



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia Dispatches

31 August 2018

Dispatches is a weekly collection of links and news of current interest, included those tweeted and posted by the Institute on social media. Everyone is encouraged to submit links and other content to the Institute's Chief Information Officer (CIO) at RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com to be included in *Dispatches*. Comments to articles can be from members or non-members of RUSI(NS). If you do not want to receive *Dispatches*, or wish to receive it at some different frequency, please inform the CIO. Feedback is welcome anytime.

RUSI(NS) also publishes a weekly Defence & Security Newsletter, aimed at opinion leaders and industry. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter, email admin@duncom.ca.

Events: To list an event into *Dispatches*, email the CIO by noon Thursday.

14 September, Friday – Master Mariners of Canada Symposium "Sharing our Waters: Maritime Commerce and Whales." Saint John, New Brunswick. See <http://www.mastermariners.ca/sharing-our-waters-maritime-commerce-and-whales/> and poster at end of *Dispatches*.

17 September, Monday - Canadian Military Intelligence Association (CMIA) Halifax chapter lecture by LCol (ret'd) Ian MacVicar [RUSI(NS) member] on "Obstacles to Analysis – Uncovering Cognitive Traps." 1900 start, HMCS SCOTIAN.

19 September, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker, TBA (the intelligence officer previously announced is no longer available in September). 1130-1330 hours. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

10 October, Wednesday – RUSI(NS) Distinguished Speaker Shelley Hopkins, Executive Director of the Halifax and Region Military Family Resource Centre, on MFRC services to families of veterans released on medical grounds. 1130-1330 hours. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

25 October, Thursday – Society of Atlantic Heroes "Gala for Heroes" Songwriters' Circle. 6-10 pm. Casino Nova Scotia. Dress: semi-formal (men: business suits, jacket & tie, medals optional; women: cocktail dress/slacks, medals optional; active duty persons - military, RCMP and all first responders: uniform with medals encouraged). Light appetizers and liquid refreshment will be served. To purchase a ticket, call 1-833-213-4376. Or purchase a table (10 people) online at: <https://ev9.eventue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetEventInfo?ticketCode=PR:HALIFAX:C19:9AH25:9AH25P&linkID=halifax&shopperContext=&caller=PR&appCode=&prc=9AH25P&ppc=9AH25P>
RUSI(NS) has already arranged a table of five couples. If you want to start a second table, contact Ken Hoffer.


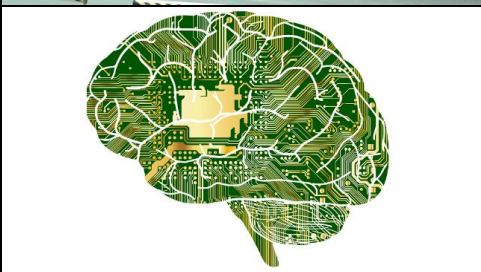


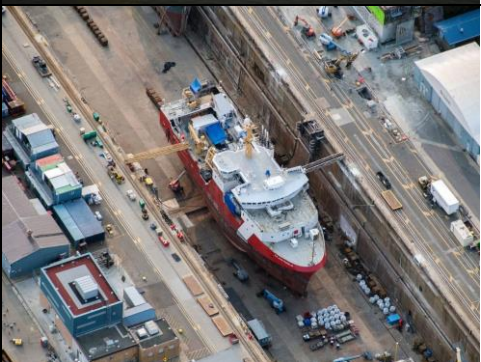
7 November, Wednesday – save the date for the RUSI(NS) **Remembrance Dinner**. Evening. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

Publications:

RUSI(NS) Comments "Refuelling RCAF Aircraft Post-2020" 22 Aug 18
<https://rusi-ns.ca/refuelling-rcaf-aircraft-post-2020/>

RUSI(NS) Comments "US Defense Authorisation and the Arctic" 8 Aug 18
<https://rusi-ns.ca/us-defense-authorisation-and-the-arctic/>

Tweeted by @RUSI_NS: Original article title in parentheses. RUSI(NS) tweets may be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something tweeted or retweeted, email the CIO by noon Thursday.

