



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia

Dispatches

12 January 2024

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. 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).

Dispatches

Starting with this edition, *Dispatches* will be published every two weeks rather than weekly. There will also be some content changes, such as ceasing the @DefenceHQ posts from UK Intelligence.

RUSI(NS) seeks a new editor to replace our editor of several years ago and our editor pro tem since then. Your editor pro tem will be stepping back from the role at our AGM 2024. If you are interested, please email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com. What *Dispatches* looks like and how often it is published will be up to the new editor.

RUSI(NS) Survey 2024

A survey of RUSI(NS) performance, a single question, has been emailed to RUSI(NS) members. Your feedback is important to the conduct of our activities. Please take the time to respond. This is your 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.

RUSI(NS) Events:

Postponed: 17 January, Wednesday - RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Dr Jonathan Fowler, Saint Mary's University, "The Historical Archaeology of Halifax's Earliest Defences." 1300-1430. In-person. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess. **Postponed due to speaker's availability. Another date will be arranged and announced.**

Pre-event reading:

Early Town Defences

<https://hnhps.ca/sites/early-town-defences>

Peninsular Blockhouses

<https://hnhps.ca/sites/peninsular-blockhouses>

The Early Fortifications of Halifax

<https://hnhps.ca/pdf/The-Early-Fortifications-of-Halifax.pdf>

Cemetery that tells of Halifax's naval history hides in plain sight

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/cemetery-naval-history-halifax-1.6901190>

Walking Tour of Halifax's Early Defences

<https://hnhps.ca/pdf/Walking-Tour-of-Halifax's-Early-Defences.pdf>

21 February, Wednesday - Distinguished Speaker MGen S.Y. Ménard, RCAF Chief Fighter and NORAD Capability (CFNC), speaking about the Future Fighter Capability Project (F-35 procurement) and about the RCAF Centennial. 1300-1500 Atlantic time. Via Zoom. Details to follow.

Other Events:

12 January, Friday - Center for Strategic & International Studies webinar "Security in the Western Pacific: Building Future Capabilities in the Time of AUKUS." 10:00-11:15 am EST. Info and webinar at: <https://www.csis.org/events/security-western-pacific-building-future-capabilities-time-aukus>.

16 January, Tuesday – ONE9 Mission Analysis Session "Accelerating Ukrainian Mine Clearance Operations." 8:30am-4:30pm. Online. Not the usual RUSI(NS)-type event but cool. ONE9 collaboration with DND and IDEaS (Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security). To register: <https://www.one9.ca/mission-analysis-session-ukr-mine-clearance/en>

17 January, Tuesday - Canada House Veterans Wellness Workshop. 0930-1530. Fairview Legion Branch 142, 50 Hillcrest Street, Halifax. See poster at end of *Dispatches*.

30 January, Tuesday - King's College London School of Security Studies presentation "Space power and Irregular Warfare in Space." 5:00-6:30 pm GMT. Online. To register: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/events/space-power-and-irregular-warfare-in-space>

22 February, Thursday - Royal Alberta United Services Institute presentation "Beyond Greed: How Corruption Threatens Global Security" with journalist and political advisor Sarah Chayes.

6-7 pm MST (9-10 pm AST). Online. For more info and to register: <https://rausi.ca/info-events/rmcscd/622-beyond-greed-how-corruption-threatens-global-security>

9 May, Thursday - Royal Alberta United Services Institute 2024 Keynote Lecture with LGen (ret) The Honorable Roméo Dallaire, discussing key strategic challenges facing Canadian leadership in the current geopolitical landscape. 7 pm MST (10 pm AST) (start time to be confirmed). Via Zoom. For more info and to register: <https://rausi.ca/info-events/rmcscd/625-romeo-dallaire>

Wargaming Events:

23 January, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Wargaming's Influence on U.S. Navy Tactical Doctrine, 1906-1941." 7-9 pm AST. Online. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wargamings-influence-on-us-navy-tactical-doctrine-1906-1941-tickets-639727099977>

6 February, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Saga: A Sub-threshold Conflict Wargaming System." 7-9 pm AST. Online. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/saga-a-sub-threshold-conflict-wargaming-system-tickets-719821885637>

New: 17 February, Saturday - Connections North 2024. 9am-4:30pm EST. New Residence Hall, McGill University, Montréal. Connections North is an annual conference devoted to professional wargaming, conflict simulation, and other serious games. (Connections North 2023 report: <https://paxsims.wordpress.com/2023/06/23/connections-north-2023-report/>.) To register for 2024: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/connections-north-2024-tickets-786729347657>

20 February, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Integrating Scientific Experiments with Wargaming Mechanics." 7-9pm AST. Online. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/integrating-scientific-experiments-with-wargaming-mechanics-tickets-783428314177>

New: 20 February, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Wargaming Urban Conflict: A PhD in Progress." 1-3pm AST. Online. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wargaming-urban-conflict-a-phd-in-progress-tickets-791327370467>

23 April, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Perspective and its Consequences in Historical Game Design." 7-9pm ADT. Online. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/perspective-and-its-consequences-in-historical-game-design-tickets-781758088487>

New: 9 July, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation "Kriegsspiel - past and present." 1-3pm ADT. Online. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kriegsspiel-past-and-present-tickets-781141072977>

20 August, Tuesday - Georgetown University Wargaming Society presentation " Wargaming outside of War: How NGO's use games and gaming to expand maritime governance." 7-9pm ADT. Online. Development and deployment of an IUU fishing wargame. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wargaming-outside-of-war-how-ngos-use-games-and-gaming-to-expand-maritime-tickets-791506887407>

Publications:

New: RUSI(NS) Comments "Canada's National Disaster Challenge" by Murray Lee, 1 January 2024, https://rusi-ns.ca/national_disaster_challenge/

RUSI(NS) Comments "Should the Royal Canadian Air Force Acquire the E-7 Wedgetail for Arctic and Northern Surveillance?" by Murray Lee, 27 December 2023, <https://rusi-ns.ca/wedgetail/>

RUSI(NS) Presentation "Why Canada Needs Submarines" by VAdm Topshee, CRCN, 26 Dec 23, https://rusi-ns.ca/canadian_patrol_submarine_project/

