



Security & Defence Briefing (20/2014):

"International Insights for the New Year"

11 December 2014

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From the Desk of the Executive Director

On Friday, 7 November 2014, the CDA Institute was pleased to present Blake Goldring, Honorary Colonel of the Canadian Army, with this year's Vimy Award at the **2014 CDA Institute Vimy Award Gala Dinner** held at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. Through HCol Goldring's generosity and unwavering dedication to the Canadian Armed Forces, and the military community at large, he has significantly contributed to Canada's well-being.

In 1991, the CDA Institute created the Vimy Award in order to recognize a Canadian who has made outstanding contributions to the security and defence of Canada and to the preservation of our democratic values. The Vimy Award evokes the bravery and sacrifices of the Canadian soldiers who were victorious at the Battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917. Fighting together for the first time, these soldiers brought global recognition to Canada and its Armed Forces and, in so doing, secured a place for Canada at the councils of the world.

The 2014 Vimy Award to HCol Goldring was presented by General Thomas Lawson, CMM, CD, Chief of Defence Staff and the CDA Institute's President, General Ray Henault (Ret'd). On receiving the award, HCol Blake Goldring dedicated this year's Vimy Award to the memories of WO Patrice Vincent and Cpl Nathan Cirillo. WO Vincent's family was in attendance as well as members of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who accepted the honour on the behalf of both fallen members.

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to the almost 600 guests who attended this magnificent event, to the numerous Corporate Sponsors and private donors, to the Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces Jazz Combo, the Canadian War Museum, and to the many supporters who sent us notes of appreciation and constructive feedback. I would also like to provide a special thank you to my small, but incredibly dedicated staff and volunteers who made this event so memorable.

As of Monday December 8, 2014, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Air Task Force-Iraq has conducted 175 sorties as part of **Operation IMPACT**. Canada's CF-188 Hornet fighters have conducted 112 sorties, CC-150T Polaris air-to-air refueller has performed 29 sorties delivering approximately 1,483,000 pounds of fuel to Canadian and coalition aircraft, and CP-140 Aurora aircraft carried out 34 reconnaissance missions. Though striking ISIL fighting positions has degraded its combat capabilities, at this point in time Canada has chosen not to expand its mission in Iraq. This decision followed an announcement earlier this week by a senior U.S. Commander that unnamed allied nations had agreed to send additional resources to assist in training Iraqi forces.

The **Royal Canadian Navy (RCN)** is currently experiencing its most extensive peacetime modernization in history and, as of November 25, 2014, the first four of the RCN'S Halifax-class frigates have completed comprehensive modernization programs.

CAF members participating in **Operation SIRONA**, the military contribution towards fighting the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, are presently conducting extensive training at CFB Petawawa and at the Army Medical Services Training Centre (AMSTC) in the United Kingdom before they are deployed to Sierra Leone in mid-December.

This November marked the **70th Anniversary of the Italian Campaign**, a significant contribution made by the Canadian military during WWII. The Anniversary featured commemorative events in Italy from November 24-28th. The CDA and CDA Institute Executive Director and former Canadian Defence Attaché to Italy, Tony Battista, was honoured to accompany the 28 Canadian WWII veterans of the Italian Campaign and a small group of dignitaries and staff from Veterans Affairs Canada, who participated in highly emotional and meaningful ceremonies at some 8 Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemeteries in Italy to honour the 6,000 Canadians who perished during the Italian Campaign. **LEST WE FORGET!**



Tony Battista

EVENTS

The CDA/CDA Institute **2015 Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence** will be held on Thursday, 19 February and Friday, 20 February 2015 at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa. A draft agenda is available, corporate sponsors are welcome, and Registration is Now Open! Please contact Denise Lemay for more information. You will not want to miss this highly attended and informative event on International and Canadian Security and Defence, which will also see the release of the CDA Institute's 2015 Strategic Outlook.

The **Roundtable Discussion Series** has concluded for the year 2014, with 14 successful and informative events. Stay tuned for new and exciting sessions in January 2015.

The **"In Flanders Fields" Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae Centenary Statue Campaign Committee** plans to unveil a statue in honour of John McCrae, artillery officer, physician and poet, in Ottawa on 3 May 2015, the 100th anniversary of the writing of "In Flanders Fields". A minimum of \$50,000 must be raised on-line in the days ahead towards the overall \$350,000 project goal. If you are interested in donating, or learning more about the project, please go to:
<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/in-flanders-fields-john-mccrae-centenary-statue>

Enfin, le bureau de la CAD et de l'Institut de la CAD sera fermé du 19 Décembre 2014 au 5 Janvier 2015. The office of the CDA and CDA Institute will be closed from December 19, 2014 to January 5, 2015. **De la part de tout le personnel, nous souhaitons à tous et chacun de joyeuses Fêtes. Happy Holidays to all our friends, supporters and cheerleaders!**

IN THE MEDIA

Many of our members remain active with the media as they continue to engage by informing Canadians on important aspects of Canadian Security and Defence. Below are some recent examples.

Ferry de Kerckhove and George Petrolekas co-authored a policy brief published by The German Marshall Fund of the United States entitled "[Canada as an Energy Superpower: Myths and Realities](#)", which explores the capacity of Canada to be an energy superpower based on analysis of the rapid expansion of the energy sector and examining export markets.

Ferry de Kerckhove also appeared on [Revue Politique](#) to discuss the "cold hand shake" between Prime Minister Harper and Vladimir Putin at the G20 leader's summit in Australia (at 15:00). He also spoke to CTV news to comment on the election of Michaëlle Jean as leader of La Francophonie.

