

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
1. JURISDICTION OF SERVICE TRIBUNALS.....	3
1.1 Subject-matter jurisdiction, i.e. over the offence, and the notion of a service offence	3
1.2 Personal jurisdiction, i.e. over the person, and extension to persons accompanying the Canadian Forces	6
1.3 Jurisdiction over the place of commission of the offence: exclusion of certain offences	9
1.4 Jurisdictional time-limits	9
1.5 Concurrent jurisdiction with civil courts	9
1.5.1 Lack of information and criteria to determine who is exercising the right to prosecute.....	10
1.5.2 The military nexus requirement: the Canadian, American, Australian, French and Belgian positions	13
1.5.2.1 The situation in Canada.....	13
1.5.2.2 The situation in the United States and in Australia	21
1.5.2.3 The situation in France and in Belgium	26
1.6 Merger of disciplinary offences with those under the <i>Criminal Code</i> and consequences thereof.....	27
1.6.1 The imprecise and broad nature of disciplinary offences.....	27
2. SERVICE TRIBUNALS.....	29
2.1 Prior to the 2008 reform.....	29
2.2 After the reform	29
2.2.1 The General Court Martial.....	29
2.2.1.1 Its status and nature	29
2.2.1.2 Composition and jurisdiction	31
2.2.2 The Standing Court Martial	32

2.2.2.1	Its status and nature	32
2.2.2.2	Composition and jurisdiction	33
2.2.3	Right of the accused to choose the mode of trial	33
2.2.4	Persons presiding at a summary trial	34
2.2.4.1	The commanding officer	34
2.2.4.2	The superior commander	34
2.2.4.3	The procedural features of a summary trial	35
2.2.4.4	The evolution in Europe following the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights	36
2.2.4.5	The authority of the chain of command to interfere with verdicts and sentences	39
2.2.4.6	The jurisdiction of commanding officers and superior commanders	40
2.2.4.7	Powers with respect to sentencing	41
3.	INDEPENDENCE OF MILITARY JUDGES	43
3.1	Institutional independence	43
3.1.1	Departures from institutional independence: the power of the suspending authority and of the Governor in Council to interfere with the sentence or verdict	47
4.	THE COURT MARTIAL APPEAL COURT	49
4.1	Role and functions of the Court of Appeal	49
4.2	The powers of the Court of Appeal	50
4.2.1	Its inherent jurisdiction	50
4.2.2	Its implicit jurisdiction	51
4.2.3	Its ancillary powers	51
4.2.4	With respect to the finding of guilty	51
4.2.5	With respect to acquittal	52
4.2.6	With respect to the legality and severity of the sentence	52
5.	CONCLUSION: CURRENT AND PREDICTABLE TRENDS WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY JUSTICE	55
	SCHEDULE A: <i>RELFORD FACTORS</i>	57
	SCHEDULE B: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING	59
	SCHEDULE C: AUSTRALIAN MILITARY COURT SYSTEM AS PROPOSED BY THE <i>MILITARY COURT OF AUSTRALIA BILL 2012</i>	69