RUSI(NS) Comments "The RCAF is on another merry-go-round. This time it's the Search and Rescue CC295 Kingfisher." by Murray Lee, 20 December 2023, <https://rusi-ns.ca/kingfisher/>

RUSI(NS) Paper "Is another Cyclone about to form for the RCAF?" by Murray Lee and John McLearn, 26 November 2023, <https://rusi-ns.ca/p8-poseidon/>

RUSI(NS) Comments "White Hat Hackers" by David Swan, 25 November 2023, https://rusi-ns.ca/white_hat_hackers

The following publications are received by RUSI(S) from other associations. The latest edition, where not otherwise indicated available, may be requested by emailing RUSI(NS). To readers of *Dispatches* from other associations, sharing of your publications is appreciated.

weekly:

Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Defence Update*
Vancouver Artillery Association and Royal United Services Institute Vancouver *Members News*

bi-weekly:

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

monthly:

Canadian Gunner News
Edmonton United Services Institute President's *Enews*
Military Institute of Windsor *Communiqué*
Royal Alberta United Services Institute *Dispatches*
Royal Canadian Logistics Service *The Logistician*
Royal Canadian Naval Association Admiral Hose Branch *Scuttlebutt*

Royal United Services Institute of Vancouver Island *Newsletter*
Veterans Affairs Canada *Salute!*

quarterly:

Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (Australia) *Quarterly Newsletter*

@RUSI_NS on :

@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).

CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 4 Jan posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: "Canada's strategic deficit cannot be neglected" Former National Security and Intelligence Advisor to the PM Vincent Rigby discusses intelligence sharing, the new National Security Council, and recent report from @nsiracanada. @GAC_Corporate @thomasjuneau
[\(https://cdainstitute.ca/canadas-strategic-deficit-cannot-be-neglected/\)](https://cdainstitute.ca/canadas-strategic-deficit-cannot-be-neglected/)



Global National @GlobalNational 7 Jan posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: Blunt talk on military challenges is a 'good thing,' retired defence chief says
<https://globalnews.ca/news/10206005/retired-military-commanders-challenges/>



YouTube of The West Block interview:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cs1r1ET0eWI>

NATO Joint Warfare Centre @NATO_JWC 5 Jan posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: #Decision-making is a critical part of leadership. However there may not always be procedural answers to operational problems. What inspires intuitive decision-making? Read in the JWC's The Three Swords magazine → <https://jwc.nato.int/application/files/1016/9804/9784/HowCommandersMakeDecisions.pdf> #WeAreNATO (How Commanders Make Decisions – What Staffs Can Learn)



NATO ACT @NATO_ACT 5 Jan posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: #NATO's Strategic Foresight Analysis'23: Global economic is shifting towards Asia, marking a seismic transformation in global activity. As a result, globalization is likely to weaken & the landscape of innovation collaboration will be altered:

<https://act.nato.int/article/sfa-topics-geo-economic-trends-shaping-future-global-landscape/>

#WeAreNATO



<p>(Strategic Foresight Analysis Topics: Geoeconomic Trends Shaping the Future Global Landscape)</p>	
<p>CDA Institute @CDAInstitute 22 Dec postd and RUSI(NS) reposted: Canadian Defence in Focus: We discuss key developments in 2023 and what to expect in the year ahead with our Fellows @ProfAnkersen, Colonel Charles Davies (Ret'd), @kolga & @CleoPaskal (Canadian Defence in Focus: 2023 Recap and Prospects for 2024 https://cdainstitute.ca/canadian-defence-in-focus-2023-recap-and-prospects-for-2024/)</p>	
<p>CSIS Canada @csiscanada 19 Dec posted: Spurred by advancements in #AI, #deepfakes are a modern evolution of disinformation, posing new challenges for governments, individuals, and societies. Safeguarding the integrity of the information ecosystem is a priority for our democratic society. RUSI(NS) reposted: "The Evolution of Disinformation: A Deepfake Future" https://www.canada.ca/en/security-intelligence-service/corporate/publications/the-evolution-of-disinformation-a-deepfake-future.html #deepfake #disinformation</p>	
<p>.@Bombardier may not have won @RCAF_ARC CAN 🇨🇦 Multi-Mission Aircraft project, but successful for @USArmy High Accuracy Detection & Exploitation System airborne intelligence collection aircraft. "Army buys long-range business jet to spy on China, Russia" https://www.defenseone.com/business/2024/01/army-buys-long-range-business-jet-spy-china-russia/393098/</p>	
<p>NAADSN_RDSNAA @NAADSN_RDSNAA 9 Jan posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: Over the holidays, you may have missed Kate Todd's piece on @RoyalCanNavy in the Arctic but luckily, you can read her take on how the RCN must break from boom-and-bust cycles of investment so that it is ready to protect Canada's interests in the Arctic. https://naadsn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/The-Royal-Canadian-Navys-Past-Present-and-Future-in-the-Arctic-Kate-E-Todd-upload.pdf (The Royal Canadian Navy's Past, Present, and Future in the Arctic)</p>	

Ottawa Citizen @OttawaCitizen 6 Jan posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: Cable: Canada made the right choice with \$10-billion purchase of 16 P-8A Poseidons <https://ottawacitizen.com/opinion/cable-canada-made-the-right-choice-with-10-billion-purchase-of-16-p-8a-poseidons>



"Sweden will send 'reduced battalion' to join Canadian-led NATO force in Latvia" <https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/sweden-will-send-reduced-battalion-to-join-canadian-led-nato-force-in-latvia-1.6717978> Upscaling 🇨🇦CAN-led battle group to brigade group. "Brigade and Brigade Group" https://rusi-ns.ca/brigade_brigade_group/ "What is a Battle Group in the Canadian Army?" <https://rusi-ns.ca/battle-group/>



CBC News @CBCNews 10 Jan posted: The air force is worried about keeping the aging weapons systems aboard its CH-148 Cyclones operational into the future, according to leaked documents obtained by CBC News. <https://cbc.ca/news/politics/cyclone-helicopter-canadian-forces-1.7079088>.



