

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON**

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to your Excellency's note dated December 5, 2002, which reads as follows:

"I have the honor to refer to discussions between our two Governments regarding future Canada-United States cooperation in broadening bi-national defence arrangements for North American security. Both Governments remain convinced that enhanced cooperation, as detailed herein, conducted within the framework of the North Atlantic Treaty, remains vital to their mutual security, compatible with their national interests, and an important element of their contribution to the overall security of the NATO area.

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, represented a dramatic change in the geostrategic environment for North

The Honorable

William Graham, M.P.,

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada,

Ottawa.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE