DETERRENCE

A strategy aiming to convince a potential aggressor that, if he were to initiate an aggression, he would suffer losses that would outweigh any potential gains.

DEW

Distant Early Warning

The DEW Line was a line of ground-based radars extending along the 70th parallel of latitude from Alaska to Greenland, providing early warning of the approach of aircraft towards North America.

FOL

Forward Operating Location

One of the airfields in the Canadian North able to be used by interceptor aircraft on temporary assignment from permanent bases farther south.

ICBM

Inter-continental Ballistic Missile A ground-launched ballistic missile with a range in excess of 5,500 km.

INF

Intermediate-range nuclear forces Nuclear weapons with a range of 500 to 5,000 km. The INF Treaty of 1987 removed all ground-based INF from Europe.

JUSCADS

MIRV

Multiple Independently-targeted Reentry Vehicle Reentry vehicles launched by a missile for ultimate flight along separate trajectories towards different targets.

Joint United States-Canada Air Defence Study

NORAD

North American Aerospace Defence Command The NORAD Agreement between Canada and the United States was established in 1958. The current mandate runs until May 1991.

NWS North Warning System

A chain of ground-based radars extending from Alaska to Northeastern Canada.

OTH

Over-the-Horizon

Over-the-Horizon Backscatter radar is a very large ground-based system able to detect and track aircraft at long range and at any altitude.

PAR

Phased Array Radar

A type of radar which can scan a large volume of sky and simultaneously track many targets without the need for a moving antenna.