



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

28 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).

RUSI(NS) Annual General Meeting 2022

The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting 2022 was held 25 January 2022. Results including changes to the Board will be posted to the next *Home Dispatches*.

RUSI(NS) 2021 Survey

The link to the RUSI(NS) survey for how we did in 2021 was included in the email from our Secretary with the agenda for our AGM 2022. Please take a couple minutes to fill in the survey. Your feedback is important to the future activities of this Institute. If you can't find the link, email RUSI(NS).

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.

Emended: 16 February, Wednesday - Distinguished Speaker Col Meaghan Setter, RCAF, “RCAF Strategy: Air and Space in Formation.” 1300-1500. Via Zoom. To register, email RUSI(NS) by close-of-business Sunday, 13 February. As the subject line for your registration email, put: RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker 16 February 2022 Registration. In addition to your name, include whether you are a RUSI(NS) member, otherwise please provide your organization (association, company or unit). 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 Monday, 14

February. If you have not received them by end-of-day 14 February, please check your spam folder and, if necessary, email RUSI(NS).

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>

New: 16 March, Wednesday - save the date for the next RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker.

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.

New: RUSI(NS) Paper “We Have No Air Defence For Our Army – Why?” by Murray Lee, 23 January 2022,
<https://rusi-ns.ca/air-defence/>

RUSI(NS) Comments “An Evil Trinity” by Tim Dunne, 19 January 2022
https://rusi-ns.ca/evil_trinity/

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>

New: Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver and Vancouver Artillery Association Members News, 25 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 3, 24 January 2022

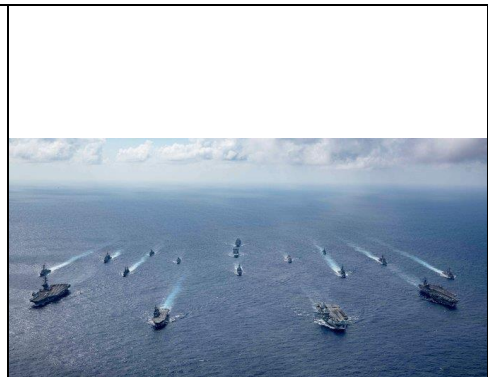
Veterans Affairs Canada *Salute!*, January 2022

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.

J. Berkshire Miller @jbmlr 20 Jan tweeted: Here is a readout and video of a conference last month by @CDAInstitute on Canada and its nexus with the Indo-Pacific, along with @YukaKoshino @CleoPaskal @BichTTran1 & @eyckfreymann:
<https://cdainstitute.ca/executive-summary-competing-strategic-interests-in-the-indo-pacific-implications-for-canada/>
@MLInstitute @theciponline
(Competing Strategic Interests in the Indo-Pacific: Implications for Canada)
RUSI(NS) retweeted: "... Canada must begin to articulate its strategic interests within the (Indo-Pacific) region and position itself with purpose to ensure a seat at the table." Seat at the table = influence on multinational decisions & actions. CAN 🇨🇦 needs determine its aims in region. Need promulgate foreign policy update?



"Ottawa's talks with Quebec shipyard to build much-needed icebreakers shrouded in fog"
<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2022/01/21/ottawas-talks-with-quebec-shipyard-to-build-much-needed-icebreakers-shrouded-in-fog.html> Shipbuilding has to be team effort between those requiring, funding & building. Long, obscure procurement reduces public confidence in CAN 🇨🇦
#NationalShipbuildingStrategy



CTV News Calgary @CTVCalgary 21 Jan tweeted: Canadian Olympic bobsled design revealed in partnership with Royal Canadian Navy: <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/canadian-olympic-bobsled-design-inspired-by-partnership-with-royal-canadian-navy-1.5749734>

(Canadian Olympic bobsled design revealed in partnership with Royal Canadian Navy)

RUSI(NS) retweeted: CAN 🇨🇦 bobsled sports Admiralty Disruptive Pattern paint scheme. RUSI(NS) Info Note "Naval Camouflage and its Application on HMC Ships REGINA and MONCTON: A Brief History" <https://rusi-ns.ca/naval-camouflage-and-its-application-on-hmc-ships-regina-and-moncton-a-brief-history/> 😊 Add a pennant number: 1. For the 🇨🇦 win. More:

<https://bobsleighcanadaskeleton.ca/en/news/?id=576> Go, Canada!

(21 bobsleigh and skeleton athletes nominated to represent Team Canada in Beijing)



RCMP @rcmpgrcpolice 20 Jan tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Age-progression sketch artists take the last known available photograph of a person and age that person in a new drawing to how they could appear today. Learn more about the process in our new #RCMPGazette story. <http://rcmp-grc.ca/102871>

(Sketching to remember and find the missing)



Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia @BCC_NS 25 Jan tweeted: A 2nd nationwide virtual consultation will be held Feb. 3rd, 7:30PM (AST) to hear from descendants, relatives and those interested in the Black servicemen who served in the No 2. Construction Battalion C.E.F. of the First World War. REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkcOGpqDIsGtDFEwJ3A3-uNB45b6f9ECwe>


RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker scheduled 29 June 2022 to talk on @CanadianArmy No 2 Construction Battalion, largest Black unit in CAN military history

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/no-2-construction-battalion> Gov't to apologize 9 July 2022:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2021/03/government-of-canada-planning-apology-to-the-no-2-construction-battalion.html>

VIRTUAL PUBLIC CONSULTATION
No. 2 Construction Battalion, C.E.F.
National Apology

A 2nd nationwide virtual consultation will be held
February 3rd, 7:30PM (AST)
to hear from descendants and relatives of Black
servicemen who were a part of the No 2. Construction
Battalion C.E.F. who were met with systemic race-
based discrimination from Canadian officials during
the First World War.

REGISTER ONLINE AT:
register.no2-cef.ca 

SeapowerMag @SeapowerMag 26 Jan tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Kongsberg Geospatial has successfully conducted sea trials of the Shield AI V-BAT unmanned aerial system on behalf of the Canadian Coast Guard, operating from a small cargo vessel far offshore in international waters, Kongsberg announced Jan. 25.

(Canadian Coast Guard Conducts Sea Trials of V-BAT UAS <https://seapowermagazine.org/canadian-coast-guard-conducts-sea-trials-of-v-bat-uas/>)



Elena Wicker @ElenaWicker 22 Jan tweeted: ADP 1-01's description of Army concepts is a beauty. "Army professionals often confuse concepts and doctrine. Concepts are ideas for significant change. Doctrine is validated principles, TTP, and terms and symbols that the force can apply." So simple and clear...

Elena Wicker specializes in military terminology. Worth following.

Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia:

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Biden's Gray-Zone Gaffe Highlights a Real Dilemma

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2022/01/bidens-gray-zone-gaffe-highlights-real-dilemma/360982/>

"Deterrence begins long before the prospective punishment."

The nature and counters to gray-zone conflict needs to be a major subject of military education at all levels.



Russia could be on the brink of invading Ukraine. Here's what might happen next

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/russia-ukraine-invasion-explained-1.6320594>

"While Canada has been one of the most consistent and vocal supporters of Ukraine's bid to join NATO, it probably couldn't influence Russia's actions on its own."

Deterrence (influence) is best a multinational effort. Need teamwork!



UK plans to introduce its new class of destroyers in 2030s

<https://www.navaltoday.com/2022/01/19/uk-plans-to-introduce-its-new-class-of-destroyers-in-2030s/>

"However, the costly upgrades of the Royal Navy's vessels have sparked controversy, leading UK naval officials to call for abandoning lengthy retrofits."



There's a good thought there. The hull and marine systems of a (war)ship last longer than the combat systems (sensors and weapons), particularly these days when information technology develops so much, so quickly. Canada pushes its warships to lives over thirty years. It may be more cost effective for Canada to procure current capability rather than try to modernize ships, that is, make twenty years (or whatever number of years determined) the time to downgrade a ship's intended employment (e.g., regional security patrol rather than global warfare-capable) rather than the time of a major 'mid-life' refit. Or 'cascade' ships to other government departments and other countries.

Meanwhile, the timings of delivery of the Type 83, and concomitant durations of the shipbuilding phases before ships are delivered, provide context for the Canadian Surface Combatant project ships (albeit the latter are frigates, less capable/complex ships than destroyers).

'Gross Misuse': UN Helmets Worn By Kazakh Troops During Crackdown

<https://www.rferl.org/a/kazakhstan-troops-un-helmets/31647393.html>

"Any unauthorized use of United Nations uniforms that results in death or serious injury constitutes a war crime in international conflicts." (see: Rule 60. Improper Use of the United Nations Emblem or Uniform https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/customary-ihl/eng/docindex/v1_rul_rule60)



There are actions that appear to have occurred in Kazakhstan that may have been illegal. Appear, as seem not to have been validated; certainly do not seem to have been picked up and reported by mainstream media.

Migrant crossings: Priti Patel confirms she has asked MoD to put Royal Navy in charge of policing small boats in Channel

<https://news.sky.com/story/zahawi-defends-plan-to-put-navy-in-charge-of-policing-channel-migrant-boats-12518298>

"Home Secretary Priti Patel has confirmed she has asked the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to put the Royal Navy in charge of policing small boats crossing the Channel."



"Rear Admiral Utley has been appointed to co-ordinate the move and be in command of government assets, which is understood to focus on data sharing and exploitation."

Assistance of military (naval) forces to other government departments, okay. But to take charge of the activities of civil departments? Especially for policing against irregular migrants? This is not what a

country's defence forces are for. What would it take to ensure the civil departments have the resources, etc., to do the job?

Lessons here for Canada.

Norwegian sub gets 'technical challenges' on Arctic coast as snowstorm approaches

<https://thebarentsobserver.com/en/security/2022/01/norwegian-sub-gets-technical-challenges-arctic-coast-snowstorm-approaches>



"It was the search and rescue vessel Odin that had to assist the more than 20 year old submarine to safe waters after it got a technical problem."

