



Security & Defence Briefing (01 - 2015):

"SHOTS HEARD AROUND THE WORLD"

21 January 2015

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From the Desk of the Executive Director

The CDA and the CDA Institute **extend heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of General Ramsey M. Withers**, who passed away on 24 December, 2014 in Ottawa. Chief of Defence Staff from 1980 to 1983, General Withers was a proud member of The Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and The Communications and Electronics Branch, and a loyal supporter of both the CDA and the CDA Institute. Our CDA Institute President, General Ray Henault (retired), represented all of us at his funeral at the Beachwood Military Cemetery on 10 January 2015.

La CAD et l'Institut de la CAD offrent leur sincères condoléances aux familles et amis de ceux qui ont été tués et blessés dans les attaques terroristes à Paris. To all who have been affected by this great tragedy, our hearts and minds are with you.

Recent months have been marked by **brutal attacks across the globe** - fomenting terror and fear - citing the attacks in Australia in September and

December, in Ottawa and New York City in October, and most recently the assaults in Paris. While these barbaric attacks and their root causes are the subject of heated debates across the world, it is unimaginable that the answer is to isolate, humiliate, restrict or punish an entire faith merely because relatively small, loosely affiliated radical groups - claiming to represent the vast majority - continue to foment fear across the world, and especially within the western world.

Clearly, the world - and especially the Muslim world - needs to stand up to these small, violent groups with all the resolve and action that the international community can muster. However, countering fear and heartache with xenophobic measures is not the answer. CDA Institute Board Member and past President, **Dr. John Scott Cowan**, suggests that although pessimistic attitude about the Middle East may make it difficult for Canadians, we must accept we are at war with ISIS and become more resolved in our efforts to combat this threat:

<https://cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/the-struggle-against-isis>

It may be instructive to remind us all that few had read 'Mein Kampf' before 1939, just like few have been reading and understanding 'The Seven Phases to the Caliphate' and its various interpretations scattered all over the internet. These are the times when all citizens of the world are being challenged and called upon to show their true colors; we should not allow fear or hatred to divide us.

The gravity of terror attacks by ISIL affiliates on the West is well-outlined by Fouad Hussein's depiction of the **seven phases towards the establishment of an Islamic caliphate**. Hussein is a Jordanian journalist who, through interviews with al-Qaeda fighters, published Zaraqawi - Al-Qaeda's Second Generation in 2005. In this book, Hussein depicts how terrorists may choose to accomplish their objectives. However, his frightening description of this master plan may appear serious to some. Though aspects of his outline are plausible and should be heeded by the international community, such as the notion that Islamic terrorist organizations will increasingly attract frustrated young men, the majority of the phases are unmanageable in the contemporary context. Notably, major attacks against the West are not discussed by Hussein and, consequently, the recent violence appears to be a means to a greater end; they supplement the larger objective of forming an Islamic caliphate by increasing Western insecurity.

On Tuesday 13 January 2015, the Royal Canadian Navy commemorated the **100th anniversary of the first Newfoundland casualties of the Great War**. Attendees of the ceremony at Bowring Park in St. John's solemnly paid their respects to the loss of three RCN ships and fifty-seven RCN Reservists from Newfoundland in 1915.

This month marked the **return of HMCS Toronto** from operation REASSURANCE - Canada's NATO contribution to the assurance measures to strengthen security and stability in Central and Eastern Europe. HMCS Toronto was replaced by **HMCS Fredericton**. We salute both crews of HMCS Toronto and Fredericton.

Last , but certainly not least, I am grateful for the tremendous support and work of our small staff, and the confidence and leadership of the CDA Chair and the CDA Council, of the CDA Institute President and CDA Institute Board of Directors, as we forge ahead with the planning of our **CDA/CDA Institute 2015 Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence**, to be held at the Chateau Laurier on 19 and 20 February. At this well-known and well-attended conference, the Ross Munro Media Award will be presented to the 2014 recipient Louie Palu. The Conference will also be the venue to present the excellent work by the CDA Institute Executive Vice-President, Ferry de Kerckhove (**Vimy Paper 22 - The 2015 Strategic Outlook for Canada**), and the results of a national IPSOS poll on National Security and Defence issues and the Canadian Armed Forces. **YOU WOULD NOT WANT TO MISS THIS IMPRESSIVE 2-DAY EVENT.**

The complete conference program and registration details are available at the following website link:

www.cdainstitute.ca/en/ottawa-conference

Tony Battista

NEW VIMY PAPER

On 14 January 2014 The Conference of Defence Associations Institute was pleased to release **Vimy Paper 21**, in cooperation with The Macdonald-Laurier Institute: ***Putting the 'Armed' Back Into the Canadian Armed Forces: Improving Defence Procurement in Canada*** by David Perry, Senior Security and Defence Analyst with the CDA Institute.

In February 2014, the Government of Canada announced a Defence Procurement Strategy (DPS) designed to reform the way Canada acquires military equipment. The Canadian system has been uniquely problematic in the past and is likely to remain so, with the length of time to acquire military equipment now at "record levels". Although the DPS is a commendable initiative, this paper finds it will not fix the current problems on its own.

Dave Perry's excellent work has quickly become required reading for understanding the current situation of Canadian defence procurement and have received considerable media attention. This includes articles by Murray Brewster at [CBC](http://www.cbc.ca) and in [The Star](http://www.thestar.com), as well as coverage in the [National Post](http://www.nationalpost.com), [Metro](http://www.metro.ca), [Huffington Post](http://www.huffingtonpost.com) and an editorial in [The Star](http://www.thestar.com). He also appeared on [CTV News](http://www.ctvnews.ca) and spoke Corus Radio Calgary on 16 Jan and 1310 News on 19 Jan.

READ IT HERE: <http://cdainstitute.ca/en/research-and-publications/vimy-papers>

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** begins the new year with an event on 5 Feb entitled **"Improvements to the New Veterans Charter and the Successful Transition from Military to Civilian Life"** with Guy Parent, Veterans Ombudsman and Gary Walbourne, National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces Ombudsman. Register at: <https://roundtable-ombudsmen.eventbrite.ca>

The Canadian Military Intelligence Association presents the **Intelligence On Tap Speaker Series**. The next installment on 5 Feb will feature Tom Quiggin on the subject of *"Extremist Recruiting In Canada for ISIS/ISIL and Others"*. Register at: <https://cmia-iot-quiggan.eventbrite.ca>

Congratulations to **Bonnie Butlin**, who became the 1st Canadian Female Security Professional to win the coveted [Compass Award](#) through CSO Magazine / CSO Online. Ms. Butlin was a former Security and Defence Forum Intern at the CDA Institute from 2008-2009.

The **Never Forgotten National Memorial Foundation** is a Canadian registered charity established in 2012 and is building Canada's first National Memorial in a National Park to Honour Canadian War Dead...Wherever They May Lie. For more information or to donate, please go to: <http://www.nfnm.ca/>

CDA Institute President General Ray Henault (Ret'd), attended and presented at a conference by **The Ditchley Foundation** on *"Future Military Capabilities and their Uses"*, 11-13 December 2014. A summary of proceedings is available at: <http://www.ditchley.co.uk/conferences/past-programme/2010-2019/2014/military>

The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command is working towards publishing the 2nd edition of the *Military Service Recognition Book*, to identify and recognize many of our Veterans in Ontario, who have either served or are still serving in our Canadian Armed Forces, the Commonwealth or Allied Forces. For more information, please visit your Local Legion Branch or see: <http://www.on.legion.ca/remembrance/military-service-recognition-book>

IN THE MEDIA

Since the holidays, the media has latched onto the many insightful and topical

discussions being produced by the CDA Institute's board members and staff. Here are some recent examples.

The CDA Institute's upcoming annual Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence received some publicity from [O Canada](#), [Frontline Magazine](#), and [45eNord](#) as reporters anticipate the **most informed opportunity of the year** to discuss National and International security and defence issues.

In December, **David Perry and George Petrolekas'** article on [alternative solutions](#) to Navy procurement plans, written last year, was circulated again on the Northern View. Perry was also quoted in articles regarding [personnel shortages](#) due defence budget cuts and the [wave of retirements](#) in the Canadian Armed Forces and appeared on [CTV](#) to discuss this issue. More recently, he commented on [Canadian special forces](#) being fired on by ISIS militants.

