

Canada and the United States are close partners in the defence of North America and within NATO. The Canada/United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence has met regularly since 1940. A united military command, NORAD, ensures the air defence of the two countries. Canada and the United States also combine efforts to solve common transboundary problems affecting the environment, an area that is becoming increasingly important in bilateral relations. The International Joint Commission (IJC), set up for this purpose under the terms of the Boundary Waters Treaty in 1909, is a unique co-operation mechanism.

Each of the two countries is the chief customer and primary supplier of the other: sales of Canadian products to the United States in 1978 came to \$37 billion (Cdn.), an amount slightly higher than two-thirds of Canada's total exports, and sales of U.S. products to Canada amounted to \$35 billion, a figure equal to approximately one quarter of the total exports of the United States or the total of 107

By the beginning of 1980, Canadian short take-off and landing aircraft had been sold in some 80 countries. The DASH-7, seen flying over Toronto, is known as "the quietest airliner in the world".

