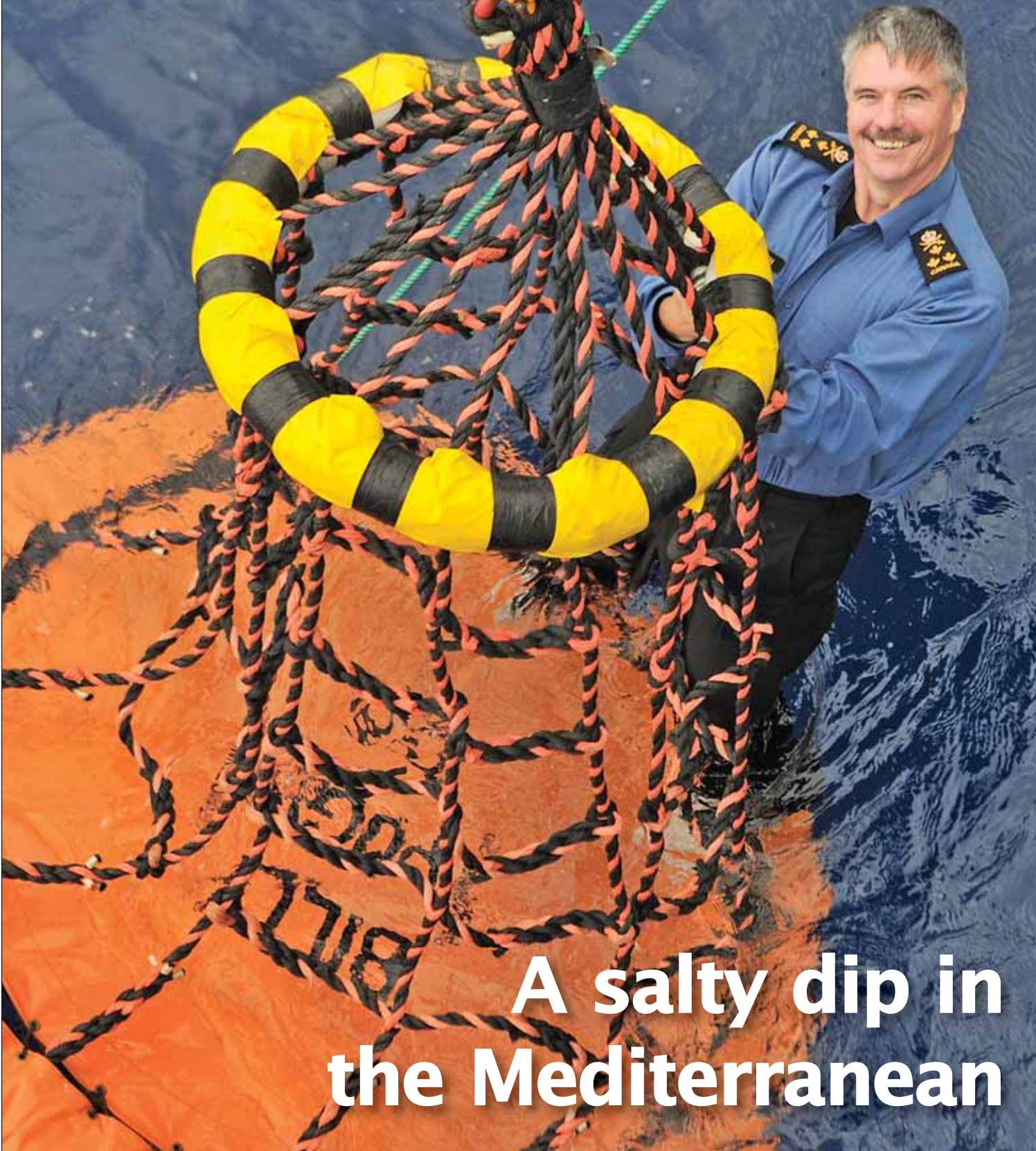


Volume 56 Number 27 | July 4, 2011

LOOKOUT

MARPAC NEWS CFB Esquimalt, Victoria, B.C.



A salty dip in the Mediterranean

HMCS Charlottetown's crew gives VAdm Dean McFadden, Chief of the Maritime Staff, a salty dip to commemorate his last day while in the Mediterranean Sea during Operation Mobile.

Cpl Chris Ringius, Formation Imaging Services, Halifax

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Art Gallery has a brush with war



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New program offers sailors a world of opportunities



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Shop worker's unique talent



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Colin Williams' "Old City," depicting Cyprus, was painted in 1974. The 76.2 x 101.6 cm piece is oil on art board and is part of the Beaverbrook Collection of War Art.

Exhibit portrays CF on the front lines

Ben Green
Staff writer

The realism of the soldier's gaze is astounding.

Each brush stroke works collectively to bring about a portrait of a clean shaven soldier with helmet strapped snugly under his chin; his eyes revealing the spectrum of human emotions: determination, desperation, exhaustion and pride.

The painting, created by Scott Waters, is part of *A Brush with War: Military Art from Korea to Afghanistan*, a collection of 40 art works currently on display at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.

The collection, which opened last Thursday, features paintings from artists embedded on the front lines of Canadian units spanning the past 70 years.

The travelling exhibition, which runs till Sept. 5, is on its fifth stop from the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. With the tour originating in Toronto in 2008, it will journey coast-to-coast before making its final stop next year.

Most of the collection was painted by artists involved in the Canadian Armed Forces Civilian Artists Program (CAFCAAP) (1968-1995), or the more recent Canadian Forces Artists Program (CFAP), which has been running since 2001. Split into those two time periods, the art portrays scenes from Somalia,

Rwanda, Cyprus, Haiti, Croatia, and Afghanistan, to name a few.

Dr. Laura Barnes, a historian of art and war from the Canadian War Museum and curator of the exhibit, says the pieces break the mould from the traditional heroic war paintings that were done up to the Second World War. *A Brush with War* is raw and emotional, she says; it engages and challenges viewers to see the human aspect of war.