RUSI(NS) quoted: Full Operational Capability FOC = "full attainment of the ability to effectively employ a new or improved capability, and for which fully achieved infrastructure, training, staffing, and support are in place, both for the new capability and for the organization employing it."

NAADSN_RDSNAA @NAADSN_RDSNAA 10 Jan posted and RUSI(NS) reposted: You may also be interested in @adam_lajeunesse and @WhitneyLackenb1's latest op-ed out with @TNorthcom which analyzes the recent Russian and Chinese naval exercises. (Russian and Chinese naval exercises: Reading between the lines <https://thewatch-journal.com/2024/01/08/opinion-russian-and-chinese-naval-exercises-reading-between-the-lines/>)



The authors are long time contacts of RUSI(NS).

New electro-optical & infrared sensors for CAN🇨🇦 MQ-9B Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (@RCAF_ARC name & type designation TBA)
<https://www.thedefensepost.com/2024/01/10/13harris-canada-skyguardian-drones/> 1st #RPAS #drone delivery 2028 <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/procurement/remotely-piloted-aircraft-system.html>
(L3Harris to Fit Sensors to Canada's SkyGuardian Drones)



"Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia" on f:

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(UK) Government rejects MPs' proposals to expand Arctic presence

<https://www.researchprofessionalnews.com/tr-news-uk-politics-2024-1-government-rejects-mps-call-for-new-polar-research-ship/>

"The government has rejected calls by MPs for a new polar research vessel to boost UK Arctic capability, and also turned down their proposals for better strategic coordination of research around the North Pole."

The rest of the article is behind a subscription wall but the few available sentences provide the gist. It is debatable whether this is concerning. One RUSI(NS) colleague wrote that one non-Arctic Coastal State has chosen to limit their presence in the Arctic is not necessarily a bad thing. What this should do is embolden our own Members of Parliament to take up the slack and seriously take on our responsibility as a true Arctic Coastal State with serious assets in the game. Another colleague remarked that it is an odd decision, given the ship will otherwise be idle during the Arctic shipping season.



Grand Strategy: A Short Guide for Military Strategists

<https://warroom.armywarcollege.edu/articles/grand-strategy-for-military-strategists/>

"...grand strategy is a polity's theory about how to provide for its security and prosperity all the time, in peace and war."

Implicit in the definition is that there are threats to a polity's security and prosperity, and that whilst some of those threats could be natural, they are more likely, and often garner more attention, originating from other polities.



What is Canada's 'grand strategy?' Maybe not a term heard in this polity except in the depth of academic and military halls and studies. Kinda hard for there to be a public discussion and understanding of Canada's grand strategy when foreign, defence, security and other policies, and the threats they consider, especially the threats posed by other polities, have not been brought up to date and strongly presented by government.

Does It Make Sense to Pay Off Frigates and LPDs?

<https://thinpinstripedline.blogspot.com/2024/01/does-it-make-sense-to-pay-off-frigates.html>

"...there is an element of truth to the fact that if the RN recognises it has a people retention problem, particularly for highly skilled technical trades, (as has been the case since the 1940s) then perhaps the problem is not the people, but the system and how it employs them."



This blog is an analytical/thoughtful piece, and resonates with current (personnel) issues in the Royal Canadian Navy, United States Navy, Royal New Zealand Navy and Irish Naval Service. It is in respects also a worthy discussion of fleet/force development. Implicit only in the blog (regrettably, but understandably as the likely audience on the whole knows) is any word/explanation of what a navy is for (in much the case of the UK, sea control for defence of trade) and therefore why numbers and ship types are important. Nor are the blog's good points put in the context of policy/strategy (which has long been for the UK, with apparently an attempted resurrection these days, 'maritime global engagement').

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From a colleague: The armed services, the Royal Navy and here in Canada, had best realize that a promise of 'excitement' no longer is good enough to attract folks. Cash-in-hand in this day and age is the only way you are going to get them in. In our case one could also argue for how the Americans look after their service people and families. Yes, the Canadian Armed Forces aren't as big and can likely not afford those kinds of programs - but imagine this: "Join the Forces and not only will we look after you but we will provide medical and dental services to you and your family for as long as you serve!"

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Cecil Ladislaus 🇨🇦🇬🇧🇮🇳🇪🇺 @houselaus posted: ***This is a Cecil offload, no solutions offered*** The shortage of seafarers is bigger than simply a navy problem. The fishing industry, merchant navy and the military are struggling to recruit and retain people who are willing to spend big chunks of their lives at sea 🐬 This is not unique to the UK, the issue is widespread and there's no easy fix.... Sooo if we want our seafood, products delivered by the sea, and a safe/secure maritime environment, then everyone has a role in advocating and doing more for our seafarers. They all need to be supported by engineers, logistics and seamanship specialists who operate the vessels ...vessels which need charts or else they won't get to where they need to be, so we also need surveyors and survey ships. Interesting times! #STEM #Survey

Water-Filled Missiles, Silo Problems Behind China Purge: Report

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/water-filled-missiles-silo-problems-behind-china-purge-report>

A good analysis. A point: take public reports, especially of extraordinary matters, with a certain amount of skepticism.

"These reports are heavily focused on numerical changes but less so on discussion the proficiency and effectiveness of the forces."

Reminiscent of assessments done of Soviet forces by counting ships, divisions and the like. As realized near the end of the Cold War (when logistics and technical proficiency became increasingly appreciated as indications of combat readiness) and from recent battle experience in Ukraine, assessing a state's military power is more than simple counts. (Shades of naval power being assessed by fleet displacement total. May have sufficed in a dreadnought era but now...)



Mine-spotting drones and tracked robots: The Army's efforts to breach minefields with tech

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2024/01/mine-spotting-drones-and-tracked-robots-armys-efforts-breach-minefields-tech/393228/>

Cool tech. It's not just the combat arms who are developing the use of drones. What is the Canadian Armed Forces doing to integrate drones into its ground engineer forces?



Canada doesn't matter to the rest of the world — and it's our own fault

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/michel-maisonneuve-canada-doesnt-matter-to-the-rest-of-the-world-and-its-our-own-fault>

"...neglect for the CAF (Canadian Armed Forces) has repercussions that go far beyond the military. A capable CAF would improve our reputation abroad and show Canadians that their country is a nation that matters..."

