

# Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia Dispatches

## 12 July 2019

*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 <u>RUSINovaScotia@gmail.com</u> to be included in *Dispatches*. Comments 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.

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

**17 July**, Wednesday - Distinguished Speaker Barbarie Palmer, Senior Director Business Development (Air and Land), Bluedrop Training and Simulation, titled "Defence, Innovation and Duct Tape: Innovation Agendas in Application." 1130-1330. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

21 August, Wednesday - Distinguished Speaker TBA. 1130-1330. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

**18 September**, Wednesday - Distinguished Speaker TBA. 1130-1330. Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

**6 November**, Wednesday – save the date for the RUSI(NS) 2019 Remembrance Dinner. Evening, Royal Artillery Park Officers' Mess.

## **Publications:**

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

RUSI(NS) @RUSI_NS Jun 29The spectacle, the comradery, the history. A great <b>#NovaScotia</b> tradition begins for another year. What is yourfavourite Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo memory? <b>#Tattoo19</b> https://www.nstattoo.ca/show/	
<b>RUSI(NS)</b> <u>@RUSI_NS</u> Jun 28 Navigating international waters, meat imports, Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor, Meng Wanzhou A lot of subjects to cover, huge implications for future relations. Difficult to assess anything based on public moments with many eyes on the key players.	
https://globalnews.ca/news/5441701/justin-trudeau-xi-jinping- g20-seated-together/	

### RUSI(NS) @RUSI\_NS 30 Jun

Keeping track of where conflict may occur has been like riding a roller coaster these past few years. What is next for North Korea?

https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/trump-korea-dmz-kim-jongun-1.5195698

#### RUSI(NS) <u>@RUSI\_NS</u> Jul 2

What are the regional and far-reaching consequences of <u>#Iran</u> having more stockpiled <u>#EnrichedUranium</u>? <u>#300kg</u> <u>#nuclear</u>

Iran breaches uranium stockpile limit set by nuclear deal

https://www.ctvnews.ca/world/iran-breaches-uraniumstockpile-limit-set-by-nuclear-deal-1.4489352 RUSI(NS) @RUSI\_NS\_Jul\_3

An army marches on its stomach. Listen to **@davidpugliese** explore advances in military cuisine on the Defence Watch podcast. What was the best meal you had in the field? **#foodie** ? **#combatmelon #oldchocolatebarsthatturnedwhite** https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/defenc e-watch-podcast-from-nasty-eggs-to-poutine-how-thecanadian-military-is-fed-in-the-field ....







#### RUSI(NS) <u>@RUSI\_NS</u> Jul 4

Military and ceremony go hand-in-hand. The size and type of presence vary between nations. What was the most impressive military display you have seen? This **#July4th #parade** has generated some attention, watch it live:



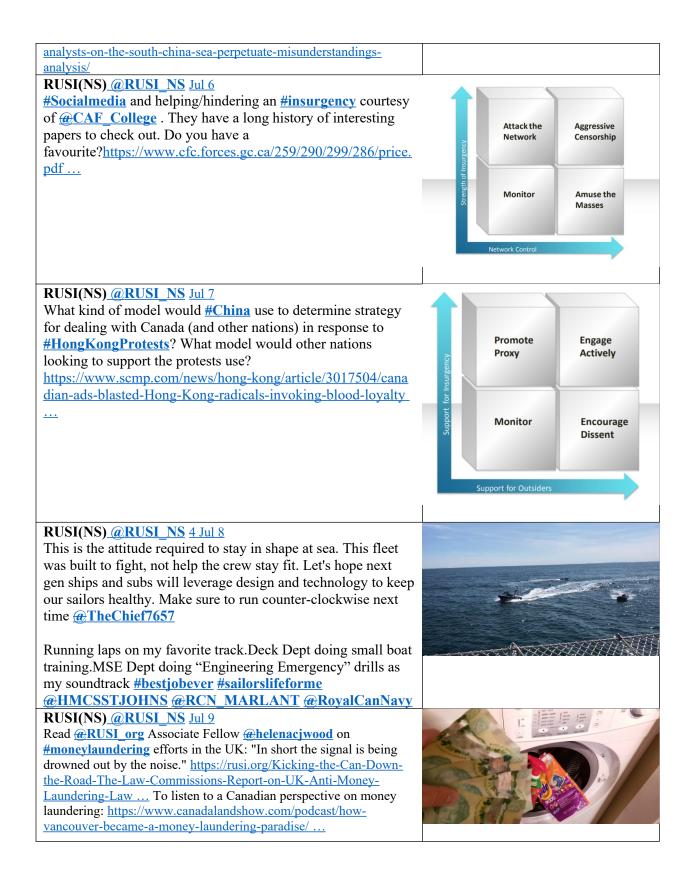
#### RUSI(NS) @RUSI NS Jul 5

South China Sea the navigation issues abound but the media stories that follow transits may be how nations count victories. A piece that was linked to by <u>*@TimDunne*</u> in this week's RUSI Defence and Security Newsletter provides some insights and links

