

must, therefore, have in existence in peacetime an organization which, in the face of surprise attack, could immediately take defensive action over our own territories in accordance with a single air defence plan which had already been approved by the two Governments.

This integration is the practical application of the principle of interdependence which inspires the activities of the NATO alliance. It will contribute to the effectiveness of the air defences of this continent; it will thereby increase the ability of Canada and the United States to meet the strategic objectives established in NATO for the Canada-United States Region. The effectiveness of such integration has been amply demonstrated in other NATO areas where integrated headquarters exercising operational control over assigned forces exist. Canadian forces, in company with the forces of our NATO allies, already come under the operational control of the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR); Canadians serve as well in the wholly integrated headquarters of the Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (SACLANT) and in wartime Canadian ships and maritime aircraft earmarked for NATO will come under SACLANT's operational control. There are, of course, many other integrated headquarters in the NATO military structure in which Canada is not represented, e.g., Allied Forces Central Europe and Allied Forces Mediterranean.

Our joint defence of the continent cannot, of course, be thought of in isolation. This continental effort forms part of our contribution to NATO defences. The Canada-United States Region is an integral part of the NATO area for which strategic objectives have been established in NATO. The establishment of NORAD will assist our two Governments to meet these strategic objectives more effectively. The arrangements for air defence of Canada and the United States and the allocation of forces to NORAD for that task will be reported to NATO through the Canada-United States Regional Planning Group, which is made up of the Chiefs of Staff of Canada and the United States.

As the agreement tabled today indicates, the Commander-in-Chief NORAD will be responsible to the Chiefs of Staff Committee of Canada and the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States, i.e., he will make his recommendations on air defence to them. They in turn will seek the approval of their political authorities for the implementation of such of these recommendations as are acceptable to them from a military point of view. The Commander-in-Chief NORAD will operate within a single air defence plan which will be approved by the two Governments. The appointment of the Commander-in-Chief NORAD and of his deputy will be approved by the two Governments. Detailed terms of reference for the Commander-in-Chief NORAD have also been approved by the two Governments. These terms of reference flow from, and are