Thackorie's presentation, Mayor Dilkens will open the program by bringing greetings from the Mayor's Office.

To give us an idea of how many participants to expect, please RSVP to

LCol Morris Brause at: morbrause@gmail.com or

Capt Alison Amos at: amos@mnsi.net

**Specific details needed to log onto the ZOOM site,
will be provided by LCol Brause, via Capt Amos.**

Arctic eTalks 17 June 2021

On behalf of USNORTHCOM and the Command's "[The Watch](#)" Magazine, United States European Command (USEUCOM), United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), and the Center for Arctic Security and Resilience ([CASR](#)) - University of Alaska Fairbanks, we would like to invite you to our June 2021 Arctic eTalks distinguished speaker presentation on "A View from Norway: Security in the High North" by Mr. Svein Efstestad, Policy Director, Norwegian Ministry of Defence on Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 0800 AK/ 1000 MT/ 1200 EST/ 1800 CET. Mr. Efstestad's bio is available by email from RUSI(NS).

The Arctic eTalks is a monthly forum for open discussion (non-attribution, Chatham House Rule) in key issues affecting the Circumpolar Arctic for academics, defense and security professional, and military leaders from Canada, Finland, Kingdom of Denmark (Greenland and Faroe Islands), Norway, Sweden, and the United States, as well as the United Kingdom and Germany.

This event is presented with our valued Arctic eTalks partners - Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies (IFS) and Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI).

Mr. Svein Efstestad will provide a 30-minute presentation with slides which will be followed by a 60-minute Q&A session (non-attribution) that will be moderated by Dr. Katarzyna Zysk (IFS) and Dr. Elana Wilson Rowe (NUPI). Of note, presentations are posted for later viewing on the [event website](#), but the Q&A discussions are not - these are very interesting and insightful...not to be missed!

Please register at the following link:

https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ju3GpnO6SYiEEzpsOzB8mg

Dr. Benjamin P. Gochman, DAFC
Chief, Engagements
Arctic, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean
Directorate of Operations (N&NC/J39)
HQ NORAD - USNORTHCOM/J3

Troy J. Bouffard
University of Alaska Fairbanks, Faculty
Director - Center for Arctic Security and
Resilience

"The Watch" Command Magazine, United States Northern Command, United States European Command, United States Indo-Pacific Command and the Center for Arctic Security and Resilience

Present

Arctic eTalks

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Joint Task Force (North) Canadian Armed Forces	Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies	William J. Perry Center National Defense University
Ministry of Defence United Kingdom	Norwegian Institute of International Affairs	

Featuring:

Svein Efstestad

Policy Director
Norwegian Ministry of Defence

Registration required:
Link provided in the email invitation

Thursday, June 17th, 2021
0800 AK/1000 MT/1200 EST/1800 CET

Contact for more information:
casr@alaska.edu

Strong Partnerships are Integral to Defending Our Homelands



WEBINAR SERIES

URBAN WARFARE: Threats & Opportunities

John W. Spencer currently serves as the Chair of Urban Warfare Studies at the Modern War Institute, Co-Director of the Urban Warfare Project, and host of the Urban Warfare Project podcast. In his talk, Mr. Spencer will provide an overview of his research and findings looking broadly at urban warfare.

John Spencer



Thu 24 June



18:00 – 19:30 BST



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What is in it for me?

1. Understanding of urban warfare trends
2. Understanding of military challenges in preparing for urban warfare
3. New ideas for wargame considerations