Recent Opinion Pieces By Analysts On The South China Sea Perpetuate Misunderstandings – Analysis

https://www.eurasiareview.com/04072019-recent-opinion-pieces-by-





RUSI(NS) @RUSI_NS 10 Jul	
A farewell memo from the <u><b>#VCDS</b></u> ends up public, likely even	R13 144 358 (Pers)
before all addressees even had time to read it. A great example	9 July 2019
of how a well-written note can speak for itself as even if LGen Wynnyk is not interviewed, his message is clear. Mercedes StephensonVerified account @MercedesGlobal Here is the letter from the VCDS if you wish to read it #cdnpoli #CAF #MarkNorman https://twitter.com/MercedesGlobal/status/ 1148761347053764608	<text><text><text><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item><list-item><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></list-item></text></text></text>
	<ol> <li>Because I am on Imposed Restriction (IR). I am required to release from Garsion Edmonton, which implies a departure from Ottawa as son as the required administrative details have been addresses. It is important to encloy for professional reasons that I lever as soon as possible, but also for perional reasons as I seek to secure alternate employment. Should you appoint an active or substantive VCDs in the interrit, Novald C, docurs be bapy to do a thorrugh hindover provided It can be accomplished pror to 13 July 15.</li> <li>Thas been a treemendous honour and privilege to serve Canada, the Department of National Difference and the Cinadian Armed Forces for well over 28 years. Linkal level with nothing but respect, administon and gratitude for the institution, and for the incredible men and women, both military and civilian, who selflessly serve our great nation.</li> </ol>

#### Posted on Facebook Royal United Services Institute NS with comments:

There's Huawei too many vulns in Chinese giant's firmware: Bug hunters slam pisspoor code

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2019/06/27/ huawei firmware vulnerability study



Those opposing any effort to ban Huawei from future 5G networks have always asked for proof that the firm had installed 'backdoors' that would allow it to steal or manipulate Western data. The proof is now available. The US internet security firm Finite State examined 14 years of Huawei firmware and discovered that at least 55% of their products contained such an exploitable backdoor. It also found hundreds of other examples of poor coding practices that would negatively impact security. Huawei products were significantly more vulnerable than those of its competitors according to this report.

Finite State steered clear of this stating any of these were intentionally planted. While Huawei has always claimed it would never act on Chinese

government direction to conduct spying or hacking of its products, the extent of the backdoors and faults in its software would appear to allow government hackers easy access to do just that. The weakness in software coding, and by implication the lack of rigourous quality control, might also suggest another reason why Huawei is able to offer cut-rate prices.

Separately, I have been informed those in the information security business have always had a low opinion of Huawei software as a result of its errors and vulnerabilities.

Trump said he'd ease up on Huawei. Questions remain about what that means

https://www.cnn.com/2019/07/03/tech/trump-huaweirestrictions/index.html



At the recent G20 in Osaka, President Trump announced the lifting of recent restrictions that had eliminated the possibility of US firms selling equipment to Huawei. There was also the suggestion that further concessions might be coming for Huawei as US-China trade negotiations progress. Back in Washington they are still struggling to assess the implications of the President's announcement although one senior administration officer indicated the restrictions would only be lifted on Huawei's "general merchandise" as apart from, perhaps, network systems. Nevertheless, senior Republican senators were outraged over the obvious security implications of the announcement calling it a "catastrophic mistake." Senator Rubio also quite correctly added "It will destroy the credibility of his administration's warnings about the threat posed by the company, and no one will ever again take them seriously." Indeed. During all of this, Canada, separately, was given some assurance that the US President had raised the cases of the two Canadians China has kidnapped as a result of the Meng Wanzhou arrest. While this is complete conjecture, it's

not hard to imagine that if there is an overall reduction in US restrictions

on Huawei occurring at the end of their trade negotiations, China might

release the two Canadians. In any such scenario it would be exceedingly

difficult to see Canada, and potentially even the United States, continuing

to insist on barring Huawei from their future 5G networks. Of course, such

a result would directly reward China's hostage taking and encourage more. It is also

problematic as the result increasing evidence of 'backdoors' in Huawei's code.

'Today, Hong Kong; tomorrow, Taiwan:' Resistance to China spreads

https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Cover-Story/Today-Hong-Kong-tomorrow-Taiwan-Resistance-to-China-spreads



The fallout from China's ill-advised attempt to have the Hong Kong government adopt an extradition law that would allow anyone in or traveling through Hong Kong to be sent to the PRC continues. First, China's claim that it was not behind the action was widely derided. Second, the internal stability potential of the Hong Kong protests appears a major concern. In China censors blocked scenes of the million plus crowds marching against the proposal from their Internet (https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/china-backs-hong-kongextradition-opposes-foreign-interference-11611722) and imposed a media blackout (https://www.businessinsider.com/chinas-state-controlled-mediaignored-coverage-hong-kong-protests-2019-7). The China Daily, on the other hand, improbably argued that the huge protests were actually against US meddling in Hong Kong affairs. (https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/lmashkoor/hoaxes-hong-kong). Then the Chinese Foreign Minister also blamed the writing on the "black hand" of the Western states claiming "They have made trouble in Hong Kong, stirred up opposition and tried to sabotage Hong Kong's stability and damage the implementation of one country, two systems," he said. (https://www.cnn.com/2019/06/20/asia/chinawang-yi-hong-kong-intl-hnk/index.html).

Beyond the Chinese government's and media's credibility, the principal fallout is that recent events in Hong Kong have probably put the final nail into the coffin of China's always doubtful "one country, two systems" promises. Offered to both Hong Kong and Taiwan, the promise was that by joining China those areas would continue to enjoy their own democratic, legal and economic systems. The extradition law, however, was seen as a direct attack on Hong Kong's legal system. In Taiwan, where many always had their doubts about the "one country, two systems" gambit, the Hong Kong extradition proposal rallied both the government and the normally pro-China KMT opposition against it. Han Kuo-yu, the Kaohsiung mayor and a potential KMT leader said that if he were elected, Taiwan would be subjected to the 'one country. two system' proposal "over my dead body." The more independence-oriented President Tsai, who had suffered several election losses this year, has enjoyed rising support post the Hong Kong protests.

The danger now is that recent student rioting in the Hong Kong legislature building may provoke a stronger Chinese response. Stay tuned.

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



Russia to deliver first S-400 missile to Turkey in July: reports         https://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-turkey-missiles/russia-to-         deliver-first-s-400-missile-to-turkey-in-july-reports-         idUSKCN1TR1HY?         utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB+06.         27.19&utm_term=Editorial+-         +Early+Bird+Brief&fbclid=IwAR2MQFX1w	
NATO chief leaves all options open to counter Russia missile         https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2019/06/26/nato- chief-leaves-all-options-open-to-counter-russia-missile/?         utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB+06.         27.19&utm_term=Editorial+- +Early+Bird+Brief&fbclid=IwAR3Zjd7e5Kt6tnw9uKJVLJWtwrbZA         03Aq_88VTBCk8SES4nYnAvuJzGfi74	
Close Encounters During Operation NEON <a href="https://www.cgai.ca/close_encounters_during_operation_neon">https://www.cgai.ca/close_encounters_during_operation_neon</a>	
Canadian Forces says nothing unusual or provocative in Chinese reaction to Canadian warship <u>https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/canadian-forces-says-nothing-unusual-or-provocative-in-chinese-reaction-to- canadian-warship</u>	
Chinese Cyber-Operatives Boosted Taiwan's Insurgent Candidate https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/06/26/chinese-cyber-operatives- boosted-taiwans-insurgent-candidate/? utm_source=PostUp&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=13777&ut m_term=Editor#39;s Picks OC	
https://mailchi.mp/rusi.org/thisweek-5july-166329?e=a539211a30	

