



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

14 January 2022

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.

Everyone is encouraged to submit links and other content to be included in *Dispatches*. Submissions and feedback are welcome anytime. Email to RUSINSDispatches@gmail.com. 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.

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).

Annual General Meeting 2022

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia will meet for Annual General Meeting 2022 at 1900 hours Halifax time, Tuesday, **25 January 2022**. Zoom joining instructions will be emailed prior.

Don Moser
Insp, RCMP
President, RUSI(NS)

RUSI(NS) 2021 Survey

The RUSI(NS) survey for how we did in 2021 will be emailed to members in January as part of the membership renewal email. It is short - please take a couple minutes to fill it in. Your feedback is important to the future activities of this Institute.

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.

New: 20 January, Thursday - USNORTHCOM “The Watch” Command Magazine and the Center for Arctic Security and Resilience - University of Alaska Fairbanks as their January Arctic eTalk host Rear Admiral Martin La Cour-Andersen, Commander, Joint Arctic Command, Danish Ministry of Defence, speaking on "Kingdom of Denmark in the Arctic: Perspectives from the Danish Joint Arctic Command."

Via Zoom. 0800 AK/ 1000 MT/ 1200 EST/ 1800 CET. To register:
https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZjLPbiXdToKhaC86k0QPRg. For details, see end of *Dispatches* and: https://www.uaf.edu/casr/activities/etalks_jan_2022.php

26 January, Wednesday - Distinguished Speakers Commander Corey Gleason, first Commanding Officer, HMCS *Harry DeWolf*, and Captain Al McCabe, United States Coast Guard 17th District, "Arctic Maritime Security: US Coast Guard and Canadian Navy Operations." 1300-1500. Via Zoom. Registration is required. To register, email RUSI(NS) by close-of-business Sun, 23 Jan. As subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speakers 26 January 2022 Registration. Participation is limited and later registrants may have to be put on a waiting list. If after registering your availability changes and you are no longer able to attend, please advise RUSI(NS) as soon as possible so your spot can be re-assigned. Zoom instructions will be emailed to registrants by end-of-day Mon, 24 Jan. If you have not received them by end-of-day 24 Jan, please check your spam folder and, if necessary, email RUSI(NS).

New: 27 January, Thursday - USNORTHCOM "The Watch" Command Magazine and the North American and Arctic Defence and Security Network January 2022 Arctic Academic eTalk "Russian Arctic Militarization" with Dr Rob Huebert and Dr Katarzyna Zysk. Via Zoom. 0800 AK/ 1000 MT/ 1200 EST/ 1800 CET. To register: https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_883CAA-0TcKsnpkKLxa7qg. For details, see end of *Dispatches*.

16 February, Wednesday - Distinguished Speaker Col Meaghan Setter, RCAF, "RCAF Strategy." 1300-1500. Via Zoom. Invitations to follow. Meanwhile, see: "Cultivating Future Airpower Strategists - On 'Developing Twenty-First-Century Airpower Strategists'" https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Portals/10/SSQ/documents/Volume-15_Issue-4/R-Terino.pdf

22 February, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Off the Hex Map with the Center for Army Analysis." 1900-2100 EST. Via Zoom. "The Center for Army Analysis' Strategic Wargaming Division will discuss how they support Army Senior Leaders and senior leaders across the Joint Force." To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/off-the-hex-map-with-the-center-for-army-analysis-tickets-237526477087>

5 April, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Strategic Wargaming - The US Army War College Approach." 7:00–9:00 pm ADT. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strategic-wargaming-the-us-army-war-college-approach-tickets-187766283007>.

Publications:

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

RUSI(NS) Comments "Another Commemorative Medal Missed?" by Murray Lee, 2 January 2022
https://rusi-ns.ca/platinum_jubilee_medal/

RUSI(NS) presentation "Canadian Coast Guard Arctic Region – Implementation and Successes" by Assistant Commissioner Neil O'Rourke, 29 November 2021
https://rusi-ns.ca/ccg_arctic_region/

Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association *On Watch*, 15 December 2021 edition
https://send.successbyemail.com/prvw_message2.aspx?chno=31ae3090-a6e8-4916-a569-d757b7edc2ca

Edmonton United Services Institute President's *Enews*, January 2022

Military Institute of Windsor *Communiqué*, Volume XL, Number 1, January 2022

Naval Association of Canada presentation "NORAD Modernization and Renewal" by Dr Andrea Charron, 6 December 2021

<https://youtu.be/Vtf4g3qh26Q> (slides at https://nac-o.wildapricot.org/resources/OTTAWA%20BRANCH/Documents/Meetings/2021-12-06-NORAD-Modernization_Charron.pdf).

