

# **UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE**

**OF** 

## NANAIMO AND NORTH ISLAND

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to All USINNI Members. Well that predicted COLD weather did fall on us big time. I

was hoping that this would be one those oftimes that the weatherman's forecast would be wrong. It could be worse. we could be in

Calgary or other points to the East were they got 30 cm of snow. Brrrrrrr. This month we will be holding our Annual Festive Season Luncheon. As per normal we will not have a guest speaker, however I have received

word that our Elfette I the joy of the season is



well shared.

I would like to express our humble thanks to all of those, particularly Mr Stan Watts, for their generous contributions towards making our Holiday Season Luncheon a great success.

also want to at this Pauline and company time, express my sincere will be making sure that thanks to all the Members of our Executive

> and Board of Directors for all their continued hard work throughout the year. Without the generous contributions of their time and effort.

luncheons. guest speakers, etc., that all **USINNI** Members enjoy just would not happen. Not enough gratitude can be shown this fine group of people.

Continued on page 4

Nanaimo, 25 November 2019...I'm going to see if I can persuade the Editor to format our December edition of the USINNI Newsletter so that these opening lines are on one early page, with the article itself inside on a later page or pages. I'm doing so to test your memories. Counting on my fingers and toes, Canada has found itself engaged in at least three dozen peacekeeping missions, some more or less successful ones, others much less so. If you Google the question, you can access one list of 37 or thereabouts. So, here's the Up-Front Question for

**MILITARY AND SECURITY MUSING:** 

# **PEACEKEEPING**

you, for a response, preferably without Googling: When and where did Canada make its first contribution to International Peacekeeping?

Continued on page 3

# Major defence procurements and Phoenix pay fiasco will keep rookie MP busy

DAVID PUGLIESE, OTTAWA CITIZEN

Updated: November 20, 2019

Rookie MP Anita Anand was named to one of the federal government's toughest portfolios on Wednesday as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau rearranged his cabinet.



Liberal MP Anita Anard arrives for the swearing inof the new cabinet at Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Wednesday, Nov 20, 2019. Adrian Wild / Canadian Press

Anand, a lawyer, takes over as Minister of Public Services and Procurement, replacing Carla Qualtrough, who became Minister of Employment and Workforce Development.

Anand was elected in the October federal election to represent the riding of Oakville.

She was a law professor at the University of Toronto specializing in corporate governance and shareholder rights.

Anand will have a busy portfolio dealing with the ongoing Phoenix pay fiasco as well as high profile defence procurements such as the acquisition of a new fighter jet fleet as well as the Canadian Surface Combatant program. The fighter jet project is estimated to cost taxpayers up to \$19 billion and bids are expected by the end of March. The surface combatant project is estimated to cost between \$60 billion and \$65 billion.

Her background in corporate governance could come in handy as she tries to navigate these two key programs.

Other major defence projects that Anand will have to deal with include shipbuilding programs like the Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ships and the Joint Support Ships, both for the Royal Canadian Navy, as well as new icebreakers for the Canadian Coast Guard.

Anand will also have to be briefed on the way ahead for the selection of a third shippard to contribute vessels to the national shipbuilding strategy. Davie Shipbuilding in Levis, Que. is seen as a frontrunner in that competition but an Ontario shippard is also interested.

The Liberals, however, had said very little about the procurement agency since mentioning it during the election campaign and details about how it would be set up haven't been provided.

Other faces in the cabinet announced Wednesday will be familiar to those involved in defence and veterans affairs.

Harjit Sajjan remains as Minister of National Defence. Sajjan, who was first appointed defence minister in the fall of 2015, has earned mixed reviews for his performance. But he provides Trudeau with an experienced minister who won't have to be brought up to speed on the defence portfolio.

Navdeep Singh Bains continues on as Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development and Lawrence MacAulay returns as the Veterans Affairs Minister.

Nova Scotia MP Bernadette Jordan, who was first elected in 2015, was named as Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. Although that is seen as a promotion for Jordan, she has experience in the portfolio as she has served as chair of the Commons' fisheries and oceans committee. The coast guard is expected to receive new vessels, including icebreakers.

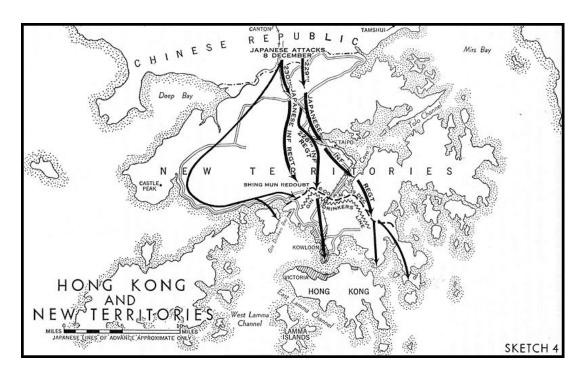


### PEACEKEEPING Continued from page 1

Got You!! Or, maybe one or two of you mused rather than just guessing. I didn't limit the question to a United Nations mission. Canada's first international peacekeeping mission was to Hong Kong in October 1941. The British treatymandated territory of Hong Kong covered about 300 square miles, made up of a number of islands, plus Kowloon on the Mainland. In October 1938, Japanese forces captured the nearby Chinese City of Canton, effectively investing Kowloon and Hong Kong with a force that was to reach 70,000 combatants by December 1941.

In July 1941, Toronto-born but British Army MGen Edward Grasset, enroute to the UK from Hong Kong, stopped off briefly in Ottawa for a courtesy call on LGen Harry Crerar, then our CGS. Grasset is reputed to have casually remarked that Hong Kong's defensibility would be remarkably improved by the addition of just a couple of battalions of good infantry to the Colony's ORBAT. It might at least cause the Japanese to pause for second thoughts.

Lo and behold, on 19 September 1941, a still skeptical British Prime Minister Winston Churchill was persuaded to ask our Prime Minister Mackenzie King if Canada might provide a couple of



As early as the Spring of 1933, a UK Ministry of Defence Intelligence Assessment concluded that a Pacific War with Japan was probable and that the British simply could not hold Hong Kong, should the Japanese attack. The author of that report specifically recommended the British demilitarize the Colony, leaving its security in the hands of the civil police. In October 1940, the Governor of Hong Kong also specifically recommended that all British and Empire Armed Forces be quietly removed from the area, but the Foreign Office disagreed. This notwithstanding, in a January 1941 memo, Winston Churchill acknowledged Hong Kong could not be held should the Japanese attack. The challenge then was: how to deter that attack...what to do; what to do?

battalions of infantry to bolster British Forces in the West Pacific. The presumption was that the arrival of the Canadian demi-brigade would discourage the Japanese from attacking the Colony. Classic peacekeeping, the Canadians would help keep-the-peace, just by being in Hong Kong!

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, Canada responded "ready, aye ready!" Unfortunately, the two units selected were from among those least ready of the 23 units available for immediate deployment. Indeed, for his pains, the officer appointed Force Commander was the very staff officer who had previously concluded that neither unit was ready for the task at hand! Quite remarkably, minus 51 deserters, enduring a mini-mutiny portside in Vancouver, and, sailing on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October without either

ground transport or their war allotments of ammunition, the Canadians arrived in Hong Kong on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November. Parading impressively through the streets of the City, they were welcomed as evident assurance that the Japanese would now know Hong Kong was not just theirs for the plucking.

But, what no one but the Japanese knew was that the die was already cast, so that in just three weeks time, Canada's first attempt at peacekeeping would crash into the hell of the Hong Kong Debacle. Fully a quarter of those deployed to Hong Kong would not survive the war. Almost all of those that did, would struggle to survive the peace in the flawed time left them. History too has been unkind to our Hong Kong mission, too often, capriciously so. *Victory will always attract a hundred claimants, while defeat is left an orphan*. But, that's another story.

However, We Do Honour and Remember Them: C Force! They did what they could!

This Musing Column is by Colonel (Retd) WJ (Bill) McCullough, MSC, CD,



a Past President of our Institute and long-time Chair of our Military & Security Committee. The Column is a product of his own research

and the views expressed his own. The map is archived from DND

President's Message continued from page 1

And to the Members of the USINNI, on behalf of the Executive and Board of Directors of our Institute, I would like to wish you and the members of your family a warm, merry, joyful and safe holiday season.

See you all at lunch next week!

Edwin

## Canada warned of fallout on Five Eyes relationship if Huawei allowed on 5G

Murray Brewster · CBC News · Posted: Nov 23, 2019 Last Updated: November 23

Huawei, the Chinese telecom giant, is a "Trojan horse" that could restrict Canada's access to the critical Five Eyes intelligence-sharing community, the Trump administration's top security adviser and senior U.S. lawmakers warned Saturday.

Robert O'Brien, the recently appointed White House national security adviser, painted a stark picture of Chinese intelligence gathering vast reams of data on ordinary Canadians if the Liberal government doesn't ban Huawei from helping build the upcoming 5G network.

"The Huawei Trojan horse is frightening. It's terrifying," O'Brien told journalists in a roundtable question and answer ahead of his appearance at the Halifax International Security Forum.