Colonel George Petrolekas (Ret'd) authored another article for the [Globe and Mail](#) in participation of the ongoing discourse concerning Canada's need for a clear strategy against IS. A [second piece](#) suggests the new video posted by IS featuring a former Ottawa student, should come as no surprise. Shifting to the West, Petrolekas wrote for [Embassy](#) about the changing political dynamic in the United States with the Republicans now in control of the Senate.

Board member **David Collins** discussed the Middle East with the [Ottawa Citizen](#), specifically the current situation in Afghanistan as President Ghani explores aid strategies with the Western community.

Senior Analyst **Dave Perry** was quoted in an article published by [The Toronto Star](#), highlighting the significant sacrifices made by the government in military spending in exchange for a budget surplus.

According to the [Ottawa Citizen](#), our president **General Ray Henault (Ret'd)**, and board member **Thomas d'Aquino** attended the new exhibit at the National Gallery commemorating the hundred year anniversary of the Great War through an incredible series of war photographs. The CDA Institute was even more linked to the event as **Honorary Colonel Blake Goldring** the 2014 Vimy award winner, CDA/CDA Institute **Executive Director Tony Battista**, and **CDA Institute Board Member Alain Pellerin**, were also in attendance.

Roundtable Summary: Russia, Ukraine and Global Security Issues

By Lindsay Coombs

The security environment in Europe over the past 20 years has been characterized by an overriding sense of positivity. One could cite the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the subsequent non-violent reunification of Germany, and the peaceful independence of the Baltic States as examples that would affirm such an assertion. Though Europe as a whole has experienced a period defined by scores of momentous successes, it has not been without its share of downfalls. These breakdowns in the security environment include the violent hostilities in Macedonia and former Yugoslavia, which have yet to be fully resolved, and more recently, Russia's aggression towards Ukraine.

To read more, click [here](#) or copy/paste the following link:

<https://www.cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/roundtable-summary-russia-ukraine-and-global-security-issues>

Operation Barkhane: The Fifth Republic and Fourth-Generation Warfare

By Paul Pruce

In response to ongoing security challenges presented by Islamist militias in the Sahel region, France launched Operation Barkhane in July 2014. Consisting of some 3,000 troops, this permanent military presence will operate across state borders, confronting al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Ansar al-Dine, and others in five Sahelian countries: Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger. In many respects, Barkhane is intended to preserve the gains made by Operation Serval, France's intervention in the 2012-2013 Malian civil war. This is France's most recent foray into fourth-generation warfare (4GW), a concept of warfare and counter-insurgency familiar to American military thinkers but still apparently novel to their European counterparts.

To read more, click [here](#) or copy/paste the following link:

<https://www.cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/operation-barkhane-the-fifth-republic-and-fourth-generation-warfare>

Digital Diplomacy Event: International #Twiplomacy

By Lindsay Coombs

On 26 November 2014, I had the great pleasure of attending the Digital Diplomacy Event hosted by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade, and Development in Ottawa. The event kicked off smoothly with a thorough breakdown of the agenda by Kenneth MacKillop, Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Affairs, followed by a slick and engaging video regarding digital diplomacy successes. It was noted that although Canada was not the first to have adopted digital diplomacy, we have caught up fast; for instance, DFATD currently has more than 400 social media accounts. Canada has effectively launched itself into an era in which participating in the digital conversation is not something to be merely considered, it is essential.

To read more, click [here](#) or copy/paste the following link:

<http://cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/digital-diplomacy-event-international-twiplomacy>

I Went to the CDA Institute's Graduate Symposium and So Should You

By Dashiell Dronyk

Last October I had the fortunate to give a presentation at the 17th Annual Graduate Symposium held by the Conference of Defence Associations Institute at the Royal Military College in Kingston. The Symposium is a conference where students present their research and compete for grants and the opportunity for publication with the CDA Institute's Vimy Papers series based on the quality of their presentations and subsequent question and answer sessions with the audience.

To read more, click [here](#) or copy/paste the following link:

<https://cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/i-went-to-the-cda-institute-s-graduate-symposium-and-so-should-you>

United Arab Emirates: Targeting Terrorism

By Lindsay Coombs

On November 15, 2014, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Cabinet published a list of 83 designated terrorist organizations. According to article 1 of UAE Cabinet resolution No. 95, the list is composed of organizations "which constitute a danger to the UAE." Many groups accounted for on the list have also been designated by Western nations as terrorist organizations, such as the Islamic State and Al Qaeda, but this story has a remarkable plot twist; the list also includes an assortment of Western organizations as well as various branches of the Muslim Brotherhood.

To read more, click [here](#) or copy/paste the following link:

<https://cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/united-arab-emirates-targeting-terrorism>

Shuffling Afghanistan's Rubble

By Adnan Qaiser

At the start of Afghan war in 2001, India's famed author, Arundhati Roy, posed the question: "Can you destroy destruction? Dropping more bombs on Afghanistan will only shuffle the rubble, scramble some old graves and disturb the dead." Today, after thirteen years of war and the election of a new government, Afghanistan's future remains bleak because the fundamental issues could not be resolved: foreign troops remain, ethnic discord and power tussles persist, and regional interference and proxy wars continue.

To read more, click [here](#) or copy/paste the following link:

<https://cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/shuffling-afghanistan-s-rubble>



Tony Battista