Trump's Fighter Jet Sale to Taiwan Advances Despite China's Protests         https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/07/03/trumps-fighter-jet-sale-to-taiwan-advances-despite-chinas-protests-f-16-lockheed-martin/?         utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB         07.05.19&utm_term=Editorial - Early Bird Brief	
First C295 for RCAF makes maiden flight         https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/first-c295-for-         rcaf-makes-maiden-flight	
Three nations stage F-35 drills over southern Italy <a href="https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2019/07/03/three-nations-stage-f-35-drills-over-southern-italy/">https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2019/07/03/three-nations-stage-f-35-drills-over-southern-italy/</a>	* **
Innovating airmen use equipment from the 1950s to quickly refuel F- 35s https://www.airforcetimes.com/news/your-air-force/2019/07/02/ innovating-airmen-use-equipment-from-the-1950s-to-quickly-refuel-f- 35s/	
Exclusive: Airbus, Boeing indicate they may pull out of Canada fighter jet race - sources https://www.reuters.com/article/somnia-idUSKCN1U32EX	

Tension between Iran, U.S. has implications for Canadian troops in         Iraq: analysts <a href="https://globalnews.ca/news/5472851/us-iran-tension-impact-canadian-troops-irag/">https://globalnews.ca/news/5472851/us-iran-tension-impact-canadian-troops-irag/</a>	
Fighter jet firms mull pullout from Canadian competition – F-35 could be last plane standing <u>https://ottawacitizen.com/news/national/defence-watch/fighter-jet-firms-mull-pullout-from-canadian-competition-f-35-could-be-last-plane-standing</u>	
New Camera Could Help Drones See Through Camouflage         https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2019/07/new-camera-could-         help-drones-see-through-camouflage/158252/?         oref=defenseone_today_nl	
Germany rebuffs US request for ground troops in Syria to fight ISIS https://www.militarytimes.com/flashpoints/2019/07/08/germany- rebuffs-us-request-for-ground-troops-in-syria-to-fight-isis/? utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBB 07.09.19&utm_term=Editorial - Early Bird Brief	
Duterte dares US to send 7th fleet to South China Sea <u>https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2019/7/9/Rodrigo-Duterte-7th-Fleet-United-States.html?</u> <u>utm_source=Sailthru&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=EBB</u> <u>%2007.09.19&amp;utm_term=Editorial%20-%20Early%20Bird%20Brief</u>	
Keep Canada safe by building out the Army Reserve https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/matt-gurney-keep-canada- safe-by-building-out-the-army-reserve/ar-AAE1UZL?ocid=se	

Britain, France Agree to Send Additional Troops to Syria <u>https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/07/09/britain-france-agree-to-send-additional-troops-increase-syria-us-withdrawal-uk/?</u> <u>utm_source=PostUp&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=13956&amp;ut</u> <u>m_term=Editor#39;s Picks OC</u>	
Canada's promised quick-reaction force of 200 peacekeepers yet to be registered with UN <a href="https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2019/07/09/missing-in-action-promised-200-strong-force-yet-to-be-registered-with-un.html">https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2019/07/09/missing-in-action-promised-200-strong-force-yet-to-be-registered-with-un.html</a>	
What the US needs to counter 'unprecedented' Chinese influence in South America <u>https://www.defensenews.com/pentagon/2019/07/09/what-the-us-needs-to-counter-chinese-influence-in-south-america/?</u> <u>utm_source=Sailthru&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=EBB</u> 07.10.19&utm_term=Editorial - Early Bird Brief	
Russia, China Offer Challenges in the Arctic <u>https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2019/07/russia-china-offer-</u> <u>challenges-arctic/158303/?oref=defense_one_breaking_nl</u>	
Iranian boats attempted to seize a British tanker in the Strait of Hormuz <u>https://www.cnn.com/2019/07/10/politics/iran-attempted-seize-british-tanker/index.html?</u> <u>utm_source=Sailthru&amp;utm_medium=email&amp;utm_campaign=EBB</u> 07.11.19&utm_term=Editorial - Early Bird Brief	
Blast from the past: The Pentagon's updated war plan for tactical nukes	

Britain's new aircraft carrier springs a leak — again <u>https://www.defensenews.com/naval/2019/07/10/britains-new-aircraft-carrier-springs-a-leak-again/?</u> <u>utm\_source=Sailthru&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=EBB</u> <u>07.11.19&utm\_term=Editorial - Early Bird Brief</u>

#### Other

MIT Technology Review : Deepfakes may be a useful tool for spies <u>https://www.technologyreview.com/f/613778/deepfakes-spies-espionage/</u>