

Blogs relevant to naval operations/warfare, policy, and innovation are monitored for items of interest. Some items include a brief excerpt. 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 18, 2013

1. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION:

[A few links worth reading and thinking about.](#): "We'll start here."

[Russian Fleet Gathers in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea](#): "Despite the very interesting developments this week in Mali, I continue to keep one eye on events in Syria."

2. USNI:

[Of Options and Plans: A Flawed System](#): "Ultimately, the output of the military's planning process fails to deliver the type of nuanced advice in the form of creative options that the president needs."

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

AOL DEFENSE:

[Sequester's A Nightmare But Year-Long CR Is Just As Bad: SecNav Mabus, Under Sec. Work](#): "Asked about remarks earlier in the conference by uniformed leaders that the Navy was sailing for a readiness crisis -- the infamous "hollow force" -- Mabus said, 'I agree with Adm. Gortney that if these things are triggered, in the sort of mindless automatic way they work, you do run a big risk of becoming hollow.'"

AVIATION WEEK:

[Special Report: China's Hawks Take The Offensive](#): "China's Lieutenant-General Ren Haiquan took the podium in a room overlooking the Yarra River last October 29 and began diplomatically enough. But as he neared the end of his speech, he went on the offensive."

[Iran Has Strengthened Cyber Capabilities](#): "Iran responded to a 2010 cyber attack on its nuclear facilities by beefing up its own cyber capabilities, and will be a "force to be reckoned with" in the future, a senior U.S. Air Force official told reporters on Thursday."

DOD BUZZ:

[LCS Mafia's Full-Court Press](#): "The LCS program has used this week's Surface Navy Association conference in DC for a full-court messaging press against the ever-controversial platform's critics."

gCAPTAIN:

[Crew of USS Guardian Removed as US Navy 7th Fleet Salvors Get to Work](#): "The US Navy reports this morning that all 79 crew members have been transferred from the stricken USS Guardian (MCM-5) while 7th Fleet salvors works to try and free the vessel which is solidly aground on Tubbataha Reef in the Philippines."

INNOVATION MANAGEMENT:

[Two Cultural Values that May Shape Personal Innovativeness](#): "How do cultural values influence innovative thinking and behaviors? There has been some research but the field is still young. In this article I attempt to summarize the current thinking regarding two cultural values and their implications for personal innovativeness."

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION (MARINE CORPS GAZETTE):

[Operation Serval](#): "I want to preface this post by saying that I'm in no way an expert on Mali, or Africa, or France, or anything really. The purpose is to summarize a conflict that Marines should be paying attention to as professionals, not to pass judgment on France's decision to intervene in Mali, and to highlight parallels with how the US projects force overseas."

NEW ATLANTICIST:

[Needed: A Brain-Based Approach to Strategy](#): "Suppose you are in great health, exceedingly fit and athletically gifted. During a routine medical checkup, you receive some very bad news. You have developed a degenerative condition. Without a lengthy and painful course of treatment, in five years time or less, you will be hardly able to walk, let alone run or play any sport. Unfortunately, this diagnosis applies to the U.S. Department of Defense."

THE NAVAL DIPLOMAT:

[Machiavelli's Paradox](#): "So here's how I open my seminars on the French-Algerian War: is it better to be loved or feared when combating an insurgency? Inspiring this question is Florentine philosopher Niccolò Machiavelli's counsel, tendered in Chapter XVII of *The Prince*."

NAVALDRONES:

[Unmanned ISR and Future Air Wing Composition](#): "According to Defense News, the U.S. Navy's inventory of manned intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) platforms - land-based P-3 Orion and EP-3 Aries - will be cut by more than a quarter over the next few years. The current consolidations are not the first time in recent history the Navy has trimmed ISR capability."

TIME MAGAZINE BATTLELAND BLOG:

[For Better Or Worse, Japan To Ease Reins On Its Military](#): "U.S. and Japanese officials began talks Thursday to expand the role of Japan's armed forces and loosen decades-old restrictions on how and when troops can be used. Sounds ominous, but the changes likely will be modest, at least initially, and are long overdue."

WIRED MAGAZINE (OTHER):

[Deception Is Futile When Big Brother's Lie Detector Turns Its Eyes on You](#): "A new high-tech lie detector system aims to put the simple polygraph out to pasture. It uses a microphone, video camera and infrared technology to detect when you're being deceptive."

4. FROM THE READERS

["Superomniphobic" nanoscale coating repels almost any liquid](#): "Creating a surface structure that is least 95 percent air, the new "superomniphobic" coating is claimed to repel the broadest range of liquids of any material in its class, opening up the possibility of super stain-resistant clothing, drag-reducing waterproof paints for ship hulls, breathable garments that provide protection from harmful chemicals, and touch screens resistant to fingerprint smudges."