In the new year, **Petrolekas and Perry** teamed up to write a reflection on the [Good, the Bad, and the Ugly](#) of 2014 and a look forward to 2015. Petrolekas also authored an article for the Globe and Mail on Canadian [business prospects with Cuba](#) in light of improved US-Cuba relations and was quoted by Global News regarding [oil prices](#) in connection to the ongoing situations in Ukraine and ISIL in Syria and Iraq.

Among other things, **Ferry de Kerckhove** commended the appointment of Kevin Vickers, the heroic Sergeant-at-Arms during the Ottawa Shooting, as Canada's new Ambassador to Ireland. Regarding [recent attacks](#) in the United States and France targeting police officers, Kerckhove commented on the symbolism of the uniform and police response. Kerckhove appeared on [Radio Canada](#) and CTV's [Power Play](#) and [Canada AM](#) following the tragedy in Pakistan in which more than a hundred students and teachers were massacred by the Taliban. Speaking with CBC's Ottawa Morning program, Kerckhove also discussed the state of [Canadian-Egyptian relations](#) after John Baird's consulate visit.

OPEC OIL PRICES **by Nigel Brodeur**

Those who decry the damage caused by the low OPEC oil price seem to be disregarding the reality that Europe and North America have been, (and continue to be) subsidizing the oil prices of Saudi Arabia and her OPEC neighbours.

This has happened because the anti-piracy operations conducted by the USA and her allies in those distant waters have had a significant impact on reducing the insurance rates imposed on commercial marine traffic in those areas - [including, especially, tanker traffic](#). The Robert Strauss Center for International Security and Law's report on the Insurance Market Strait of Hormuz (website: <https://strausscenter.org/hormuz/insurance-market.html>) is specific on that point; it states:

"In the event of a hostile disruption of traffic in the Strait of Hormuz, the insurance market would immediately react. Within hours of such a disruption, insurance premiums for vessels traveling in the vicinity of the Persian Gulf would increase significantly"

An Internet search reveals that 16 nations have contributed to the US-led multi-national Combined Task Force 150 (CTF 150) protecting shipping in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Gulf of Oman. Participation is voluntary; and Canada has contributed Canadian Patrol Frigates to that force since its inception. Our ships and their crews have provided outstanding performance - at no small cost to themselves and their families!

The Saudi Arabian navy reportedly comprises 50,000 personnel (including 12,000 marines) - four times the size of the RCN - yet none of the Saudi eleven frigates and corvettes are shown as having contributed to CTF 150.

At the same time, the Saudi refusal to cut her oil production is "biting the hand" of the very nations protecting her tanker traffic (and thereby subsidizing their insurance costs).

There seems to be no agreement among pundits on how long those low OPEC oil prices will persist; but if the Robert Strauss Center is correct, a declaration that European and North American navies will no longer protect tanker traffic in The Straits of Hormuz and the Red Sea could well have a rapid impact on the oil tanker insurance rates; and thereby result in a substantial increase in Saudi oil costs.

Canada and other contributors to CTF 150 should be seriously questioning why Western and European nations should be subsidizing a nation which is knowingly hurting their oil industries!

Nigel Brodeur

Top 5 Blog Posts of 2014 (By Hits)

Operation Barkhane: The Fifth Republic and Fourth-Generation Warfare

By Paul Pryce, December 2014

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 Maghred (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://cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/operation-barkhane-the-fifth-republic-and-fourth-generation-warfare>

Chávez and the Shift in Venezuelan Conflict Hypotheses

By Andrei Serbin Pont, June 2014

President Hugo Chávez came to power in Venezuela in 1998, and brought with him 15 years of political, social and economic transformation of Venezuelan society, including its armed forces. His radical shift in foreign policy led to a re-evaluation of Venezuelan conflict hypotheses, which had long been based on the possibility of a conventional armed conflict with a neighbouring country (Colombia or Guyana), or internal conflict with irregular armed groups. As Chávez' rhetoric became increasingly anti-North American, the idea of preparing for a US intervention in Venezuela gained strength within the ranks of government officials and Chávista officers in the military.

