



Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia Dispatches

30 November 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.



RUSI(NS) Seasonal Meet & Greet

**Friday, 7 December
Noon-1400
Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess**

13 December, Thursday - The NS Naval Association of Canada invites members of RUSI(NS) to their Christmas Lunch. 1130 for 1200. RA Park Officers' Mess. "At some stage during the gathering, the moose will be milked and there will be some for all." A donation basket will be available; tax receipts can be issued. Cost will be \$20 per person. Please let Bob Lancashire (casalanc@eastlink.ca) know if you will be attending and the number of guests you will be bringing.

16 January, Wednesday - Distinguished Speaker US Consul General Kevin Skillin, speaking on US-Canada relations. 1130-1330. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

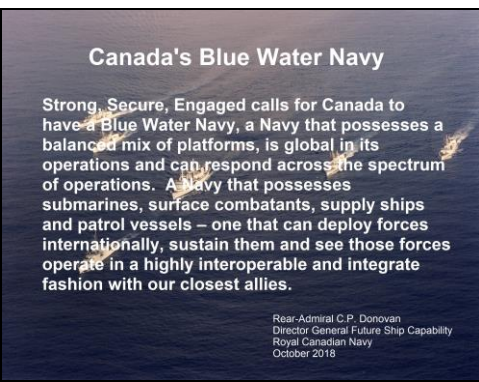
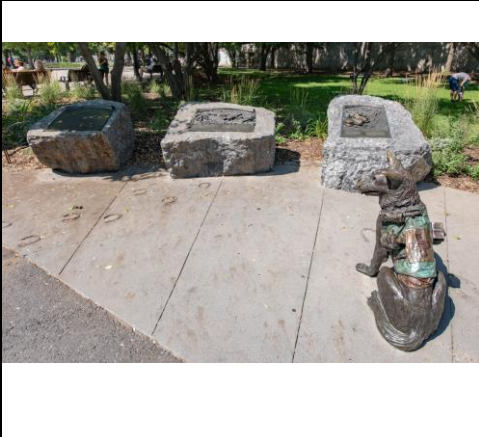
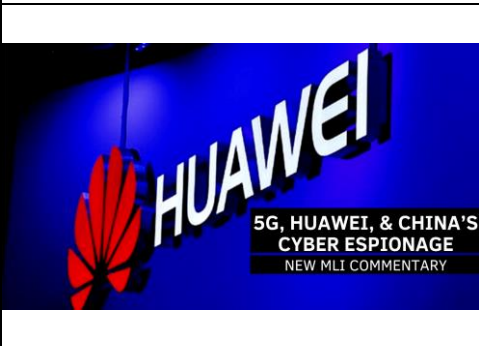
Publications:

RUSI(NS) Information Note "Events in a Warship's Life," 29 November 2018, <https://rusi-ns.ca/events-in-a-warships-life/>

Text and slides of the presentation "Growing Together: the Cultural Contribution of Indigenous People in the Canadian Military since the First World War" by John MacFarlane, Directorate of History and Heritage, our Distinguished Speaker 21 November 2018 are posted at: <https://rusi-ns.ca/indigenous-in-the-canadian-military/>. Anyone wanting the book "A Commemorative History of Aboriginal People in the Canadian Military" which John distributed at the event can email John for a paper copy or access at: <http://www.cmp-cpm.forces.gc.ca/dhh-dhp/pub/boo-bro/abo-aut/index-eng.asp>

RUSI(NS) Comments "Army Reservists: A Great Return on Investment," by David Connolly, 12 November 2018, <https://rusi-ns.ca/army-reservists/>

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>Royal Canadian Navy is globally deployable #BlueWaterNavy. Well trained sailors& robust logistics&engineering systems make it capable. CAN🇨🇦 needs continuing investment in #RCNavy people, ships, support to ensure options available to gov't for conflict, security threats, disasters</p>	 <p>Canada's Blue Water Navy</p> <p>Strong, Secure, Engaged calls for Canada to have a Blue Water Navy, a Navy that possesses a balanced mix of platforms, is global in its operations and can respond across the spectrum of operations. A Navy that possesses submarines, surface combatants, supply ships and patrol vessels – one that can deploy forces internationally, sustain them and see those forces operate in a highly interoperable and integrate fashion with our closest allies.</p> <p><small>Rear-Admiral C.P. Donovan Director General Future Ship Capability Royal Canadian Navy October 2016</small></p>
<p>Canadian Army @CanadianArmy 22 Nov tweeted: If you visit Ottawa's National War Memorial, there's a special monument you can visit that is nearby. Read more about the Animals in War Dedication memorial here: https://bit.ly/2DFrtTh RUSI(NS) retweeted: Canadian Military Memorials Database - Animals in War Dedication http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/9002 (A memorial dedicated to Canada's four-legged or feathered combatants https://www.facebook.com/notes/canadian-army/a-memorial-dedicated-to-canadas-four-legged-or-feathered-combatants/1927116904046945/)</p>	 <p>A photograph of the 'Animals in War Dedication' memorial at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. It features several large, rectangular stone blocks arranged in a row on a paved walkway. In the foreground, a bronze sculpture of a dog is visible, looking towards the stone blocks.</p>
<p>Macdonald-Laurier Institute @MLInstitute 23 Nov tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: NEW COMMENTARY: Is there more than meets the eye with @Huawei? @michael_ASPI dives deep into the nature of China's high-level cyber espionage efforts and how companies like #Huawei are leveraged to aid and abet the Communist Party. @ASPI_org #cdnpoli (5G, Huawei, and the Threat of China's Cyber Espionage: New MLI Commentary https://www.macdonaldlaurier.ca/5g-huawei-and-the-threat-of-chinas-cyber-espionage-new-mli-commentary/)</p>	 <p>A graphic featuring the Huawei logo (a red flower-like shape) on the left. To its right, the word 'HUAWEI' is written in large, white, 3D-style letters against a dark blue background. Below the logo and text, there is a black box with white text that reads: '5G, HUAWEI, & CHINA'S CYBER ESPIONAGE' and 'NEW MLI COMMENTARY'.</p>

#RCAF Deployable Mission Support Centre <http://www.rcaf-arc.forces.gc.ca/en/article-template-standard.page?doc=anchor-station-provides-all-ops-support-from-basically-a-tent/jopuf13h>
 Communications hub; centre for analysis of intelligence, surveillance & reconnaissance information gathered by #CP140 Aurora patrol aircraft. Useful capability for missions deployed or in CAN 🇨🇦
 ('Anchor station' provides all ops support from, basically, a tent)