Royal Alberta United Services Institute *Dispatches*, January 2022

<https://rausi.ca/component/acym/archive/91-rausi-dispatches-january-2022>

Royal Alberta United Service Institute *News* October-December 2021

<https://www.rausi.ca/news/publications>

Royal Canadian Naval Association Admiral Hose Branch *Scuttlebutt*, Christmas/New Years Edition

Royal Canadian Naval Reserve *Link*, Vol 29, No 1, 2021

<https://issuu.com/lencre-reservenaval-link-navalreserve/docs/link-2021-vol29-navalreserve>

Royal Canadian Navy *Your Navy Today* - Volume 4 Issue 9

<http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/en/news-ynt/2021/11-your-navy-today.page>

Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver and Vancouver Artillery Association *News*, 4 January 2022

Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island *Newsletter*, Volume 54, 1st Quarter 2022.

Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Quarterly Newsletter*, Volume 20, Issue 4, December 2021





New: Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Defence Update*, Volume 10, Issue 1, 10 January 2022





New: Veterans Affairs Canada *Salute!*, January 2022

Please note the first article on immediate approval of mental health care for veterans. It starts with the submission of the application and goes for two years even if the claim is rejected. There may be devils in the details, but that looks promising. VAC should do this for other issues like chronic pain care. One can suspect there is a good list of other conditions that should be treated this way. It separates pensions and other financial benefits from the needed care, but it's a big step forward if it reads correctly.

Tweeted by @RUSI_NS:

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

<p>CDN Naval Review @CdnNavalReview 6 Jan tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: There's been some talk lately about personnel shortages in the Cdn Armed Forces in general, and the navy. Good timing on a new Niobe Paper from the Naval Association of Canada, "Personnel Vulnerabilities in the RCN" by Lt-Cdr Fraser Grandsen. https://navalassoc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Grandsen-Personnel.pdf</p>	
<p>CDN Naval Review @CdnNavalReview 8 Jan tweeted: Problem re counter-piracy operations - if you catch pirates, what do you do with them? Danish warship apprehended pirates but ended up letting them go since Denmark did not want to try them in Danish court. "Danish Navy Sets Three Suspected Pirates Free" https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/danish-navy-gives-three-suspected-pirates-a-boat-and-lets-them-go RUSI(NS) retweeted: Accommodation&transfer of captured pirates&human remains are problems needing state-to-state engagement. Possibly local base ship, maybe base ashore (at least forward logistics support team). Deploying ships far to patrol off foreign areas needs many preparations. #BlueWaterNavy</p>	
<p>Canadian Coast Guard @CoastGuardCAN 7 Jan tweeted: CCGS Sir John Franklin is tasked on a humanitarian mission to transport @BCHydro to Bella Bella. BC Hydro has been unable to reach the Heiltsuk First Nation via road or air due to the #BCstorm RUSI(NS) retweeted: Bravo CAN🇨🇦 Coast Guard. Though humanitarian ops not specifically listed amongst many responsibilities of our #CCG, agency is there to assist all Canadians in response to emergencies https://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/corporation-information-organisation/mandate-mandat-eng.html</p>	
<p>Canadian Coast Guard @CoastGuardCAN 8 Jan tweeted: #DYK we regularly conduct patrols with our @DFO_Pacific colleagues? Recently, a couple of Conservation and Protection Officers joined our crew onboard the CCGS Vector to conduct fisheries patrols in coastal #BritishColumbia. What a view! RUSI(NS) retweeted: Illegal, unreported & unregulated (IUU) fishing is a threat to wild fish stocks world-wide. @CanadianForces also supports @FishOceansCAN with #OpDRIFTNET https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-driftnet.html & with</p>	

<p>@RoyalCanNavy ship patrols (FishPats). See #OpNorthPacificGuard: https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2021/11/canada-wraps-up-operation-north-pacific-guard-to-combat-global-illegal-fishing3.html</p>	
<p>Canadian Armed Forces Operations @CFOperations 8 Jan tweeted: The @CanadianForces support #Quebec's Ministère de la @sante_qc #MSSS in #COVID19 vaccination clinics. We greet people at the clinics, orient them through the steps to get vaccinated and help disinfect. We are there for you! Face with medical mask RUSI(NS) retweeted: First #OpVECTOR of 2022? Operation VECTOR = "@CanadianForces support to federal, provincial & territorial governments for distribution of #COVID19 vaccines" https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-vector.html @AnitaAnandMP spoke to @CTVMontreal: https://montreal.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=2356329</p>	
<p>Border Services ATL @CanBorderATL 9 Jan tweeted: To all our law enforcement partners throughout Atlantic Canada – Happy #LawEnforcementAppreciationDay from your colleagues at @CanBorderATL RUSI(NS) retweeted: To RUSI(NS) members in @rcmpgrcpolice, @NGRegPolice & @HfxRegPolice, Happy #LawEnforcementAppreciationDay! Thank you for your service every day.</p>	
<p>CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 10 Jan tweeted and RUSD=I(NS) retweeted: Walter Dorn of @CAF_College & @RMCCanadaCMR on Canada's peacekeeping contributions and expectations ahead: "There is no political will to break the bureaucratic machinery that focuses on funding promises, rather than doing more complicated things." (SEOUL MINISTERIAL: Expectation for Canada's Peacekeeping Agenda https://cdainstitute.ca/walter-dorn-seoul-ministerial-expectation-for-canadas-peacekeeping-agenda/)</p>	
<p>CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 10 Jan tweeted: Most soldiers are either doing data entry. Other soldiers are tasked with general assistance, such as helping those with limited mobility and guiding people through the steps of the vaccination process. #omicron #Quebec (How the Canadian Armed Forces are helping speed up 3rd dose vaccination in Quebec https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/canadian-armed-forced-speed-up-vaccination-quebec-1.6309025)</p>	

RUSI(NS) retweeted: .@CanadianForces Health Services not established/staffed to provide surge capability to support provincial/civil needs. #CAF members good at 'general duties' incl planning, logistics & just helping people. Lesson of #COVID19 pandemic for CAN: review of national health services

RUSI(NS) retweeted: "Military struggling with shortage of medical personnel as provinces look for help"
<https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/military-struggling-with-shortage-of-medical-personnel-as-provinces-look-for-help-1.5737055>



CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 12 Jan tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: A CDAI piece by Adam MacDonald and Carter Vance, Analysis: The Canadian Armed Forces and the COVID19 Pandemic: Entrenching the Military as Canada's de facto Emergency Management Organization, was cited for this report.
(The Canadian Armed Forces Responding to Domestic Emergencies: Some Implications
<https://hillnotes.ca/2021/12/13/the-canadian-armed-forces-responding-to-domestic-emergencies-some-implications/>)



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia:

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Exports on the rise despite flooding in British Columbia

<https://www.conferenceboard.ca/insights/featured/canadian-economics/exports-on-the-rise-despite-flooding-in-british-columbia>

"Canada's total exports increased 3.8 per cent ..." A lot of this trade is by sea; even much trade with the US moves by water.



The freedom of the seas for trade is a major rationale for having a strong navy and coast guard. Canada is a maritime and trading nation.

The Peoples Republic of China's Expansionist Plans

<https://www.jewishpolicycenter.org/2022/01/04/the-peoples-republic-of-chinas-expansionist-plans/>

"The SCS (South China Sea) large oil and gas reserves explain the PRC's interest in the region." "By securing the SCS, China would prevent other states from affecting their commercial shipping lanes while holding at risk other countries' major economic trade routes. It is the second most used sea lane in the world."



China is playing a long geo-strategic game, a little bit chess and a little bit Go, in South East Asia and the South China Sea. A long perspective has to be taken for those who want (need) to analyze the geo-strategic situation in the region. Actually, a longer yet perspective should be taken, too, by looking several 'moves' later in the game. Potential outcomes should be part of discussions by major democracies with regional states, and Chinese moves blocked by the democracies building strong partnerships, even alliances, with those states. That has started in the Indo-Pacific. Canada should be supporting the major democracies in progressing those partnerships more.

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From a reader: Grand strategy seems to have been lost in the West.

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From a reader: Grand strategy should be a topic of reading and discussion for citizens (at least, in liberal democracies), a follow-on to their foreign policies. Regrettably, some writings still have to argue what grand strategy means. And for Canadians, grand strategy writings all seem to be foreign.

Civil Affairs in the High North: How SOCOM's Governance Specialists Can Become Arctic-Capable

<https://mwi.usma.edu/civil-affairs-in-the-high-north-how-socoms-governance-specialists-can-become-arctic-capable/>

"Canada's Arctic defense forces are primarily the Canadian Rangers ..." Okay, the author of the article displays a regrettable lack of knowledge about Canada's Joint Task Force

North. JTFN (<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/conduct/regional-task-force/north.html>) is the formation responsible for defence of Canada's Arctic and North, supported when and as needed by Commands such as the Royal Canadian Navy and Royal Canadian Air Force.



