

only renewed for a further two years to allow a re-evaluation of the strategic situation. The Soviet Union had by now developed an arsenal of intercontinental nuclear weapons of its own and the threat of a Soviet attack coming by way of the long-range bomber had faded. This change coincided with the commencement of negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT). The 1975 renewal reflected the changed strategic situation. Although defence against air attack remained a basic tenet of the Agreement, new emphasis was placed on the need to deal with the possibility of ballistic missile attack. NORAD functions now included:

- warning and assessment of ballistic missile attack and ensuring an effective response should deterrence fail;
- space surveillance;
- maintenance of peacetime surveillance to warn of bomber attack and limited defence against bombers.

This also involved the development and maintenance of new surveillance systems such as the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS) and the Satellite Early Warning System (SEWS) which did not directly involve Canada. Although the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty had been signed by the Soviet Union and the United States in 1972, the clause precluding Canada from any involvement in a ballistic missile defence system remained.

In 1980 the Agreement was renewed for a one-year term because of an upcoming election in Canada. The 1981 renewal was for five years, and changed the name of NORAD to North American Aerospace Defence Command, (replacing 'air' with 'aerospace'). This recognition of the changing nature of the threat to North American airspace led to a further redefinition of NORAD's roles which now involved aerospace surveillance and warning and characterization of aerospace attack. The 1981 Agreement also removed the ABM clause.