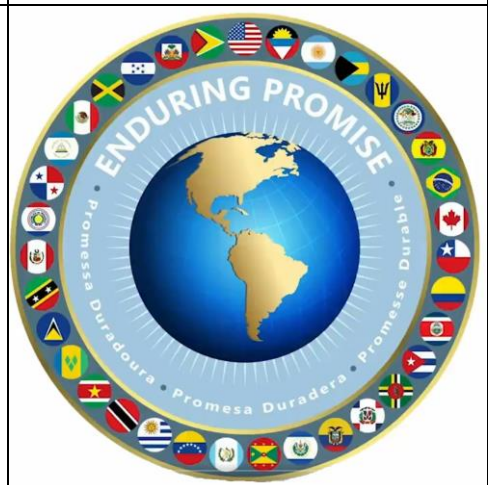
Good to read @NationalDefence emphasis of #Arctic over #Mali #MLI. Did #OpPRESENCE-Mali achieve target end state of mission? What was target?
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-mali-un-mission-not-extending-defence-minister-sajjan-1.4909120> What is "do more" in North? What is CAN 🇨🇦 #Arctic Strategy?
 (Defence minister confirms Mali mission will not be extended)



Canadian Navy @RCN_MRC Nov 20 tweeted: Your #RCNavy's #HMCSChicoutimi and #HMCSWindsor deployed for a combined total of 330 days this year demonstrating your Navy's ability to concurrently deploy its #submarines and provide invaluable support to #Canada's allies.
 #StrongSecureEngaged #NCGD18 #NAVYDAY
 @CanadianForces pic.twitter.com/p764kURdzo
 RUSI(NS) retweeted: #RCNavy #submarine force SUBFOR a strategic capability for CAN 🇨🇦 in regional defence & deployed operations. Important part of #balancedFleet. National Shipbuilding Strategy #NSS needs start considering what replacement (manned & drones) for current Victoria-class
 @NationalDefence



CAF Operations @CFOperations Nov 24 tweeted: Learn why two @CanadianForces medical technicians are sailing on board a @USNavy hospital ship. They're deployed as part of #OpGLOBE in support of #EnduringPromise. More: <https://bit.ly/2Qrli8K> pic.twitter.com/xGD020QHj9
 RUSI(NS) retweeted: Operation GLOBE #OpGLOBE @CanadianForces assist to CAN 🇨🇦 federal gov't depts or participation in GoC activities abroad as part of commitment to global active engagement. Deployments are opportunities for #CAF members to work alongside personnel of OGD & other nations
 (Operation GLOBE <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/op-globe.html>)



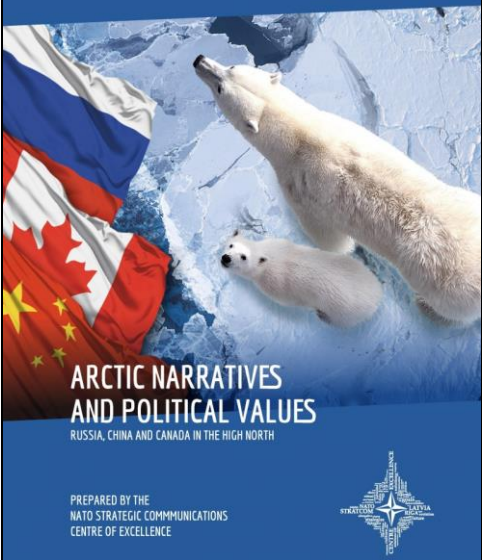
Canadian Global Affairs Institute @CAGlobalAffairs 26 Nov tweeted and RUSI(NS) retweeted: #Canada “has lost so many experienced pilots and technicians that it can no longer defend Canadian air space and carry out NATO missions in Europe.” More here from @mfisheroverseas: https://www.cgai.ca/rcafs_pilot_shortage_being_felt_in_romania #cdndef #OpREASSURANCE pic.twitter.com/Whkvu5ejm3 (RCAF’s pilot shortage being felt in Romania)



#CanadianRangers "foundation of the @CanadianForces operational capability across the north" <https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/taylor-canadas-northern-rangers-lead-the-way> "Their very presence is an affirmation of CAN🇨🇦 sovereignty" Good to read of mix of Cdn peoples serving&training together (Canada's northern Rangers lead the way)



.@STRATCOMCOE "Arctic Narratives and Political Value - Russian, China and Canada in the High North" <https://www.stratcomcoe.org/arctic-narratives-and-political-values> "...with such high economic stakes, efforts to secure political influence and regional access to the #Arctic have increased dramatically."



Victoria-class Modernization Program at options analysis stage <https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-forces-says-submarines-can-operate-until-mid-2020s-it-is-still-determining-how-to-upgrade> There comes a point when #submarine hull life precludes life extension. At what stage is 'New Submarine Project'? (Canadian Forces says submarines can operate until mid-2020s - but still no details on how fleet will be upgraded)



CAF Operations @CFOperations 27 Nov tweeted: Bravo Zulu! Cpl Morrison deployed on #OpFOUNDATION was recognized this month by Combined Maritime Forces for his work on a Canadian-developed system that downloads imagery directly from commercial satellites. Details: <http://bit.ly/2RdUE3r>
RUSI(NS) retweeted: Operation FOUNDATION
#OpFOUNDATION @CanadianForces in Middle East, North Africa & Southwest Asia working as staff with US headquarters & other countries, providing link between #CAF & HQ, with mission to #counterTerrorism



Suitable form of international relations/maneuvering, developing bases of friendly states in sensitive areas. Kinda a (serious) game of Go/Settlers of Catan
<https://news.usni.org/2018/11/23/australia-u-s-set-expand-papua-new-guinea-naval-base> Friendlies need infrastructure, training, logistics, not just equipment
(Australia, U.S. Set to Expand Papua New Guinea Naval Base)



PCO assessed @ChantierDavie proposal “would offer Canada greater flexibility when responding to domestic or int'l events.” Reporting since of #MVAsterix shows ship very successfully carrying out role as replenishment oiler. #RCNavy needs logistics ships <https://nationalpost.com/news/despite-questions-about-deal-top-bureaucrats-blessed-supply-ship-at-heart-of-mark-norman-case-as-good-value>
(Despite questions about deal, top bureaucrats blessed supply ship at heart of Mark Norman case as good value)



Worth a strategic discussion - should @CanadianForces be scattered in many small missions or few big? What difference does CAN want to make & where?
<https://legionmagazine.com/en/2018/11/scattering-canadas-armed-forces/> List of ops&exercises at: <http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/operations.page>
(Scattering Canada’s armed forces)



.@RANDCorporation "Climate, Geopolitics, and Change in the #Arctic" <https://www.rand.org/pubs/testimonies/CT501.html>
Testimony presented before Canadian House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs & International Development 26 November 2018



RUSI(NS) Information Note "Events in a Warship's Life"
<https://rusi-ns.ca/events-in-a-warships-life/> Listing of significant & other events in life of a #RCNavy warship from traditional & other perspectives @RCN_MRC