What would Canada do if one of our Royal Canadian Navy 30 year old Victoria-class submarines needed a tow? The navy doesn't have a ocean-going tug or multi-purpose auxiliary for such missions. Could the Navy use one of its Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessels or seek the assistance of the Canadian Coast Guard. If dependent on civilian assistance, has the towing of a submarine been planned and exercised with the possible contracted vessels?

Other Sources:

#future casting

Global Risks Report 2022 17th Edition

<https://www.hsdl.org/?abstract&did=862856>

#intelligence

CSIS Public Report 2020

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

#international relations

Putin Has the U.S. Right Where He Wants It

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/24/opinion/russia-ukraine-putin-biden.html?smtyp=cur&smid=tw-nytopinion>

Report to Congress on Great Power Competition

<https://news.usni.org/2022/01/26/report-to-congress-on-great-power-competition-3>

#maritime security

Panel: New U.S. South China Sea Report Designed to Push Back Against Beijing's Expansive Claims

<https://news.usni.org/2022/01/25/panel-new-u-s-south-china-sea-report-designed-to-push-back-against-beijings-claim>

Other:

NATO Library Thematic Bibliography No. 1/22 Twenty Years of Sino-American Relations

https://natolibguides.info/ld.php?content_id=33957645

Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

O Canada

This week has seen an international situation which if managed badly has all the pieces necessary for a very unfortunate conflict that would have led all of us toward a very grim future. The European and Asian press are very worried that things may fall off the rails in several ways.

It does raise the issue of how very unprepared Canada is in any sense to take on a major conflict involving near peer forces. Even Mackenzie-King had realized the need for rearmament in the late 1930s and purchased modern fighters for the air force, new ships for the navy and re-organized the army by increasing the number of artillery units as well as getting a few old French Renault tanks and some Carden Lloyd ammunition carriers that became available for service just prior to the outbreak of war. The army went to war in Afghanistan sent in woefully prepared without proper equipment to meet the actual real on the ground needs. Now here we are again, even worse off, because Canada can't even seem to be able to buy even a pistol without a total mess. One has to wonder if there are even enough socks.

The Government did attempt to devise a plan when they first were elected called *Strong, Secure and Engaged* which provided a way ahead. It was an okay document built more on social engineering than ensuring the Canadian Armed Forces were properly equipped and resources with sufficient trained manpower. Now here we are at the start of 2022 and the world is not even remotely close to a post national world but rather the world of raw power and 'real politik' foisted upon the liberal democracies once again. Once again it will be our soldiers, sailors and aviators who will pay the price.

This week saw Canada take some action to support Ukraine in a more substantive way. A loan of 120, CAD has been granted and as of Wednesday non-lethal equipment in the form of range finders and body armour, and intelligence sharing are examples of actions being taken by our country. Canada will also expand and extend the Canadian training mission in Ukraine; a further 60 soldiers will be added to the mission. A decision on the provision of satellite photos is still pending although it should be noted that Canada did provide access under the previous government. What is not being allowed at this point is lethal aid such as small arms and ammunition. The thinking, if one call it that, is that they do not want to cause further tension. One may suggest that this is at best muddled, preventing a country from having the tools to defend itself from an aggressor state.

General

It should be noted that NATO has not been idle nor has the US. There are three major exercises either occurring or are planned around the world which shows the intent of the West and its allies in thwarting authoritarian power. Exercise NEPTUNE STRIKE is occurring now in the Mediterranean with the USS Harry S Truman Carrier Battle Group joining an exercise under NATO command with more than 140 ships with significant air presence and more than 10,000 sailors and aviators taking part in this exercise. One must also remember that NATO also has the French with Charles de Gaulle carrier Battle Group and Italy with two carrier battle groups based on the ITS *Cavour* and *Trieste* as well flying helicopters and F-35B in the Mediterranean. Exercise COLD RESPONSE taking part will occur in March with HMS *Prince of Wales* and USS *Harry S Truman* with their respective battle groups 'visiting' the area above the Arctic Circle. In the South China Sea, two US carrier battle groups

are exercising after China's multiple air incursions into Taiwan's Air Defence Identification Zone. The West is not without its own persuasive measures.

The US has placed 8500 US Army personnel in standby for deployment to Europe which is also causing some concern to our Russian friends. Air assets have been re-directed and naval forces adjusted to apply pressure and to act as a tripwire in some cases and as an absolute deterrent in other cases against Russian aggression.

Russia does not have the combat power of the Soviet Union and although there are many announcements, much of the Russian equipment is a product of the Soviet period. Many of their announced systems have major production issues or have had significant operational difficulties. Unlike much of the Western equipment much of it has not been tried in an operational setting as well.

The weakness in the West is that the armies of most Western countries (mainly Europe and Canada) are under strength and have not had the modernization that they need to fight a near peer opposition. While air and naval assets are relatively good or there is sufficient to deal with most of the situation, Europe especially would be prone to significant damage if Russia were to attack quickly and without much warning.

Canadian Olympics Bobsled Paint Scheme

21 bobsleigh and skeleton athletes nominated to represent Team Canada in Beijing
<https://www.bobsleighcanadaskelton.ca/en/news/?id=576>