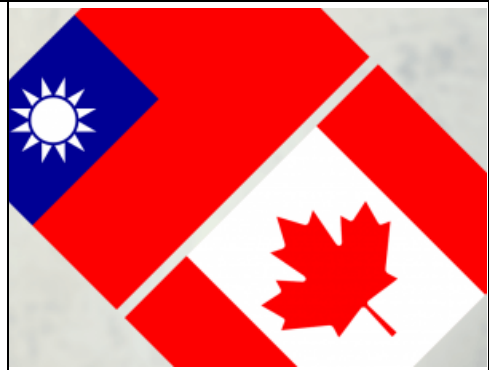
| | |
|---|--|
| <p>HalifaxShippingNews @HfxShippingNews 20 Aug tweeted: Signs of a coming launch - transporters arrive at the shipyard (AOPS is due to launch in sept) RUSI(NS) retweeted: "Self-Propelled Modular Transporters" to be used to "translate" (move) Irving Hull 103 (future #HMCSHarryDeWolf) from pier to barge. Late Sep. Barge will move to Bedford Basin & semi-submerge to launch ship. Slow process. Naming ceremony alongside after that</p> |  |
| <p>"Roboethics and the Collision Regulations" https://maritime-executive.com/editorials/roboethics-and-the-collision-regulations#gs.Vn6UISY "The primary objective of introducing robot ships must surely be to enhance safety of life..."</p> |  |
| <p>When will Trudeau consider our vets a worthy cause? (Tim Dunne, Halifax Chronicle Herald – 25 August 2018) (http://thechronicleherald.ca/opinion/1593089-dunne-when-will-trudeau-consider-our-vets-a-worthy-cause)</p> |  |
| <p>Davie Shipbuilding @chantierdavie Aug 27 tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Three polar icebreakers arrive at Davie to be refitted and upgraded for use by the Canadian Coast Guard. This interim solution will solve the icebreaker shortage and ensure the protection of the economy, environment and safety of life at sea until new icebreakers can be built.</p> |  |
| <p>CDN Naval Review @CdnNavalReview 28 Aug tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Hmm. Hard to know what to say about this. "No need to ensure purchased military equipment actually works, government officials argue in procurement dispute" https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/no-need-to-ensure-military-equipment-purchased-actually-works-government-officials-argue-in-procurement-dispute via @nationalpost</p> |  |

Macdonald-Laurier Institute @MLInstitute 28 Aug tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: Most countries don't have as rigid an interpretation of the "One-China" policy as Canada; we are an outlier. Eric Lerhe breaks down why Canada should expand its ties and cooperate more closely with Taiwan #cdnpoli #cdnfp #Taiwan

(Loosening Ottawa's rigid "one-China" policy with Taiwan: Eric Lerhe for Inside Policy

<https://www.macdonaldlaurier.ca/loosening-ottawas-rigid-one-china-policy-taiwan-eric-lerhe-inside-policy/>)

The author is known to many (ahem, long-in-the-tooth) RCN.

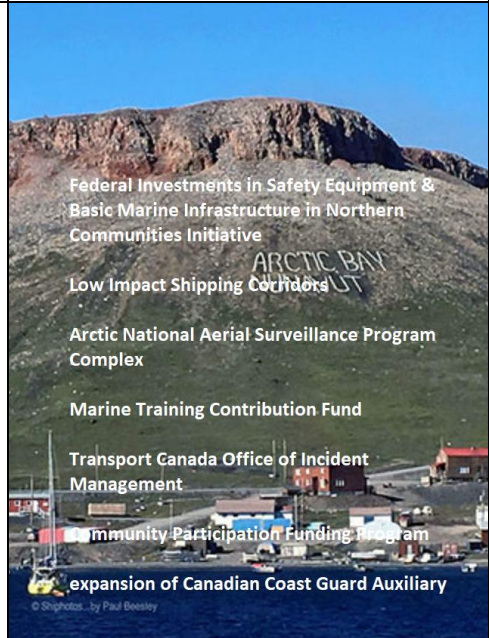


Office of the JAG @JAGCAF Aug 27 tweeted: Col Bruce MacGregor, Director of Military Prosecutions, joined @RUSI_NS in Halifax today for a roundtable on the military justice system from a prosecution perspective. Great discussions on support for victims at court martial and ongoing military prosecution initiatives. pic.twitter.com/wvfESzH3zg RUSI(NS) retweeted: Great talk with Col MacGregor, RUSI(NS) & guests (#CAF & civil) during 'discussion table' 27Aug18 on @CanadianForces justice system from prosecution perspective. Lots of Q&A, point&counter-point - always useful to question the status quo. Stronger for it. Pleased to host event