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SHIP PARTICULARS AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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CBC News @CBCNews 29 Nov tweeted: #Analysis: The beginning of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's administration brought us the lofty concept of "deliverology." But delivering on promises can hit a brick wall when it comes to buying military hardware. <https://www.cbc.ca/1.4924800>
 @Murray_Brewster
 (Why can't Ottawa get military procurement right?
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/SOMNIA-1.4924800>)
 RUSI(NS) retweeted: .@KimNossal book "Charlie Foxtrot: Fixing Defence Procurement in Canada" is well worth a read by authorities and general public
<http://www.journal.forces.gc.ca/Vol17/no2/PDF/CMJ172Ep70.pdf>



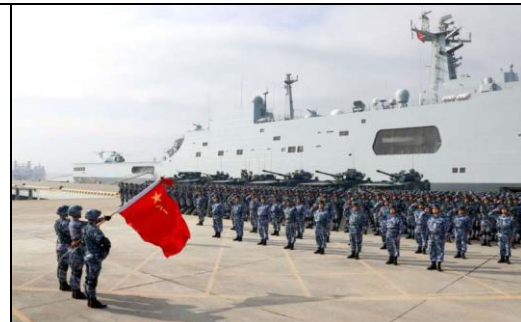
Canadian Forces @CanadianForces 28 Nov tweeted: Today marks the 12th annual Air Force Day on Parliament Hill, where Members of Parliament and Senators demonstrate our appreciation to the aviators of the Royal Canadian Air Force for their outstanding service and dedication to Canada.
<http://ow.ly/VHvv30mN2Zk> #RCAF
 (Joint statement on the occasion of Air Force Day on Parliament Hill
<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2018/11/joint-statement-on-the-occasion-of-air-force-day-on-parliament-hill.html>)



Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

China's Aggressive Military Reorganization Prompts Fears of Conflict

https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/world/china%e2%80%99s-aggressive-military-reorganization-prompts-fears-of-conflict/ar-BBPYeso?ocid=se&fbclid=IwAR2hvGsg5DCdl_S2HSqVgm6ICJTTwwwagFtXWPIADEeV0P30_117Pc5a90



It is clear that the Chinese are organizing themselves to control better their adjacent seas and nearby choke points. Like the Yanks of old they want to control their "Caribbean" like waters. This will

facilitate economic and political activities within their desired sphere of influence and control.

The USA and Australia are now awake to the threat but they are running second in this race series. PNG is their first victory in the series but the Chinese are still financing projects in that country so one should not count them out as they will develop spy activities there.

Novichok spymaster DEAD: Russian GRU chief blamed for Salisbury attack and downing MH17 dies from 'serious illness' weeks after he collapsed following a dressing down from Putin for 'incompetence'

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6416095/Head-Russian-spy-agency-dies-aged-63-long-illness.html>



Apparently Korobov collapsed at a face-to-face with Putin. Korobov was accused of incompetence by the President and was being “dressed down” at the time, according to an article in the UK Mirror. It seems plausible, but most people who really cause the president difficulties normally do not recover...such as lead poisoning of Boris Nemtsov as an example.

Beyond the AI Arms Race

https://www.foreignaffairs.com/reviews/review-essay/2018-11-16/beyond-ai-arms-race?cid=nlc-fa_twofa-20181122



Foreign Affairs "Beyond the AI Arms Race: America, China, and the Dangers of Zero-Sum Thinking" by Remco Zwetsloot, Helen Toner, and Jeffrey Ding. This article starts with:

“The idea of an artificial intelligence (AI) arms race between China and the United States is ubiquitous. Before 2016, there were fewer than 300 Google results for ‘AI arms race’ and only a handful of articles that mentioned the phrase. Today, an article on the subject gets added to LexisNexis virtually every week, and Googling the term yields more than 50,000 hits. Some even warn of an AI Cold War.

One question that looms large in these discussions is if China has, or will soon have, an edge over the United States in AI technology. Dean Garfield, the president of a U.S. trade group called the Information Technology Industry Council, recently told *Politico* that such fears are ‘grounded in hysteria.’ But many prominent figures disagree. Former Alphabet CEO Eric Schmidt, for instance, warned in 2017 that ‘By 2020, [the Chinese] will have caught up [to the United States]. By 2025, they will be better than us. And by 2030, they will dominate the industries of AI.’ And former Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work, among others, has argued that China’s advances in AI should spark a ‘Sputnik moment’ for the United States, inspiring a national effort comparable to the one that followed the Soviet Union’s early victories in the space race.”

For those without access to Foreign Affairs one can register at the website to obtain one free article per month.

VR Howard

Liberals reject committee recommendation to replace Victoria-class subs – no desire for subs with under-ice capability

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/liberals-reject-committee-recommendation-to-replace-victoria-class-subs-no-desire-for-subs-with-under-ice-capability>



The 1990-91 Jane's Fighting Ships lists all the UK Upholder-class submarines, now serving in Canada as the Victoria-class, with HMS *Upholder* now HMCS *Chicoutimi* being launched in 1986. This hull is 32 years old! The subs are only slightly behind in age of the Iroquois-class destroyers and the Protecteur-class Oilers, both classes now paid off and broken up.

Admittedly the Upholders were low mileage - they were never properly taken into service in the Royal Navy as the UK transitioned to an all nuclear fleet. The Chretien government managed to hold off on purchasing replacements for the RCN Oberon-class subs until they became mechanical nightmares. The Upholders were modernized extensively and made compatible with Canadian systems and weapons; they are still viable in the near term. Age will tell and the need to establish a replacement program will take time, up to 20 years before a hull is in the water. There are four conventional submarine programs that are viable: the Swedes still produce a solid air independent program on a conventional platform, the Germans have the 212 class, the French with the much exported Scorpion-class, and the new fellow on the block are the Japanese with the Soryu-class, also air independent and in series production. The Australians just ordered twelve subs from the French although there are some details that are difficult to work out.

If Canada bought off the shelf, which we have done in past for submarines, we only have these four programs to look at to replace the Victorias with a modern capable conventional submarine fleet that is capable of under-ice operations. Canada's requirements are between six and twelve submarines for service in all three oceans. The current level of four boats is inadequate. Four boats only give one operational with likely a surge of one more - the other two are used for training and one will always be in maintenance.

Canada has been criticized, quite rightly, for our lack of effort on defence. The situation with subs is an excellent example of our lack of concern and understanding of the threat before us with Russia's failing attempts to remain relevant. Our ability not only to patrol but also to defend if necessary our North is critical. A submarine, combination of satellites, autonomous underwater vehicles, underwater surveillance systems, and Arctic and Offshore Patrol vessels coupled with upgraded base facilities in the North should end any arguments with our allies about our lack of effort in defence almost instantly.