The Canadian Rangers "provide lightly-equipped, self-sufficient mobile forces to support CAF national security and public safety operations within Canada" (<http://www.army-armee.forces.gc.ca/en/canadian-rangers/index.page>).

The Nature and Scope of Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing and Fisheries Crime in Cameroon: Implications for Maritime Security

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/19392206.2021.1982241>

Maybe Cameroon is not necessarily a region of major concern to Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, but aspects there (e.g., Chinese 'blue water,' meaning far deployed/distant waters fishing fleet, as used for 'economic competition/warfare' and imperialistic international relations) could be applicable to (and lessons for) Canada.

One can argue that when it comes to trade and ocean resources, there is but one ocean. And Royal Canadian Navy ships have deployed several times to West Africa waters. The region is volatile, with many marine security (e.g., piracy) issues.



A New Model Army for a Miserable Century

<https://wavelroom.com/2022/01/07/a-new-model-army-for-a-miserable-century/>

"To begin, we must be prepared to consider the core question about just what the British Armed Forces are for."

Actually, I'd begin by considering the question about what we want our country to be able to do in the world. Then we can get to, and it's related to the question of what armed forces are for, what we want our armed forces to be able to do in support of the answer for question one.

You may not like what Cassandra is tabling, but she should be read and thought about and debated (hey, her pseudonym gives her intent away). It is a prime raison d'être of a state to decide and, if decided, maintain armed forces. It is a prime responsibility of citizens of the (especially if democratic) state to contribute to that decision.



A call for a digital insurgency

<https://canadianarmytoday.com/a-call-for-a-digital-insurgency/>



For unmanned vessels, Navy still working out maintenance strategy

<https://breakingdefense.sites.breakingmedia.com/2022/01/for-unmanned-vessels-navy-still-working-out-maintenance-strategy/>

Leads one to wonder what will be the drone maintenance strategy (maybe 'policy' or some other word better than 'strategy') for the Royal Canadian Navy and other drone-employing services of Canada. Opportunity for inter-departmental collaboration?



Canadian military dealing with more problems with new machineguns

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-military-dealing-with-more-problems-with-new-machineguns>



Other Sources:

#A2R

Smaller NATO Navies Struggle with Recruitment, Awareness

<https://news.usni.org/2022/01/11/panel-smaller-nato-navies-struggle-with-recruitment-awareness>

Canada included herein.

#air warfare

New in 2022: A changing outlook for air warfare in US Central Command

<https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/your-air-force/2022/01/09/new-in-2022-a-changing-outlook-for-air-warfare-in-us-central-command/>

#China

Army Techniques Publication 7-100.3, Chinese Tactics, August 2021

https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR_pubs/DR_a/ARN33195-ATP_7-100.3-000-WEB-1.pdf

#defence policy

New Zealand's Defence Assessment and its Pacific future

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/on-the-inside/458015/new-zealand-s-defence-assessment-and-its-pacific-future>

Interesting to compare Canada with New Zealand, especially for the Indo-Pacific, an increasingly important region.

#drones

Two Platforms for Two Missions: Rethinking the LUSV

<https://cimsec.org/two-platforms-for-two-missions-the-missile-magazine-unmanned-undersea-vessel-and-lmacc/>

#marine security

French Navy's 2021 Report On Global Maritime Security

<https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2022/01/french-navys-2021-report-on-global-maritime-security/>

and report: Marine Security Annual Report 2021

https://uk.mica-center.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/BILAN_MICA_CENTER_2021_EN.pdf

#strategy

On Strategy: A Primer

book: <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Portals/7/combat-studies-institute/csi-books/on-strategy-a-primer.pdf>

If nothing else, read the Forward.

#warfare

The Danger of Technological Surprise: Expect the Unexpected or Suffer the Consequences

<https://warroom.armywarcollege.edu/articles/tech-surprise/>

"... there are two kinds of warfare, asymmetric and stupid."

#wargaming

Reviewing Sid Meier's! Lessons in Game Design: Civilization and Wargames

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2021/1/11/reviewing-sid-meiers-lessons-in-game-design-civilization-and-wargames>

Other:

Modern War Institute War Books, Special Edition: Building Your 2022 Reading List

<https://mwi.usma.edu/war-books-special-edition-building-your-2022-reading-list/>

US Army Military Review China Reader Special Edition September 2021

<https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Journals/Military-Review/English-Edition-Archives/China-Reader-Special-Edition-September-2021/>

contents:

Leadership Remarks about Indo-Pacom Activities

The Question: Why Would China Not Invade Taiwan Now?