On hand for the Victoria opening were two local artists each showing two pieces in the collection.

Ken Steacy, a graphic novelist, worked for CAFCAAP in 1985 on an assignment depicting peacetime activities of navigators in the Canadian Air Force. With his father, LCol C.W. Steacy, flying all-weather interceptors during the Cold War, the self-described air force brat jumped at the opportunity.

He spent a week with crews at CFB Comox to gather sketches and photos, then a year creating eight paintings. This exhibit chose two of those paintings: one of a navigator on a CC-115 Buffalo search and rescue aircraft, and the other of an electronics crew on a CP-140 Aurora submarine hunter.

"One thing about the exhibit is it's a very unvarnished look at life in conflict and peacetime," Steacy says. "It'll be a real eye-opener for people; the heroic aspect

of the show is the efforts of ordinary Canadians in the military who are shouldering burdens of behalf of Canadians in general."

The other local artist, E. Colin Williams, spent his time in CAFCAAP on the Canadian front lines in mid-1970s Cyprus. Years before immigrating to Canada, he was conscripted into the British military as a Royal Mechanical Engineer where he was actually stationed in Cyprus. He also has two pieces in the exhibit, one depicting vehicles travelling through a war-torn street in Nicosia, Cyprus, and the other of a jeep crossing the Suez Canal in Egypt.

The exhibit is in direct partnership with the Directorate of History and Heritage and the

Department of National Defence. Through a financial donation from the Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation, the exhibit has been able to conduct its four-year tour.

Until the closing of the exhibit, all military members, their families, and veterans can view the exhibit for half price with the showing of proper identification. For more information on ticket prices or the exhibit visit www.aggv.ca.

The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria first opened in 1951 in the beautifully restored, 120-year-old Spencer Mansion. Now adjacent to it are seven modern galleries that hold almost 17,000 works of art; the largest public collection in B.C.



Allan Harding MacKay's "Portrait of a Somali Woman" was done in 1993. The 121 x 136.5 cm piece is charcoal and pastel on paper.

Chief moves from Formation, to officer, to base

Penny Rogers
Staff writer

After three years as Formation Chief Petty Officer, CPO1 Bob Cookson handed over his job to CPO1 Paul Helston on Tuesday, June 28.

For the first time, the change of appointment ceremony was done before a roomful of invited guests at the Chiefs and Petty Officers' Mess, rather than behind closed doors in the Admiral's office.

The role of Formation Chief is vital to all non-commissioned members (NCMs). As the highest NCM position on the West Coast, the Formation Chief is both a mentor and a "go to" person for morale or welfare concerns from sailors, either on board ship or posted ashore.

According to CPO1 Cookson, the open-door policy with the admiral allows for an information flow in both directions.

One accomplishment CPO1 Cookson is proud to have played a major role in during his term was the initiation of naval succession planning.

Concentrated succession planning was started in Maritime Forces Pacific (MARFAC) in 2008 under the authority of the admiral, beginning with the rank of CPO1. It was created primarily to ensure the right people received the right training, at the right time in their career, so they can take over senior roles later on with a greater ease of transition.

"It went so well in 2008, that in 2009 not only did we succession plan CPO1s, but we expanded to include CPO2s," explains CPO1 Cookson. "By 2010, we had the navy buy into the whole idea of succession planning to the point where it went national. Both MARLANT and MARFAC are now involved in the national process run out of Ottawa for the whole of the navy, including CPO1s, CPO2s and now PO1s. So it has been a highlight of this tour for me and is something we can be proud of and take credit for within MARFAC."

Another area of focus during his time as Formation Chief was his efforts to stem the tide of addiction among sailors. "I am concerned about drug and alcohol usage, and trying to get our junior sailors out of that culture as soon as possible so they can have a good career within the military," said CPO1 Cookson.

Attending professional development days, giving briefings at PLQ courses, interacting with sailors and being as visible as possible are some of the ways he has tried to pass the message along.

"Sometimes I give examples, sometimes I just review the policy we have in place or put the onus on them, because the onus always needs to be on the individual towards making the



Penny Rogers, Lookout

More than just his title changed on June 28 when CPO1 Bob Cookson turned over the reigns of Formation Chief Petty Officer to CPO1 Paul Helston. After the change of appointment ceremony, CPO1 Cookson received his commission from RAdm Nigel Greenwood, becoming a Lieutenant(Navy) after 31 years as a non-commissioned member.

right decision."

One of the things he will miss is the international travel that was a large part of the position.

"I've learned so much by visiting China, South Korea, Japan and all the other places I've accompanied the Admiral to. You gain a little bit more of that global experience just by going out there and interacting with the other navies."

In another unusual twist, the former top NCM in MARFAC has now taken his commission. Lt(N) Cookson will be moving to Base Accommodations and tackling his new role as Base Accommodations Officer.

"I couldn't have asked for a better three-year period to be Formation Chief, what with our accomplishments for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics, our 100th anniversary, and all the celebrations and things we did for that all year long."

Excited to step into the role of

Formation Chief for the next three-year term is CPO1 Helston, who held the position of Fleet Chief from 2007 to 2010.

"The navy is undergoing significant changes, from how it is formed structurally to the introduction of new platforms further into the future and, of course, the Halifax Class Modernization with the frigates, which has just begun. So all of those will present interesting and rewarding challenges," said CPO1 Helston. "I look forward to participating in all that plus helping the sailors, and helping our leadership in general, move forward because we are at a historic moment in the navy. What we're going to see is a whole new recapitalization of the fleet - new systems, new training, new ways of doing things and in keeping with that it is critically important that we move forward with NCM succession planning because the NCMs have a critical role to play in the navy today and in the navy of the future."

