



## Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia Dispatches 15 September 2023

*The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia provides a forum for the study, promotion and debate of defence, security and safety 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](mailto: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 Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia, the Department of National Defence or other government department, the Canadian Armed Forces, or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or other agency.

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) Remembrance Dinner 2023

**Save the date:** Thursday, 9 November. 1800 for 1830. More to follow.

### Home Dispatches September 2023

Submissions for the upcoming edition of our internal quarterly newsletter are solicited. If you have something, please email to [RUSINSDispatches@gmail.com](mailto:RUSINSDispatches@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto:RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com). RUSI(NS) events may be cancelled at short notice. Email RUSI(NS) if there is a question of an event occurring.

**20 September**, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker BGen Masson, Comd 5 Cdn Div, presenting "Our troops are ready." 1300-1500. Cambridge Military Library. Be ready for a change back to the mess if opportunity allows.

Advance reading: "Fifth Canadian Division: 'Our troops are ready'"

<https://canadianarmytoday.com/fifth-canadian-division-our-troops-are-ready/>

**20 September**, Wednesday - 2023 U.S. Naval Institute presentation "Competition or Confrontation? The Urgent Realities for the U.S. Navy When Facing China's PLAN." 2 pm EDT. Live stream on US Naval Institute YouTube Channel. More info and to register: <https://www.usni.org/events/competition-or-confrontation>.

**New: 29 September**, Friday - Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies webinar "The Royal Canadian Air Force's Future Role in NORAD and NATO." 1600–1700 BST. To register: <https://my.rusi.org/events/webinar-the-royal-canadian-air-force-s-future-role-in-norad-and-nato.html>.

**3 October**, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Cardboard Meets Bits, Designing a WWII Tactical Leadership RPG." 7-9 pm ADT. Online. "The game strives to give players a tactically credible, emotionally authentic, and historically respectful experience of leading a US infantry company." For more info and to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cardboard-meets-bits-designing-a-wwii-tactical-leadership-crpg-tickets-631859688337>.

**17 October**, Tuesday - "Re-Fighting History The War in the East, Boardgames, and Histories of WWII." 7-9 pm ADT. Online. For more info and to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/re-fighting-history-the-war-in-the-east-boardgames-and-histories-of-wwii-tickets-684218986407>.

**18 October**, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker from the RCN, speaking about the Navy, particularly submarines. 1400-1600. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess. MTF.

Recommended reading:

Canada's Future Submarine Capability

<https://cdainstitute.ca/canadas-future-submarine-capability/>

**12 December**, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "The Tyranny of Binaries: how wargame rules build narratives." 7-9 pm AST. Online. For more info and to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-tyranny-of-binaries-how-wargame-rules-build-narratives-tickets-633057882167>.

### **Publications:**

Publications without links are available on request to [RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com](mailto:RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com).

RUSI(NS) Paper "Kingston-class Ships – Less than meets the eye" by SWD Swan, 1 August 2023, <https://rusi-ns.ca/kingston-class/>

RUSI(NS) Comments "Naval Doctrine and Strategy," 25 July 2023, [https://rusi-ns.ca/naval\\_doctrine\\_strategy/](https://rusi-ns.ca/naval_doctrine_strategy/)

RUSI(NS) Information Note "Brigade and Brigade Group," 15 July 2023, [https://rusi-ns.ca/brigade\\_brigade\\_group/](https://rusi-ns.ca/brigade_brigade_group/)

**New:** Canadian Marine Industries and Shipbuilding Association *On Watch*, 13 September 2023 <https://www.cmisa.ca/cpages/on-watch-current>

Edmonton United Services Institute President's *Enews*, September 2023

Military Institute of Windsor *Communiqué*, Volume XLI, Number 8, September 2023

Nautical Professional Education Society of Canada *Seatimes*, August 2023.

Royal Alberta United Services Institute *Dispatches*, September 2023 <https://rausi.ca/component/acym/archive/212-rausi-dispatches-september-2023>

Royal Canadian Naval Association Admiral Hose Branch *Scuttlebutt*, September 2023

Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies New South Wales *Newsletter*, Issue No.87 August 2023

Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island *Newsletter*, Volume 55, 3rd Quarter 2023

**New:** Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Defence Update*, Volume 20, Issue 6, 11 September 2023

**New:** Vancouver Artillery Association and Royal United Services Institute Vancouver *Members News* 12 Sept 2023

Veterans Affairs Canada *Salute!*, August 2023, <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/about-vac/news-media/salute>

**@RUSI\_NS on X:**

@RUSI\_NS posts may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something posted or reposted, email RUSI(NS).

<p>CAF with Ukraine @CAFwithUkraine Sep 3 posted: 🇨🇦 #OpUNIFIER is providing six types of training. The names of the training elements are: United Kingdom Training Element, Leopard Training Element, Engineer Training Element, Medical Training Element, M777 Maintenance Training Element; and Leadership Development Training Element. RUSI(NS) retweeted: 🇨🇦 Operation UNIFIER #OpUNIFIER - @CanadianForces support to security forces of #Ukraine by assisting, with allies &amp; other countries, training to improve &amp; build UKR 🇺🇦 capability &amp; capacity <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-unifier.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-unifier.html</a></p>	 <p>See poster at end of Dispatches</p>
<p>RUSI @RUSI_org 7 Sep posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: The war in Ukraine has exposed the poor state of Western stockpiles and the difficulties of sustaining a high-intensity war. Paul O'Neill explores whether dissimilar rearmament could provide a solution for the UK's armed forces. #RUSICommentary (Rearmament Plans: Piling Up Trouble? <a href="https://www.rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/rearmament-plans-piling-trouble">https://www.rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/rearmament-plans-piling-trouble</a>)</p>	

NATO's Alliance Ground Surveillance Force remotely piloted aircraft #PRAS #drones, flying at high altitudes above allies' territories & in international airspace, have collected hundreds of #intelligence, surveillance & reconnaissance #ISR data sets that are used by all allies to prepare activities supporting deterrence & defence of #NATO member countries  
[https://ac.nato.int/archive/2023/NAGSF\\_update\\_202309](https://ac.nato.int/archive/2023/NAGSF_update_202309)  
 (NATO Drone Unit Has Provided Hundreds of Flying Hours Collecting Critical Intelligence for the Alliance)



David Pugliese @davidpugliese 9 Sep posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: National Defence to roll out spending cuts over next three years - officials say extent of impact 'yet to be confirmed' <https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/national-defence-to-roll-out-spending-cuts-over-next-three-years-officials-say-extent-of-impact-yet-to-be-confirmed> via @ottawacitizen



Canadian Coast Guard @CoastGuardCAN 11 Sep posted: Time to celebrate! Today in #QuébecCity we celebrated the dedication of the CCGS #VincentMassey, the last of three medium icebreakers to be commissioned into our fleet.