"Transport Canada announces seven measures to protect #Arctic waters"

http://www.maritimemag.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=788:transport-canada-announces-seven-measures-to-protect-arctic-waters



Master Mariners @MMofCanada 29 Aug tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: (Sharing our Waters: Maritime Commerce and Whales <http://www.mastermariners.ca/sharing-our-waters-maritime-commerce-and-whales/>)

See poster at end of *Dispatches*.



Superb brief by Robert Brooks @CoastGuardCAN on "#Arctic Priorities: Opportunities for the Canadian and Global Arctic" to RUSI(NS)&guests 29Aug18 <https://rusi-ns.ca/arctic-priorities/> #CCG is well focused on important region, working with indigenous&other partners



David Pugliese @davidpugliese 30 Aug tweeted: Canada's first Arctic Offshore Patrol Ship expected in October <https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/first-arctic-offshore-patrol-ship-expected-in-october/> RUSI(NS) retweeted: 1st ship of #Arctic&Offshore Patrol Ship project, Irving Hull 103 to launch Oct 2018, in later ceremony be named HARRY DEWOLF then after trials&acceptance (spring 2019) be taken into commissioned service with #RCNavy as HMCS HARRY DEWOLF, AOPV 430 (Arctic&Offshore Patrol Vessel)



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

Canada's Outgoing Defence Attaché: U.S. and Canada Still Have Each Other's Back

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/canadas-outgoing-defence-attache-us-and-canada-still-have-each-others-back>



Canada's Outgoing Defence Attaché: U.S. and Canada Still Have Each Other's Back

This wide-ranging and informative article by the outgoing Canadian Defence Attaché to the US, Rear-Admiral Bill Truelove, highlights the long and strong military connections between the two countries. The substance of his message is reinforced by a briefing this contributor recently attended by the outgoing Commander Canadian Army, Lieutenant-General Paul Wynnyck (now Vice Chief of Defence Staff), in which he stated that army-to-army relationships, contacts and co-operation have not been adversely affected by President Trump and continue to be maintained closely at all levels, including the highest.

Phantom democracy: a puzzle at the heart of Chinese politics

<https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/politics/article/2161276/phantom-democracy-puzzle-heart-chinese-politics>



The story, "Phantom Democracy: A Puzzle at the Heart of Chinese Politics" is an interesting point of view. It was recently written by John Keane, a professor of Politics at the University of Sydney in

Sydney, Australia.

The article supposes that China is forging a new type of political system starting at the grass roots and stating that low level village initiatives provide a level of democracy that seems to be neglected. He also states that the leadership is aware of the need to be supported by the people. In one instance, he says they are on constant campaigning mode and extremely conscious of the need to keep people happy and hopefully involved in a positive way. As Xi points out himself, "The party state must work constantly to stay in close touch with the people to ensure that 'separation from the masses' never grows dangerously wide." This is accomplished by "harmoniously guiding public opinion. It is an interesting point of view that is worth examining and thinking about, as China will continue to influence activity around the world no matter what our views are about the regime itself.

It is the final paragraph that posits that if the current system were to remain in place, "An ultra modern, one party polity grounded in voluntary servitude of its people, a strange new reality with a democratic feel?" may emerge. Again, interesting to think about and one has to admit how would one govern China with its masses and its view of cultural superiority and its need to have the overwhelming support of the people to support its goals?

China is not a democracy or anything close to it. It has no rule of law save the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). Even this week Xi stated that there was more need for the party to control and influence the "rule of law." CCP by its own figures has killed untold millions during the Revolution, Mao's reign of terror, the Cultural Revolution etc. It continues to brutally oppress the people of Tibet and East Turkistan. It is involved in at least a half dozen different territorial disputes and has coerced countries into providing key infrastructure after lending "too much money" that made it impossible to pay back. Most recently this week it was Afghanistan, where a new Chinese base will be set up.

