

Findings

a) **The basic question -- renewal or not**

The world is in the midst of a period of great change, which holds out great hope for the future. However, these processes will take time to work out, and there are still many doubts and uncertainties. Careful management of change is essential, as well as continued commitment to international efforts to uphold and strengthen peace and security. Deterrence is likely to continue as the basic concept guiding US and Soviet strategic doctrines throughout most of this decade and beyond. Canada will continue to be affected by this situation for several more years at least.

Canada plays a vital role in continental defence by helping to provide early warning and thus to ensure the survivability and credibility of United States deterrent forces. Canada also has particular defence concerns of its own in the continuation, and possibly even the growth, of Soviet manned bomber and cruise missile forces. Canada also has particular interests in research and development work on space-based surveillance systems, and in the contributions that NORAD makes to the preservation of this country's own sovereignty.

It is important to look at the NORAD renewal issue in terms of the evolving situation, not as an exercise in standard institutional extension. The Panel has been at pains not to put the cart before the horse.

Taking all these considerations into account, the Panel believes that *NORAD serves Canada well and therefore ought to be renewed for a further period.*

b) **The time period**

2 years -- A two-year renewal would be intended to give time for a far-reaching review of the international situation, for a careful examination of North American aerospace defence requirements for the coming period, and for determining very clearly Canada's needs in relation to aerospace defence and helping to preserve