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matters of OPINION

FILM *friday*

PIXAR goes off course in **Cars 2** despite good animation

W. Andrew Powell
The GATE

Opening in theatres across the country: Owen Wilson voices the speedy Lightning McQueen once more in Pixar's latest sequel, *Cars 2*; and Cameron Diaz plays a down and dirty teacher in the comedy *Bad Teacher*.

Cars 2

Pixar has been a shining example of how a film studio should work, painstakingly producing moving and groundbreaking animated films. However, it was only a matter of time before something went off course, and that something is *Cars 2*.

Until now Pixar has been more concerned with great writing and appealing storylines. Aside from Pixar's *Toy Story* sequels, *Cars 2* seems more a cash grab.

Catching up with racecar Lightning McQueen and his friend Mater, voiced once again by Owen Wilson and Larry the Cable Guy, respectively, *Cars 2* is set a short time after the first film as McQueen heads off to race in the first-ever World Grand Prix, which will find the fastest car in the world. Meanwhile, Mater has gotten himself into the world of espionage, by mistake of course, and doesn't know if he should be helping McQueen win his race or assisting British spy car Finn McMissile, voiced by Michael Caine, and his spy assistant, Holley Shiftwell, voiced by Emily Mortimer.

Co-starring John Turturro as race car Francesco Bernoulli and Eddie Izzard as Miles Axlerod, *Cars 2* has the right cast and team behind it, including co-directors John

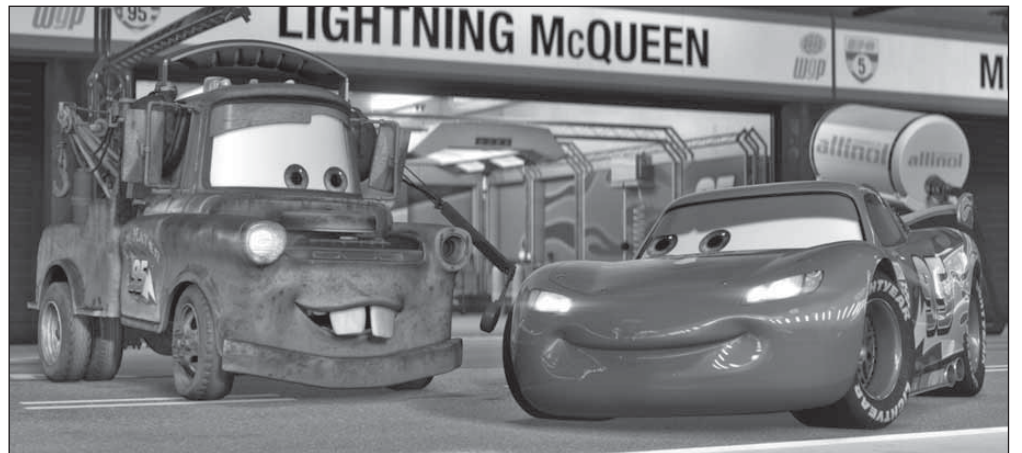


Image courtesy of Disney Pixar

Cars 2 features Lightning McQueen (right), voiced by Owen Wilson, and his friend Mater, voiced by Larry the Cable Guy.

Lasseter and Brad Lewis.

While I don't have enough inside knowledge to bet on anything specific here, the problem is that Pixar chose to spin a sequel off from their weakest film to date, and chances are high they did it because Disney wanted to sell more *Cars* toys.

On the positive side of the scale, even when Pixar is running on empty in terms of storytelling and filmmaking, as with the first *Cars*, the company still outshines the animated competition.

Bad Teacher

From the writers responsible for the American version of *The Office*, Gene Stupnitsky and Lee Eisenberg, and *Walk Hard* director Jake Kasdan comes this odd-ball comedy about an inappropriate teach-

er who plans to win over a rich substitute teacher so she can quit her job.

Dumped by her fiancé, Elizabeth, played by Cameron Diaz, tries her best, or maybe you would say her worst, to win over the very handsome Scott, played by Justin Timberlake. She also has to fight off the advances of the school's gym teacher, Russell, played by Jason Segel, but her scheming obviously brings no end of trouble for the other teachers, the kids at the school, and leads to a lesson even she has to learn in the end.

Bad Teacher co-stars Molly Shannon, and is exactly the dud you would expect after seeing the trailers, but here's the terrible truth – it's at least getting better reviews than Pixar's *Cars 2*.

WHAT SAY YOU

Thanks to the navy for making Big Bike a success

Hello Big Bikers,

We have finally completed the Vancouver Island portion of the Big Bike tour and with some great successes for 2011; we could not have done it without your help. Together, the Navy groups raised a whopping \$14,642 for the Heart and Stroke. We greatly appreciate all the work you did making the Navy rides such a success. This is helping us achieve even greater results that change the lives of not only heart and stroke patients, but also for all Canadians.

Jeremy and I have just tallied up the Spirit points and are excited to announce that Base Construction Pacemakers have come out with the majority of the points, winning the Spirit Challenge. Congratulations!

It was a very close competition and we were very impressed at how many teams took it to the next level bringing mascots and flags, getting their own Big Bike shirts printed and supplying their own music for the ride. Base Construction came out a nudge above because of the number of participants who raised pledges online. Good Job Pacemakers and thanks to all who came out and brought great energy and enthusiasm. Our Big Bike days were much more interesting having you there - we hope to have a whole day of Navy rides again in 2012.

Cheers,

Celeste Zimmer and Jeremy Loveday
Your Big Bike Coordinators

Fundraising Totals:

NOTCyclists - \$1,325.00
Naval Tender Section - \$1,470.60
HMCS Victoria - \$1,777.63
Base Construction Pacemakers - \$3,324
HMCS Regina - \$3,600
HMCS Winnipeg - \$3,144.77

Correction

In *Lookout*, Issue 24, on page 10, we attributed the story "Qualification nailbiter" to the wrong person. The byline should have read Lt(N) Todd Robinson.