The current Canadian government says they do more than most. That is done purely on the backs of Canadian Armed Forces personnel using antiquated equipment and not the efforts of the Government of Canada. There is a huge difference between the government's comments and reality. The price is paid by Canadian service personnel.

The Aussie program appears to be somewhat controversial. There are informed commentators suggesting a "Life of Type Extension" for some or all of the Collins Class to cover the anticipated gap. This would see three to six of their Collins operate to at least 2032.

The proponents want the Collins to retire as the first six of the twelve new subs enter operational service. The government has yet to react to this suggestion.

So, should Canada do a LOTE (life of type extension) on our present subs and buy into a foreign replacement program in the late 2020-early 2030 time frame?

Some reading:

1. What exactly is the Collins life of type extension? Part 1—A policy gap

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/what-exactly-is-the-collins-life-of-type-extension-part-1-a-policy-gap/>

2. What exactly is the Collins life of type extension? Part 2—A mindset

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/what-exactly-is-the-collins-life-of-type-extension-part-2-a-mindset/>

3. Thinking through submarine transition

<https://www.aspi.org.au/report/thinking-through-submarine-transition>

Security agencies warn of foreign espionage threat to company networks

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/security-agencies-warn-espionage-networks-1.4919962>



Canada continues to be slow in reacting to the influence of foreign espionage agencies attacking or "phishing" to gain access to Canadian commercial companies. Canada continues to ignore the very real issue of the problem with Chinese companies providing key infrastructure, for example allowing Huawei to be involved in several Canadian telecoms all the while knowing that many of our key allies have already removed that company from being able to sell within their own countries.

Why should we not take Huawei at its word? Quite simply, it is controlled by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and can be legally (from a CCP point of view) be required to hand over key information on a potential adversary's system. It may not be even for a conflict but rather for commercial or political gain. This can be done as simply as accessing the company's servers in China as we have seen just last month when a BC university used Chinese designed and built sensors that are also connected to Chinese server on the Chinese Island of Hainan...sensors right next to a key base for US ballistic missile submarines. Not a good idea, a piece of naivety of epic proportions.

Huawei and ZTE and other Chinese companies may be trying to be up front and doing their level best for a customer. Their problem is and will continue to be the very real malign influence of the CCP. No Chinese company is immune even if they want to be. So long as the CCP rule China, Canada should consider the advice of its allies and remove the potential threat to Canada.

First Australian Supply-class AOR launched in Spain

<https://navaltoday.com/2018/11/23/first-australian-supply-class-aor-launched-in-spain/>



An article about a ship launching to compare against future launch articles for the Canadian Joint Support Ships (JSS). It is a simple and legible piece, however, there are some points:

1. An oiler is a ship so it is redundant to write "ships" after "auxiliary oiler replenishment (AOR)."
2. Writing (II) and (III) after a ship name is not Royal Canadian Navy practice (and may not be for most other navies). It is a civil practice. Canadian usage is '*Protecteur* (second of name)' or '*Protecteur* (2nd)' if there is a need to differentiate at all. The JSS, after their commissioning ceremonies, will be HMCS *Protecteur* and HMCS *Preserver*.
3. The AU\$640M cost of the Australian AOR may be incorrectly used as a comparison with the cost of the Canadian *Protecteur*-class by those who do not know what is included in the AU\$640M and what is included in any publicly announced price for the Canadian ships.
4. The article provides a good simple explanation of what an auxiliary oiler replenishment does.
5. The language 'combat against environmental pollution at sea' is a bit unwieldy. Better wording might be 'fight environmental pollution at sea.'

The Joint Statement of the President of Ukraine and the President of the Russian Federation on the Sea of Azov and the Strait of Kerch, 24 December 2003.

Commentary on the situation needs to consider application laws, agreements and statements.

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III. OTHER INFORMATION

A. Ukraine and the Russian Federation:

The Joint Statement by the President of Ukraine and the President of the Russian Federation on the Sea of Azov and the Strait of Kerch, 24 December 2003¹

President of Ukraine L. Kuchma and President of the Russian Federation V. Putin, guided by the relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Ukraine and Russia, fraternal ties between them, which formed historically; proceeding from the regulations of the Agreement on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership between Ukraine and the Russian Federation of May 31, 1997 and the Agreement between Ukraine and the Russian Federation on the Ukrainian – Russian State Border of January 28, 2003; noting the importance of the Sea of Azov and the Strait of Kerch for the economic development of Ukraine and Russia; convinced that all the matters relating to the Sea of Azov and the Strait of Kerch should be solved only by peaceful means together or by agreement of Ukraine and Russia; confirm their common understanding that:

- the Azov - Kerch area of water is preserved as an integral economic and natural complex used in the interests of both states;
- historically the Sea of Azov and the Strait of Kerch are inland waters of Ukraine and Russia, and settlement of matters relating to the said area of water is realized by agreement between the Ukraine and Russia in accordance with international law;
- Ukrainian and Russian military ships and trade boats enjoy the freedom of navigation in the Sea of Azov and the Strait of Kerch;
- military ships under the flags of other states can enter the Sea of Azov and go through the Strait of Kerch only by an invitation of Ukraine or Russia agreed with the other state;
- the Ukrainian - Russian cooperation, including their common activity in the sphere of navigation, including its regulation and navigation and hydrographical provision, fishing, protection of the maritime environment, environmental safety, search and rescue operations in the Sea of Azov and the Strait of Kerch are guaranteed by the implementation of existing agreements and the signing of new agreements in the relevant cases.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Russian Federation are commissioned to create a joint Ukrainian - Russian corporation for the purpose of cooperation in the Azov - Kerch area of water, including the exploitation of the Kerch-Yenikalskyi navigation channel.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Russian Federation are also commissioned to work out proposals on the renewal and development of ferry services between Ukraine and Russia through the Strait of Kerch for transportation of passengers and cargoes.

Kerch, December 24, 2003

President of Ukraine
L.Kuchma

President of the Russian Federation
V.Putin

Regional reservists develop skills at CFB Kingston

<https://www.thewhig.com/news/local-news/regional-reservists-develop-skills-at-cfb-kingston>



I think the US Marines (and NATO definitions) would tell one that until you come off a big ship which has sailed a long distance, and pound your way through big surf, you aren't doing amphibious operations. Still, good to see boat ops being well received.

Japan to order 100 more F-35 fighters from US

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-Relations/Japan-to-order-100-more-F-35-fighters-from-US>



TOKYO -- Japan is preparing to order another 100 F-35 stealth fighter jets from the U.S. to replace some of its aging F-15s, according to sources.

The plan can be considered a response to China's military buildup, as well as a nod to U.S. President Donald Trump's call for Tokyo to buy more American defense equipment. Japan already intended to procure 42 of the new fighters.

A single F-35 costs more than 10 billion yen (\$88.1 million), meaning the additional order would exceed 1 trillion yen.