🚢🚢🚢 ✓ More information:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-coast-guard/news/2023/09/the-canadian-coast-guard-celebrates-the-dedication-of-the-ccgs-vincent-massey.html>

(The Canadian Coast Guard celebrates the dedication of the CCGS Vincent Massey)

RUSI(NS) reposted: RUSI(NS) Info Note "Naming and Dedication of Canadian Coast Guard Ships" <https://rusi-ns.ca/naming-dedication-canadian-coast-guard-ships/>



CDR @CDRmagazine 11 Sep posted: The time for replacing the @RoyalCanNavy's Kingston-class MCDVs is fast approaching. That is why @VardMarineInc is proposing a 21st century replacement known as the Vigilance Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV). Here is what #TeamVigilance is offering the #RCN:

<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/85f9bc6f#/85f9bc6f/95>

RUSI(NS) reposted: Replacement of @RoyalCanNavy Kingston-class patrol ships should be regional multi-role vessels capable of long-endurance patrol, mining & counter-mine operations, diving ops, seabed ops, air/surface/underwater uncrewed vehicle #drone ops. Probably bigger than 1000 tonnes



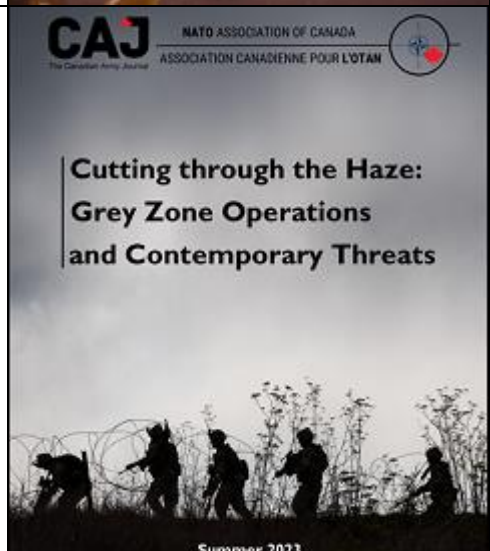
Dave Perry @DavePerryCGAI 13 Sep posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: The 🇨🇦 defence people problem remains existential - we can't address current issues or prepare for the future strategic environment without the human capital. With comments from my @CAGlobalAffairs colleague @CharlotteDuLan (Long hair, signing bonuses and 'try before you buy': How Canada's military is responding to a staffing crisis <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/canadian-armed-forces-recruitment-1.6963988>)



Canadian Army @CanadianArmy 13 Sep postd and RUSI(NS) reposted: Continual professional development fundamental to being an effective soldier. Check out the @Army\_Comd\_Armeec reading list to find some essential books to further your knowledge and expand your perspective through fact and fiction: <https://canada.ca/en/army/services/line-sight/articles/2023/08/commander-canadian-armys-reading-list.html> (The Commander Canadian Army Reading List)



CDN Defence Academy/L'Académie cdn de la défense @CDACanadaACD 13 Sep posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: 🇨🇦🇺🇸 The Canadian Army Journal is pleased to announce the release of their special publication, in collaboration with the @NATOCanada: Cutting through the Haze: Grey Zone Operations and Contemporary Threats. (1/3) <https://natoassociation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Cutting-through-the-Haze-Summer-2023.pdf> The volume explores grey zone ops and other dimensions of today's threat landscape. The grey zone has become a topic of growing interest for Western militaries and is a timely and topical publication. (2/3) The volume consists of contributions from Canadian and US experts with each essay offering a fresh take on a topic related to the grey zone and the discussions offering an expansive view, covering strategy, technologies, platforms, and more! (3/3)



Federal Fleet @federalfleet 14 Sep posted: Asterix – the privately owned combat support ship putting Canada back on the charts. View Article: (Asterix – the privately owned combat support ship putting Canada back on the charts <https://www.hilltimes.com/sponsored/time-to-celebrate-asterix-the-privately-owned-combat-support-ship-putting-canada-back-on-the-charts/>) Lease of #MVAsterix to @RoyalCanNavy as replenishment oiler (<https://rusi-ns.ca/auxiliary-oiler-replenishment/>) highly successful. Model for other arrangements, especially auxiliaries? Supports #RCNavy as blue water (= globally deployable) navy. Retain ASTERIX as 3rd #AOR to give CAN🇨🇦 max flexibility



*Federal Fleet Services continues to use “Combat Support Ship,” probably as a marketing term, despite it not being an official type of ship.*

**“Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia” on Facebook:**

RUSI(NS) posts may also be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something posted or commented, email RUSI(NS).

**US, Australia should use civil aid, not military, to woo Pacific Island states from China: Wargame**

<https://breakingdefense.com/2023/09/us-australia-should-use-civil-aid-not-military-to-woo-pacific-island-states-from-china-wargame/>

"...climate change assistance, targeted development help and much improved strategic messaging and engagement are much more likely to be effective in keeping Beijing at bay in the crucial island states that cover a huge portion of the Pacific Ocean, a wargame by the MITRE Corp. found.

Wargames lead you to think. Not all realizations/appreciations are, nor should be, military. Wargames don't always involve war.