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A MURKY WORLD

Cyberspace declared the fifth domain of warfare

Tanner Oscapella
Contributor

There is much talk in the media of an ongoing “cyber-war.” A November 2010 New Yorker article by Seymour Hersh contained a picture of a submarine sailing through a keyboard while a helicopter flies low over the “digital battlefield.”

The current Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Leon Panetta, in a more serious tone, has posited that the internet could be used to cause America’s next Pearl Harbor.

Cyberspace has been declared the fifth domain of warfare (after land, sea, air and space).

That domain, dubbed the internet, is a commons that spans the globe, but does not exist in the physical world. Physical devices such as computers, satellites, and servers do support this world, but the cyber domain is unique in that it is both never-ending, yet enclosed.

This interdependent network can be attacked by viruses, worms and Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks, among other means. Yet responding to online threats is not clear-cut. Anonymity, a lack of boundaries, interconnectivity and indirect association are all features of the cyber domain.

Just like navies, who have a vested interest in the protection of the sea-based commerce for the delivery of goods, Western militaries are keen to operate within and defend the networks upon which our societies rely so heavily.

News media have begun adding the term “cyber war” to almost any cyber intrusion, yet most would be classified as cyber espionage.

In his New Yorker article, Hersh defines cyber war as “the penetration of foreign networks for the disruption or dismantling of those networks, and making them inoperable.”

On the other hand, Hersh describes cyber espionage as “the science of covertly capturing e-mail traffic, text messages, other electronic communication and corporate data” for national security or commercial intelligence purposes.

Most of the infamous computer worms heralded

as advancements in “cyber war,” such as “Conficker” and “GhostNet,” would be lumped into the espionage category in Hersh’s estimation.

In 2003, the U.S. government stopped tallying the annual amount of cyber-intrusions as the total reached well over 100,000; the U.S. government’s 15,000 networks are now thought to be probed for weaknesses around 250,000 times an hour.

To fight these online threats, the U.S. set up U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) in 2009, led by four-star General Keith Alexander. The CIA, Department

clear. Detecting an attack or infiltration is sometimes difficult enough; finding the culprit of more sophisticated attacks is near impossible. Plus legal precedents for a response to a cyber attack are vague and ill defined.

Second, the traditional approach carries the idea that military and security agencies provide a deterrent in the physical world. This is not the case online, as the anonymity of the net allows individuals to repeatedly test the defences of various networks. A large corporate net-

shaped the cyber issue. In a time of austerity, cyber initiatives have been a rarity with their expanding budgets. This has left the various agencies fighting for dollars by arguing their mandate is best suited to address the problem.

Almost every Western government has been infiltrated in some form by a cyber attack, with Canada and France being hit in early 2011.

Cyber espionage has been used by rival states to gain competitive advantage when calculating military,

to better political and military ties; but companies forced to leave countries due to cyber espionage can sour relations.

Then there is the question of responsibility.

If a missile from a foreign state is heading towards a privately-owned building on U.S. soil, then the military is, without question, considered the first responder. But who is responsible if a large cyber attack is bombarding Wall Street? The values associated with the internet, that of free flowing information and individual freedom of speech, make Western government and military intrusion into the public domain a political minefield.

The answer will be complicated, as any single entity, whether public, private or individual, seem ill-equipped to deal with the murky world of cyber-security.

The National Security Agency has worked with large companies such as Google and Boeing before, but analysts feel a broader framework for cooperation would need civilian oversight. Even with such cooperation, the most advanced security systems have still proven vulnerable to sophisticated intruders. The problem is exacerbated by vague legal frameworks that leave a state or corporation with little recourse. Even once detected, it is common for security experts to be unable to determine the origin or intention of an attack.

The threat of large-scale cyber attacks is real, yet so is the long-term threat of cyber espionage. As it stands, the anticipation of a game-changing “digital Pearl Harbor” has dominated current thinking. Governments might do well to pay more attention to cyber espionage, where stolen intellectual property can cause great harm to leading edge companies and jeopardize economic advantages. Problems will only become more complex and threats more sophisticated as time goes on.

For those wanting a simpler cyber-paradigm, *The Economist* said it best: “cyber espionage... is murky, semi-legal, usually untraceable and highly profitable. Get used to it.”

of Homeland Security (DHS), National Security Agency (NSA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and a host of other agencies have also set up similar departments.

Although the U.S. and NATO countries have some of the most advanced defensive and offensive cyber capabilities in the world, these defences are built upon three flawed designs.