China and the CCP are not a new phantom democracy, it is, the same old brutal party it always has been and it is unlikely to change. The fact that its "clothes" are new doesn't change the overall criminality of the current Chinese regime.

Russia Masses Naval Forces in Syria in Anticipation of Possible U.S. Attack

<https://themoscowtimes.com/news/russia-masses-naval-forces-syria-anticipation-possible-us-attack-62688>



The Moscow Times article, "Russia Masses Naval Forces in Syria in Anticipation of a Possible US Attack", states that Russia has built up a naval task force of ten surface ships and two submarines. Keep in mind this build up has less capability than the NATO Standing Force in the Mediterranean. It is thought this is in answer to the US threat to attack Syria if Bashar Al Assad uses chemical weapons against Idlib, the last large strong hold of the Syrian opposition.

President Trump has launched attacks against Syria when it was noted that chemical weapons were used, so the alleged Russian build up is somewhat expected. It may also be an indicator that the Syrian President is contemplating such an act and hence Russian naval and air defence coverage.

In the article, the Pentagon suggests that the alleged US build up is in possible response to such a chemical attack is Russian propaganda.

The other 'wild card' is Turkey. Turkey has troops in the area and they have indicated that a large scale attack would not be a good idea. Given the recent Russian Turkish improvement in relations, would this

be harmed if Syria did use chemical weapons or opened a wide scale attack on an area that Turkey currently controls.

The US has sufficient forces in theater or within reach of the theatre to attack if they so choose. They do not have to build up at all.

The real answer is who will blink first or do we have a potential Aug 1914 type incident when no one really wants a conflict but circumstances prevent normal negotiations and diplomacy? Something to consider.

Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS: RUSI(NS) postings may be viewed by clicking on the icon at <https://RUSI-NS.ca>. To have something posted or commented, email the CIO by noon Thursday.

U.S. senator plans measure to help Taiwan keep its allies

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-taiwan-china-usa/u-s-senator-plans-measure-to-help-taiwan-keep-its-allies-idUSKCN1L82HA?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2024.08.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



How Turkey Dumbed Itself Down

https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/08/22/how-turkey-dumbed-itself-down/?utm_source=PostUp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Flashpoints%20LiveIntent%208/24/2018&utm_keyword=Flashpoints%20OC



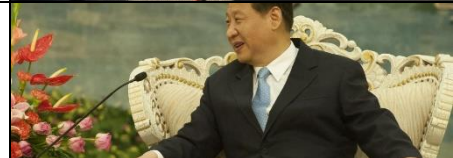
China's Mass Internment Camps Have No Clear End in Sight

https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/08/22/chinas-mass-internment-camps-have-no-clear-end-in-sight/?utm_source=PostUp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Flashpoints%20LiveIntent%208/24/2018&utm_keyword=Flashpoints%20OC



China's Strongman May Need A Rest, But He is Hardly in Need of Rescue

https://rusi.org/commentary/chinas-strongman-may-need-rest-he-hardly-need-rescue?utm_source=RUSI+Newsletter&utm_campaign=d8573f8139-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_06_07_02_15_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0c9bbb5ef0-d8573f8139-47709521



The UK's giant aircraft carriers

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/UK_aircraft_carriers



Iran's 'New' Fighter Jet Provokes Derision, As Observers Note Likeness To U.S. Jet From The '60s

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/dominicdudley/2018/08/21/irans-new-fighter-jet/#3a117ad7c15a>



China's military buildup a challenge to US-led order in Asia-Pacific

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/detail/opinion/30352854>



A final \$2.1M spent on maintenance for Canada's aging Sea Kings

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/SOMNIA-1.4796714>



Families, former commanders urge open access to rebuilt Afghan war memorial

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/SOMNIA-1.4794993>



When will Trudeau consider our vets a worthy cause?