The Long March: A Generational Approach to Achieving the People's Republic of China Strategic Objective to Annex Taiwan

Extract from "Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China 2019"

Steal the Firewood from Under the Pot: The Role of Intellectual Property Theft in Chinese Global Strategy

Extract from "The FBI and the National Security Threat Landscape: The Next Paradigm Shift"

Extract from "China's Impact on the U.S. Education System": Staff Report

Pivot Out of the Pacific: Oil and the Creation of a Chinese Empire in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries

The People's Bank of China's Monetary Armament: Capabilities and Limitations of Evolving Institutional Power

Geo-economics

China's One Belt, One Road Initiative and Its International Arms Sales: An Overlooked Aspect of Connectivity and Cooperation?

China's Maritime Militia and Fishing Fleets: A Primer for Operational Staffs and Tactical Leaders

The Strategic Significance of the Chinese Fishing Fleet

Competing with China for a Free and Open Indo-Pacific

Contemporary China: In Conflict, Not Competition

Chinese Soft Power: Creating Anti-Access Challenges in the Indo-Pacific
Economic Warfare: China's Financial Alternative to Military Reunification with Taiwan
How to Counter China's Disinformation Campaign in Taiwan
Preparing for the Future: Marine Corps Support to Joint Operations in Contested Littorals
Taiwan and the U.S. Army: New Opportunities amid Increasing Threats
Understanding the People's Liberation Army Rocket Force: Strategy, Armament, and Disposition
The Impact of Base Politics on Long-Range Precision Fires: A Closer Look at Japan
Drive Them into the Sea
Deterring the Dragon: Returning U.S. Forces to Taiwan
Interesting to read such articles about the Chinese fishing fleets in an army journal, says something about the perceived threat. Of note in the second article: "U.S. Naval War College China Maritime Report No. 1: China's Third Sea Force, The People's Armed Forces Maritime Militia: Tethered to the PLA"
<https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/cmsi-maritime-reports/1/>

Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

O Canada

There needs to be some way to get people of all stripes to understand the crippling effect that a lack of understanding of security issues writ large are affecting our economy and even our sovereignty. There is much talk amongst people at times when something embarrassing happens but little or no action. This is but one area of deficiency - our cyber-security efforts are lacking and the cost to our economy is likely staggering. Understanding how our level of deficits and the effectiveness of programs needs a constant and ongoing review to help the country understand why another major event could cripple the economy in ways we cannot understand. We appear to have come through the pandemic OK but a review by independent sources would provide peace of mind.

Until very recently, mention of the tensions with Russia have been almost completely absent from Canadian media. Despite the fact that Canadian troops are in Latvia and Ukraine. Nor are we without threats in the Middle East (with Iran) where again Canadian troops are present, but there is little or nothing in the Canadian media. A strong independent media is vital for the health of the country; it is not clear at this point that we have such a beast anymore. Our media seems to be a one note organization such as we see daily as it is Covid all the time despite so many other issues. Coverage of other issues are a side thought if mentioned at all. Large areas of the globe are not even considered or get marginal occasional mention. Africa, Southeast Asia, India and Pakistan barely get a mention yet these are areas where our economic efforts could make major advances, not to mention increased scrutiny of Canadian companies allegedly doing bad things such as bribery or major pollution. Canada's media fails. Whatever the answer, one must be found that is widespread, efficient, thoughtful and capable - it isn't now and Canadian citizens are left in the dark about many issues that can and will affect them. There is a lot out there that is not being provided to Canadian citizens.

The new fighter aircraft program is beset with political machinations. Neither of the two remaining aircraft are suitable for a variety of reasons. In the 1950s it was recognized that any defence of Canada fighter had to be twin engine because of our vast distances between bases and suitable airfields as well as forward deployment locations. Both of the remaining competing aircraft are single engine and relatively speaking both have 'short legs' thus requiring more tanker support than we have. Even 88 aircraft proposed by the government is not really adequate for the changing world situation. We have not mentioned the decrepit state of the North Warning System which required replacement over a decade ago. The current system is inadequate to meet the newer threats. Wishful thinking that only bombers are the only threat doesn't work anymore and we need to be more realistic in our approach to our own defence but also of our main benefactor, the US.

