

Navy Center for Innovation

daily blog watch

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 29, 2013

1. WIRED: DANGER ROOM:

[Navy Wants Odor-Sniffing Robot Swarms to Haul Bombs on Ships](#): Aircraft carrier crews are likely to get rather pungent as they perform the hard tasks of assembling, loading and hauling the massive weaponry that gives the U.S. Navy its edge. To make their lives easier, the Navy's exploring the idea of developing a "robotic semiautonomous swarm on a ship" that can actually smell its way to weapons prep, thanks to an artificial pheromone.

NATIONAL DEFENSE:

2. [Navy's No. 2 Civilian Chronicles Missteps in Littoral Combat Ship](#): The ship will never satisfy anyone who still dreams of the 600-ship Cold War Navy and views LCS as a retreat, Work suggests. These critics should stop living in denial about the Navy's future and see LCS as the beginning of a new era that conforms to fiscal and political realities.

3. CDR SALAMANDER:

[LCS: How Did We Get Here?](#): Undersecretary Work has done everyone from all sides of the debate a great service with this report, as it is without question the most thorough, honest, and detailed forensic outline of how LCS came pierside.

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

ABU MUQAWAMA:

[Serval, Burden-Sharing, and Limited Intervention](#): Now, France is outlining plans to halt, or at the very least suspend, its offensive into central Mali, and let other forces take on the brunt of the ground fighting. As limited warfare in practice, France's model initially has much to recommend it.

ARES:

[JSF-Centric Warfare](#): It's not exactly surprising that the AEI supports the F-35, since the right-wing think tank has never met a weapon that it did not like, and has long been a home for China hawks. What is interesting about the document is the strategic thinking behind it, which strongly downplays the Air Sea Battle concept in favor of a "forward strategy" that relies more on the Army and Marine Corps.

AVIATION WEEK:

[Production Error At Fault In F-35B Grounding](#): A "quality nonconformance" in a fuelraulic tube is "the most probable cause" for an operational failure that prompted the U.S. Marine Corps to ground its young fleet of F-35Bs since Jan. 16, according to officials at Pratt & Whitney.

BUSINESS INSIDER:

[North Korea Is No Longer A Big White Space On Google Maps](#): Until Tuesday the Google Maps of North Korea were mostly blank — only the capital of Pyongyang was labeled. But with the help of "citizen cartographers," Google has released a detailed map revealing roads, train lines, parks, hotels, hospitals, restaurants and even several city-sized gulags.

[The Pentagon's Massive Expansion Of Its 'Cyber-Security' Unit Is All About Offense](#): The Post describes this expansion as "part of an effort to turn an organization that has focused largely on defensive measures into the equivalent of an Internet-era fighting force."

FOREIGN POLICY:

[Final Draft](#): Forty years after the end of conscription, can we fix the all-volunteer force?

IDEA SANDBOX:

[Ideas Are As Fragile As The Backbones Behind Them](#): The day concludes with confidence and solutions! But then... this odd thing happens... sometime between wrapping up the meeting and showing up for work the next day. Just as Tom has depicted, ideas get trash talked when we're back at our desks. Innovative ideas get quashed. But why?

INTERCEPTS (Defense News):

[Trapped U.S. Navy Minesweeper To Be Broken Up](#): Caught between the jagged coral of an ocean reef and Filipino environmental and political concerns, the U.S. Navy says it will cut up the trapped USS Guardian and take it away piece by piece.

MARINE CORPS ASSOCIATION (MARINE CORPS GAZETTE):

[500 WORDS OR LESS: Living History](#): My recommendation is that once a year, a given infantry or artillery battalion designs a field exercise around an historical example from the invasion of Iraq, or from one of our major battles post invasion in either Iraq or Afghanistan.

THE NAVAL DIPLOMAT:

[Question: Can the U.S. Legally Shoot Down A North Korean Rocket?](#): While the U.S. undoubtedly has the capacity to destroy a North Korean satellite, may it legally do so? Under international law, the answer is less than straightforward.

[China Conducts Anti-Missile Test](#): Lan Yun, a military observer and editor with Modern Ships magazine, told the *Global Times* that "China is still far from forming an operational anti-missile shield, as the U.S. has carried out at least 16 interception tests and China has only done two so far. Even the U.S. GMD (Ground-Based Mid-course Defense) is far from mature."

NEW ATLANTICIST:

[NATO Demise Redux?](#): Here, I consider why NATO, like other institutions endures and then focus on the role of NATO lately and into the future even after President Obama's "pivot" to Asia.