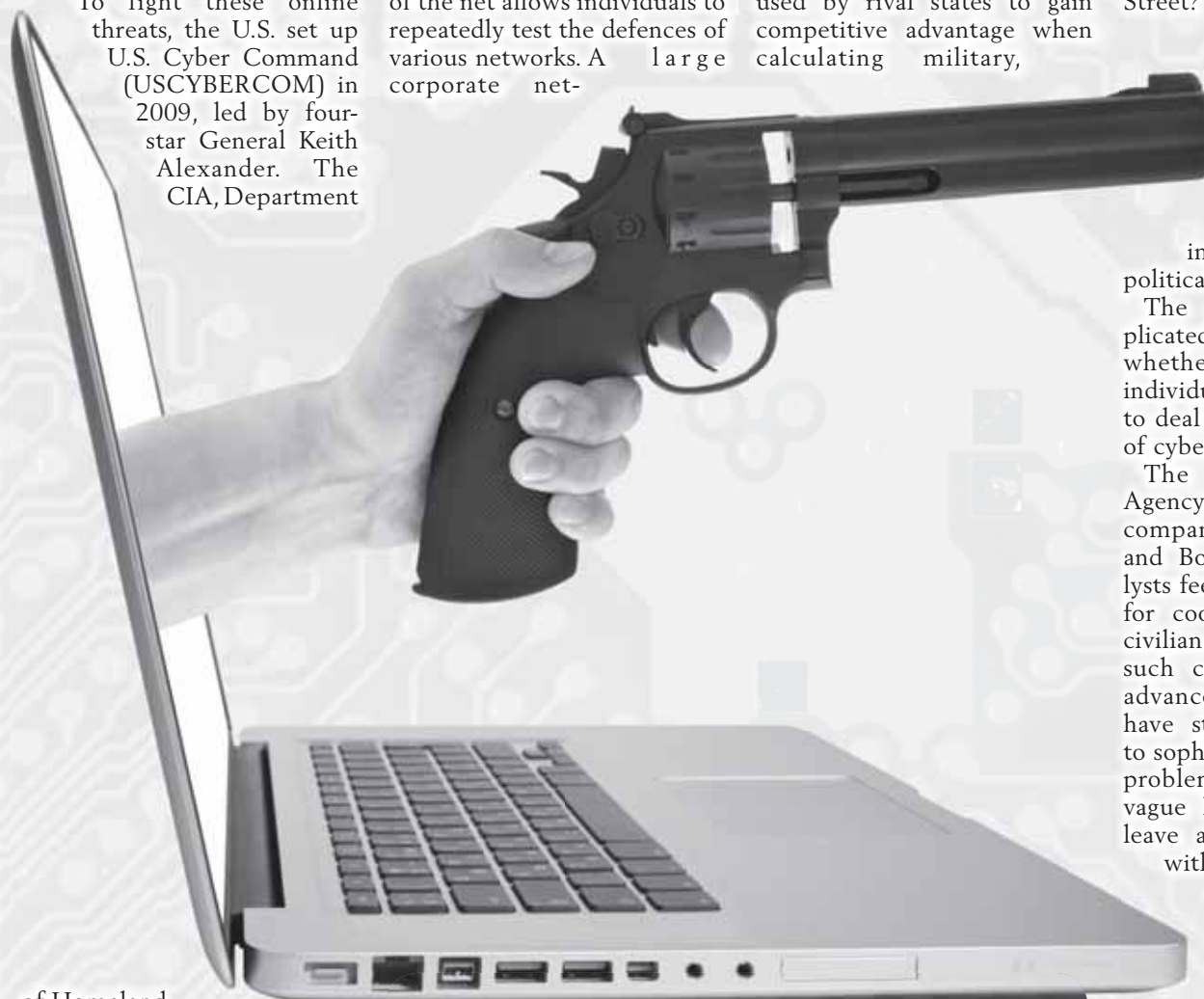
The first: traditional separation of agencies is being ported over into a world without such delineations. In cyberspace, distinctions between an assault emanating from a foreign state, an act of corporate theft and well organized activist hacking by domestic citizens are not immediately

work like the Pentagon and an individual at home all share an equal spot on the frontline of the “digital battlefield.”

The third flaw is in the bureaucratic wrangling that often decides how an issue is approached by government agencies. The convoluted interplay between the military, law enforcement, and intelligence agencies has

political and economic action. In the corporate world, cyber-espionage can garner increased market share and profit. Loss of data can cost organizations dearly.

But the impact of such losses is wider than a company’s bottom line. Investment in foreign countries by large firms improves bilateral relations and can open the door



Almost every Western government has been infiltrated in some form by a cyber attack, with Canada and France being hit in early 2011.

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Cpl Chris Ringius, Formation Imaging Services, Halifax

Capt Matthew Dukowski, a Sea King pilot with 423 Squadron out of 12 Wing Shearwater, Dartmouth, conducts preflight checks on the helicopter prior to a mission in HMCS Charlottetown off the coast of Libya. Charlottetown, together with Canada's NATO partners, is enforcing an arms embargo and taking actions to protect civilians in Libya as part of Operation Unified Protector.

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NAVY NEWS: SAILORS CAN SERVE ABROAD



Capt(N) Martin Teft observes the bridge dynamic onboard HMNZS Wellington.

New program opening world of opportunities for sailors

Ben Green
Staff writer

With frigates on both coasts entering their mid-life upgrade period, the Canadian Navy is faced with fewer ships and sailors in the water. The usual solution, dividing up a crew to other ships for the duration, is compounded by the fact that so many ships are refitting at once. The issue has become too many personnel to spread over the fleet.

The innovative resolution, implemented last year, is the Regulus programme. Regulus, is a twin star, and reflects the “twinning” of maritime personnel with foreign navies. Instead of having a surplus of sailors at home, the programme looks to loan these sailors abroad to maintain their training, qualifications, and at-sea experience. Many foreign navies have just exited their own refit periods and the demand for bodies has never been higher. “They [foreign navies] love having Canadian sailors because our training is second to none,” says Cdr Derek Moss, commanding officer of CFB Esquimalt’s Naval Officer Training Centre.

Under the direction of the Chief of the Maritime Staff and the Chief of the Defence Staff, the Director General of Navy Personnel and the Director of Maritime Personnel (including Cdr Moss) journeyed to prospective partners around the globe to make sure our sailors would be receiving

They [foreign navies] love having Canadian sailors because our training is second to none.

-Cdr Derek Moss
CO, Naval Officer Training Centre

comparable training.

“We met personnel staff and fleet staff, and in certain countries we got to go to sea,” says Cdr Moss. “At sea, within 45 seconds you could get an idea of the quality of their training systems and how they operated their ships.”

The visits paved way for Regulus partnerships with navies from New Zealand, Australia, U.S., Spain, Norway, France, and the U.K.,. Partnerships are being negotiated with Ireland and Chile.

The programme, which has been initially filled on a volunteer basis, loans sailors for periods of six months to a year. Starting last fall, 30 sailors are scheduled to participate with replacements being rotated in after each loan is completed. Any training or qualifications sailors earn while abroad will not have to be re-earned upon return to Canadian ships (besides basic familiarization tests).

“We sent a Petty Officer

stoker, a marine engineer over to New Zealand,” adds Cdr Moss. “He earned his Engineer Officer of the Watch ticket and because it was in New Zealand, with similar systems, that qualification will be fine back here.”

