

The Enduring Utility of the UK's Amphibious Capability

RUSI Maritime Studies Programme Workshop Series 2010

Workshop Three

3 June 2010, 0900 - 1400

Royal United Services Institute, Whitehall, London

Workshop series sponsored by

THALES

Workshop Series

RUSI is delighted to announce the third and final event in its 2010 Maritime Workshop series. RUSI has been running an annual workshop series since 2008. Each series is intended to generate a wide-ranging but focused discussion to improve understanding of the role of the maritime component in supporting national and international interests. Now, following the Defence Green Paper and the outcome of the General Election, the new government is beginning to re-assess the UK's defence and security requirements at what is clearly a critical time in the UK's defence debate. To date, the 2010 series has drawn together a select group of stakeholders and influencers from a broad cross-section of backgrounds across the UK and the international defence and security communities to examine matters of cross-Government interest. Workshop participants include: the Royal Navy, her sister services and partner navies; the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and other government departments; Parliament and the wider political community; and the defence industrial, specialist defence press and independent academic and analytical communities. The series, sponsored by Thales, is being produced with the support of the Royal Navy.

Please note that attendance at the workshops is specifically by invitation only. To enable the free flow of debate, both prepared remarks and discussion are off the record. The series also is developing specific themes to be addressed at RUSI's annual Future Maritime Operations Conference (7-8 July, *please see details below*). In keeping with RUSI's focus on generating research-led, policy-relevant analysis, RUSI will publish, at the conference, an Occasional Paper analysing the workshop series discussions.

Workshop Three

Please note the revised start time of 0900.

The workshop will be chaired by RUSI's Director, Professor Michael Clarke. It will be opened by remarks from Major General Buster Howes (Commandant General of the Royal Marines and Commander UK Amphibious Task Force), with an additional contribution in the first session from Professor Christopher Donnelly. Following the opening remarks at the start of each session, the floor will be opened for free-ranging discussion. Focused interventions also will be invited from key stakeholders, in order to add policy relevance to the discussions.

The aim of this particular workshop is to discuss the enduring utility of the UK's amphibious capability within both the contemporary and future operating environments. Discussion will (inter alia) focus on:

- **the current capability:** provenance and lineage; scale and effect; task group and landing force contributions
- **the near term:** the impact of the HERRICK Operation on 3 Commando Brigade; recuperating contingent capability; reconstituting a core role
- **the future:** environmental frictions; conflict prevention (or should it termed 'continuous engagement for prudent intervention?') versus stabilisation; value for money; utility and flexibility for the future.

RUSI Future Maritime Operations Conference, 7-8 July 2010

The workshop series builds towards RUSI's annual Future Maritime Operations Conference. The conference, which will take place on 7-8 July at RUSI, has a working theme of 'the Naval Service Contribution to Future British Defence and Security'. First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope KCB OBE will open the conference. RUSI's Occasional Paper will be released at the event.

PROGRAMME, WORKSHOP THREE, 3 JUNE 2010

0900 Registration (Foyer) & Welcome Coffee (Reading Room)

0930 Session 1 (Library):

Welcome remarks: **Dr Lee Willett**, Head Maritime Studies Programme, RUSI

Chair: **Professor Michael Clarke**, Director, RUSI

Speakers:

- **Major General F R D Howes Royal Marines**, Commandant General Royal Marines and Commander UK Amphibious Task Group
- **Professor Christopher Donnelly**, Director General, Atlantic Council of the UK

1130 Morning Coffee (Reading Room)

1200 Session 2 (Library):

Chair and remarks: **Professor Geoffrey Till**, Director, Corbett Centre for Maritime Policy Studies

Speakers:

- **Colonel Rupert Wieloch**, Director Defence Studies (Army)
- Other speakers to be confirmed

1300 Sandwich Lunch (Reading Room)

1400 Workshop close

Please Note:

- There is no fee to attend
- Participation in the workshops is strictly by invitation only (however, please inform RUSI if you wish to send a representative on your behalf if you are unable to attend yourself)
- Places are limited and will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. **Early registration is strongly recommended**
- Please **RSVP by Friday 28 May 2010** to Deanne Prudden, deannep@rusi.org
- **Email replies only** (for both acceptance or regrets).

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