

DEFENCE



A CF-18 fighter based at CFB Bagotville, Quebec, intercepts a Soviet Bear bomber off Canada's East Coast.

The United States and Canada are partners in the defence of North America and of the western world. Their mutual commitments are based on shared values and on realities. This partnership gives North America the most advanced warning system in the world. The sophisticated relationship is a triumph of delicate balance, maintaining the political independence of each partner while providing an active cooperation of the most intricate type.

Last June the Canadian government issued a White Paper on Defence, which calls for the restructuring of the Canadian Forces. Key elements of the program will be the acquisition of 10 to 12 nuclear-propelled submarines and 12 anti-submarine patrol frigates, consolidation of

the NATO commitment in Europe and expansion of the reserves and militia.

The restructuring will put Canada's obligations to its own citizens and to its traditional allies in the context of current international realities.

Success in building a more peaceful world will lead, in time, to a reduction in world armaments. In the meantime, Canada will ensure its own security by making its full contribution to collective security and, in particular, to its share in the defence of North America.

NORAD

The joint North American Aerospace Defence Command was established in 1957. Its purpose, in the words of retired Canadian diplomat John Holmes, was "to rationalize the collective defence efforts." The strategy was simple—long-range bombers had made the continent vulnerable. Radar lines and American and Canadian fighter planes would provide a defence.

The tactics were complex and based on sophisticated technologies. NORAD headquarters were established in Cheyenne Mountain, Colorado, under a joint command. When the Commander-in-Chief, an American, was absent, the Deputy Commander, a Canadian, took