

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 30, 2013

1. WIRED: DANGER ROOM:

[Next Up for SEALs: Upgraded Batman-Style Grappling Hook Gun](#): "The next tool SEALs might use to scale walls or board ships? An upgraded, foldable grappling hook fired by compressed air."

[Spec Ops Chief Says Elite Troops Will 'Probably Not' Skip a Generation of Tech](#): "Tight budgets mean elite U.S. commandos will "probably not" make massive technological strides in the coming years, according to their commander. But that doesn't mean they won't innovate in other ways."

2. SMALL WARS JOURNAL:

[Developing Joint Force Leaders for Globally Integrated Operations](#): "The Joint Force requires culturally "savvy" leaders capable of developing a global perspective, able to synthesize diverse viewpoints, and with the ability to collaborate across a range of cultures."

3. USNI:

[Guardian – not too soon to be thinking of the aftermath.](#): "Either way, the CO, XO, and crew deserve some things from us, and from the institution. They deserve that we talk to them forthrightly. That we ask them questions and not act as if this is a dark incident, never to be spoken of."

4. CDR SALAMANDER:

[Operationalizing Sequestration](#): "We need to be very careful not to be seen as out front or advocating about what is, ultimately, a very political thing. Just the facts. Speak only when spoken to - let the civilians fight this fight."

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

AOL DEFENSE:

[Adm. Bill McRaven: SOCOM Struggles With CR, Sequester](#): "The continuing resolution... in all honesty puts a greater constraint on us than sequester," McRaven told the audience at the National Defense Industrial Association's annual 'special operations/low intensity conflict' (SOLIC) conference here in DC."

BUSINESS INSIDER:

[Israeli Warplanes Struck A Convoy Entering Lebanon From Syria \[REPORT\]](#): "The Israeli air force blew up a convoy which had just crossed the border from Syria into Lebanon," an unnamed security source told Agence France-Press."

[Google's Eric Schmidt Outlines A Chilling Drone-Filled Future](#): "Google's chairman has sketched out a future world in which cyber terrorists are targeted by government drone strikes, online identities are taken hostage and held for ransom, and parents explain online privacy to their children long before the subject of sex."

CENTER FOR NEW AMERICAN SECURITY:

[Rescind North Korea's license to provoke](#): “In an Op-Ed for CNN, Senior Advisor and Director of the Asia-Pacific Security Program Patrick Cronin questions whether the current U.S. approach to counter North Korean aggression needs revamping.”

DEFENSE TECH:

[PBS features DARPA's ARGUS-IS](#): “The ARGUS-IS can stream up to a million terabytes of data and record 5,000 hours of HD footage per day. It can do this by the 1.8 gigapixel camera and 368 different sensors all housed in the ARGUS-IS.”

DOD BUZZ:

[A cut more costly than sequestration](#): “Extending the continuing resolution could prove more harmful to the U.S. military's budget than the sequestration cuts, Pentagon leaders say.”

EARLY WARNING:

[Navy Effort To Lower Maintenance Costs Goes After Unnecessary Requirements](#): “Anyone in the Department of Defense in a position of responsibility for maintenance activities will tell you that rising costs having been “eating their lunch.” One reason for this is that we have a force structure half the size that it was at the end of the Cold War that is five times more active.”

FAST COMPANY:

FOREIGN POLICY:

[Navy warns of 'Tier Bravo' cuts; The U.S. signs drone deal with Niger; The internal Marine memo to GOs on W-i-C; HRC's guest list, and more.](#) *(A national security round up)*

INNOVATION MANAGEMENT:

[Cultivating Innovation Champions](#): “In order for innovation to flourish in your organization, your innovation champions must be supported through properly structured responsibilities, goals and resources. Otherwise, they will leave to pursue other opportunities, taking their energy and ideas with them.”

INTERCEPTS (Defense News):

[China Tests Carrier Killer DF-21D Missile; Sinks US Aircraft Carrier](#): “A satellite image reveals two large craters on a 200-meter-long white platform in the Gobi desert used to simulate the flight deck of an aircraft carrier.”

NEW ATLANTICIST:

[Cyber Command Expanding Five Fold](#): “Cyber Command will find great opportunities but face significant challenges as it expands from 900 cyber warriors to nearly 5000.”

TIME MAGAZINE BATTLELAND BLOG:

[Time for Some Fearless Leadership](#): “Lifting this ban is about increasing military effectiveness. If we want the most effective fighting force, we need to recruit and assign the most qualified individuals for the job. But it will also create a new proving ground for the military's leadership in the weeks, months and years ahead.”

[U.S. Eyes Drone Base in Africa with Al-Qaeda in Mind](#): “Plans to base unarmed American surveillance drones in the African nation of Niger highlight the Obama administration's growing concern about extremist influences in the volatile region. They also raise tough questions about how to contain al-Qaeda and other militant groups without committing U.S. ground forces in yet another war.”

THOMAS P.M. BARNETT:

[Another US mini-base for Africa \(big surprise\)](#): “My argument in this regard remains unchanged: there is a cynicism in only clearing and not caring all that much about what holds (or just falls apart again). There is also a missed opportunity in not working more explicitly with the "holder" of note, especially when you're setting the stage for possible great-power war with the same in another region...”