The ongoing delays in ship building are another source of concern. As we saw with the Iroquois-class air defence destroyer, you can only get so much time out of a hull. Our 'new' frigates are now at an age where most navies would be retiring them - ours are now just getting new modifications. The bottom line is that our frigate fleet will not last before the Canadian Surface Combatant is available. There is a strong need for a more rapid delivery of new hulls much earlier than originally planned. We might also consider new undersea capabilities with a combination of underwater sensors, underwater uncrewed vessels and air-independent propulsion (AIP) submarines in combination. We have a number of opportunities as there is a new German-Italian effort which is just entering its planning stage, and we have Japan with the Soryu-class, improved Soryu-class and planning started with the newly announced 29SS class. These two opportunities should be considered for Canadian participation now so that we can gain the technical skills to at least maintain a modern AIP submarine and potentially how to build them. A little imagination and less bureaucracy would help resolve the huge problem of rust-out of virtually all our naval fleets including auxiliaries. The Coast Guard is the same as well although there does seem to be an effort by government to speed up delivery of capability.

With the rise in authoritarianism, especially within Russia but also in Iran and China, the real threat to Canada's sovereignty has grown. The nature of the threat has changed but many of our security policies have not, including about the use of influence activities by other states. Canada is aligned with fellow liberal democratic states which are all different in their makeup and political systems. NATO is our single biggest effort followed by NORAD, but Canada has chosen to do things by the 'just enough' rule of world politics, just enough to suggest we are doing something but not really doing much. Our security policy, our foreign policy and our defence policy need revision and in some cases a complete re-write that is based on reality and vastly more detailed such as what are Canada's national goals? Canada is large, it has a massive economy in comparison with the rest of the world (our neighbour to the south is bigger but our GDP is larger than Russia's). We do not think in realistic terms and we need to shortly before someone or some event imposes things and circumstances upon us (think Russia's claims in the Arctic). Even Mackenzie-King realized in the late 1930s that threats were on the horizon and he did something about it.

Russia

Russia is a declining power. Its main real source of power is having a large stock of nuclear warheads, somewhere between 6500 and 7300 depending on whose figures one uses. One does have to question how much of that stockpile is still useable because of Russia's poor economy and the usual inadequate maintenance found in virtually all of Russia. The US will be spending a trillion dollars upgrading its slightly smaller stockpile, but Russia could not afford that level of maintenance. Russia has a number of niche areas within its economy which include defence industries such as air defence systems, electronic warfare, aircraft production, ship building and other areas which at least OK. Such too as their transportation system, especially the rail system, and aviation such as we saw with the latest deployment of Russian and CSTO allies contingents to Kazakhstan where civil aircraft were also used to move over three thousand troops in the course of about three days. More than 70 flights were involved. Agriculture is stronger than it was in past but is still weak. Security forces and Private Military Companies (PMC) seem to be the only area of real growth. Worse yet, Russia's main ally is not above stealing Russian technology and exploiting it at Russia's expense. Russia recently cancelled sales of the S-400 air defence missile system, one example where Russia did not trust China not to reverse engineer that system and call it their own. China has also been very adept at taking developments such as submarines and fighter aircraft such as the SU-27 and developing a Chinese manufactured 'close relative' and then competing for the same customers. Russia cannot afford this type of friend. Russia's GDP is smaller than Canada's at slightly less than 1.7T. Canada's by comparison was 1.77T in 2021.

Russia continues to have issues with the Corona virus with nearly 11m persons effected to date. The number of deaths to date that are directly attributed to the virus is about 320k but more than 929k excess deaths have been recorded since the start of the virus. Although Russia has administered about 80m doses of Sputnik V to Russian citizens a large number have resisted the call to get vaccinated. It should be mentioned that Sputnik V is not approved by WHO or the European Medicines Agency. Russians simply do not trust the government nor its medical authorities. That in itself may be a true indication of the typical Russian citizens attitude towards the regime.

Russia is beset by conflicts with the Ukraine being just one. More recently, Kazakhstan has been rocked by demonstrations and riots including armed resistance which shook the country to its core. The President, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, first removed ministers then forced the government to resign 'en masse' then followed by directing the security forces to use live ammunition in an attempt to gain control. Despite these orders, he was also required to ask the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) for assistance. The CSTO consists of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Troops under Russian leadership were quickly deployed using Russian resources starting with flights arriving within hours of the request. 70 flights were required for the Russian troops alone. Keep in mind that Russia has several bases in Kazakhstan already and there were security troops at the Belkanour Cosmodrome, also located in Kazakhstan.