Japan's government plans to approve the purchase when it adopts new National Defense Program Guidelines at a cabinet meeting in mid-December. It will also include the F-35 order in its medium-term defense program, which covers fiscal 2019 to fiscal 2023. The government wants to obtain 42 F-35s as successors to its F-4s by fiscal 2024.

The 42 fighters Japan originally planned to buy are all F-35As, a conventional takeoff and landing

variant. The additional 100 planes would include both the F-35A and F-35B, which is capable of short takeoffs and vertical landings.

At present, Japan deploys about 200 F-15s, roughly half of which cannot be upgraded. The Defense Ministry wants to replace the planes that cannot be upgraded with the 100 F-35s, while enhancing and retaining the remaining F-15s.

To accommodate the F-35Bs, the government intends to revamp the Maritime Self-Defense Force's JS Izumo helicopter carrier to host the fighters.

Japan's neighbors are busy introducing their own advanced military aircraft. China deployed its homegrown J-20 stealth fighter in February, and by 2030 some experts expect the country to build a fleet of more than 250 fifth-generation jets -- as the latest generation of fighters like the F-35 is known.

Russia, too, is expected to introduce its fifth-generation Sukhoi Su-57 in 2019, at the earliest.

To keep up, Tokyo believes it is imperative to significantly increase its procurement of the most sophisticated stealth jets.

At the same time, Trump has repeatedly urged Japan to purchase more American hardware and reduce the trade imbalance between the countries. Buying more of the high-priced fighters is a quick way to do that.

In September, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told Trump, "Introducing high-performance equipment, including American [materiel], is important for our country to strengthen its defense capabilities."

In Azov Sea, Putin Plays a Deadly Ukraine Game (Op-ed)

<https://themoscowtimes.com/articles/in-azov-sea-putin-plays-a-deadly-ukraine-game-opinion-63609>



The article by the Moscow Times called “In the Azov Sea, Putin Plays a Deadly Ukraine Game” constitutes an interesting piece to an already unproductive series of events that further alienates Russia from the West and in fact does massive damage to its own welfare.

The real story begins with Russia’s aggression against the Ukraine in 2014 and annexation of Crimea, followed by events in the Donbass, creating two unsupportable and unnecessary mini-republics in Eastern Ukraine. President Putin is old fashioned and believed in a sphere of influence, apparently not realizing the world had moved on from such theories, although that attitude has unfortunately spread to China witness its attempts to buy or coerce its neighbours to fall into the Chinese line of thinking.

In 2003 an agreement was signed by Russia and Ukraine over the Kerch Strait allowing mutual control and use as both countries export agricultural and other material through the ports on the Sea of Azov. 2014 changed that with Russia’s forced annexation of Crimea and the building of a bridge across the Kerch Strait. This bridge was built at a height of only 33 meters, such that it precluded many ships that had been servicing the Ukrainian port of Mariupol. Mariupol was a target of Russian sponsored

separatists in the Donbass region. Several battles were fought on the very outskirts of the port before Ukraine was able to counter-attack and remove the threat.

This latest incident involves Ukraine moving naval units around the coast to Mariupol to establish a naval presence in the Azov Sea. As there is an agreement to jointly use the Kerch Straits, Ukraine was correct and perfectly within its rights to use the straits without interference. Since Russia invaded and occupied the Crimea it has created a systemic and de facto economic blockade of Ukrainian ports including unnecessary inspections allegedly to “protect” their bridge.

Several outlets have already brought up the point that both Putin and Poroshenko are increasingly unpopular. It is worse for Poroshenko as he has to run in a real election against real opposition. The front runner is apparently Yulia Tymoshenko and he is likely to lose his job. Putin on the other hand has no such problems but his teflon coating seems to be deteriorating fairly rapidly and somewhat surprisingly. In the past he has created incidents that have caused the Russian population to look for the “enemy” and to create a sense of fear. This has resulted in extensive sanctions and consequently further belt tightening by the Russian people.

A poll by the Levada Centre earlier this month found that a majority of Russians now blame President Putin for their current situation including the role that unnecessary foreign adventures have caused to their well-being. One now has to wonder whether this latest will work again. It is also interesting that Russian press also reports that the National Guard is re-equipping with newer anti-riot equipment. One may be a dictator but eventually something occurs to make the population less fearful. The Russian people deserve much better than they have gotten from Putin regime. Are they now realizing that there may be a better way...without Putin?

Ministers briefed on GCSB's Huawei 5G ban

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/108940155/gcsb-declines-huawei-proposal>



Even New Zealand is taking action on Huawei. Canada persists in having its head in the sand over the issue that Huawei is a true security risk. Even if Huawei is not conducting any activity for the Chinese government, the company's leadership are members of the Communist Chinese Party and their servers, etc., are in China. All four of the other Five Eyes intelligence community now have placed restrictions on Huawei. Canada remains the outsider and therefore a security risk to the other members. The fallout from being an “outsider” on this issue would have a major impact on our relations with our allies.

Trade tensions with the United States blow hole in budget for China's newest aircraft carrier

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/article/2175102/trade-tensions-united-states-blow-hole-budget-chinas-newest-aircraft>



This article from the South China Morning Post is obviously open source and therefore must be considered suspect, although it would be great to know that at least one of President Trump's initiatives has had a good effect.

Some issues for China are the development of the electromagnetic launch system, development of a suitable carrier aircraft and the sheer ability to build a reliable, maintenance friendly jet engine, coupled with wide cost overruns.

One tends to forget that although China has made significant headway in the development of a carrier fleet, it does not have the experience necessary to effectively master carrier operations and the support of a carrier group. As we have seen with the Russian efforts in Syria, actual effective carrier operations require skill sets that China is a long way from acquiring. Many badly manned and untrained ships are known as targets.

Sea King retirement ceremony to be held Dec. 1

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/sea-king-retirement-ceremony-to-be-held-dec-1>



A 'retirement ceremony' for the CH124 Sea King helicopter will be held 1 December 2018 at 443 Maritime Helicopter Squadron at Sydney, British Columbia (see "Sea King retirement ceremony to be held Dec. 1"). The Sea King had earlier ceased flying on the east coast. In articles over the last couple years on the transition of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) from the Sea King to the CH148 Cyclone helicopter, writers either were having fun with their thesauruses or were unsure what term to use when writing of aircraft retirement. Terms used included: pulled out of service, decommissioning, out to pasture, written off, sent to the scrap yard, phased out, leave service and retire. In defence of the writers, likely they were using similar terms to avoid using the same ones frequently in two one-sentence paragraphs. It all does leave one wondering though what is the official term.