**RCMP investigating reports of former Canadian air force members training pilots in China**

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/rcmp-investigating-reports-of-former-canadian-air-force-members-training-pilots-in-china-1.6558443>



*See also:* Former Canadian fighter pilots face RCMP probe over training work in China

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-canadian-pilots-china-training-rcmp/>

*and:* Australia to toughen restrictions on ex-service personnel who would train foreign militaries

<https://nationalpost.com/pmnn/news-pmn/australia-to-toughen-restrictions-on-ex-service-personnel-who-would-train-foreign-militaries>

*and:* Ex-Defence staff to face 20 years jail under national security crackdown

<https://www.skynews.com.au/australia-news/defence-and-foreign-affairs/former-defence-force-personnel-set-to-face-20-years-jail-for-providing-military-assistance-to-foreign-agencies-without-authorisation/news-story/4df19cf1b60cec062b783ae4b7af030a>

**How did Canadian, French military planes collide in Guam? Report gives new clues**

<https://globalnews.ca/news/9955333/canada-french-planes-collide-report/>

This will be very hard to fix, especially if they are replacing this aircraft. Is it worth the effort, and indeed, is it doable?



### **Navy Expanding ‘Cold Spray’ Welding Alternative in Fleet Repair**

<https://news.usni.org/2023/09/12/navy-expanding-cold-spray-welding-alternative-in-fleet-repair>

"Cold spray uses a highly-pressurized gas that fires heated metal powder at supersonic speed to lay metal onto a surface."

"The technology uses a process called high deposition rate additive manufacturing."



Cool - cold-spray welding in mobile workshops or portable welders. Considering the growing necessity to get broken or battle damaged ships back into operation, what with the unfavourable balance of forces Canada and its allies are increasingly facing, such a capability would be worth the Royal Canadian Navy looking into. The RCN already has a laser additive manufacturing capability in at least one of its fleet maintenance facilities, it may not be much to add a deployable cold-spray welding capability.

### **BAE, Cellula Robotics partner on underwater drone, with test next year**

<https://www.defensenews.com/unmanned/2023/09/13/bae-cellula-robotics-partner-on-underwater-drone-with-test-next-year/>

"BAE Systems is partnering with Canadian company Cellula Robotics to showcase its extra-large autonomous underwater vehicle in the U.K. next year..."



"The Herne was designed so users could launch and recover it in several ways, including from harbors, ships or submarines. It can perform anti-submarine warfare; electronic warfare; and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions..."

Good to see a Canadian company involved. Might it be working with Canadian government agencies?

### **Other Sources:**

#### **#Arctic**

Canada should look North to refocus foreign policy – and regain lost middle-power status

<https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/september-2023/canada-middle-power/>

#### **#Canadian Surface Combatant project #defence procurement**

CSC Shipbuilding Strategy a taxpayer fiasco

<https://frontline.online/defence/dndnews/13577-CSC-Shipbuilding-Strategy-a-taxpayer-fiasco>

#### **#cyber operations**

Findings From the White Hat Cyber Forecasting Tournament

<https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/findings-from-the-white-hat-cyber-forecasting-tournament>

DOD Releases 2023 Cyber Strategy Summary

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3523199/dod-releases-2023-cyber-strategy-summary/>

## **#defence policy**

National Defence to cut spending over next 3 years

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/national-defence-to-roll-out-spending-cuts-over-next-three-years-officials-say-extent-of-impact-yet-to-be-confirmed>

## **#drones**

Report on Navy Large Unmanned Surface and Undersea Vehicles

<https://news.usni.org/2023/09/07/report-on-navy-large-unmanned-surface-and-undersea-vehicles-13>

Why a hard-kill strategy doesn't work against combat drones

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/why-a-hard-kill-strategy-doesnt-work-against-combat-drones/>

## **#environment #defence policy**

More climate disasters are in Canada's future. The military cannot be the solution

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-more-climate-disasters-are-in-canadas-future-the-military-cannot-be/>

## **#force design**

New Zealand seeks new ships to replace 'majority' of naval fleet

<https://www.defensenews.com/naval/2023/09/11/new-zealand-seeks-new-ships-to-replace-majority-of-naval-fleet/>

It'll be interesting to see how NZ does compared to other states' (including Canada's) efforts.

## **#legal #environment #marine security**

High Seas Treaty on Marine Biological Diversity

<https://www.usni.org/magazines/proceedings/2023/september/high-seas-treaty-marine-biological-diversity>

## **#NATO**

The Warfare Development Agenda

<https://www.act.nato.int/the-warfare-development-agenda/>

## **#naval warfare #drones**

Ukraine is ushering in a new uncrewed era at sea

<https://www.defensenews.com/opinion/2023/09/11/ukraine-is-usher-in-a-new-uncrewed-era-at-sea/>

## **#navigation warfare**

Quantum clocks could revolutionize precision warfare within a decade: experts

<https://breakingdefense.com/2023/09/quantum-clocks-could-revolutionize-precision-warfare-with-a-decade-experts/>

*For more, see:* Operational Understanding of Positioning, Navigation, and Timing

<https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/trecms/pdf/AD1161790.pdf>

## **#reading**

The Commander Canadian Army Reading List

<https://canada.ca/en/army/services/line-sight/articles/2023/08/commander-canadian-armys-reading-list.html>



## **#Russia-Ukraine War**

How to end Russia's war on Ukraine

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/2023/06/how-end-russias-war-ukraine>

How to End a War: Some Historical Lessons for Ukraine

<https://www.iiss.org/online-analysis/survival-online/2023/07/how-to-end-a-war-some-historical-lessons-for-ukraine/>

Perseverance and Adaptation: Ukraine's Counteroffensive at Three Months

<https://warontherocks.com/2023/09/perseverance-and-adaptation-ukraines-counteroffensive-at-three-months/>

Ukraine says Black Sea gas, oil platforms recaptured from Russian control

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/9/12/ukraine-says-black-sea-gas-and-oil-platforms-recaptured-from-russia-control>

Rig wars. Is the CAF (other than SOF) ready to conduct such operations?