He linked developments in artificial intelligence, facial recognition advances, surveillance cameras and advanced data-gathering through wireless networks and warned of China's ability to harness all of it.

## 'They're going to know everything'

"The technology allows China to put together profiles of the most intimate details, intimate personal details, of every single man, woman and child in China. When they get Huawei into Canada or other Western countries, they're going to know every health record, every banking record, every social media post; they're going to know everything about every single Canadian."

The data-gathering already underway on Chinese citizens makes the activities of Facebook and Google "look like child's play," O'Brien said, adding that countries have to decide whether "they're prepared to surrender every single bit of data on their citizens."

Asked if Canada's intelligence-sharing relationship with allies would be put at risk by allowing Huawei into the country, O'Brien said intelligence sharing "would be impacted if our close allies let the Trojan horse into the city."

U.S. lawmakers delivered similar stern warnings about the Chinese telecom giant at various points during the security forum. Democratic and Republican senators spoke with one voice, saying the

dangers of proceeding outweigh the benefits. Canada is among a handful of select Western democracies with a decades-long intelligence-sharing arrangement with Washington. The Five Eyes countries also include Australia, New Zealand and Britain.

Canada's participation could be in jeopardy, said a leading Independent on the U.S. Senate Intelligence committee.

"It would make it very difficult to have a full intelligence-sharing information with a partner who has

installed direct line to Beijing," said Maine Senator Angus King, who noted he was not speaking for the ad-Trump ministration, but as committee member.

The U.S. has been urging allies to reject Huawei participation in building the new 5G wireless network over

fears that Chinese intelligence services could have easy access to data through the company.

Some of the Five Eyes intelligence-sharing partners, notably Australia, have heeded the warnings, but Canada's Liberal government is still reviewing the issue and he signaled a decision likely won't come until next year.

King said there was bipartisan agreement in Washington when it comes to Huawei.

"We differ sometimes on issues, but not on this one," he said. "The risks of Huawei coming into your country far outweigh any benefits."

## Information potentially at risk

Republican Senator Jim Risch, chairman of the foreign relations committee, urged the Canadian government to pay attention to its intelligence services and choose security over consumer con-

venience.

"I would hope the Canadian government — like any government — as they sort through this get briefed by their intelligence agencies as to the risks involved with signing up with a company that is fully controlled by the Chinese Communist Party," said Risch.

"When any information goes to Huawei or through Huawei, the Chinese Communist Party will have access to that information. Is it worth it to save a little money by buying a cheaper system? My

> conclusion is a resounding no. I would hope the Canadian government will reach the same conclusion."

During a security forum session Friday, he said the top secret briefings he's received have convinced him there is а clear danger and all of that information has

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Harjit Singh Sajjan, Minister of National Defence, arrives for the opening news briefing before the start of the Halifax International Security Forum in Halifax on Nov. 22. U.S. delegates warned Canada about the security risks associated with Huawei. (Tim Krochak/The Canadian Press)

been shared with the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service and other agencies.

"Canadian intelligence agencies are fully informed on this issue," he said.

The Globe and Mail recently reported that the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) agencies are divided over whether to ban Huawei 5G technology.

The Liberal government has asked the intelligence agencies to evaluate the risks related to the adoption of the Huawei 5G equipment for the national telecommunication infrastructure. The security agencies were also told to evaluate the economic impact for the Canadian telecommunications companies and consumers if Huawei is blacklisted.

That review is still ongoing, officials said.

This month's Luncheon/Meeting will be held at

### **ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 257**

7727 LANTZVILLE ROAD, LANTZVILLE, BC

on

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 2019

**1130 HOURS** 

\$25.00 per member/person. Guests welcome.

# **LUNCHEON MEETING ATTENDANCE**

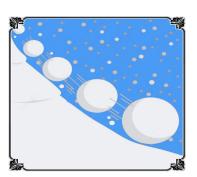
Your telephone contact coordinator will attempt to contact you in the days prior to our monthly luncheon/meeting in order to confirm your attendance. In this manner we can provide attendance numbers to the volunteer kitchen staff at RCL 257 so that they may prepare adequately for our function.

If for some reason she has missed you, please contact her or Edwin at 250-751-2360 or ejpeeters@shaw.ca.

A thru E 250-758-7632

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N thru Z **Paula Francis** 250-751-0991



## **USINNI SNOWBALL**

Once again last month we did not have a winner in our Snowball Draw, and therefore the pot will be carried over. Remember you can't win if you do not sign in, and you can't sign in unless you attend the luncheon/meeting. More anticipation, more excitement, more fun, more reward.