In his piece Major-General (retired) Maisonneuve refers to a letter by Perrin Beatty, former minister of national defence and current chief executive officer of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce; the letter is at: "An open letter to the prime minister: Canada needs to recalibrate how we engage with other nations this year" (<https://www.hilltimes.com/story/2024/01/02/an-open-letter-to-the-prime-minister-canada-needs-recalibrate-how-we-engage-with-other-nations/407027/>).

In that letter: "Canadian foreign policy must be steadfastly oriented towards Canada's core long-term strategic priorities and national interest. Unfortunately, with the exception of the Indo-Pacific Strategy, Canadian foreign policy in recent years has frequently appeared, instead, to be reactive and unfocused."



An opinion writer followed up with a piece decrying the emphasis within the Department of National Defence: "Canada's military leaders and politicians have lost the plot" (<https://torontosun.com/opinion/lilley-canadas-military-leaders-and-politicians-have-lost-the-plot>).

Other Sources:

#artificial intelligence

AI in war: Can advanced military technologies be tamed before it's too late?

<https://thebulletin.org/2024/01/ai-in-war-can-advanced-military-technologies-be-tamed-before-its-too-late/>

#China

Modernisation of People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) and Impacts on China's Maritime Security

Available on request to RUSI(NS).

#China

CHACR @CHACR_Camberley 9 Jan posted (book at: https://twitter.com/CHACR_Camberley/status/1744742714623856799): "China's leaders, having previously considered a campaign to take #Taiwan as the stuff of fantasy, are increasingly considering it to be a real possibility." – The @BritishArmy's think tank examines Xi Jinping's tightening grip on China's #military.



#cyber operations

A Better Cyber Service

<https://warontherocks.com/2024/01/a-better-cyber-service/>

#drones

Report to Congress on Navy Large Unmanned Surface and Undersea Vehicles

<https://news.usni.org/2024/01/03/report-to-congress-on-navy-large-unmanned-surface-and-undersea-vehicles-6>

#economic warfare

Thread about global shipping problems and potential return of goods inflation

<https://twitter.com/biancoresearch/status/1743721034866364557>

Conflict at the highest levels is about/by economics.

#electronic warfare

Marines using cheap commercial tech to hide command posts in plain sight

<https://www.defenseone.com/threats/2024/01/marines-using-cheap-commercial-tech-hide-command-posts-plain-sight/393174/>

#maritime security

Using OSINT to Unmask Invisible Threats to Our Oceans

<https://www.raebaker.net/blog/using-osint-to-unmask-invisible-threats-to-our-oceans>

#NATO

Happening in 2024: Advancements in Cognitive Warfare, Multi-Domain Operations, Future Operating Environments, Sweden's Accession to NATO

<https://www.act.nato.int/article/happening-in-2024-cognitive-warfare-mdo-future-operating-environments-sweden/>

#planning

Communicate Your Staff Estimates in the Language of Risk

<https://fromthegreennotebook.com/2024/01/05/communicate-your-staff-estimates-in-the-language-of-risk/>

Scanning the Horizon: If the Future is Unknowable, Why Bother with Forecasting?

<https://mwi.westpoint.edu/scanning-the-horizon-if-the-future-is-unknowable-why-bother-with-forecasting/>

#reading

War Books: The Best Books We Read in 2023

<https://mwi.westpoint.edu/war-books-the-best-books-we-read-in-2023/>

Chief of Staff of the US Army Recommended Articles January 2024

<https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Resources/CSA-Recommended-Articles/>

#Russia-Ukraine War

Russia has the upper hand in electronic warfare with Ukraine

<https://www.ft.com/content/a477d3f1-8c7e-4520-83b0-572ad674c28e>

#drones

UK has so far sent 'thousands' of drones to Ukraine

<https://ukdefencejournal.org.uk/uk-has-so-far-sent-thousands-of-drones-to-ukraine/>

#information operations

Russia manipulates with fakes to prevent deterioration of relations with India

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/russia-manipulates-with-fakes-to-prevent-deterioration-of-relations-with-india-isw/ar-AA1mxFbb>

#space

Space Force wargames potential satellite refueling plans

<https://spacenews.com/space-force-wargames-potential-satellite-refueling-plans/>

Appears the "wargames" in the title actually refers to a tabletop exercise (the 'game board' in the article picture would be an exercise aid).

Space Force close to adopting strategy for commercial acquisitions

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/battlefield-tech/space/2024/01/05/space-force-close-to-adopting-strategy-for-commercial-acquisitions/>

Other forces use civil/commercial resources.

#strategy

Grand Strategy: A Short Guide for Military Strategists

<https://warroom.armywarcollege.edu/articles/grand-strategy-for-military-strategists/>

Evolving, Adopting and Adapting Alliance Strategy

note transcript available: <https://rusi.org/podcasts/talking-strategy/episode-14-lord-peach-evolving-adopting-and-adapting-alliance-strategy>

The Problem of Stability: Military Strategy in a Non-Newtonian Universe

<https://www.militarystrategymagazine.com/article/the-problem-of-stability-military-strategy-in-a-non-newtonian-universe/>

"Although most of our strategic thinking pays lip service to the unstable nature of the environment in which strategy must operate, our strategies usually fail to account for that nature in any meaningful way. "

#warfare

The US Military Must Transform and Coordinate

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-u-s-military-must-transform-and-coordinate-ships-army-navy-marines-acb1acdc>

"A shared understanding of how the U.S. military intends to fight in the future would be most useful."

A shared understanding of how the Canadian military intends to fight in the future would be most useful. Both within the CAF and for the Canadian public.