A check of the household Technical Airworthiness Manual, source of helpful info such as about aircraft type designations, is not of great help. 'Retirement' is used once. 'Decommission' is used once, albeit in an enlightening sentence: "When DND-registered aircraft are decommissioned and are either transferred to disposal agencies, sold to commercial contractors or foreign services, or scrapped,..." In his definitive "Canadian Combat and Support Aircraft: A Military Compendium", Brigadier-General Terry Leversedge uses the terms 'Taken on Strength (TOS)' and 'Struck off Strength (SOS)' to benchmark dates in service of the many aircraft types with the various Canadian air forces (including naval air). TOS and SOS are terms that work well for individual aircraft. For an entire fleet of aircraft, the term 'retire' works. Certainly that is what the RCAF has chosen to call it. And retirement probably resonates well with the readership, particularly when applied to an aircraft of such advanced age.

Frigate design decision faces another delay after latest challenge

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/SOMNIA-1.4923364>



An interesting aspect of public reporting on the Canadian Surface Combatant (CSC) project is that of calling the new ships frigates. The type name frigate does not show officially (see: "Canadian Surface Combatant" <http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/business-equipment/canadian-surface-combatant.page> and "Update on the evaluation process of the Canadian Surface Combatant Request for Proposals" <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/app-acq/amd-dp/mer-sea/sncn-nss/miseajour-update-eng.html>). The CSC will come in two variants, one configured for anti-air warfare (AAW) and the other for anti-submarine warfare (ASW). Traditionally AAW was the province of destroyers and ASW that of frigates, but this is a generalization. Destroyers have conducted ASW and some have been designed for that (with at times the type designation changed to destroyer escort) and frigates have been built to do AAW. The CSC will replace three Iroquois-class destroyers and twelve Halifax-class frigates. If built to the Type 26 design, the CSC will displace about 7,000 tonnes, in the destroyer range (and going back further, the size of light cruisers). But then all ships, like cars, have been growing. Size provides seaworthiness and range, and is relatively cheap when compared to sensors and weapons.

Ultimately it will be the Royal Canadian Navy that types the ships, and will do so with consideration of their roles and capabilities. The frigate type has an honoured place in the naval lexicon and history books. Whilst the typing of the Harry DeWolf-class as Arctic and Offshore Patrol Vessels surprised some (that type is not in the NATO standardization agreement to which Canada is a signatory), there should be no surprise if the Navy types the CSC as frigates.

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.

RCAF's pilot shortage being felt in Romania

https://www.cgai.ca/rcafs_pilot_shortage_being_felt_in_romania?



Pilot shortage threatens Canada's fleet of fighter jets

<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2018/11/20/pilot-shortage-threatens-canadas-fleet-of-fighter-jets.html>



Managed Shortfall

<http://www.rcfarc.forces.gc.ca/en/article-template-standard.page?doc=managed-shortfall/jg2k237m>



Troops, ships, armour and airpower: How NATO is preparing for the new Cold War

<https://nationalpost.com/news/world/troops-ships-armor-and-airpower-how-nato-is-preparing-for-the-new-cold-war>



Portage-based military pilot training taken off chopping block

<https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/portage-based-military-pilot-program-taken-off-chopping-block-501097151.html>



Trident Juncture 18: NATO's Norwegian Exercise \

https://www.cgai.ca/trident_juncture_18_natos_norwegian_exercise?utm_campaign=23_11_18roundup&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cdfai



NATO's Trident Juncture 2018 Exercise: Political Theatre with a Purpose

https://rusi.org/commentary/nato%E2%80%99s-trident-juncture-2018-exercise-political-theatre-purpose?utm_source=RUSI+Newsletter&utm_campaign=7449ccfbaa



Probing the Baltic States: Why Russia's Ambitions Do Not Have a Security Dimension

https://rusi.org/commentary/probing-baltic-states-why-russia%E2%80%99s-ambitions-do-not-have-security-dimension?utm_source=RUSI+Newsletter&utm_campaign=7449ccfbaa-



What Does the Future of Land Fires Look Like?

https://rusi.org/publication/rusi-defence-systems/what-does-future-land-fires-look?utm_source=RUSI+Newsletter&utm_campaign=7449ccfbaa-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_11_23_04_44&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0c9bbb5ef0-7449ccfbaa-47709521



EU to launch joint spy school, boost electronic warfare skills

<https://www.politico.eu/article/europe-spy-school-defense-poised-to-launch-boost-electronic-warfare-skills/amp/>



Russia is luring international arms buyers with a missile system that costs much less than models made by American companies

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/11/19/russia-lures-buyers-as-s-400-missile-system-costs-less-than-us-models.html>



Soldiers put their skills to the test at Canadian Patrol Concentration

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2018/11/soldiers-put-their-skills-to-the-test-at-canadian-patrol-concentration.html>



Suspended Vice-Admiral Mark Norman's lawyers target federal minister Brison

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/suspended-vice-admiral-mark-norman-s-lawyers-target-federal-minister-brison-1.4189802>



Fighter jet delays fuelling exodus of pilots from Air Force, insiders say

<https://www.thestar.com/politics/federal/2018/11/24/fighter-jet-delays-fuelling-exodus-of-pilots-from-air-force-insiders-say.html>



The US military is putting new observation posts in northern Syria

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-army/2018/11/21/the-us-military-is-putting-brand-new-observation-posts-in-northern-syria/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=eb%2026.11.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Liberman's exit, and how Israel's chips may fall

https://www.defensenews.com/global/mideast-africa/2018/11/21/libermans-exit-and-how-israels-chips-may-fall/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2026.11.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



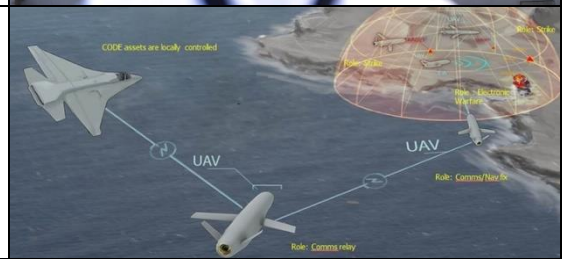
Analysis: Rising US, China rivalry deepening rifts in Asia

https://www.navytimes.com/news/your-navy/2018/11/24/analysis-rising-us-china-rivalry-deepening-rifts-in-asia/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2026.11.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



The US Military's Drone Swarm Strategy Just Passed a Key Test

https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2018/11/us-militarys-drone-swarm-strategy-just-passed-key-test/153007/?oref=defenseone_today_nl



Putin Pushes Russia-Ukraine Tensions to a Four-Year High

https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/11/26/putin-pushes-russia-ukraine-tensions-to-a-four-year-high-kerch-crimea-ships/?utm_source=PostUp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=7751&utm_term=Editor#39;s%20Picks%20OC



