Domestic Ops in the Arctic:

“Or when it is easier to conduct foreign ops than staying at home”

Rob Huebert

Canadian Reserves on Operations: Lessons Learned

CDFAI/CMSS

Calgary, April 23 2010
Main Themes

• Canada is still learning how to conduct Ops in the Arctic – both regular and reserves
• All Ops must be “Whole-of-Canada” by virtue of the Arctic Reality
• The role played by Canadian Rangers is both unique and essential
• The Arctic is in a state of massive transformation – need for CF in Arctic will be increasing
Diplomatic Threats: Canadian Arctic Sovereignty Issues
Oil and Gas: Resources of the North

Source: AMAP
Maritime jurisdiction & boundaries in the Arctic

www.dur.ac.uk/ibru/resources/arctic
New Geopolitics of the North

- Russia
  - Renewed Assertiveness
  - Petrodollars

- United States
  - Multi-lateral reluctance/emerging concern to act
  - International Role as remaining Superpower

- Norway
  - Refocus on North
  - Growing Interest (Concern?) with Russia

- Denmark
  - Issues with Greenland – social; energy
  - New Naval capabilities

- Iceland
  - Economic melt-down

- Finland/Sweden
  - NATO – Loyal Arrow

- China
  - Large Increase of Infrastructure

Source: Newly Emerging Arctic Security Environment - CDFAI
Geographic Size Of Canada’s North

Source: CMJ collection
Some Sample Straight Distances “as the crow flies”

- St. John’s - London 3,742 km
- St. John’s - Alert 3,737 km
- St. John’s - Resolute 3,607 km
- Whitehorse - Yellowknife 1,108 km
- Whitehorse - Iqaluit 3,309 km
- Trenton - Alert 4,306 km
Base Location

- Alert
- Resolute Bay
- Yellowknife
- Ft. Greely
- Iqaluit
- St. John’s

Canadian Forces maritime test range
NanOOSE Bay is where Canada’s navy tests sonobuoys, sonar systems and torpedoes in an area off the east coast of Vancouver Island.

Submarines
Canada’s fleet of diesel submarines cannot function in our own Arctic waters, but the U.S., U.K., Russia and France all have vessels that can operate there undetected.

Nanisivik
On Aug. 10, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced the creation of a deepwater port at this Baffin Island community.

Coast Guard
Most of the Coast Guard’s vessels can operate in the Arctic only in the summer.

CFB Esquimalt is Canada’s West Coast navy base and home port to the Pacific fleet.

CFB Halifax is Canada’s East Coast navy base and home port to the Atlantic fleet.
Forward Operating Locations; North Warning Sites

Source: CMJ map by Monica Muller
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vessels</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Narwhal</td>
<td>Goose Bay, Summerside, (Pierre Radisson fuel)</td>
<td>Kimmirut Harbour to Resolution Island</td>
<td>Assist Ranger Patrol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Narwhal</td>
<td>Montreal(Henry S. Larson fuel)</td>
<td>Cumberland Sound, Baffin Island</td>
<td>Simulate Cosmos 954, interdiction simulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Hudson Sentinel</td>
<td>Glace Bay, Shawinigan (Pierre Radisson fuel)</td>
<td>Hudson's Bay</td>
<td>PR with local communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Beaufort Sentinel</td>
<td>RCMP vessel with Navy observers</td>
<td>Mackenzie River Delta, Beaufort Sea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Fisheries Patrol</td>
<td>Fredericton</td>
<td>Above Baffin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>Montreal, Goose Bay, Moncton (Henry S. Larsen fuel)</td>
<td>Lancaster Sound</td>
<td>Van-Doos, interdiction simulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Coastal Ranger</td>
<td>Goose Bay, Moncton</td>
<td>Northern Labrador</td>
<td>5-CRPG, Northern Warning System inspection, before LANCASTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Nanook</td>
<td>Fredericton, Summerside, Corner Brook (Martha L. Black fuel)</td>
<td>Hudson Strait, Baffin Island</td>
<td>Interdiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Nanook</td>
<td>Toronto, Shawinigan (Pierre Raddison fuel)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Interdiction, disaster response, outbreak of disease, hostage situation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: M. Horne
Arctic Neighbours Exercises

- Russia
  - 8-9,000 troops 09; 2 Delta’s IV 09; Bomber Patrols
- United States
  - Northern Edge – 1993-09; 8-10,000 troops
- Norway
  - Cold Response -2006-2010; 7-8,000 troops
- Canada
- Finland/Sweden
  - Loyal Arrow 2009 - 3000 troops
The Rangers

• 4,200 to be increased to 5,000
  – 163 Patrols

• 5 Ranger Patrol Groups (CRPG)

• 1 CRPG  – Yukon, NWT, Nu
  – 58 patrols
  – 1575 Rangers
Role of the Rangers

- Conduct territorial, coastal and inland water surveillance as required/tasked.
- Provide local knowledge and expertise
- Provide assistance to other government departments.
- Provide local assistance and advice to Ground Search and Rescue operations
- Provide support in response to natural disasters and humanitarian operations.
- Are not to be used in war-fighting roles
Regular Forces and Rangers Re-taking Hans Island 2005

Source: DND photo 2005-0114-42a by Corporal David McCord, Canadian Forces Joint Imagery Centre
Arctic Offshore Patrol Vessel: New Role for the Naval Reserves?

Source: Canadian Navy
New Reserve Unit NWT

• Announced Sept 5, 2008
• Company size reserve unit to be set up in Yellowknife
• “The Army is expanding its Reserve footprint across the North by establishing a permanent land force reserve unit presence in this increasingly important region of the country,” - MacKay
Lesson Learned

• The Arctic is a very unforgiving environment
  – Climate is severe
  – Must carry all supplies
  – Non-existent infrastructure
  – Communications Challenges

• The Role of the Rangers remains central

• DND must work with other Government Agencies/ Territories/ Industry
Conclusion

• Canada is not yet capable of Arctic Ops 12 months of the year – Except for Rangers
• Canada will need to respond to the internationalization of the Arctic