The reason for the riots and disruptions was a major increase in the price of fuel, principally liquid propane gas used for virtually everything, plus the strong feeling towards overall corruption. This being said there are also strong indications that there are also friction between the current president and the old president, Nazerbayev. Nazerbayev was filling the role as chief of national security. He was also removed from his position. Kazakhstan appears to be modern but tribal and clan affiliations are still strong. The West is not as au fait with the local politics regarding clans but it is still a major factor within many if not all the 'stans.' As a consequence, Russia as the senior member of the CSTO had to act quickly to ensure these demonstrations did not cause the end of a friendly government nor cause a spill over into other allies. Putin has stated, along with President Tokayev, that CSTO troops will leave Kazakhstan starting 13 January 2022; this withdrawal is expected to last a minimum of 10 days. A total of 12k persons were arrested; there are no firm numbers of civilian deaths as yet. The numbers are expected to be high. 18 security force personnel were also killed but this number is thought to be low as well. Overall the actions were swift and decisive and obviously did not include pre-training similar to how we operated in NATO's Allied Command Europe Land Mobile Force in the 1970s and 80s. We simply trained to move and get on with whatever job needed to be completed as best we could. It is something to keep in mind with Russian and allied forces.

Russia continues to have difficulties in Belarus, on the Ukraine border, simmering tensions with Georgia, as well as the ongoing tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Russia is conducting live fire exercises in three locations this week including one near the border with Ukraine. These locations are Smolensk near Belarus, Bryansk near the Ukraine border and Voronezh in the south.

Negotiations have begun between NATO and Russia over security concerns. NATO has not agreed to any of Russia's demands as of now and tensions remain high. Moscow's mayor was asked about the city's civil defence posture in a news conference; it was not a good sign that Russian reporters are asking that type of question at this point. Still, one has to wonder about Russia's real goals. What are they really looking for as most of their demands, such as removal of NATO forces from Eastern Europe, are non-starters, but what could be negotiable? Poland's Defence Minister also 'helpfully' said that if Russia attacks, they will be "kicked in the balls." Poland and many other former Warsaw

Pact countries view their actual liberation as the fall of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and not the end of the Second World War. The talks ended Wednesday without any agreements.

One can expect more actions from Russia as they seek to gain attention of the West. They are also capable of strong action with little warning. The real problem is how everyone else reacts. Ukraine has made it clear that they do not want negotiations about their future behind closed doors. Europe has strong memories of a similar event in 1938 and Czechoslovakia. This may not end well.

China

China has continued to crack down on Hong Kong democratic movement activists especially since the last 'election' which saw less than 30% of the people turn out for the 'Patriots Election.' In keeping with China's ongoing efforts, they have appointed someone who really knows how to crackdown on folks. Peng Jinping, the former head of the Xinjiang para-military forces, has just been appointed as the Chief of the Peoples' Liberation Army in Hong Kong. The move was heralded by the Head of Legislative Council, Carrie Lam. This appointment is likely to result in further harsh crackdowns within the city in the near future. Canadians should be reminded that nearly 300k Canadian citizens live in Hong Kong and that means Canadian citizens are at risk; one would never know that more than 100 Canadians are also in Chinese jails since from 2006 without proper support. The Canadian government has also not stopped Chinese agents from harassing Canadians even within Canada. One can only hope that Canada will deal with China in a more meaningful way as Australia has done in the past two years.

On another issue, China has tried to crack the various island chains. Through the actions of the Chinese Communist Party, though the first island chain seems fairly secure, in fact China's actions have confirmed many nations' worst fears about China's nature. Many countries such as Vietnam, the Philippines, and Malaysia have started to re-arm and any hope of China having a peaceful reunification with Taiwan has vanished especially in light of China's action in Hong Kong. The interesting activity now is on smaller states more prone to Chinese money, including Kiribati and most recently the Solomon Islands. Although last week's notes have more detail it can be expected we will see further incursions into smaller nations that still support Taiwan. Interestingly, this week Canada has tentatively decided to upgrade Canada's presence in Taiwan, an action long overdue. Canada must side and act with like-minded countries to act decisively against Chinese excesses and oversteps.

China's economy continues to falter because of the actions of Xi Jinping and his new banking regulations. Property management companies continue to have major difficulties - many people who have had their entire fortunes tied up in real estate deals have lost everything because of the actions and inaction of the Chinese government. Unemployment is now increasing coupled with an irate middle class, disgruntled veterans and others; the CCP continues to rack up a large number of enemies within China itself. Various factions within the CCP also sense an opportunity to gain increased power in place of the Xi faction. Could this be Xi's challenge? If this is the case, one might see more of an inward-looking party rather than one focused outside the country.

Arctic eTalk

Dear Arctic eTalks members and invited attendees,

Happy New Year!!

Thank you for your participation in the Arctic eTalks speaker series in 2021!!