List Of Naval Losses During The Russian Invasion Of Ukraine

<https://www.oryxspioenkop.com/2022/03/list-of-naval-losses-during-2022.html>

Greyzone Lawfare: Russia and the Voyages of the SPARTA IV

<https://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/greyzone-lawfare-russia-and-voyages-sparta-iv>

## **#artificial intelligence**

AI on the Battlefield: Lessons from Ukraine

<https://wavellroom.com/2023/09/07/ai-on-the-battlefield-lessons-from-ukraine/>

## **#drones**

Five Russian jets 'were destroyed by easily assembled cardboard drones by Ukraine last week' - in prelude to even more unmanned assaults on Putin's bases

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12467819/Five-Russian-jets-destroyed-cardboard-drones-easy-assemble-Ikea-flatpack-attack-Ukrainian-forces-week.html>

## **#information operations**

Ukraine's Fight on the Front Lines of the Information Environment

<https://mwi.westpoint.edu/ukraines-fight-on-the-front-lines-of-the-information-environment/>

## **#logistics**

Transporting supplies by car

*A thread about logistics:* <https://twitter.com/TrentTelenko/status/1699223968333394206>

## **#warfare**

The Definition of Theoretical Lethality Index (TLI)

<http://www.dupuyinstitute.org/blog/2023/09/09/definition-of-theoretical-lethality-index/>

## Other:

**Military Strategy Magazine** Volume 9, Issue 1

<https://www.militarystrategymagazine.com/>

contents:

Co-Opting Clausewitz: Using On War to Explain Success and Failure in the War in Ukraine

The Roots of Bad Strategy

Civil War Comes to the West

Establishing the Realm of the Possible: Logistics and Military Strategy

The Missing Strategic Theory Link in African Conflicts

Should Strategists Worry About the Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence?

### **Photo Fail**

Whilst often there are photo fails of military equipment usually by the media, this may be a first of a mis-use of a coast guard ship. Hmm, is the CCG making some money on the side by standing in for photo opps?



MarineInsight @MarineInsight 7 Sep posted: Russian Government Ship Spying On U.S Coast Guard Icebreaker On The Northern Sea Route

...Check Out this article 🙌 <https://marineinsight.com/shipping-news/russian-government-ship-is-spying-on-u-s-coast-guard-icebreaker-on-the-northern-sea-route/>

#USCoastGuard #Icebreaker #Shipping #Maritime #MarineInsight #Merchantnavy #Merchantmarine #MerchantnavyShips

David (Duke) Snider @icenav57 7 Sep reposted: I love that they've used a photo of a @CoastGuardCAN icebreaker Louis S St Laurent for this.

- - -

*A RUSI(NS) member commented: "I loved the caption for the image, 'Representative Image' and they scrubbed the CCG hull markings and funnel maple leaf out. CCG should complain to Marine Insight about altering images."*

### **Ocean Patrol Vessels**

Naval Analyses @D\_\_Mitch 9 Sep 23 posted: KV Bjørnøya (W311), the second ship in the 10,000-ton Jan Mayen-class of offshore patrol vessels of the #NorwegianCoastGuard, part of the @Forsvaret\_no. The new ship is about to join the force very soon. A third vessel will follow up, Hopen (W312) by 2024. The three huge OPVs will replace the 3,500-ton Nordkapp-class OPVs.



10,000 ton ocean patrol vessels! Puts into context the RCN's new OPV project ships, Kingston-class replacements and likely to be, like the Kingstons, about 1000 tonnes themselves. OPV is civilian term (note the above post is Norwegian Coast Guard) and not a naval type in accordance with NATO APP-20 Standard Ship Designator System. (That 1000 tonnes limit in the National Shipbuilding Strategy should be re-considered.)

### Ukrainian Gulfstream Company unveils GS7300 fast boat

<https://navyrecognition.com/index.php/naval-news/naval-news-archive/2023/september/13545-ukrainian-gulfstream-company-unveils-gs7300-fast-boat.html>

"...a shipbuilding company in Ukraine has recently developed a boat for military applications, using an innovative material known as high-molecular-weight polyethylene, or HDPE."

Boats made out of milk cartons!



### Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

#### O Canada

Canada is not known for paying a lot of attention to defence and security issues. When tasked to find 15b CAD in potential cuts, the Department of National Defence was no exception despite being chronically underfunded, and it is likely that other security enforcement groups will also see cuts. DND is likely to see significant cuts as they routinely send back billions of dollars because of procurement program delays for certain types of projects. We will have to wait and see, however, one thing is very clear, our allies will be less than happy as we are already considered a defence funding laggard. The condition of our forces is not good and our meager contribution to Latvia and NATO are excellent and public examples of our lack of credibility.

On a happier note, the Halifax International Fleet Week was an excellent example of how to show the public our Navy and the support we have from our allies. It is certainly a more positive and noticeable effect than other "attraction" techniques. The Navy's program to introduce people to the Navy has also been a pleasure to see coming into effect with 33 folks already enrolled and nearly 400 in the pipeline. It also shows the very real problem with recruiting. The interest in the armed forces has always been there. Our recruiting system takes far too long process folks. One questions why this ineffective system is still in existence. It is hard to believe that the armed forces used to take in up to 20k new members per year and actually train them, so why is this not still the case? Why do we need so much detail before enrollment? Most such as occupation selection can be done post enrollment? Basic training is a useful course even for those who may later decide against joining or fail to adjust. The armed forces still creates good citizens contrary to some of the comments from outside the armed forces. The problem is not the candidates, or attraction, the problem is the very system of recruiting itself. It needs to be simplified and expedited in the processing and training of new recruits. Just a thought.

The Prime Minister attended the G20 this past week. A real issue that got press notice was the breakdown of the CC150 Polaris for two days, which of course affected the media following the Prime Minister's visit. Murray Brewster of CBC has just written a story on the Canadian Multi-role Tanker Transport program which will see nine A330 acquired for the armed forces replacement for the CC150 Polaris. It was number 3 on the aircraft procurement list and the decision was held up by a delay in the decision to acquire a new fighter as the fighter chosen also affected the purchase of the new fleet of tanker transports. One aircraft will be in Government of Canada livery and will be used by the Governor-General and the Prime Minister as transport for "showing the flag" and for security reasons. It apparently will be also configured as a tanker with drogues and boom delivery of fuel. The first A330 has been delivered; it is the one in the Government of Canada livery. RCAF crews will have to be trained on the new aircraft.

HMCS *Ottawa* and USS *Ralph Johnson* sailed through the Taiwan straits. David Common and his supporting media crew did some excellent work during the transit and it is worth seeing.

## **Australia**

<https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/china-s-new-map-release-infuriates-taiwan-india-and-maritime-neighbours-20230902-p5e1h2.html>

The story illustrates the expansionary and inflammatory policies of mainland China.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvqCrZMAiIM>

Inside a Virginia-class submarine boat. Australia is supposed to get some Virginia-class as a stepping stone towards an Australian nuclear boat.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/where-will-australia-store-its-nuclear-waste/>

The link is to an interesting article on the storage of nuclear waste.