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/opinion/1593089-dunne-when-will-trudeau-consider-our-vets-a-worthy-cause>



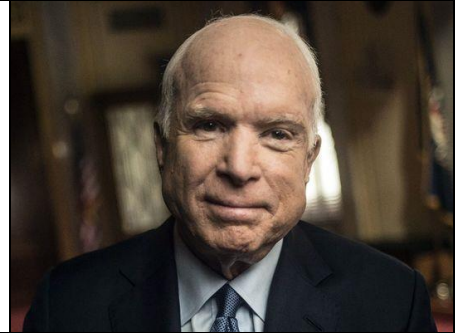
LAV UP: Enhancing the light armour vehicle specialist variants

<https://canadianarmytoday.com/lav-up-enhancing-the-light-armour-vehicle-specialist-variants/>



Canadian black battalion soldiers

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2018/08/26/john-mccain-war-hero-political-giant-dies-at-81/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2027.08.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Distribution of new Ranger rifle will take two years, Canadian Army says

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/distribution-of-new-ranger-rifle-will-take-two-years-canadian-army-says>



How a tiny French town is commemorating Canadian black battalion soldiers

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/french-town-black-battalion-memory-1.4798913>



‘The homeland is no longer a sanctuary’ amid rising near-peer threats, NORTHCOM commander says

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-air-force/2018/08/27/the-homeland-is-no-longer-a-sanctuary-amid-rising-near-peer-threats-northcom-commander-says/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%208/28/18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Rift Grows Between U.S. Allies Over North Korea's Nuclear Threat

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-08-28/rift-grows-between-u-s-allies-over-north-korea-s-nuclear-threat?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%208/28/18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Neighbors square off with Beijing in South China Sea

https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2018/08/27/neighbors-square-off-with-beijing-in-south-china-sea/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%208/28/18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



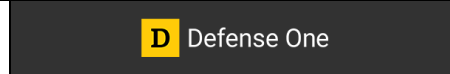
What Does a Chinese Superpower Look Like? Nothing Like the U.S.

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2018-08-27/what-does-a-chinese-superpower-look-like-nothing-like-the-u-s?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%208/28/18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Defense One eBooks and Special Reports

<https://link.defenseone.com/view/56c715c86e4adc434d8b52798ib3i.rad/230572f2>



Government's "smart pledge" of RCAF aircraft for UN still not met

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/governments-smart-pledge-of-rcaf-aircraft-for-un-still-not-met>



300,000 Troops and 900 Tanks: Russia's Biggest Military Drills Since Cold War

https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/28/world/europe/russia-military-drills.html?ref=collection/timestopic/Defense%20and%20Military%20Forces&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=1&pgtype=collection&utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb-8-29&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



North Korea warns Pompeo denuclearization talks are 'at stake,' sources say

https://www.cnn.com/2018/08/28/asia/north-korea-pompeo-kim-yong-chol-letter-intl/index.html?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb-8-29&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Russia is getting ready for its biggest war games since the Cold War — a potential sign they're worried about NATO

https://www.businessinsider.com/russia-preps-for-vostok-2018-military-exercise-amid-tensions-with-nato-2018-8?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb-8-29&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Russia: Beijing participation in war games signals stronger ties

https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2018/08/28/russia-beijing-participation-in-war-games-signals-stronger-ties/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb-8-29&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



No need to ensure purchased military equipment actually works, government officials argue in procurement dispute

<https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/no-need-to-ensure-military-equipment-purchased-actually-works-government-officials-argue-in-procurement-dispute>



New NATO commander confident war criminals, militia will be screened out of Iraq training program

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/nato-iraq-training-1.4803625>



The Plan to End the Korean War

https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2018/08/plan-end-korean-war/150902/?oref=defenseone_today_nl



After nearly 2 decades in development, the US Navy is close to operating with its new stealth fighter

https://www.defensenews.com/naval/2018/08/29/after-nearly-2-decades-in-development-the-us-navy-is-close-to-operating-with-its-new-stealth-fighter/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2030.08.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



What are the chances an ‘Arab NATO’ will work?

https://www.defensenews.com/global/mideast-africa/2018/08/29/what-are-the-chances-an-arab-nato-will-work/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2030.08.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Germany, seeking independence from U.S., pushes cyber security research

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-cyber/germany-seeking-independence-from-u-s-pushes-cyber-security-research-idUSKCN1LE1FX?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2030.08.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Canada’s NATO Mission: Realism and Recalibration

https://www.cgai.ca/canadas_nato_mission_realism_and_recalibration?utm_campaign=segal_nato&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cdfai