#wargaming

Wargaming the Future: Educating the Fleet in Multi-Dimensional Warfare

<https://cimsec.org/wargaming-the-future-educating-the-fleet-in-multi-dimensional-warfare/>

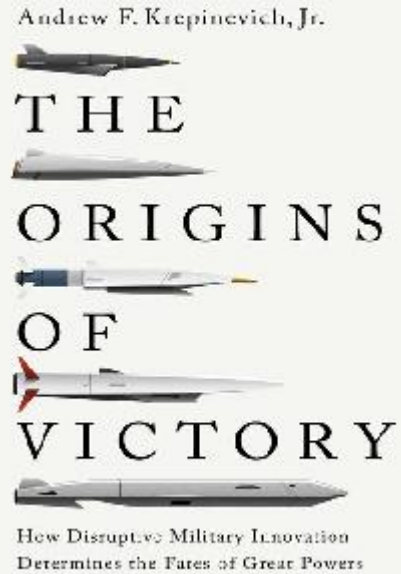
Generative AI in Wargames

<https://molotovcockatiel.com/generative-ai-in-wargames/>

Other:

CDS Book Recommendation

General / Général Wayne Eyre @CDS_Canada_CEMD
9 Jan posted (thread:
https://twitter.com/CDS_Canada_CEMD/status/1744708363663921436): 1/ #CDSReads We are undergoing a fundamental change in the character (although not the nature) of warfare. In this recent work, Andrew Krepinevich explores the ongoing “mature precision strike revolution” and how it is shifting the balance away from the West.



#Drone (?)

🇺🇦Ukrainian Front @front_ukrainian 9 Jan posted: 🇺🇦
For the first time, Ukraine contracted ShaBla robotic turrets, - Minister of Digital Transformation of Ukraine Fedorov. ShaBla is a bullet-proof automated machine gun system that helps soldiers destroy the enemy remotely. Thanks to remote operation, the turret saves the life and health of machine gunners. Saber is an innovation and an example of a weapon of modern warfare. The development has moved from a startup to a permanent project contracted by the state.



The battlefield is getting more complicated, dangerous and ugly...

More at: “New remotely controlled Browning M2 machine gun in service with Ukrainian forces” <https://shorturl.at/qRS26>

Interesting that descriptions use the word ‘turret.’

Target (?)

China Has New Full-Scale Target Of America's Ford Supercarrier

<https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/china-has-new-full-scale-target-of-americas-ford-supercarrier>

Even if the target carrier is not being used for training, it is good info ops (a pointed message at the US).



Lancaster bomber from Hamilton's warplane museum to join tour marking RCAF centenary

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/other/lancaster-bomber-from-hamilton-s-warplane-museum-to-join-tour-marking-rcaf-centenary/ar-AA1myqAz>

Contributed from one of our ex-flying members: Some of our readers will be travelling this summer and may take in this once in a lifetime opportunity.



Military Strategy Magazine Special Edition "War and Strategy: Back To Basics"

<https://www.militarystrategymagazine.com/special-editions/war-and-strategy-back-to-basics/>

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Security Affairs Committee Synopsis

O Canada

Canada has been beset by pro-Palestinian protests across the country. Accusations of genocide by Israel ring out along with the very anti-Semitic call "From the river to the sea" describing the area from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, an ill-disguised call for the eradication of the Jews in Israel. The protests celebrate the actions of a terrorist organization that ended a period of peace with an attack on 7 October 2023. In Canadian cities, protests have continued despite the nature of the actions of the protesters. While support should be given to civilian refugees of the Hamas-Israel war, it should be

noted that close to 200k Israelis have also been internally displaced. Close to ten thousand have been killed or wounded with more than 250 people held hostage with some 130 still in the hands of Hamas. In order to understand it from a Canadian context, it would be the equivalent of 40k dead and injured and close to 800k displaced. Hamas is estimated to have 60k fighters plus support personnel. It is equipped with weapons and technical means to produce and use rockets and drones. It uses the population of Gaza as human shields. It has established firing points, bunkers, supply points, factories and armouries within populated areas including hospitals, schools and places of worship, and has done so purposely with the view to create casualties. Its goal is to survive and thus declare victory, for the survival of Hamas will be used to further anti-Semitic actions. Canada has called for a ceasefire at the UN General Assembly which would allow this "win" for Hamas. Canada has now, albeit indirectly, joined the support of an organization calling for the end of Israel. Israel has the right to self-defence; survival of Hamas will continue the danger to the only Jewish state. Israel has no choice but to continue its actions. Canada needs to remember that war of this type can and will be necessary. Hamas is the problem and Canada needs to remember this.

The Prime Minister has finally suggested that Canada may declare the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization, nearly four years after the downing of Ukrainian Airlines flight PS 752 with an air defence missile. Fifty-five Canadian citizens and thirty permanent residents were killed in the incident. Despite taking other actions, the Government has failed to deal with ongoing threats to the surviving families by Iranian agents. This action is long overdue.

The foreign interference inquiry has also been tainted by political actions. The actions of Madame Marie Josee Hogue to restrict the Opposition from full standing has now raised concerns whether the Canadian public will actually understand the issue. Madame Hogue is not a security expert and is thus dependent on certain senior bureaucrats who may be political appointments. The process is not open to proper scrutiny and public view. There are ways and means to discuss classified material in the open, it just takes time to make the material ready. This has been a mess from the outset and it needs a proper solution.

It was noted that 33 churches have been burned since 2021, more than two and half times a similar period prior to that time. Two were found to be accidents, but the other 31 were arson. Most were Roman Catholic churches. It seems that these actions occurred post-discovery of suspected unmarked graves on the grounds of residential schools. It is a form of anti-Christian insurgency whether people like it or not. To be clear, the Roman Catholic Church has not helped itself in reconciliation, but often these churches have been at one point or another the heart of the community and therefore it is the community that needs to be considered. This has the potential to be a major security problem if it gets out of hand. This constitutes an internal security problem.

On 9 January 2024, Sweden's Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson stated that they will send a reduced infantry battalion to join the future Canadian brigade. The exact makeup of this reduced battalion has not been finalized.

Australia

There was an article this week from a single source that has suggested that Ukraine has made a request to acquire Australia's 41 surplus F-18A and B and the 47 Taipan MRH-90 helicopters recently removed from service due to reliability issues. The MRH-90 will be replaced by Blackhawk helicopters. The idea would essentially give Ukraine a new air force and get rid of surplus aircraft for Australia.

Now for some of the links from our Australia-resident correspondent, not to be confused with links (sausages) on the "barbie."