*Comment:* If one actually gets a nuclear physicist, one can get a better idea of the issue of nuclear waste. Most of the material provided by "Green Peace" and others is less than honest about the actual impact; is there some impact? The answer is yes, but the actual amount is small.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/budget-doesnt-reflect-urgency-of-demands-on-defence/>

Australian defence budget issues are discussed in this article. Canada has a worse problem although similar.

## **United States**

The Biden administration will finally allow the Army Tactical Attack Missile to be given to Ukraine. It has a 300+ km range, thus putting targets like the Kerch Bridge in range. The package also includes more ammunition. Generally, Ukraine has bi-partisan support although there are now members of Congress who are now calling for at least a pause in this support. This will be left here as most other comments would have to be more political in nature.

## **Moldova**

The story "Russian Journalist Who Headed News Outlet in Moldova is Declared a Security Threat and Expelled" by Canadian Press on 13 September 2023 is interesting reading. It can be found at link: <https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/russian-journalist-who-headed-news-outlet-in-moldova-is-declared-a-security-threat-and-expelled/ar-AA1gF0Vj>. The article states that Vitaly Denisov, the head of the "Sputnik Moldova" media outlet, was declared expelled for at least ten years. His crime was to interfere with the internal affairs of Moldova. Sputnik was accused of providing "informational attacks, lies, propaganda and disinformation." It was considered part of an overall Russian campaign to destabilize Moldova. Needless to say, the Russians stated it was an "ugly move" and they will retaliate.

Russia has continued to use non-kinetic methods to attack Moldova's democratic government. Moldova is one of four countries that President Putin is trying to retain in "Russki Mir" or Russian world. The others include Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova; all of which are considered "Slav." If Russia's war in Ukraine is successful, it will have dire consequences beyond just these countries. A Russian victory will sow the seeds of further conflict.

## **Belarus**

Russian forces have largely left Belarus, leaving the country to the self-appointed President Lukashenko. Belarus under Russian pressure has walked an uneasy path between a difficult truce and war with Ukraine. President Lukashenko seems to understand his predicament well, knowing his own armed forces would not willingly attack Ukraine.

Poland and Latvia are now contemplating the complete closure of the border with Belarus as more migrants attempt to cross into Europe through Belarus. It is thought that Belarus is attempting to use migrants as a way of pressuring European countries to lessen sanctions and cause difficulties with his neighbours.

Belarus has developed inter-parliamentary cooperation with Iran. Belarus has been forced into developing ties with less desirable countries such as Iran for their economic health. Western sanctions continue to bite the Belarus economy.

Lithuania is providing Belarus opposition with special passports for those remaining in that country thus negating Belarus authorities from being able to arrest citizens returning to Belarus to renew their passport as mentioned in the last notes.

## **Russia-Ukraine War**

Putin did not attend the G20 in New Delhi this past week even with Modi's assurance he was safe. Neither he nor Xi attended the meeting but sent alternates.

One Vlogger stated that Russia has somewhere around 420k soldiers in Ukraine. This does not include members of the Russian National Guard, the FSB, the Luhansk and Donetsk Peoples' Republics nor private military companies (PMC) which add considerably more to this figure. Yet Russia has been unable to achieve any major success in recent months. It is also estimated by other Vloggers and pundits that Russia has lost over 50% of its usable tanks, IFV and APC. They have not done well. These figures are open-source estimates and have to be taken with some skepticism but it seems plausible. The real proof of the pudding of Russia's difficulties is the visit of Kim Jong Un to Moscow, arriving by armoured train in Moscow to much fanfare. It is now Moscow begging for assistance with vehicles and ammunition and possibly other technologies that North Korea has been able to create themselves. It will not be without reciprocity in the form of assistance with nuclear submarine technology, nuclear weapons modernization, etc. It is not known whether NK will provide volunteers for the Russian efforts as reported several months ago after the disastrous battles of last fall. This will bear watching especially as it relates to UN sanctions against NK. Canada has a frigate supporting the UN embargo of NK at the moment.

The war continues to be one of bloody attrition although it appears that Russia is losing more troops and equipment at a much higher rate. Russian troops are logistically challenged across the front as Ukraine targets key crossing points and large supply, transport and maintenance facilities. This has been largely successful in lowering Russia's ability to use their numerical advantage in artillery to support the largely-untrained masses of Russian troops. Ukraine has made more extensive advances south of Robotny and around Klyshchiivka near Bakhmut. In the north the front remains relatively stable from Kremmina to the Ukraine-Russian border.

The biggest news however was the capture of two oil platforms by the Ukrainian Navy this week. These platform were taken early in the war by Russia. They are now in Ukrainian hands. The Ukrainian Navy carried out a missile attack of Sevastopol which resulted in damage or destruction of

two Russian combatant vessels, a submarine and a landing ship. This was the first attack on a Russian submarine. Russian air defence was unsuccessful in preventing the attack. Full details of the attack are not known at this time.

There is a major effort to increase the air defences of Moscow due to ongoing Ukrainian attacks by drones. These attacks are occurring virtually every night and although results are largely small, the psychological effect has been more effective. Even the Russian media are questioning the overall effectiveness of Russian defences of the capital, especially those air defences specifically around properties owned by the President, something not lost on the general public. It is increasingly clear that although Mr Putin's approval rating is still high largely out of fear, there is no longer the perception he is invincible. Some Russians question whether he would survive a major defeat. The answer is generally felt to be a resounding "no."

## **China**

Member of Parliament Michael Chong was a witness for the US Congressional-Executive Commission on China regarding his personal experience with Chinese political interference in Canada. The Liberal government has just recently appointed Quebec Court of Appeal Justice Marie-Josée Hogue to run a 16 month inquiry into foreign interference, principally around Chinese government activity within Canada. The article "Canadian MP, Michael Chong, urges US Lawmakers to Work with Canada to Combat Chinese Meddling by Canadian Press" can be found at: <https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/mp-michael-chong-urges-u-s-lawmakers-to-work-with-canada-to-combat-chinese-meddling/ar-AA1gAJR6>. Finally some action. China on the other hand has taken a different point of view. The remarks of the Chinese Embassy spokesperson on the subject as follows:

"On August 9, the Global Affairs Canada issued a statement alleging that the social media platform WeChat shared false narratives targeting a Canadian MP in May, while China's role is highly probable in it. What are your comments?"

