

Blogs relevant to naval operations/warfare, policy, and innovation are monitored for items of interest. Some items include a brief description. If you would like to recommend a blog site for inclusion, or want to be removed from the list please contact Mike Perron at: robert.m.perron.ctr@navy.mil

Also, please check out the new NWDC Navy Center for Innovation Blog at:

<https://www.nwdc.navy.mil/ncoi/blog/>

January 16, 2013

1. WIRED: DANGER ROOM:

[Navy's \\$670 Million Fighting Ship Is 'Not Expected to Be Survivable,' Pentagon Says](#): "The Navy's newest fighter can't survive a major blow in combat, according to the Pentagon's weapons tester. And that's just one problem with the Littoral Combat Ship."

2. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION:

[Clear Public Commentary Why the Surface Force of the US Navy is Hollow](#): "There is an unfortunate pattern Admirals in the US Navy seem to always follow. First, they will cite specific details that outline that there is clearly a serious problem, and then they will suggest that the problem is actually over the horizon."

3. SMALL WARS JOURNAL:

[Back to Basics: Reenergizing Intelligence Operations](#): "The most frustrating moment for the J2 occurs when the operations summary contains more useful intelligence-producing data than the official intelligence reporting."

4. CDR SALAMANDER:

[LCS Gets Some Travel'n Shoes](#): "Actually, I kind of like it. In some mission sets where visual matters - I can see where this might buy you some time, and that is good."

5. OTHER BLOGS (Rotating, based on relevant content)

AOL DEFENSE:

[Navy Can't Stay Ready So Must Shrink, Says Head of Surface Forces](#): "Navy crews don't have enough sailors, training, or spare parts to keep up with operational demands, the Commander of Naval Surface Forces said bluntly this afternoon. The service needs to make better use of smaller budgets by standardizing equipment and adopting new training simulations, Vice Adm. Tom Copeman said, but even that's not enough: Ultimately, he said, the Navy must get smaller to stay ready."

[Japan Struggles To Make 'Long Overdue' Increase In Defense Budget](#): "Japan is the proverbial linchpin of US strategy in East Asia. But linchpins sometimes break. As the US struggles to afford a "pivot" to the Pacific, its most important ally in the theater is undergoing a slow and painful shift of its own."

CNN SECURITY CLEARANCE:

[Budget cuts could pull carrier from Persian Gulf](#): "The U.S. Navy may face the prospect of not being able to routinely keep two aircraft carriers in the Persian Gulf region, which has been a longtime requirement for any ability to launch military campaigns in that part of the world."

FOREIGN POLICY:

[Behind the Rhetoric](#): "The Pentagon starts to manage the defense drawdown."

[The 3:00 AM Call](#): "Why aren't we asking Hagel about the stuff the SecDef actually does?"

INTERCEPTS (DEFENSE NEWS):

[China's Military Living in "Parallel Universe" – Ford](#): "As more evidence of the monstrous disconnect between China and the rest of the planet, a new commentary by Christopher Ford, senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, indicates China's military lives in a 'parallel universe of competing facts and historical claims.'"

LONG WAR JOURNAL:

[Suicide bomber kills Iraqi lawmaker who was prominent Awakening leader, and 5 others](#): "Sheikh Aifan Sadoun Aifan al-Issawi, a member of the secular, Sunni-backed Iraqiya political bloc and one of the leaders of Iraq's Sunni tribal Awakening, was attacked as he inspected a road construction project south of the city."

MARINE CORPS TIMES:

[Funeral scheduled for Gen. Schwarzkopf](#): "The funeral for Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf will be held at the United States Military Academy at West Point in New York."

[Technology could let you eat grass, sleep less](#): "Researchers are on the edge of technological breakthroughs that could turn today's troops into science-fiction 'super soldiers.'"

NEW ATLANTICIST:

[In Disputes Over Asian Seas, Winner May Take Zilch](#): "It may be Asia's 21st century equivalent of the assassination of Austria's Archduke Ferdinand that sparked World War I. Growing tensions over territorial disputes in the East and South China Seas threaten to disrupt the oft-heralded Asian Century."

NEW YORK TIMES AT WAR:

[Russian Military Ordered to Switch to Socks](#): "Cloth strips, called portyanki, have been a signature element of the Russian military uniform since the 16th century. On Monday, Russia's minister of defense issued an order for soldiers to switch to socks."

THE NAVAL DIPLOMAT:

[Counterinsurgency, Politics and War](#): "The French-Algerian War is another one of those obscure conflicts that's rich in insights. We examine the war in part through the lens of David Galula, a French officer-turned-strategic-theorist who took part in these events before taking up the pen ... The framers of FM 3-24, notably General David Petraeus, openly acknowledged their intellectual debt to Galula."

THE ARABIST: [In Translation: Atwan on the Gulf and the Brothers](#): "In the piece below, the editor of *al-Quds al-Arabi* (the only Arabic-language London-based paper that is not controlled by Saudi Arabia) ... maps out the regional dynamics of the tension between the Muslim Brotherhood and Gulf autocrats."

6. FROM THE READERS

[Science Fiction Aims to Fund Real Weapon](#): "The U.S. military has investigated the idea of laser-powered EMPs in the past. High-energy lasers can create an ionized ball of plasma by ripping electrons from molecules in the air — enough to generate a small EMP pulse that could knock out the electronic sensors and guidance systems of missiles."