Jeff Semple: Canadian peacekeepers ‘shoulder-to-shoulder’ with German, Dutch troops in Mali





<https://globalnews.ca/news/4417045/jeff-semple-canadian-peacekeepers-german-dutch-troops/>



Canadian Coast Guard sends seven vessels to Arctic to conduct operations

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-coast-guard-sends-seven-vessels-to-arctic-to-conduct-operations>



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| <p>Canada's first Arctic Offshore Patrol Ship expected in October</p> <p>https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/first-arctic-offshore-patrol-ship-expected-in-october</p> |  |
| <p>The Courage to Stand While Trembling</p> <p>https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2018/08/john-mccains-unique-vietnam-war-heroism-empowered-him-in-politics.html?utm_source=WhatCountsEmail&utm_medium=RAND+Policy+Currents+AEM%3A++Email+Address+NOT+LIKE+DOTMIL&utm_campaign=AEM%3A631600804</p> |  |
| <p>Sectarianism in the Middle East</p> <p>https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR1681.html?utm_source=WhatCountsEmail&utm_medium=RAND%20Policy%20Currents+AEM:%20%20Email%20Address%20NOT%20LIKE%20DOTMIL&utm_campaign=AEM:631600804</p> |  |
| <p>Iran's Disinformation Campaigns</p> <p>https://www.rand.org/blog/2018/08/irans-disinformation-campaigns.html?utm_source=WhatCountsEmail&utm_medium=RAND%20Policy%20Currents+AEM:%20%20Email%20Address%20NOT%20LIKE%20DOTMIL&utm_campaign=AEM:631600804</p> |  |

Other Sources:

#3D printing

U.S. Marines 3D print F-35 part to save \$70,000

<https://3dprintingindustry.com/news/u-s-marines-3d-print-f-35-part-to-save-70000-138484/>

#air forces

Why the F-22 Raptor Might Be in Serious Trouble

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/why-f-22-raptor-might-be-serious-trouble-29617>

"Poor U.S. Air Force organization and management have contributed to problems..."

#Arctic emergencies

Arctic Shipping: Planning for Emergencies

<http://www.mastermariners.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/summarycompleterecomm.pdf>

Company of Master Mariners of Canada seminar report, for those who tracked the AKADEMIK IOFFE grounding incident last weekend.

#artificial intelligence

Artificial intelligence beyond the superpowers

<https://thebulletin.org/2018/08/the-ai-arms-race-and-the-rest-of-the-world/>

We don't understand AI because we don't understand intelligence

<https://www.engadget.com/2016/08/15/technological-singularity-problems-brain-mind/>

#Canada-US defence relations

(book review) Sovereignty and Command in Canada-US Continental Air Defence, 1940-1957

<https://balloonstodrones.com/2018/08/29/bookreview-sovereignty-and-command-in-canada-us-continental-air-defence-1940-1957/>

#cyber security

At the Nexus of Cybersecurity and Public Policy

free PDF: <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/18749/at-the-nexus-of-cybersecurity-and-public-policy-some-basic>

#cyberwar

Why Cyberattacks Don't Work as Weapons

<https://www.ethz.ch/en/news-and-events/eth-news/news/2018/01/dunn-cavelty-cyberwar.html>

#innovation

Creating Capability for Future Air Force Innovation

<https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25220/creating-capability-for-future-air-force-innovation-proceedings-of-a>

#international security

Emerging Trends and Methods in International Security

free PDF: <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25058/emerging-trends-and-methods-in-international-security-proceedings-of-a>

#military structure

Of the commissioned divide and a plea for more civilians

<http://davidhumesfootsoldier.com/?p=311>

#multi-domain operations

Multidomain Operations Task Force cuts teeth in Pacific

<https://www.defensenews.com/land/2018/08/28/multidomain-operations-task-force-cuts-teeth-in-pacific/>
Developing doctrine that will affect Canada?

#NATO

A world without NATO?