The programme is available to a variety of trades such as bridge watchkeepers, naval communicators, sonar operators, stewards, divers, operation room officers and directors, marine engineers, and naval combat information operators.

The partnering navies have promised Canadian sailors sea time during their loan periods, which means a unique opportunity to work in new environments and see ports the Canadian Navy doesn’t regularly visit.

All partnering navies, except Norway, run their at-sea exercises in English, which makes an easier transition for Canadian sailors. Norway is the only partner who runs drills in their native language. An envoy of two officers and an NCO have been sent to the Scandinavian nation on a three-month trial to report on assimilating into a non-English training environment.

Regulus plans to run until 2017/2018, the anticipated completion date of the Halifax-Class Modernization project. Cdr Moss says the programme will not only provide individual sailors with challenging and exciting opportunities abroad, but will also build a strong rapport with likeminded navies from around the world.



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FINAL DAYS IN THE BOX for HMCS Charlottetown



Top: Lt(N) Teri Mullins, a Maritime Surface and Sub-Surface (MARS) Officer in HMCS Charlottetown, uses a sextant to determine the ship's current location. Although rarely used, MARS Officers are required to operate sextants in case of emergency. Sextants have been replaced with Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) Systems. Charlottetown, together with Canada's NATO partners is currently in the Mediterranean Sea enforcing an embargo to protect Libyan civilians.

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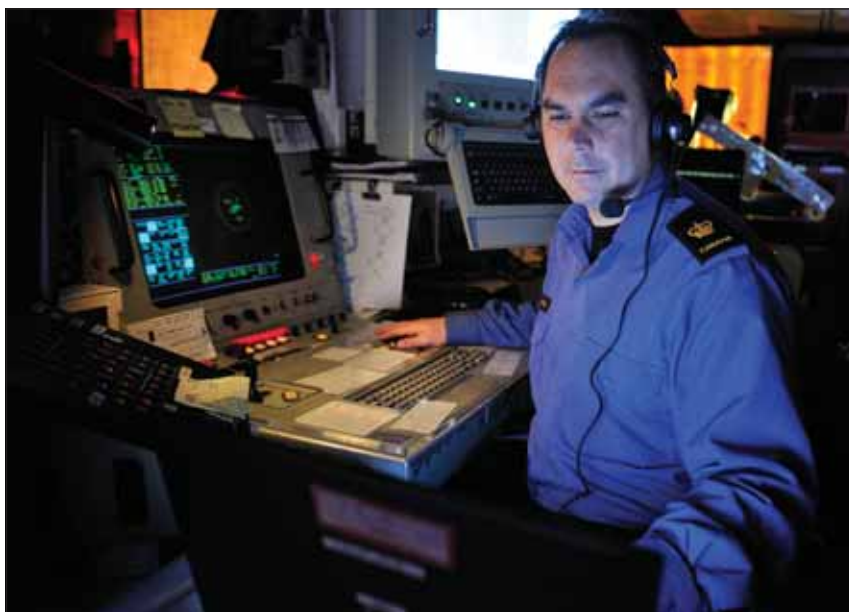
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Bottom: PO1 David MacNevin performs the duties of Sensor Weapons Controller in Charlottetown while on patrol in the littoral waters of Libya.

Cpl Chris Ringius,
 Formation Imaging Services, Halifax



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The talent within: Shop worker's unique hobby

Penny Rogers
Staff writer

On a quiet cul-de-sac in Langford, in a small, unassuming workshop nestled under towering spruce trees, magic happens. Magic that started long ago when a two-year-old boy first picked up a pencil.

"I didn't learn how to walk until I was three because I had a lot of problems with my legs, so I did other things, like draw," said Tim Scott, weapons fitter from dockyard's Shop 162B. "My parents quickly saw that I had a little bit of a weird talent."

That weird talent has expanded from drawing comic book renditions of Canada's members of parliament when he was seven years old to delicate, intricately designed brightly colored airbrush designs that adorn his and friends' motorcycles, trucks and helmets.

The specialty art started six years ago when Scott decided to have his Harley Davidson painted, but the quote he got for the job was more than he'd expected. Instead of doling out a small

fortune, he opted to try it himself.

A friend loaned him an airbrush. A confrontation then ensued between talent and tool.

"It was the most frustrating tool I have ever worked with," recalls Scott. "Your finger has to push down for air and pull back for the amount of paint you want, but you have to regulate them both as you are going back and forth. It's not a natural thing to do as you're trying to draw. It's like holding a pencil and the more you squeeze the pencil or the more you pull back on the pencil, the more or less ink is going to come out of that pencil. It argues with you a lot."

Success and disaster were the results of his self teaching. One particular bad art moment, which still hounds him to this day, was a motorcycle gas tank. With over 50 hours work invested, he made a grave error when he applied a sweep of candy red paint.

"Candy red is a very hot paint and it will actually etch right into the other paint," he explains. The blunder became apparent

as the red slowly consumed the art.

His hobby and skill have flourished over the last six years. His portfolio includes the traditional licking flames and skulls, to intricate Asian scenes, to portraits of friends and pets.

"I've got little gears turning inside my head that don't always make sense to me, but I work from them and design something up from that. And I go to the Internet for inspiration as well."

Last year, when the Victoria Motorcycle Ride for Dad held an airbrush contest, Scott entered two painted helmets. He ended up capturing both first and second place.

He donated the pieces for raffle.

Quick to give credit to those who have played a part in his education, Scott singles out one friend in particular - Doc Cyber.

"He's a sensational artist from Blaine, Washington, and he and I are very tight friends. I go over there and help him with mechanical things and he helps me with my airbrushing. He's from the 70s and he did all the



Penny Rogers, Lookout

Tim Scott works on his latest airbrush creation. This design took more than 20 hours to complete.

crazy van murals and stuff like that, so he's got a lot of really bizarre techniques that I wouldn't ever have thought of."

