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I have worn a uniform almost as long as I can remember. I don't remember much of shipboard life, while my epidemiologist father served as ship's doctor to work our passage from Australia to England and back again. I remember the grey uniforms in Edinburgh's schools, where my father taught at the Usher Institute. Guess I was a "child soldier" — joining Air Cadets at thirteen, Army Cadets at fourteen, and reserves at seventeen. A loud voice and misplaced sense of self-importance made it easy to command, and it was a natural transition to the regular force through the Military Colleges. I enlisted to serve the cause of 'peace through superior firepower' as an artillery officer. But I had also skipped confirmation classes to read Marx, had thought of running away to Cuba while I studied Spanish in High School, and knew Central American refugees; scepticism about the Cold War and juvenile anti-imperialism came easily.

From that militaristic beginning, nine intellectual threads, driven by professional experiences, have brought me to Ethnicity and Democratic Governance. These threads are: political economy and security, peacekeeping and negotiation, post-conflict reconstruction, Special Forces, security sector governance, transnational policing, Israel-Palestine, economic peace-building, and military education. If there is a unifying theme, it is the control and prevention of violence. Early on, I internalized the military mantra that an officer is a manager of violence, and I'm still trying to understand the details.

RMC was (and remains today) a bastion of liberal education, requiring arts students to take math and science. Despite calculus, our professors imparted respect for quantification, which has persisted in me without culminating in genuine competence. Two economists (Peter Dunnett and Jim Cairns) and two political scientists (Tony Miller and Alan Whitehorn) put me on the path to graduate work, so it was natural to combine development and conflict analysis streams at Carleton University's Norman Paterson School. John Sigler, Harald von Riekhof, Jim Finan, and foreign students who have gone on to work for government in London, Strasbourg, and Nicosia stand out there as intellectual influences. The oil shocks and commodity conflicts of the 'seventies, combined with the security discourse of East-West competition and my interests in the exploited Third World, to produce a thesis on "Strategies to Secure Supplies of Strategic Non-fuel Minerals" with a bit of quantitative work on copper supply and price fluctuations around the Katanga intervention. Guest speakers like Raul Prebisch and Clyde Sanger, Amnesty International, and a non-violence workshop with Hans Sin shaped my interests. My thesis suggested that military means of resolving economic problems were likely to be costly and ineffective.

A Commonwealth scholarship gave me an opportunity to delay regimental duty for another two years. I picked the London School of Economics by reputation, and wrote a proposal to find empirical evidence for Wily Brandt's thesis (North-South: A Program for Survival) that underdevelopment would generate security threats. Fred Northedge said, "young man, you can't research the future!" and Susan Strange nudged me towards economic patterns so I focused on the period 1960 to 1979, using Azar's Conflict and Peace Data Bank (COPDAB) to generate an image of threat, and the World Handbook of Political and Social Indicators and World Bank sources to generate images of alternative patterns of development. A global modeling workshop in Dubrovnik in 1983 introduced me to Yugoslavia, Harald Guetzkow, and multiple regression. Paul Smoker (Lancaster) showed me typl analysis and Tukey statistics, but time ran out before I could finish the correlations, and I reported to Lahr to serve as a troop commander in the First Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery and forward observer for the "van doos" in 1984.



Three years of graduate study is not good preparation for a junior officer. Graduating from RMC, I was confident about what I knew and what I could do. After two years at the London School of Economics, I was confident I understood nothing when I arrived in Lahr, Germany; but my soldiers took pity and looked after me. Marriage, children, frequent absences, and responsibility for real soldiers left little time to complete my academic work. Stuart Bremer, Dale Smith and Tom Cusack at the Wissenschaftszentrum in Berlin helped me over the quantitative method hurdles; I completed the regression analyses, and concluded that there was a modest negative correlation between economic growth rate and south-to-north hostility, but the theoretical “patterns of development” had no significance at all. I left Germany in 1987 to work in equipment procurement in National Defence Headquarters – eighteen months of nugatory staff work to select multiple rocket launchers for a future Canadian Division in Europe, followed by eight months of frenetic arms control and force development thinking, during which I helped prepare for the 1990 Chiefs of Defence Vienna Seminar on Doctrines and Strategies (a confidence-building measure). The headquarters experience was Kafka meets Tolstoy: inexplicable decisions and personal powerlessness, even for generals and ministers’ lackeys.