A: The Global Affairs Canada issued a statement falsely alleging that the social media platform WeChat shared false narratives targeting a Canadian MP in May, while China's role is highly probable in it. The statement is totally nonsense, maliciously smears and discredits China. The Chinese side strongly deplores and firmly rejects this.

For some time, the Canadian side has continuously hyped up various versions of "China's interference", but has yet to demonstrate any evidence. This statement, which is loaded with words of "possibility", "highly probable" and "unequivocal proof is not possible to determine", is far-fetched and extremely ridiculous, once again exposes the Canadian side's real intention of political manipulation by using China-related issues. Such behaviors are really beneath Canada's dignity.

China has never meddled in other countries' internal affairs, and opposes any interference in other countries' internal affairs. The Canadian side has for a long time connived at some websites, media, officials, Senators and MPs unscrupulously to attack and smear Chinese government. Canada also seeks to undermine China's security and stability by both overtly and covertly supporting anti-China separatist activities on issues concerning China's core interests, including Taiwan Question, Xinjiang-related issues and Hong Kong-related issues. Facts speak louder than words. It is Canada that interferes in other countries' internal affairs, and it is Canada that spreads lies and disinformation! China urges the Canadian side to abandon its ideological bias, stop spreading China-related lies and false information, stop misleading the public and stop undermining the relationship between the two countries. Otherwise, Canada will have to bear all the consequences."

The comments above are as close to lies as one can get and we must understand this as a nation. The actions of the Chinese diplomats in Canada such as illegal police stations are now well documented and there are now witnesses in Canada as to their "diplomatic actions." The Chinese embassy has abused its position. One action Canada could take is to ask the embassy to downsize from 178 to the same as

the Canadian embassy in Beijing with its supporting consulates, a total of fifty. China has proven on numerous occasions that it is an adversary and not a friend and it should be treated as such. How much abuse does Canada have to take before appropriate action is taken by the Canadian government? China is a murderous, genocidal regime with imperial ambitions, they need to have their actions curtailed preferably with the support and similar actions by friendly governments.

Defence Intelligence

UPDATE ON UKRAINE  
08 September

### INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- It's highly likely that the successful export of Ukrainian grain during the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) has helped reduce global prices and food insecurity. During the initiative more than 32 million tonnes of food reached the global market and the Food Price Index fell 23% from its peak in March 2022. Developing nations have especially benefited from lower prices as well as from direct imports of grain from Ukraine.
- Russia's withdrawal from the BSGI has reduced Ukraine's exports, a clear effort to degrade the Ukrainian economy and its ability to support the war effort. The agricultural sector made up 40% of Ukraine's exports pre-war and remains vital; food exports earned \$28bn in 2021.
- Ukraine has found success using alternative methods like river, rail and road to export its grain; however, it is unlikely that this will match the capacity of the Black Sea export routes.

Defence Intelligence

UPDATE ON UKRAINE  
09 September 2023

### INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- Elements of the Ukrainian Armed Forces have advanced into the multi-layered main Russian defensive line east of the town of Robotyne. Ukrainian dismounted infantry forces are continuing to make gradual tactical advances against Russian positions and attrite Russian forces in the area.
- Ukrainian forces have also maintained pressure on Russian positions to the south of Bakhmut, making gradual gains between Klishchiivka and Adriivka.
- It is highly likely that Russia has redeployed forces from other areas of the frontline to replace degraded units around Robotyne. These redeployments are likely limiting Russia's ability to carry out offensive operations of its own along other areas of the front line. The redeployments are also highly likely an indication of pressure on their defensive lines, particularly around Robotyne.

## INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- In Russia's Pskov Oblast, close to the Estonian border, the governor has organised volunteer security patrols to interdict further uncrewed aerial vehicle (UAV) attacks against Kresty air base. Reportedly up to 800 citizens have signed up to join the patrols. This initiative follows the reported damage of two IL-76 CANDID transport aircraft on 29 August 2023.
- Due to the limited range of quadcopter UAVs, the attacks were on the base almost certainly launched from within the Russian Federation. The patrols will consist of groups of 50 divided among multiple municipalities which will patrol border areas and critical infrastructure, particularly airports and airbases.
- The creation of these volunteer security patrols will likely act as a deterrent and provide a level of defence against quadcopter UAVs being operated from the immediate vicinity of the air base. Historically it has proven difficult to destroy UAVs using small-arms fire, so Russian forces will still require air-defence systems, with a surveillance capability and both kinetic and electronic means of interception, to destroy attacking UAVs. The use of volunteers highly likely indicates a shortage of trained security personnel within Russia.

## INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- The Russian military intends to recruit 420,000 contract personnel by the end of 2023. On 3 September 2023, Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dimitry Medvedev stated that so far 280,000 personnel had been recruited. These numbers cannot be independently verified. Russia's conscription continues to have negative effects on its industry workforce. The Yegor Gaidar Institute for Economic Policy found that Russia's industry shortage of workers reached a new high of 42% for July 2023, 7% higher from April 2023.
- In contrast to conscription efforts elsewhere, in the IT sector Russia has taken steps to preserve the workforce. This likely highlights the particularly acute shortages in the sector after about 100,000 IT workers left Russia in 2022. This equates to 10% of the IT sector workforce. On 4 September 2023, President Putin signed a decree to increase the exemption age of military recruitment for IT professionals from 27 to 30.
- This shows that mobilisation and conscription within Russia has worsened non-defence workforce shortages. In the run-up to the Russian presidential elections scheduled for March 2024, Russian authorities will likely seek to avoid further unpopular mobilisations.



## INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- In recent weeks, Russia has recalibrated the posture of its short and medium-range air defences around Moscow in an effort to more effectively defend against the uncrewed aerial vehicle (UAV) attacks the city now experiences most days.
- Since early September 2023, Russian SA-22 air defence systems around the capital have been pictured positioned on elevated towers and ramps.
- Previously, following strikes against Engels and Ryazan air bases in December 2022, Russia also positioned SA-22 on the roofs of official buildings in Moscow. This is almost certainly to allow the system to detect and engage UAV-type targets. However, it is probably also intended to act as a high-profile reassurance to the public that the authorities have the threat under control.

## INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- Elements of Russia's new 25th Combined Arms Army (25 CAA) have highly likely deployed to Ukraine for the first time. The formation is likely focused on Luhansk Oblast in the north-east of the country.
- As recently as August 2023, recruitment adverts for 25 CAA claimed it would only deploy to Ukraine from December 2023.
- It is likely that units have been rushed into action early partly because Russia continues to grapple with an over-stretched force along the front and Ukraine continues its counter-offensive on three different axes. However, there is also a realistic possibility that Russia will attempt to use parts of 25 CAA to regenerate an uncommitted reserve force in the theatre to provide commanders with more operational flexibility.



#### RUSSIA'S CLAIM:

On September 12, Putin claimed that Russia has destroyed 543 tanks and 18,000 armoured vehicles since the Ukrainian counter-offensive began.

#### BASED ON CANADIAN FORCES INTELLIGENCE COMMAND ANALYSIS:

- Since the beginning of its counter-offensive in June, Ukraine has lost approximately 140 of its own tank reserves and foreign donated tanks, which is a minority of the total armoured firepower employed in the counter-offensive.
- Western donated equipment has a better survival rate for its crew members than equivalent Russian equipment.
- The 18,000 figure is greatly exaggerated; however, that number is far closer to Russia's own total vehicle losses since they first invaded Ukraine in 2014.



### INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- On 10 September 2023, Energoatom, Ukraine's nuclear power plant operator, announced it had successfully refuelled a reactor at its Rivne Nuclear Power Plant (NPP) using Western-produced nuclear fuel assemblies.
- All of Ukraine's NPPs have reactors based on Soviet designs and until February 2022 it relied on Russia for nuclear fuel. Since Russia's full-scale invasion, Ukraine has accelerated plans to diversify its supply.
- With nuclear energy supplying approximately half of Ukraine's electricity, Energoatom's success in sourcing and installing Western fuel is a major waypoint in Ukraine's long-term decoupling from Russia, whose influence over Ukraine's energy supply is severely diminished.

## Canadian Armed Forces ‘Common Operating Picture ‘

The week a query was made to the DND Public Affairs Group (specially, the Stakeholder Engagement Office in Montréal with which we work for CAF/DND public affairs matters) on behalf of the Security Affairs Committee about the state of the CAF personnel situation. An excellent response was very quickly received (many thanks to those involved). Follows is the Military Personnel Group’s ‘Common Operating Picture’ (okay, for those of us used to plots and map-based situation depictions, a better name could have been chosen) as of 31 July 2023. The COP has been rotated to ensure the detail can be read.

- - -

The definitions of TSS, TES, etc. are on the second page.

Notes:

The Personnel Shortfalls graph (bottom left) now uses Authorized Strength (AS) instead of Total Establishment (TE). This avoids counting Establishment changes (which are more variable than the AS, which typically only occur on an annual basis) in the shortfall calculations.

Some main observations are captured below (numbers in **red** = negative result and numbers in **green** = positive result):

- BLUF: Despite lower-than-normal attrition, the Regular Force remains on track to have a **net loss** this Fiscal Year.
- Monthly:
  - In Jul 2023, the Regular Force had a net loss of **81**, increasing our AS – TS shortfall slightly from last month.
  - Also in July 2023, the Regular Force TEE-TES shortfall increased by **264**.
- Year to Date:
  - So far in FY 23/24, the Regular Force has a net loss of **450** more releases than intake.
  - Also, the Regular Force TEE-TES shortfall has increased by **916** since the beginning of FY 23/24.
- End of FY projection:
  - For the Regular Force, our intake numbers are currently **62%** of historical average (pre-Covid) for this timeframe, while our release numbers are **84%** of historical average.
  - Based on historical models, we project an overall AS – TS shortfall of approximately **8,600** by the end of the FY.
  - From a strictly TS perspective, this means a projected total net loss of approximately **930** for this FY.

# CAF Personnel Common Operating Picture: July 2023

Last updated 17 August 2023. Unless otherwise noted, all figures are as of 31 July 2023.



## CAF Total Strength Summary

Component/Sub-component	Total Strength
Regular Force	63,050
Primary Reserve	28,991
<b>Total Regular Force &amp; Primary Reserve</b>	<b>92,041</b>
Cadet Organizations Administration and Training Service	6,062
Canadian Rangers	5,068
<b>Total CAF</b>	<b>103,171</b>

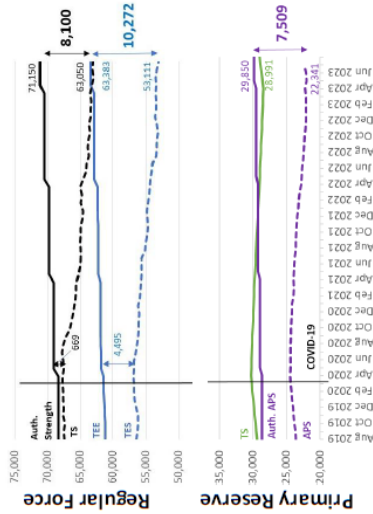
## Authorized Strength

Component/Sub-component	FY 23/24	SSE
Regular Force - TS	71,150	71,500
Primary Reserve - APS	29,850	30,000
Primary Reserve - TS (Estimated as 125% of APS)	37,313	37,500

## Diversity Statistics

Component/Sub-component	Women (Goal = 25.1%)	Aboriginal Peoples* (Goal = 3.5%)	Visible Minorities* (Goal = 11.8%)
Regular Force	16.0%	3.0%	10.7%
Primary Reserve	17.4%	2.9%	14.5%
<b>Total Regular Force &amp; Primary Reserve</b>	<b>16.5%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>11.9%</b>

## Personnel Shortfalls



APS figure as of June 2023

## Regular Force Strength Breakdown by Occupation Authority

OA	TES			BTI/SUTL	SPH/NES	Total
	#	% TEE	% TEE			
RCN	6,311	79.5%	1,251	111	7,673	
CA	18,236	85.7%	2,397	571	21,204	
RCAF	10,796	83.9%	2,347	255	13,398	
Asst CMP	17,152	82.9%	2,228	731	20,111	
GOFO, CPO1/CWO	614	107.0%	0	30	644	
Other/Unknown	2	N/A	18	0	20	
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,111</b>	<b>83.8%</b>	<b>8,241</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>63,050</b>	