<https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2024-01-08/soldiers-work-help-schools-re-open-time>

The Australian Army does civilian support work as well.

<https://venturaapdr.partica.online/apdr/apdr-dec-jan-2024/features/the-future-of-the-rnzn-how-can-it-recover-lost-capabilities>

The Royal New Zealand Navy is in worse shape than the RCN.

<https://venturaapdr.partica.online/apdr/apdr-dec-jan-2024/news/australia-announces-shipbuilding-deal-with-austal>

Good news for this part of Australia and the RAN. Coastal defence is a navy task that has been practiced for years.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/1/7/north-korea-promises-military-strike-if-any-provocation-from-south>

Lest the North Koreans be forgotten. North Korea has been firing into the sea into the demilitarized zone forcing South Korea to evacuate affected islanders.

<https://www.csiro.au/en/news/All/News/2024/January/RV-Investigators-longest-voyage-to-try-and-solve-Southern-Ocean-puzzle>

The attached is interesting. Changes in the Southern Ocean will likely impact the whole earth.

<https://asiapacificdefencereporter.com/new-undersea-project-to-help-ran-surveillance/>

Probably an updated version of SOSUS.

United States

The USS Gerald R. Ford carrier strike group (CSG) is finally returning home from the Mediterranean after an extended tour of duty of 285 days. For a brand new ship and first in class, they did well. BZ to them may they enjoy a bit of well-deserved shore leave.

US and British forces shot down 18 Houthi drones and missiles in the Red Sea in the largest attack out of 26 attacks. I am quite sure our three staff officers did the best they could. Surely a Halifax-based ship could have been dispatched but ... It should be noted that 10% of all worldwide shipping use the Red Sea route. This includes 20% of all container traffic worldwide. Many firms are now using the route around southern Africa, increasing costs and delaying arrival times of goods. This will have a detrimental effect on shipping and the overall world supply chain. Just-in-time delivery will be delayed.

France

President Macron appointed a new Prime Minister to hopefully improve the government's standing with the electorate. He is Gabriel Attal, 34 years of age. He was the Minister of Education and Youth Development in the government. He will replace Elizabeth Borne who had a less than cordial relationship within the French Assembly. Mr Attal will be the youngest Prime Minister in history and will also be the first openly gay man to be selected for the position.

France has promised delivery of a further 85 SCALP missiles to Ukraine. They had provided 50 before which Ukraine has put to good use.

Moldova

Russia continues to saw discord in Moldova. This week they used the head of the Transnistrian Republic. Vadim Krasnoselsky stated the recent increase to the Moldovan defence budget is a threat as there was relative peace in the area. He essentially blamed the West and the Sandu government for the deteriorating situation. His interview made the case that they were the victims, not Moldova, despite the fact that the unrecognized republic forcibly separated thirty years ago and still maintains a Russian

garrison of some 1.2k soldiers with armoured vehicles. The Transnistrian Republic is in between Ukraine and Moldova proper and may have something to worry about in the long term as Moldova and Ukraine ascend to the European Union and possibly NATO.

Belarus

Belarus self-appointed President, Alexander Lukashenko, has given himself "permanent immunity" from prosecution. This also includes his family members. The new legislation/decreed also prevents anyone from running for President if they reside outside the country. Although, this sounds very "official" I cannot see any future leader feeling constrained by this self-serving legislation. I am quite sure Mrs Tsikhanouskaya will take every notice of this new direction. Mr Lukashenko is living on borrowed time, it is just a matter of when he goes.

Russia and Belarus are conducting a nuclear deployment exercise along the Polish border. Belarus' Lida air force base, home of the SU-25 aircraft modified to drop nuclear ordinance, is expected to play a part. Belarus apparently has some access to nuclear equipped Iskander missiles. This sabre rattling is trying to provoke a response from NATO in the form of reduced commitments to Ukraine. This is not the way to get this result. Poland may move as many as 30k troops to the border, which is about half the size of all existing Belarus forces. It is not a good idea.

Russia-Ukraine War

The war continues to be a major drag on both nations, but it appears that President Putin is willing to lose tens of thousands of soldiers to achieve his dream of a new Russian empire. Most commentators keep stating that Russia has the resources and manpower to win over Ukraine. Some in the West have suggested that Ukraine enter into peace talks and realize that they will have to sacrifice land for peace. Ukraine obviously doesn't follow this line of reasoning and have vowed to fight on, but the real issue is whether the West will continue to support the Ukrainian effort. Can Ukraine continue with the current loss rate? Good question, especially as it is becoming clear that Russia has created an implacable foe in Ukraine.

Russian demographics are not those of the Soviet Union (USSR). The USSR had a population of 286m people in the fifteen republics. What was to become the Russian Federation was 147m at the time of the demise of the USSR. Since that time Russia has continued to lose people from disease, migration and wars. Before the beginning of the current war, Russia was dropping by about 57k per year and that number was increasing. The current population is currently about 142m but some of this is from occupied Ukrainian territory. The FSB in 2022 estimated that up to 6m Russians were living out of the country on a regular basis. This number may have jumped by up to a million more thus the available population is smaller than advertised. This being said, it does not take into account Russia's grim demographics where over 25% are over 60 and women greatly outnumber men after age 29. The current war has not helped the issue either where some stats place Russian fatalities as high as 365k killed based on budget requests for military estates and as many as 1.2m wounded or missing. Russia has compensated by lowering requirements of education, medical and criminal convictions to increase the size of the forces by volunteers and conscripts. Russian leadership has pushed these ill-trained folks forward before they are ready or units gained their ability to operate effectively. Thus Russian losses are very high. Until now most of the recruits and "mobiks" were from rural areas in the east. Losses however are forcing the government to look at the major cities and this is likely to cause increasing unrest.

The Afghanistan war caused 15k fatalities. Mothers of soldiers reached a breaking point and started demonstrating against the war. Is this possible now? I believe so, especially as large city population are

affected and there are greater possibilities for mothers and family members to gather. Even security force members have mothers and this will be a problem, but how much of a problem is another question. Russia's demographics are not good and thus wasting troops will have negative consequences as time goes on. Manpower is not infinite, despite the idea up to 25m Russian men would be available if there were a full mobilization.