<https://www.nato.int/docu/review/2018/Also-in-2018/a-world-without-nato-military-europe-united/EN/index.htm>

#naval communications

MIT a step closer to enabling wireless communication between planes and subs

<https://navaltoday.com/2018/08/23/mit-a-step-closer-to-enabling-wireless-communication-between-planes-and-subs/>

RUSI(NS) reader comment: An interesting approach to an old problem, but I doubt satisfactory performance can be achieved outside the university's bathtub (test tank). Sure, advanced filtering technology can eliminate simple interference (i.e., two colliding ripples) but ocean dynamics are

exceptionally complex, with compound waves arriving from multiple directions, often changing salinity and temperature, not to mention bubbles, Comms circuits require measurable modulation, which means both a stable base/centre frequency and a predictable deviation. Additionally, even if operated only in pristine conditions (sea state zero), to achieve tactically useful distances, the ripple generator will require power levels (volume) that would invite immediate countermeasures against a relatively vulnerable source. Notwithstanding the disadvantages of a buoy, it (or a floating variant) seems to hold the most promise for creating and sustaining a RF/acoustic bridge at the ocean surface.

Maritime News reader comment: I read the report of MIT's latest idea to get round the submarine comms problem with much interest. Of one thing you can be absolutely sure, it won't be ready for action anytime soon. Though they acknowledged the 'rough sea' problem they made no mention of the radar problem. As described, the 'radar' knew exactly where to look to find the ripples. In reality that will never be the case. So it begs the question: how does one know, in advance, where the radar should be? I shan't be placing bets on this interesting concept getting much beyond the drawing board. Do they still use drawing boards these days?

#navies

Navy's Next Large Surface Combatant Will Draw From DDG-51, DDG-1000 — But Don't Call it a Destroyer Yet

<https://news.usni.org/2018/08/28/navys-next-large-surface-combatant-will-draw-ddg-51-ddg-1000-dont-call-destroyer>

There's a continuing evolution ongoing with warship typing, at least of late within the US.

#naval weapons

Canada Upgrading MK 46 Torpedoes to Modern MK 54 Standard

<http://mapleleafnavy.com/2018/08/22/canada-to-upgrade-mk-46-torpedoes-to-modern-mk-54-standard/>

Navy Making Room for Railguns in Next Warship, But No Extra Investments

<https://news.usni.org/2018/08/29/navy-making-room-railguns-next-warship-no-extra-investments>

#Russia

The August War, Ten Years On: A Retrospective on the Russo-Georgian War

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/08/the-august-war-ten-years-on-a-retrospective-on-the-russo-georgian-war/>

An example to remember.

#United States

Report to Congress on Shifts in the International Security Environment

<https://news.usni.org/2018/08/29/report-congress-shifts-international-security-environment>

#war

War Isn't Precise or Predictable — It's Barbaric, Chaotic, and Ugly

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2017/8/24/war-isnt-precise-of-predictable-its-barbaric-chaotic-and-ugly>

Other:

Mandate letters (for new ministers)

<https://pm.gc.ca/eng/mandate-letters>

HT David Akin @davidakin 28 Aug tweeted: Attention #cdnpoli nerds: The new ministerial mandate letters have been posted (<https://twitter.com/davidakin/status/1034453938161037313>)

Naval Badges and “Items”

The article “The UK's giant aircraft carriers” (https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/UK_aircraft_carriers) was submitted by a RUSI(NS) member with the comments: “An interesting, well-illustrated, in-depth look at Britain’s two new aircraft carriers, which covers such areas as carrier history, geopolitical concerns, national pride, cost and personnel, among other considerations.” Yes, a good example of a piece to educate the general public. In reading the article, a *Dispatches* editor thought the symbol on the side of the island of HMS *Queen Elizabeth* as interesting – it doesn't look like a normal ship's badge but obviously appears official the way it is mounted. In reply to a query about it, a respondent pointed out that it is from the ship’s badge. Another respondent, very knowledgeable, wrote that *Queen Elizabeth*’s badge employs a version of the roses worn by the two houses that fought in the War of the Roses. This is the badge worn by the first ship of that name, a battleship that served in both the First and Second World Wars. The respondent noted that using the shield (not the term “field” as used by the editor. The field is the split white/green background and not the whole design) vice the entire badge is a bit unusual but certainly not without precedent, e.g., ship’s boats often use just the shield in lieu of the badge but almost always with the rope ring. This “item” on the side of the carrier’s island may have been produced by the ship’s builder and not the Royal Navy.





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