## Primary Reserve Strength Breakdown by Capability Component

Capability Component	Post-OPF	Pre-OPF	Total
RCN	2,613	1,438	4,051
CA	13,661	5,677	19,338
RCAF	1,924	90	2,014
CMP	1,816	345	2,161
Other	1,307	120	1,427
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,321</b>	<b>7,670</b>	<b>28,991</b>

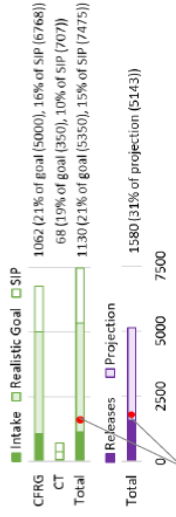
Pre-/Post-OPF status is estimated based on rank. Work is ongoing to determine the non-effective strength or equivalent category.

## Primary Reserve Strength Breakdown by Service Class

Service Class	Strength	Establishment
Class A	18,808	40,304
Class B Permanent	9,255	4,367
Class B Other	901	1,703
Class C	27	379
Unknown	28,991	46,753

**Abbreviations:**  
 APS: Average Paid Strength  
 BTI/SUTL: Basic Training List / Subsidized University Training List  
 CT: Component Transfer (between Reg F and P Res)  
 OPF: Occupational Functional Point  
 SIP: Strategic Intake Plan  
 TE: Total Establishment  
 TS: Total Strength  
 TEE: Trained Effective Establishment  
 TES: Trained Effective Strength

## Regular Force Intake and Releases



Required/expected to be on track for meeting intake target / projected releases for current FY.

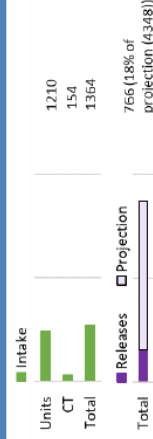
## Regular Force FY-End Projections Based on YTD Intake/Attrition

Total Intake	Total Releases	Auth. Strength - TS
3,645 (3,402 CFRG + 243 CT)	4,576 (7.0% projected)	62,571
	11.0% lower than planned	1,114 lower than planned
		8,579

## Regular Force Reconstitution Projection (71,500)

Ambitious: SIP attained every year	~FY 27/28
Realistic: Based on realistic intake goals	~FY 32/33

## Primary Reserve Intake and Releases



Subject to change as retroactive transactions are entered into Guardian.

Data Sources: Guardian (31 Jul 2023) and historical Establishment and Strength Reports Analytics Engine, DRWA Data Mart  
 \*Exception: EE statistics from [DHRO EE Stats](#) (30 Jun 2023)

## Definitions:

**Average Paid Strength (APS):** Number of Primary Reserve personnel that receive paychecks in a month, averaged annually (or over the last 12 months).

**Basic Training List (BTL):** An accounting list for members undergoing basic level training required to reach the OFP for an occupation. The term is also used to refer to the members who are posted to the BTL; these members are not considered part of the TES.

**Non-Effective Strength (NES):** A specific posting or assignment, used primarily for those personnel on terminal or retirement leave.

**Occupational Functional Point (OFP):** Occurs when a member completes all qualifications required for first employment in the occupation. At this point the member is posted off of the BTL or SUTL and is counted as TES.

**Service Personnel Holding List (SPHL):** An accounting list for members undergoing long-term medical rehabilitation. The term is also used to refer to the members who are posted to the SPHL; these members are not part of the TES.

**Subsidized University Training List (SUTL):** An accounting list for members undergoing subsidized education, often as part of the Regular Officer Training Plan. The term is also used to refer to the members who are posted to the SUTL; these members are not part of TES.

**Total Strength (TS):** Consists is the sum of the TES, BTL/SUTL, SPHL, and NES.

**Total Establishment (TE):** The total Regular Force establishment authorized, set by the Government of Canada and Treasury Board Secretariat in terms of positions and pay. It includes the TEE, BTL/SUTL, SPHL, and NES.

**Trained Effective Strength (TES):** All military members who have attained the OFP and who are available to fill TEE positions. This includes those posted to non-accountable positions (e.g. on operations overseas), posted with a status of Military Manning Overhead (MMO), and on LWOP.

**Trained Effective Establishment (TEE):** All accountable military positions within the system of record that are designated to be filled by military members who have attained the OFP in their occupation. This includes all functional (manning) positions, the ATL, secondments, Project Management Position Resource (PMPR), and equivalent accountable positions in the system of record for the classified establishments. The TEE is similar to the Preferred Manning Level (PML); however, the PML accounts for establishment changes that are planned for the future.

Sources: The Canadian Armed Forces Military Employment Structure, Volume 1 of 4 (General), A-PD-055-001/AG-001, 1 July 2015. TERMIUM Plus: The Government of Canada's terminology and linguistic data bank, <http://www.btb.termiumpus.gc.ca/>, accessed 24 July 2019. List of Definitions (Annex B to CFP 219), A-AE-219-001/AG-001, December 2015.

## Camouflage?

### Russian Su-34 Strike-Fighter Seen Covered In Tires

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/russian-su-34-strike-fighter-seen-covered-in-tires>

Tire recycling businesses now need to be included in the defence industry complex.



## Japan's View

*Good use of a geographical view. These are the waters in which a Canadian task group is operating.*

Japan Ministry of Defense/Self-Defense Forces @ModJapan\_en 13 Sep posted: #DefenseofJapan Part I-3: China. The Chinese Navy and Air Force have expanded and intensified their activities in the surrounding sea areas and airspace of Japan, including the area surrounding the Senkaku Islands. 1/3 In FY2022, a PLA Navy ship entered the contiguous zone southwest of Uotsurishima Island and a PLA Navy survey ship sailed through Japan's territorial waters near Kuchinoerabujima Island, Kuchinoshima Island and Yakushima Islands. UAV activities are also intensifying. 2/3 Furthermore, the joint flight of bombers and joint navigation of warships by China and Russia are clearly intended for demonstration of force against Japan and are of grave concern from the perspective of the security of Japan. 3/3