The knowledge shared, free and open discussion, and network of Arctic Senior military, government, and academic officials that we developed were among the proudest accomplishments of 2021 and a bright spot during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are pleased to announce that we will have an exciting lineup of outstanding speakers for 2022! To start the year, USNORTHCOM “[The Watch](#)” Command Magazine and the Center for Arctic Security and Resilience ([CASR](#)) - University of Alaska Fairbanks invite you to attend our January 2022 Arctic eTalks on the "Kingdom of Denmark in the Arctic: Perspectives from the Danish Joint Arctic Command" featuring Rear Admiral Martin La Cour-Andersen, Commander, Joint Arctic Command, Danish Ministry of Defence on Thursday, January 20th, 2022 at 0800 AK/ 1000 MT/ 1200 EST/ 1800 CET.

We would like to recognize our Global Partners including United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) United States European Command (USEUCOM), and United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), for supporting the Arctic eTalks speaker series.

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, Kingdom of Denmark (Greenland and Faroe Islands), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and the United States, as well as the United Kingdom and Germany.

Read Admiral Martin La Cour-Andersen will provide a 30-minute presentation followed by a 60-minute Q&A session (non-attribution) that will be moderated by Ms. Sara Olsvig, Former MP for Greenland and another moderator to be determined.

Note: Past Arctic eTalks presentations are posted on our Arctic eTalks [website](#). However, the Q&A discussions are not posted and available only to registered Arctic eTalks participants during the live event.

Please register at the following

link: https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZjLPbiXdToKhaC86k0QPRg

Event website: https://www.uaf.edu/casr/activities/etalks_jan_2022.php

Our Arctic partners include:

- Defence Science and Technology Laboratory - [United Kingdom](#)
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- United States Coast Guard ([Arctic](#))
- William J. Perry Center, National Defense University ([NDU](#))

We look forward to your participation. Thank you for your support!

Respectfully,

Dr. Ben and Troy

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 for Arctic Security and Resilience (CASR)

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Kingdom of Denmark in the Arctic
 Perspectives from the Danish Joint Arctic Command

Featuring:

Rear Admiral Martin La Cour-Andersen
 Commander, Joint Arctic Command
 The Danish Defence

Thursday, January 20th, 2022
 0800 AK / 1000 MT / 1200 EST / 1800 CET

Registration required
 Contact for more information:
casr@alaska.edu

Strong Partnerships are Integral to Defending Our Homelands

Arctic Academic eTalk

Dear Arctic Academic eTalks Members and Invited Attendees,

USNORTHCOM “[The Watch](#)” Command Magazine and the North American and Arctic Defence and Security Network ([NAADSN](#)) would like to invite you to attend our January 2021 Arctic Academic eTalks on "Russian Arctic Militarization" with Dr. Rob Huebert and Dr. Katarzyna Zysk on Thursday, 27 January, 2022 at 0800 AK/ 1000 MT/ 1200 EST/ 1800 CET.

We would like to recognize our Global Partners including United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) United States European Command (USEUCOM), and United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), for supporting the Arctic Academic eTalks speaker series.

The Arctic Academic eTalks is a bi-monthly forum for open discussion 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), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and the United States, as well as the United Kingdom and Germany.

Dr. Huebert and Dr. Zysk are scheduled to provide 15-minute presentations each which will be followed by a 60-minute Q&A session (non-attribution) that will be moderated by Elana Wilson Rowe, a research professor at NUPI and an adjunct professor at Nord University and Troy Bouffard, Director of the Center of Arctic Security and Resilience and Faculty Instructor at the University of Alaska - Fairbanks.

Note: Past Arctic Academic eTalks presentations are posted on NAADSN’s [Arctic Academic eTalks page](#). However, the Q&A discussions are not posted and open only to registered Arctic Academic eTalks participants during the live event.

Please register at the following link: https://alaska.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_883CAA-0TcKsnpkKLxa7qg

Our Arctic eTalks partners include:

- The Center for Arctic Security and Resilience ([CASR](#)) - University of Alaska Fairbanks
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- United States Coast Guard ([Arctic](#))
- William J. Perry Center, National Defense University ([NDU](#))

We look forward to your participation. Thank you for your support!

Dr. Ben and Shannon

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Russian Arctic Militarization

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Dr. Rob Huebert
 Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Calgary
 NAADSN Coordinator

Featuring:



Dr. Katarzyna Zysk
 Professor of International Relations and Contemporary History at the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies (IFS)

Date: Thursday, January 27th, 2022
 Time: 0800AK/1000MT/
 1200EST/1800CET

Visit www.naadsn.ca/events to register for this event

Contact for more information:
info@naadsn.ca