

eventually deployed in the early 1970s. The aircraft carrier *Bonaventure* was also refitted (though sold in 1970).

In 1971, the second Defence White Paper prescribed new emphases for Canadian naval activities in line with the new list of defence tasks giving precedence to surveillance and control of the national territory, airspace and waters, and then the defence of North America, over commitments to NATO and finally to peacekeeping. An important feature of the document was the interest displayed in patrolling off-shore waters with hydrofoils, fast patrol boats, air cushion vehicles, and patrol aircraft, as well as in tightening cooperation with Canada's other fleets operated by the Department of Transport, the Department of Fisheries, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and other federal government agencies. At the same time, the aim was to continue ASW activity in the North West Atlantic and limited maritime zones off the country's West Coast.

The difficulty that confronted this approach was that the funds were never provided for the new fast patrol boats, air cushion vehicles, or similar surveillance and control craft. Nor were heavy ice-breakers acquired by other government agencies for Arctic duties in the winter. The defence budget as a whole declined significantly, in real terms, from 1971 to the middle of the decade, and the armed forces received virtually no new major items of equipment. The coastal patrolling function was left to the fleet of deep-water frigates and destroyers, which remained committed primarily to ASW duties in the North Western and Middle Atlantic.

As time went on, equipment grew increasingly old. In 1975, a defence structure review indicated that Canada would have to start spending more on defence and rebuilding its armed forces if it wished to avoid an implosion of the defence system, that is to say a collapse of critical functions in key areas which would have rendered the overall defence effort both incoherent and massively inadequate. Alarmed by this prospect, the government committed itself to a long-range rebuilding process for the armed forces, starting with the acquisition of eighteen *Aurora* long-range patrol aircraft and working forward through the acquisition of new battle tanks, fighter aircraft and other materiel.