Highlights This Month

**Low-carbon warfare: climate change, net zero and military operation**
Journal Article, *International Affairs*
Dr Duncan Depledge | February 2023

This unique and timely article offers practical considerations for navies with the concept of ‘low-carbon warfare’. The article demonstrates that the pursuit of low-carbon warfare will not be easy owing to the practical challenges of transitioning militaries away from fossil fuels. Moreover, low-carbon warfare will not mitigate all the ethical and environmental concerns associated with military deployments up to and including war. It does nevertheless offer a valuable starting point for conceptualizing how militaries are beginning to address their ‘carbon bootprints’ and what this will mean for future operations.

[Read The Article Here...](#)

**How Labour Can Reform, Rather Than Do Away With, the UK’s Indo-Pacific Tilt**
Journal Article, *RUSI*
Veerle Nouwens | 14 February 2023

In his 8 February speech, Shadow Defence Secretary, Mr John Healey, argued that the Indo-Pacific Tilt was a ‘serious flaw’ in the Integrated Review. However, rather than do-away with the Tilt altogether, Veerle Nouwens argues that Labour should instead build on the foundations laid by the current government.

[Read The Article Here ...](#)
Coaching Your Team as a Collective Makes It Stronger
Article, *Harvard Business Review*
Sanyin Siang and Michael Canning | 23 February 2023

Traditional coaching methodologies have often focused on individual interventions. However, organisations are social constructs, which means that if we want to get the most from our people then we need to refocus on making the teamwork.

Read The Article Here …

How Long Will the War Last?
Podcast, *Financial Times*
Gideon Rachman | 16 February 2023

This episode raises the question of ‘what is required for war to end in Ukraine?’ It provides a discussion on war termination theory and suggests that at least one side must change its war aims for a war to end. Will Russia, or Ukraine, change their war aims?

Listen To The Podcast Here …

Fighting DMO, Pt. 1: Defining Distributed Maritime Operations and The Future of Naval Warfare
Journal Article, *CIMSEC*
Dmitry Filipoff | 20 February 2023

This article is the first in a new series that looks at what Distributed Maritime Operations means for the US Navy. The ability to disperse naval forces, whilst concentrating and combining fires, gives additional options for survivability and lethality in what is an expanding anti-ship threat picture.

Read The Article Here …

Wagner’s War: A Year in Ukraine and Beyond
Podcast, *The Slow News Cast*
Basia Cummings| 20 February 2023

This podcast examines the Wagner Group, the Russian paramilitary organization. The episode focuses less on their role in Ukraine, and more on the rise, motivations and reach of their founder, Yevgeny
Prigozhin, in both Ukraine and other nations. A good reminder of the use of non-state actors elsewhere in the world.

Listen To The Podcast Here ...

How Big Things Get
Book, *Macmillan*
Bent Flyvbjerg and Dan Gardner | February 2023

Examining what distinguishes the successes from the failures of big projects (particularly £1Bn+ ‘mega-projects’) has been the basis of Flyvbjerg’s research, and this book. It has direct applicability to the world of major equipment projects in defence but is also a more general set of observations about the nature of biases, experience and building with Lego (he is a Dane after all!).

On Command: A Confession
Article, *The Angry Staff Officer*
The Angry Staff Officer | 16 February 2023

An unusually frank take on the pressures of a Command appointment (extends to all types of command – down to NCO…). The burn out and loss of love that comes from doing all the ‘right’ things yet still being beaten into submission through lack of ability to change or influence anything meaningful. Granted, it may be more of an indictment on the US system of 4-year command tours and validation of our own 2-3 years tops; but asks some interesting questions of all leaders.

Read The Paper Here ...

C E Callwell: Small Wars and Integrated Sea-Land Operations
Podcast, *RUSI*
Beatrice Heuser and Paul O’Neill | 14 February 2023

What can a 19th Century Royal Artillery officer tell us about maritime power? Maj Gen Callwell is best known for his (controversial) magnum opus, *Small Wars*, seen as a blueprint for colonial warfare. But his most influential and important works are probably those on maritime operations; the integration of Sea-Land domains to create decisive effect. MDI is not new!

Listen To The Podcast Here ...
Introducing The Prince Podcast, *The Economist*
Sue-Lin Wong | 28 September 2022

This podcast is a brilliant insight into the turbulent history of Xi Jinping. It details how he has changed his own country and how he desires to change the world. Well put together and a great listen.

[Listen To The Podcast Here ...](#)

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**Events and Notices**

**Strategic context of the Eastern Mediterranean**
Dr Ziya Meral
14 March 2023
13:00 - 14:00 GMT
MS Teams

The RNSSC are very happy to host Ziya for the **March Lunchtime Lecture**. April’s lecturer is programmed to be Dr Richard Hammond in April (timing and subject to be confirmed).

**Want to apply to be a 1SL Fellow or Richmond Fellow for 2023/2024?**

Application are now open!
**DEADLINE:**
15 March 2023

The 2023 Recruitment DIN for 1SL and the newly-renamed Richmond (formerly Future Maritime Strategists) Fellows has been published and is available [here](#). Any expressions of interest should be made to the Fellowships Officer, Mr Andy Young ([andrew.young200@mod.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.young200@mod.gov.uk)).

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The Digest is sent to the RN’s senior leadership team, with the request to **please cascade**. To contact us with questions, feedback or to be added to the mailing list please send an email to [NavyStratPol-RNSSC@mod.gov.uk](mailto:NavyStratPol-RNSSC@mod.gov.uk).