He's closed up the workshop for the summer in order to enjoy the sun and

family time. But come fall, he'll turn on his compressor and hook up his airbrush to start another personal project.

"I'm doing a picture on aluminum of my mother, my father-in-law and my

dog - all of whom passed away in the last few years. It's going to be a portrait that I'll put in my living room and I'm guessing it will take up to two months to complete. Probably about 100 hours."

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Al Carter: Five decades with ammunition and bomb disposal

Ben Green
Staff writer

"Discipline wasn't my strong suit at school," says Al Carter as he reflects on his 15-year-old self, resting his hands on the conference room table at Rocky Point ammunition depot.

Carter peers over the rim of his glasses as he recalls the British Army apprentice recruiting film he saw as an unruly youth in his East Midlands' high school. Weapons, foreign deployments, adventure – he signed up a day after his 16th birthday, the only one from his graduating class.

The lack of discipline was soon resolved. That was almost 51 years ago.

"The army chose me to be an ammunition technician; I guess it was to do with them seeing something in me," he continues in his rich Staffordshire accent. "I've been an ammo tech all my life, but I've really had three careers."

Carter has spent the

last two decades out of uniform as the Explosive Safety Officer / Material Processing Officer at Canadian Forces Ammunition Depot Rocky Point. The previous 31 years he split as an ammo technician/bomb disposal technician in the British and Canadian Forces. He retired a Chief Warrant Officer in both militaries.

His 18 years in the British Army saw him deployed to ammunition sites all over the world - Singapore, Malaysia, Germany, Belize, Canada and many parts of U.K.- including Northern Ireland, where he was awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal.

His skills were tested daily on the war-torn areas of South Armagh along the Irish border, de-fusing or disposing of bombs. He left Northern Ireland with all 10 fingers and toes, quite the feat he says, knocking on the wooden table in front of him.

The smile quickly disappears as a more sombre memory comes into focus.

After his tour, Carter was

replaced by one of his best friends, another bomb disposal technician. He was killed three days later.

"I often wonder why him and not me," says Carter, followed by seconds of silence. "But you can't dwell on it, that's life. Sometimes your name comes up on the big cash register in the sky, and sometimes it doesn't."

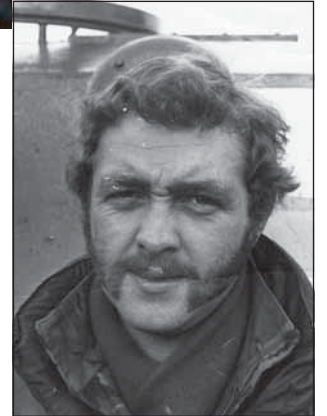
At the end of his last posting to the British Army Training Unit in Suffield, AB, Carter transitioned to the Canadian Forces. He spent 13 years in the CF, his final four years as the career manager for ammo techs, the most challenging and rewarding job he's ever had. In 1990, he hung up his uniform and took a civilian ammo technician position in Ottawa, managing the DND explosive safety programme. Two years later he moved to the island after accepting a job in the scenic 500-acre spread of Vancouver Island's Rocky Point.

"Weapons and ammunition have changed in shape, size, and technology, but



Above: During the National Public Service Week barbeque at Rocky Point, Ammunition Depot Commanding Officer LCdr Mark Field (left) presented Al Carter with the Long Service Award for 51 years.

Right: Carter in 1973 when he was a bomb disposal technician during a four-month tour in Northern Ireland.



what have remained constant are the basic rules," he says. "What I learned in 1960 is very pertinent in terms of safety; the basic system [maintenance, inspection, control and handling] hasn't changed very much."

Crossing his legs and

leaning back in his chair, Carter sifts through countless memories: the support of Sheila, his wife of 47 years, his four daughters, his six grandchildren (four in university) and a career that's close to complete.

"I feel very fortunate the army chose me to be

an ammo tech," he says. "It's been a blast. No pun intended, but the day I don't enjoy coming to work anymore is the day I won't."

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423 Squadron visits ancestral home

Capt William Bowers
Trident Newspaper

In the Church of Ireland in Irvinestown, Northern Ireland, the 423 Squadron crest is hung in tribute.

Alongside are squadron insignia from other Royal Canadian, Royal Australian and Royal New Zealand Air Forces who called the region home during the Second World War.

The Donegal Corridor, located along Lough Erne and the Donegal Coast, was a pivotal location during the Battle of the Atlantic and the airmen stationed there helped turn the tide on the war.

The founding members of 423 hunted Nazi submarines from their Sunderland Flying Boats. They flew in fog and night, and in the wind and storms of the North Atlantic to protect the convoys that were supporting Allied efforts in the European theatre.

At the end of the war, 423 and its sister squadron 422 would log more than 44,000 hours and sink or damage 11 submarines. It would cost 15 aircraft and 101 crew.

It has been 66 years since Castle Archdale was the home base of 423 Squadron. Although much has changed in the world,

there are still young men and women who fly over the oceans to protect those in need.

In March 2011, members of HMCS St. John's Helicopter Detachment from 423 Squadron visited Irvinestown and Castle Archdale to pay their respects and honor their common history.

Local historians Breege McCusker and Joe O'Loughlin guided them through the sites. They walked the grounds of the former base and toured the shoreline where the Sunderlands were launched, recovered and maintained. They travelled to Irvinestown and had lunch at Mahone's Hotel, a favorite 423 restaurant both then and now.

Coastal Command's efforts during the war have never fully been appreciated and yet had they failed, the world would have been a very different place today. In the cemetery at the Church of Ireland in Irvinestown lay some of Canada's best. They were young men who served their country far from home. Flying over foreign oceans, hunting and protecting. They were the founding members of 423 Squadron and their tradition continues.