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

<https://cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/chavez-and-the-shift-in-venezuelan-conflict-hypotheses>

Soldiers Silenced? Freedom of Speech and the Canadian Armed Forces

By Meaghan Hobman, June 2014

The treatment of CAF veterans has been a difficult subject this past year, and one particular story which caught a lot of attention was "Wounded soldiers told to sign form agreeing not to criticize military for their own good", which first ran in September of 2013 in the Ottawa Citizen and The Star and again in April of 2014 in The National Post. This news item reported on allegations that wounded soldiers were required to sign a form essentially governing what they could or could not say to the public. It has since been confirmed that there is such a document, which was created in March 2013 and is given to soldiers transferring to the Joint Personnel Support Unit (JPSU), a post-deployment casualty support system linking physically or mentally wounded soldiers to services available.

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

<https://www.cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/soldiers-silenced>

An open letter from Robert Semrau, former Canadian Forces Captain

March 2014

"The other morning, as I said goodbye to my daughter and watched her get on the school bus, I realized there are children whose parents will no longer be there to say goodbye to them, or to love them and hold them, ever again, because they ended their own lives. This realization punched me like a fist and tore me apart inside. I ran upstairs to my washroom, locked the door, and I cried and couldn't stop crying, for a long time. Afterwards, I sat down and wrote this letter. It's a letter written to all of the men and women of the Canadian Forces, who are currently serving or who have served in the past..."

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

<https://www.cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/an-open-letter-from-robert-semrau-former-canadian-forces-captain>

Intervention Force in the Congo: A New Way to Make the Peace?

January, 2014

Since a succession of highly publicized failures in Bosnia and Rwanda in the early 1990s United Nations peacekeeping has been widely perceived as ineffective in preventing atrocities. Blame for these failures has often been pinned on the inability of the organization to adapt to a changed post-Cold War security environment characterised by complex civil wars. This perspective is best encapsulated in historian Max Boot's comment that the UN fails to understand that "men with guns do not respect men with nothing but flapping gums." However, such harsh words colour the fact that UN peacekeeping operations are now running at an all-time high, with more forces deployed (100,000 personnel) on more missions (50 since 1990) than at any other time since the first unarmed observers were sent to the Middle East in 1948.

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

<https://www.cdainstitute.ca/en/blog/entry/intervention-force-in-the-congo-a-new-way-to-make-the-peace>

MEDIA ROUND-UP

[Canada's anti-radicalization programs lacking against domestic terror recruitment \(CBC\)](#): The Federal Government is set to table new legislation by the end of the month, which some say may play into the hands of jihadist groups.

[Canada Crafts Spec Ops Equipment Needs](#) (**Defence News**): Canada's special operations forces are focusing on acquiring ISR aircraft and new vehicles as it develops its future equipment needs, which has generated interest from domestic and international companies.

[Iranian general killed in Israeli air strike in Syria](#) (**Globe and Mail**): Iranian General Mohammad Ali Allahdadi was killed in an attack on the Golan Heights, which also killed six Hezbollah fighters - including the son of a top Hezbollah operative assassinated in 2008 in Damascus.

[Grozny capitale mondiale de la contestation anti-Charlie](#) (**L'OBS**): Des milliers de personnes manifestent à Grozny contre la publication de caricatures du prophète Mahomet dans Charlie Hebdo, après un week-end marqué par de violentes émeutes au Niger.

[More stringent oversight of military intelligence at DND in limbo](#) (**Maclean's**): National Defence is looking at ways to introduce more stringent oversight of its intelligence operations, but fiscal restraint may prevent the department from implementing the preferred option.

[Neglecting NATO's Knowledge Dynamic](#) (**NATO Council of Canada**): Canada's relative disengagement in NATO Centres of Excellence (COEs) among NATO Members has contributed to a lack of prestige within the Alliance.

[EU calls for anti-terror alliance with Arab countries](#) (**CTV**): The European Union is calling for an anti-terror alliance with Arab countries to boost co-operation and information-sharing in the wake of deadly attacks across Europe.

[La crise s'aggrave au Yamen](#) (**Canoe**): Un cessez-le-feu a été décrété lundi à Sanaa après de longues heures de combats, qui ont fait neuf morts parmi les miliciens et les militaires ainsi que 67 blessés, dont des civils.

[Why is Ottawa sinking Kingston's Marine Museum?](#) (**Globe and Mail**): Kingston's Marine Museum, which hosts the largest collection of books on sailing and shipping on the Great lakes, is on the verge of closure unless Ottawa intervenes.

Tony Battista

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