

this paper, it would go a long way toward alleviating the concerns of governments and native peoples alike about the "excessive militarization" of the Arctic environment.

AERIAL STAND-OFF ZONES

An analogous "CBM" for the air can also be imagined. Both sides currently engage in the practice of "aerial probing" of each other's air defences, by approaching close to one another's borders with bomber or reconnaissance aircraft. This practice provides a convenient means for each side's government to magnify and inflate the "threat" posed by the other in the eyes of the public, thus raising undue concerns about territorial integrity, and ultimately adversely affecting political relations between the states concerned. For example, the Government of Canada has recently, for the first time, begun issuing press releases to mark each of the many occasions throughout the year when Soviet aircraft are intercepted within the Canadian air-defence identification zone (CADIZ). Such events are given high visibility in the mass media and often portrayed as Soviet violations of Canadian air space, which is far from the truth — the CADIZ extends up to 180 miles outside Canadian territory, while the American zones, including the one surrounding Alaska, are up to twice as wide.

Aerial probing has been defended on the grounds that it serves to test and strengthen the readiness of a state's air defence forces; but such readiness can surely be tested and improved by other means, for example through the use of one's own penetrating aircraft in an adversary role (as is practiced in any case). Another possible objection to legislating an end to "aerial probing" is that it could interfere with legitimate intelligence-gathering by reconnaissance aircraft just outside a state's territorial air space, for example in monitoring compliance with arms control agreements. Whether the creation of an aerial stand-off zone, several hundred miles wide, would indeed have a serious detrimental effect on such activities would have to be investigated more thoroughly. If indications were that it would, then perhaps provision could be made for pre-