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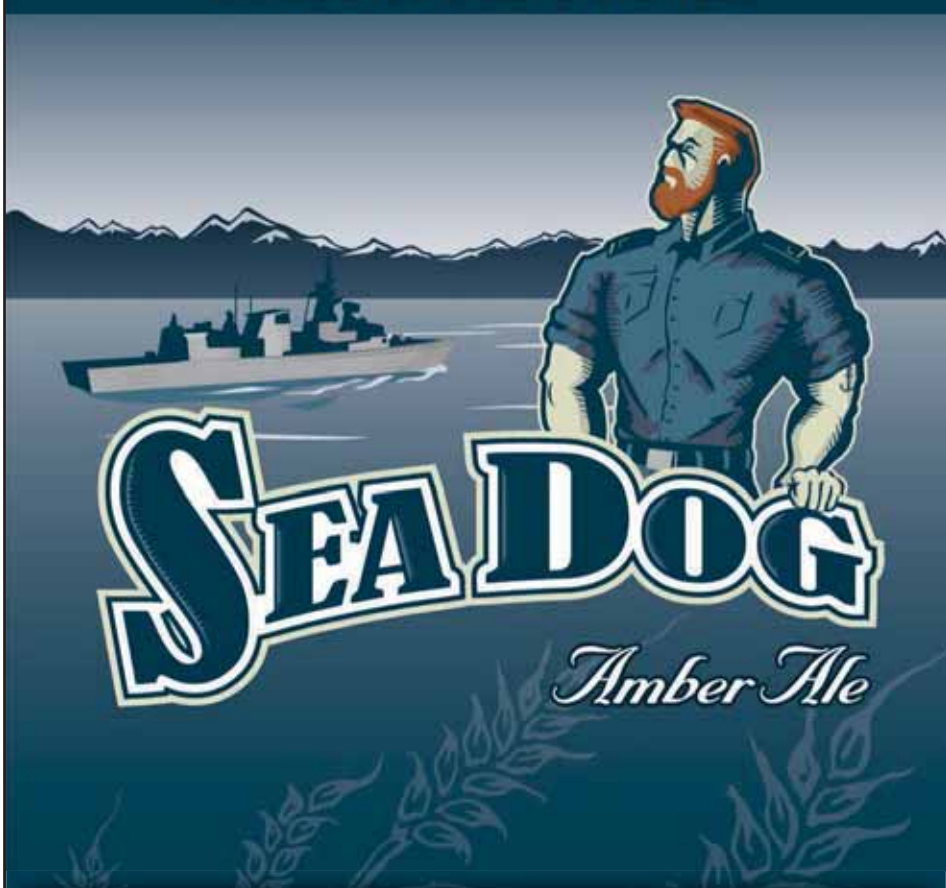
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Capt Maj Wilson (centre), supported by spouse Shawna (left), is promoted by Base Administration Officer Cdr Doug MacKeen (right) at the Base Language Training Centre.

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HMCS Vancouver to deploy to the Mediterranean Sea

HMCS Vancouver will depart in the coming days to the Mediterranean Sea to join NATO forces in support of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973 to protect civilian populations in Libya. Vancouver will replace HMCS Charlottetown, which has been on patrol with NATO forces in the region since the early spring with Operation Unified Protector, on a regular rotation of ship and crew. "The deployment of Vancouver demonstrates that the Government of Canada is resolute in its determination

to continue the enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973," said the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence. "Canada remains steadfast in its commitment to protect the Libyan people from threats of violence."

The ship's company of Vancouver will continue the work started by Charlottetown in protecting Libyan civilians. Along with NATO allies, Canadian sailors have helped open air and sea access for humanitarian assistance and have closed it to arms

and mercenaries.

"Our ships and sailors are always ready to do the job asked of them by Canada. I am proud that Vancouver will soon continue the important work off the coast of Libya in helping save civilian lives," said VAdm Dean McFadden, Chief of the Maritime Staff. "Operating in the congested air-sea environment off Libya is particularly challenging, but the crew of Vancouver is well trained to meet this challenge and make a real difference."

Vancouver, a Halifax-class frigate, is commanded by Cdr

Brad Peats, and carries a ship's company of about 250 officers and crew, which includes a CH-124 Sea King helicopter and

air detachment.

The Canadian contribution to Operation Unified Protector is known as Operation Mobile.



Welcome back HMCS Protecteur

Last Friday, HMCS Protecteur returned to CFB Esquimalt after a month at sea. Protecteur headed south on May 24 to provide refuelling services to ships attached to the Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF-S). The ship was there to support the ongoing U.S.-led multi-national effort to prohibit drug trafficking in the Caribbean Basin and the east Pacific. Over the past three months, JIATF-S ships contributed to 33 arrests and the interception of 12 metric tons of cocaine worth \$235 million.

Photos by Kyla Pawlyshyn, Contributor



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Grand Prize of 4 passes to WildPlay Adventure Park!
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Cpl Tina Gillies, Image Tech, Roto 10, Task Force Kandahar, Afghanistan



Sgt Matthew McGregor, Canadian Forces Combat Camera



Sgt Matthew McGregor, Canadian Forces Combat Camera

A look at Afghanistan

Top left: A CF member lowers the Canadian flag at Camp Nathan Smith in Kandahar City, signifying the end of Canada's contribution (both military and civilian) to the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team. The CF is transitioning to a dedicated training mission centred around Kabul as part of the NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan.

Above: CF Supply Technician Cpl Josée Rodrigue picks up a C-7 rifle that will be issued to a Canadian Forces member arriving at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan as part of the Mission Transition Task Force.

Left: Royal 22e Régiment, Bravo Company, MCpl Simon Girard provides security as Canadian, American and Afghan soldiers distribute school supplies to children in the village of Small Loy Kola. CF soldiers were conducting Operation Learning Bulldog, an operation to distribute essential school supplies to children in the village. The school supplies were donated by the Steffie Woima Elementary School in Sylvan Lake, AB.

Now that's refreshing!



Words Are Not Enough!




LEGION

The Royal Canadian Legion is grateful to the serving men and women, and their families, for their dedication and commitment during the Afghanistan combat mission . . .

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