

North America. Hence the Agreement provides us with a useful instrument to make our views known to the United States at the senior level in possible critical situations. Such access, arising from NORAD, which is limited to matters concerning the defence of North America against aerospace attack, could also permit exploration at a time of tension of other aspects of the situation, in which Canada might not be directly involved and which it might, therefore, otherwise have little opportunity to raise.

Taking all these considerations into account, Mr. Chairman, I believe that Canada and the United States should continue to co-operate closely in the air defence of North America. I believe that the NORAD system has served us well for this purpose, and that it provides the best framework to develop future arrangements in this area that is vital to our national life.