Speaking of deaths, the loss of key individuals is ongoing. Ms Zoya Konovalova, age 48, was chief editor of state television. She was found dead in her home with her 53 year old husband. The cause of death is suspected to be poison. Details of her husband's death are unknown. The article is from RBC Kuban. She and her husband join a long list of former Putin associates who have died under mysterious circumstances. One of the Putin family's houses burnt down this week. The cause was suggested as an electrical fire.

The war has become fairly static but one area continues to evolve and that is the increasing use of missiles and drones to hammer the other side. This past two weeks has seen the use of both ballistic and hypersonic missiles. Both these missile types are difficult for Ukraine to kill, and thus damage to Ukrainian cities has increased. The Patriot missile system has proven effective but other systems do not have the same ability. There are only three Patriot systems in Ukraine. Ukraine has responded as best they can and with considerable success as Russian air defence systems have proven to be less than advertised. Ukraine has been successful in hitting major targets in Crimea. Ukraine has also opted to destroy deep targets within range of other systems such as HIMARS, destroying a major rail bridge almost immediately ready for operation after five months of labour. Ukraine continues to take out headquarters, supply depots, barracks, bridges, key equipment such as radars, and large artillery systems using available artillery. They have conducted four very deep attacks on critical railway infrastructure in the far east as well essentially cutting China's ability to use the system for larger quantities of material. In the long term this is likely to be a more successful method than attacking civilian targets. Russia is thought to be holding 74 Khinzal and 190 Iskander missiles left in their arsenal. They are able to build small numbers of both even with sanctions.

Main fighting areas include around Kupiansk in the north, Bakhmut and Avdiivka in the east, Robotyne and Verbove in Zaporizhia and Krynky in Kherson and lastly, Crimea. Neither side has made major headway but Ukraine has managed to keep most Russian attempts at bay. As an Army officer with a little experience, I find Russian tactics puzzling, especially near Krynky. Ukrainian forces are largely static and mainly light infantry with anti-armour weapons but backed with well trained and equipped artillery units. Russian forces have almost routinely moved in a column down the exact same road and achieving the same outcome: total destruction. One wonders what goes on in the mind of LGen Tiplinsky, Commander of the Airborne forces along with 18 Combined Arms Army. General Tiplinsky is famous/infamous for criticizing the Russian leadership for sending troops with virtually no training, poor junior leadership, and poor equipment in poor mechanical shape. It is surprising that such an experienced commander conducts such useless attacks against well positioned and equipped troops. If one were a betting man, and I am not, I suspect the general is a likely candidate for an "accidental" poisoning, falling out and window, a traffic accident, an explosion by poorly handled ammunition, etc., as well as taking blame for a lack of forward momentum.

Other comments this week from various sources of unknown reliability have stated that Russia is adjusting their forces to meet Putin's demands better. Ukraine has watched these changes in the past and has exploited the situation when and where Russia has taken away a little too much. It is likely to do so again.

Ukraine's main issue is the slow replacement of ammunition. At one point Ukraine was using up to 10k rounds a day. They are now down to less than 4k per day. The bottom line is Ukraine needs the tools to

finish the job. Western reluctance to provide weapons that can reach into Russia is nonsensical. Russia has shown no such reluctance to exploit its areas of superiority. Ukraine needs the tools to defeat Russia in a comprehensive way or the West has to accept a long war that could spill further into Europe.

China

The Peoples' Republic of China (PRC) is one of the world's great misnomers. The ruling Communist Chinese Party (CCP) does nothing for its people except create conditions for their ongoing misery under the rule and whim of the CCP itself. The CCP has lauded its "victory over poverty" yet many are far below the needed income for a safe and secure life. The farther west one goes in the country, the more poverty is hidden from view as Western reporters and tourists are more carefully managed to prevent unfavourable views from spreading to the world. The PRC is not a paradise on Earth, it is imperial in nature and willing to exploit its minorities, or in the case of the Uyghurs, slaves in concentration camps euphemistically called education and vocational institutes. Close to a million remain in these camps. China continues to abuse its religious minorities and even has gone as far as re-writing the holy books of Christians and Muslims. Their main aim is survival; they do this by seeking greater means of control of the population.

The CCP has created conditions that have crippled China's once great and growing economy. The PRC have routinely created financial figures that are only an illusion of structural issues such as the shadow economy, fraud, corruption and a lack of a regulatory system that keeps the other issues in check. Economists and financial experts now suggest that although China's rise could continue, it is unlikely to surpass the economy of the United States at any time in the future. Chinese financial media, principally Caixin, an economic magazine, has recently written and published articles specifically criticizing the leadership of the CCP for the ongoing struggles in the economy. Such actions would be unthinkable in past. The attack on the gaming industry have now show the ineptitude of Xi's actions. It has put Xi in the spotlight. It is increasingly clear that Xi has opposition within the CCP. In the next short while he will have to regain the confidence of the Party or his long term survival may be in doubt.