Canada condemns Russian aggression in clash with Ukraine

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/SOMNIA-1.4921772>



Americans and Russians have exchanged gunfire in Syria more than once

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-air-force/2018/11/26/americans-and-russians-have-exchanged-gunfire-in-syria-more-than-once/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2011/27/18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Air Force: No bomber presence over the Korean Peninsula since talks

https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2018/11/26/air-force-no-bomber-presence-over-the-korean-peninsula-since-talks/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2011/27/18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Ukraine: Intercepted Communications Suggest Kremlin Directed Azov Sea Crisis

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Canadian Coast Guard prepares for first Chantier Davie icebreaker

https://www.janes.com/article/84829/canadian-coast-guard-prepares-for-first-chantier-davie-icebreaker?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2011/27/18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Canadian Forces says submarines can operate until mid-2020s - but still no details on how fleet will be upgraded

<https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-forces-says-submarines-can-operate-until-mid-2020s-it-is-still-determining-how-to-upgrade>



Canada-Taiwan Economic Opportunities are Being Ignored

https://www.cgai.ca/canada_taiwan_economic_opportunities_are_being_ignored?utm_campaign=fisher_taiwan&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cdfai



China's Untested Military Could Be a Force—or a Flop

https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/11/27/chinas-untested-military-could-be-a-force-or-a-flop/?utm_source=PostUp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=7752&utm_term=Editor's%20Picks%20OC



Germany, France eye first contract for new fighter jet in early 2019

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China confirms for the first time that it has a third aircraft carrier in the works

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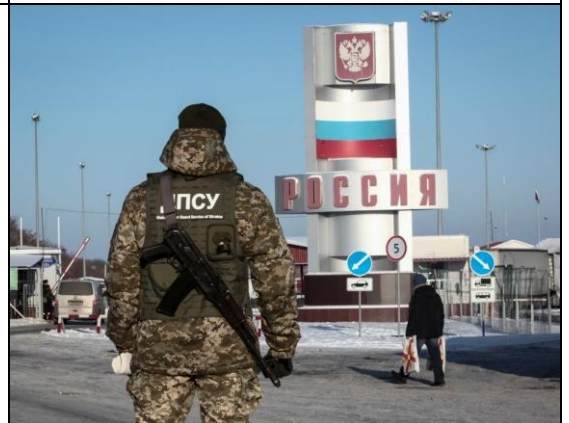
Germany sees next step on fighter jet replacement by end of year

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Putin defiant on Ukraine crisis despite Trump summit talks threat

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US makes case for withdrawal from missile treaty with Russia

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https://news.usni.org/2018/11/27/u-k-relationship-us-role-global-defense-unlikely-change-brexit?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB%2011.28.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Despite questions about deal, top bureaucrats blessed supply ship at heart of Mark Norman case as good value

<https://nationalpost.com/news/despite-questions-about-deal-top-bureaucrats-blessed-supply-ship-at-heart-of-mark-norman-case-as-good-value>



Auditor General not optimistic about pilot shortages

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Frigate design decision faces another delay after latest challenge

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Canada's brain-injured Cuba diplomats speak out about Ottawa's silence

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-canadas-brain-injured-cuba-diplomats-speak-out-about-ottawas-silence/>



Putin Doesn't Sweat His Unpopularity

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The Sea of Azov won't become the new South China Sea (and Russia knows it)

https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2018/11/28/the-sea-of-azov-wont-become-the-new-south-china-sea-and-russia-knows-it/?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ebb%2029.11.18&utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief



Goodbye Grotius, Hello Putin

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A Canadian Primer to the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 30-December 1, 2018

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<https://mwi.usma.edu/moral-culpability-autonomous-military-systems-human-responsibility-accentuated-attenuated-reliance-ai/>

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#augmented reality

Royal Navy captains could control their ships remotely using new augmented reality headsets

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6421103/amp/Royal-Navy-captains-control-ships-remotely-using-new-augmented-reality-headsets.html>

I always thought I could my job better from my rack!

#child soldiers

Child soldier crisis is not going away

<https://www.thestar.com/opinion/contributors/2018/11/21/child-soldier-crisis-is-not-going-away.html>

#China

A Blue Print for Stability? The Applicability of the Arctic Regional Order as a Model for the South China Sea

<https://cdainstitute.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/On-Track-Autumn-2018-Edition.pdf>

#command and control

Multi-Domain Command and Control

<https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25316/multi-domain-command-and-control-proceedings-of-a-workshop-in>

"On July 18-20, 2018, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Air Force Studies Board convened a workshop in Washington, D.C., on multi-domain command and control (MDC2) in the U.S. Air Force. The workshop participants focused on challenges and opportunities in the areas of operations, technology, acquisition, and policy. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop."

#counter-terrorism

Social Media in Operations – a Counter-Terrorism Perspective

<https://www.stratcomcoe.org/social-media-operations-counter-terrorism-perspective>

#cyber operations

NATO Needs an Offensive Cybersecurity Policy

<http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/nato-needs-an-offensive-cybersecurity-policy>

Cyber Sovereignty and Data Sovereignty

<http://www.css.ethz.ch/en/services/digital-library/publications/publication.html/05dfb899-38f5-4f05-abad-1850ac37b1d2>

#education

Professional Education and Military Learning in the 21st Century

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/07/approaching-a-fork-in-the-road-professional-education-and-military-learning/>

#futurecasting

Defense 2045 - Assessing the Future Security Environment and Implications for Defense Policymakers
<https://www.csis.org/analysis/defense-2045>

#HEL

High-Energy Laser Systems and the Future of Warfare
<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2018/11/29/high-energy-laser-systems-and-the-future-of-warfare>

#hybrid war

Cooperating to counter hybrid threats
<https://www.nato.int/docu/review/2018/Also-in-2018/cooperating-to-counter-hybrid-threats/EN/index.htm>

#information operations

or maybe information warfare...

Definitions for IO and IW, a common sense approach
<https://toinformistoinfluence.com/2018/11/22/definitions-for-io-and-iw-a-common-sense-approach/>

NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence "Robotrolling 2018/4"
<https://www.stratcomcoe.org/robotrolling-20184>

Report on Operation "Jilli" 1967
<http://cgsc.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p4013coll11/id/2270>
History. Dropping of leaflets into North Korea 1967.

#land warfare

What Does the Future of Land Fires Look Like?
<https://rusi.org/publication/rusi-defence-systems/what-does-future-land-fires-look>

#lawfare

Goodbye Grotius, Hello Putin
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/11/29/goodbye-grotius-hello-putin-russia-ukraine-sea-of-azov-kerch-strait-south-china-sea-unclos-law-of-sea-crimea/>
China is not the only state practicing law warfare.

