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## CROSS REFERENCES

Major Equipment Acquisitions

North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD)

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

On 15 July 1983, the Canadian Government announced that it had agreed to allow tests of the AGM-86B Air-launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) to be conducted in Canada. The cruise missile is an unmanned vehicle propelled by a jet engine that can carry conventional or nuclear warheads. It can be sea-, ground-, or air-launched.

The Government's rationale for agreeing to the US request was that testing of the cruise missile guidance system was "linked intimately to Canada's security as a member of NATO and NORAD, and to Canada's policy on arms control and disarmament." Canadian territory was particularly suitable for such testing because it offered extensive stretches of uninhabited cold weather terrain similar to the arctic coasts of the Soviet Union. The tests generally take place during the first three months of the year in order to ensure that proper weather conditions exist. The Government's decision, however, that its agreement to allow such testing "in no way changed Canada's own renunciation of nuclear weapons for our national forces."

The extension of cruise missile testing for a five-year period beyond the initial five-year term of the umbrella testing agreement was confirmed in 1987 when the Government did not give twelve months' advance notice of its intention to withdraw. The