It is now suggested that Xi's purge within the military is an attempt to regain that appearance of control. As of last week, nine officers have been removed including seven from the Strategic Rocket Force, and one each from the ground forces and the Navy. It affects the Central Military Commission of which Xi is the chairman, where all but two have been removed out of the seven members. It is entirely likely that lower level purges and retirements are continuing. As mentioned last week, the new Minister of Defence is a Navy Admiral and his replacement as Chief of Naval Staff is an experienced submariner. It seems appropriate if the PRC intends to impose its will on Taiwan as any major invasion would require an extensive effort by the Navy and merchant marine. This is likely more for intimidation purposes rather than for actual operational planning. The past two weeks a number of alleged issues of corruption within the military have come to light including suggestions that this corruption was conducted under the auspices of the previous Minister of Defence, Li Shangfu. It is the shadow of this corruption that now also covers Xi. Will he survive the next year, or will he become...ill and unable to continue? Who within the CCP princelings is in a lead position for a potential takeover? Will the ongoing shambles of the economy affect the overall ability of the Party to govern the country? Time will tell but authoritarians with little to gain by the current situation may try to distract the population with an outsider such as the US in relation to Taiwan or the Philippines as examples. The next year maybe the one that is as per the old Chinese curse "May you live in interesting times" and so here we are.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- Over the last week, ground combat has continued to be characterised by either a static front line or very gradual, local Russian advances in key sectors.
- In the north, near Kupiansk, Russia's Western Group of Forces continues to conduct a large scale but inconclusive offensive operation. In northern Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine has maintained a stable front line in the face of small-scale Russian attacks around Bakhmut. In central Donetsk, Avdiivka is still heavily contested, while Russian forces have consolidated late December 2023 gains around Marinka, which saw them finally advance to the western edge of the town after nine years of combat in the area.
- In southern Ukraine, Russian airborne forces have highly likely made minimal progress in a renewed attempt to dislodge the Ukrainian bridgehead on the eastern bank of the Dnipro around the village of Krynky.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- On 22 December 2023, Ukrainian forces shot down three Russian Su-34 FULLBACK combat jets over southern Ukraine. Previously, Russian tactical air power had been playing a key role in the south, especially attacking Ukraine's bridgehead on the eastern bank of the Dnipro River.
- Following the losses, Russian Aerospace Forces (VKS) almost completely ceased crewed operations in the south through late December 2023. There is a realistic possibility that the lack of air support contributed to the failure of an attempt by Russian Ground Forces' 18th Combined Arms Army to clear the bridgehead.
- In recent days, Russia has again increased tactical air strikes around the bridgehead, but at a lower level than before the shootdowns. This once again demonstrates that Russia's inability to establish air superiority in the early stages of the Russia-Ukraine war continues to undermine their daily operations.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- Rosgvardia, the Russian National Guard, is bolstering its resources and personnel as a result of upheavals in Russia's internal security scene from the war in Ukraine.
- Elements of private military company Wagner Group came under Rosgvardia from October 2023, followed on 3 January 2024 by the Donetsk People's Republic's (DNR) "Vostok" Battalion. Moscow has also been advancing its efforts to dissolve the DNR's "Kaskad" group, which specialises in drone operations, and subordinate parts of it to Rosgvardia.
- In July 2023, the Russian State Duma authorised Rosgvardiya to employ heavier weaponry. New capabilities, along with its augmentation with experienced veterans from other groups, will likely represent a significant increase in combat effectiveness.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- In late 2023, Russian politicians claimed that the Soviet counter-intelligence (CI) organisation 'SMERSH' was being re-established. In early January 2024, an open-source image showed operatives apparently wearing SMERSH uniform patches.
- An abbreviation of the Russian phrase for 'death to spies', Joseph Stalin established the original organisation which existed from 1941-1946. In the West, it became known via its fictionalised portrayal in Ian Fleming's James Bond books.
- It is unclear whether the new name indicates any substantive new capabilities or role for Russia's CI function, or whether it is merely a re-badging. However, it provides another example of how the Russian authorities consciously couch the Russia-Ukraine conflict in the spirit of the Second World War, and their strong focus on the supposed infiltration of external threats into the country.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- Ukraine's Defence Intelligence (HUR) stated the Ukrainian Armed Forces attacked Russian targets at Saky aerodrome and Sevastopol on 4 January 2024. These attacks highly likely degraded the awareness and coverage of Russian air defences over the Crimean region.
- In response, Russia launched a number of missile attacks across Ukraine on 8 January 2024, targeting several cities including Kryvyi Rih and Zaporizhzhia city.
- This once again demonstrates the ineffectiveness of Russian air defences in protecting key locations, despite their enhanced preparedness. The scale of the Russian response is likely indicative of the level of success achieved by the Ukrainian armed forces' actions of 4 January 2024.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- Russia has accidentally discharged two aerial munitions on two separate occasions in the past week. Russia's Ministry of Defence stated that on 2 January 2024 one of their aircraft discharged a munition damaging nine residential properties in Petropavlovka, in Russia's Voronezh Oblast.
- The second incident, on 8 January 2024, occurred with a discharge of a FAB-250 unguided munition over the village of Rubizhne, Luhansk Oblast, in occupied Ukraine, and was confirmed by the pro-Russian head of the Luhansk People's Republic. Both instances were during Russian combat sorties.
- Previously, on 20 April 2023 a Russian Su-34 aircraft also had an "abnormal discharge of aviation ammunition" over Belgorod city in Russia. Russia's continued propensity for munition accidents is likely exacerbated by inadequate training and crew fatigue, leading to poor execution of tactics during missions.

INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

- Ukraine is currently experiencing a cold snap, with temperatures struggling to rise above freezing over the next week leading to lower ground temperatures.
- As the ground freezes, the conditions for cross-country movement will almost certainly improve throughout January and into February before thawing in March. The thaw will then lead to a corresponding deterioration in conditions for cross-country movement.
- Coupled with the freezing temperatures is an increase in snow cover throughout Ukraine. Snow depth is likely to be a limiting factor for manoeuvrability.
- The worsening conditions will be compounded by shortened daylight hours making operating conditions difficult for both sides, which will have to rely on cold weather and night-vision equipment to operate.

Defence Spending

Ref: Internal government polls capture desire for balanced budget, housing spending
<https://globalnews.ca/news/10185846/internal-government-polls-desire-balanced-budget-housing-spending/>

Where defence stands in poll respondents thinking:

Where should Ottawa increase its spending?

Spending area	CANADA	BC	AB	SK/MB	ON	QC	ATL
Increase housing supply	69.1%	72.4%	69.9%	58.1%	68.6%	71.2%	68.7%
Income supports for low-income Cdns with a disability	58.8%	55.9%	56.6%	66.9%	58.4%	59.2%	61.2%
National dental care plan	53.1%	50.2%	52.7%	55.1%	52.8%	53.5%	57.5%
National pharmacare plan	47.8%	47.0%	38.9%	48.5%	50.5%	47.4%	49.3%
Tax credits for clean tech manufacturing	44.2%	48.4%	45.6%	42.6%	43.7%	44.1%	38.8%
Increase defence spending	27.1%	26.9%	37.6%	28.7%	26.2%	24.5%	23.1%

Table: David Akin / Global News • Source: PCO weekly polling program - July 9-23 | n=2000 • Created with Datawrapper

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