#logistics

Logistics, Logistics, Logistics: Can We Get the Army to the Fight?
<http://www.eaglespeak.us/2018/10/logistics-logistics-logistics-can-we.html>

#NATO

NATO's Trident Juncture 2018 Exercise: Political Theatre with a Purpose
<https://rusi.org/commentary/nato's-trident-juncture-2018-exercise-political-theatre-purpose>

#naval warfare

"A Fleet Must Be Able to Fight"
<http://www.eaglespeak.us/2018/05/a-fleet-must-be-able-to-fight.html>

#naval weapons

Navy Developing Prompt Global Strike Weapon that Could Launch from Sub or Surface Ship

<https://news.usni.org/2018/11/21/navy-developing-prompt-global-strike-weapon-launch-sub-surface-ship>

Another term to keep an eye on: "conventional prompt global strike." "A hypersonic capability to ... hit any target on the planet within about an hour."

#migration

Acts of War? Weaponizing Mass Migration

<http://www.eaglespeak.us/2018/07/acts-of-war-weaponizing-mass-migration.html>

#personnel

E-Soldiers Two: Canadian Military Human Resources Facing 21st Century Challenges

<https://cdainstitute.ca/e-soldiers-two-canadian-military-human-resources-facing-21st-century-challenges/>

Canada's zombie army

<https://thediscoverblog.com/2018/10/31/canadas-zombie-army/>

#reading list

The Army Leader's Christmas Leadership Book List 2018

<https://thearmyleader.co.uk/christmas-leadership-book-list-2018/>

War Books: Building a Counterinsurgency Library

<https://mwi.usma.edu/war-books-building-counterinsurgency-library/>

#Russia

Probing the Baltic States: Why Russia's Ambitions Do Not Have a Security Dimension

<https://rusi.org/commentary/probing-baltic-states-why-russia's-ambitions-do-not-have-security-dimension>

#search & rescue

Civilian search and rescue: Sea-Eye starts the rescue mission under the German flag

<https://www.kxan36news.com/civilian-search-and-rescue-sea-eye-starts-the-rescue-mission-under-the-german-flag>

Hmm, kinda puts a different meaning on the term 'flag of convenience.'

#strategy

China's Reach Has Grown; So Should the Island Chains

<https://amti.csis.org/chinas-reach-grown-island-chains/>

'A Record of Exploded Ideas': History and Strategic Commentary in the 21st Century

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/11/a-record-of-exploded-ideas-history-and-strategic-commentary-in-the-21st-century/>

Strategic Design for the Complex Realm

<https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2018/11/28/strategic-design-for-the-complex-realm>

#transport

50 Years of Review of Maritime Transport, 1968-2018: Reflecting on the past, exploring the future
https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/dtl2018d1_en.pdf

Real and Present Danger - Flag State Failure and Maritime Security and Safety
Email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com for a copy of the monograph.

#United States

One Hundred Years of American Grand Strategy

<http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/one-hundred-years-of-american-grand-strategy>

#warfare

The Death of Precision in Warfare?

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/11/the-death-of-precision-in-warfare/>

Other:

From CDAI, Howard Coombs. Available at https://www.foreignaffairs.com/reviews/review-essay/2018-11-16/beyond-ai-arms-race?cid=nlc-fa_twofa-20181122 is Foreign Affairs “Beyond the **AI Arms Race**: America, China, and the Dangers of Zero-Sum Thinking.” This article starts with: “The idea of an artificial intelligence (AI) arms race between China and the United States is ubiquitous. Before 2016, there were fewer than 300 Google results for ‘AI arms race’ and only a handful of articles that mentioned the phrase. Today, an article on the subject gets added to LexisNexis virtually every week, and Googling the term yields more than 50,000 hits. Some even warn of an AI Cold War.

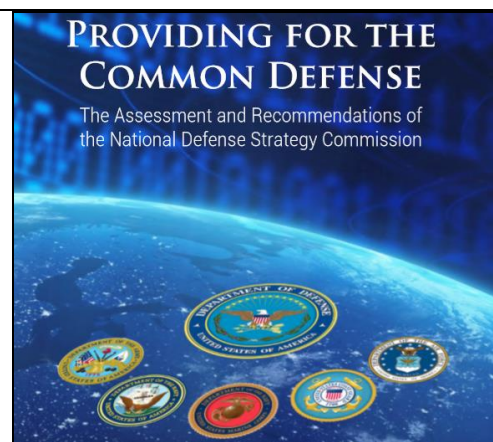
One question that looms large in these discussions is if China has, or will soon have, an edge over the United States in AI technology. Dean Garfield, the president of a U.S. trade group called the Information Technology Industry Council, recently told Politico that such fears are ‘grounded in hysteria.’ But many prominent figures disagree. Former Alphabet CEO Eric Schmidt, for instance, warned in 2017 that ‘By 2020, [the Chinese] will have caught up [to the United States]. By 2025, they will be better than us. And by 2030, they will dominate the industries of AI.’ And former Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work, among others, has argued that China’s advances in AI should spark a ‘Sputnik moment’ for the United States, inspiring a national effort comparable to the one that followed the Soviet Union’s early victories in the space race.”

For those without access to Foreign Affairs one can register at the website to obtain one free article per month. Or email RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com for a PDF.

Providing for the Common Defense

From CDAI, Howard Coombs. Available at <https://www.defensenews.com/pentagon/2018/11/14/a-crisis-of-national-security-new-report-to-congress-sounds-alarm/> is Defence News "A ‘crisis of national security’: New report to Congress sounds alarm" (14 November 2018). It makes for sobering reading. The summary of the article is below:

The U.S. military would very likely lose a war against Russia or China, according to a 116-page report from the National Defense Strategy Commission.



The blunt assessment: "If the United States had to fight Russia in a Baltic contingency or China in a war over Taiwan, Americans could face a decisive military defeat."

Why, in short: "These two nations possess precision-strike capabilities, integrated air defenses, cruise and ballistic missiles, advanced cyberwarfare and anti-satellite capabilities, significant air and naval forces, and nuclear weapons—a suite of advanced capabilities heretofore possessed only by the United States."

On war with Beijing: "America could probably defeat China in a long war, if the full might of the nation was mobilized. Yet it would lose huge numbers of ships and aircraft, as well as thousands of lives, in the effort, in addition to suffering severe economic disruptions—all with no guarantee of having decisive impact before Taiwan was overrun."

And losing access to the South China Sea, where "14 percent of America's maritime trade" passes would almost immediately raise U.S. "consumer prices, and manufacturing and agricultural communities."

The report is available at: <https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/2018-11/providing-for-the-common-defense.pdf>

See also: "U.S. Military Strategy Must Return to the Basics"

<https://nationalinterest.org/print/blog/buzz/us-military-strategy-must-return-basics-36382>

The author alone in this case make this article worth reading. It is worth reading anyways.

and

"The Assessment and Recommendations of the National Defense Strategy Commission"

<https://news.usni.org/2018/11/14/document-the-assessment-and-recommendations-of-the-national-defense-strategy-commission>