Peacekeeping duty in Cyprus gave me a new focus. What could academics tell us about mediation and negotiation? Working with Ron Fisher (Saskatchewan) I studied conflict resolution and prepared a set of training packages for each rank level. While in Cyprus, I worked with the Inter-Communal Conflict Resolution Steering Committee, and looked for opportunities for super-ordinate goals, including a peace garden in Nicosia. I hosted Ron Fisher and Dave Davies (GMU) and organized RMC cadets and graduate students to mine the mission archives for case studies of conflict resolution, which became the basis for the next training package. Some of this work is reported in *Armed Forces and Society* (1995); the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society (IUS) has been a fruitful association for me since 1993. While I was in Cyprus in 1992, I corresponded with Betts Fetherston (Bradford), who was completing her thesis *Toward a Theory of UN Peacekeeping*, and with Yugoslav friends watching the dissolution of their country as my colleagues were deployed there from Lahr. It was bizarre that so little military study was devoted to conflict resolution, and I started to accumulate interviews and observations from my more-experienced colleagues. John Fishel, Les Grau, and Murray Swan were kind to treat me as a colleague when I attended the US Army Command and General Staff College in 1994-95, and my accumulated notes and fieldwork became a second thesis, later published as *Theory, Doctrine and Practice of Conflict De-escalation for Peacekeepers*. I maintain an interest in this, periodically supervising students working with Jim Wall’s (Missouri) peacekeeping mediation survey. I went directly from Leavenworth to Zagreb to serve as the Military Assistant to the Deputy Force Commander, arriving in June 1995, and serving as the principle “code cable” scribe on military matters to the French Force Commander General Bernard Janvier and the SRSG Yasushi Akashi until December. NATO-UN negotiations over air strikes, the fall of Sector West, Sector South, Srebrenica, Zepa, and Gorazde, the games played by the American embassy and MPRI, serving as liaison to Richard Holbrooke’s team, and recording Akashi’s negotiations with Milosevic, and Janvier’s with Mladic and Cervenko, left me with a strong sense of the necessity for military competence and coercive force, but the impotence of military instruments for resolving conflicts: deploying the Rapid Reaction Force reduced firing incidents in Sarajevo from two thousand a day in June to a dozen a week in August, but did not alter the character of the conflict, and General Wesley Clarke’s bizarre notion of “asymmetrical impartiality” was a logical consequence of the constraints under which NATO military force had to operate.

From January to July 1996, I served with NATO’s IFOR in the Serb town of Prijedor, living with a Czech airborne battalion as the Civil Affairs officer for Northwest Bosnia. I experienced first hand the “policing gap”, civil-military disconnects, and the stubborn problems of economic and social reconstruction. Returning to the Pearson Peacekeeping Centre (PPC), I developed courses for Canadian and foreign officers and civilians on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), and on civil-military cooperation (CIMIC). It seemed to me that there was a still a big gap in our understanding, so I worked with a small NGO (Gary Shapiro’s Conflict Resolution Catalysts) to run a field experiment on a “peace-building platoon”, funded by USAID and PPC. The Neighbourhood Facilitators Project was a mixed-ethnicity, international-plus-local, civilian problem-solving team which we deployed to Bosnia in



1997-98, with useful results for mapping the social-psychological dimensions of reconstruction. Its failure to thrive also demonstrated intractable organizational difficulties with peace-building.

The next thread originated with a posting to Ottawa in 1998 to work on the staff for Counter Terrorism and Special Operations, including futures work for the Vice Chief of Defence Staff. This followed me a few years later to RMC, with a request to write on problems of new special operations, resulting in two edited books and several round-tables. Working with Conrad Winn and Hugh Thorburn to develop and analyze an elite survey added to my public affairs and speech-writing experience from the 1994 Defence Policy Review; there is an art to influencing policy-making.

The Special Operations work was a distraction from an ambitious long-term project intended to map the impact of different sorts of third party interventions to control and prevent violence – something I should not have undertaken alone. By comparing UN, regional, and national interventions (in Sierra Leone, Guatemala, Haiti, Bosnia and Kosovo) I hope to learn about the relative value of each in managing transitions from violence. I completed both documentary and fieldwork on Sierra Leone in 2001, but was not funded for subsequent work on the other cases. There are some tantalizing differences to explore: British military training in Sierra Leone seems to correlate to a decrease in extra-legal killing, while American military training in Guatemala seems to correlate to an increase. For now, I have hypotheses concerning governance, security sector reform, and training/education patterns. When I have resources I hope to return with a modified method: Rapid Assessment Process offers a sound model for social science work on violence and intervention. The “Cornwallis Group”, (especially Dave Davis, Ted Woodcock, and Gene Visco) has been a valuable source of insight and networking on operational research techniques for me for more than a decade now.

Two other opportunities replaced the absent funding for my comparative study. Sociologists Rick Linden (Manitoba) and Chris Murphy (Dalhousie) had SSHRC funding sponsored by the Law Commission of Canada to study transnational governance of policing. This was an opportunity to piece together connections between peacekeeping and the evolution of the constabulary ethic within national and globalizing society. James Sheptycki's (York) and Jean-Paul Brodeur's (Montreal) work on the sociology of policing and privatization led me to connections between policing and the economy, and this year I started collaboration on economic peace-building and corporate social responsibility with Lew Diggs, a private sector consultant in Montreal. The other was an invitation to participate in a project on third party assistance to Israeli-Palestinian disengagement. Joel Peters (Ben Gurion) organized my first trip to Israel after meeting at Search for Common Ground in Washington. Meetings began at the Mauro Centre, orchestrated by Jim Fergusson and Sean Byrne (Manitoba) in 2005, continued at the Truman Centre under Kobi Michael and Galia Golan (HUJ), and may conclude in 2007.

Being a university registrar cramps the research agenda, but gives me a unique opportunity to study (and influence) patterns of military education. Perhaps that is where the treatment starts for epidemics of violence. If medicine can look beyond boundaries to international health, why shouldn't the profession of arms?