



Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ministre des Affaires étrangères

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

The Honourable L'honorable
Bill Graham P.C., Q.C., M.P., c.p., c.r., député

DEC - 5 2002

The Honorable Colin L. Powell
Secretary of State of the United States of America

Excellency,

I have the honour 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 American security. The overall threat to the North American continent from the air, land, and sea has greatly increased, including the potential for the use of weapons of mass destruction delivered by unconventional means, by terrorists or others.

Our two Governments have taken steps on a national basis to reassess and improve preparedness for the air, land and maritime defence of each country. Moreover, our Governments have identified additional ways we could work together to protect our citizens and to strengthen North American security as a whole, while respecting the national interests and sovereignty of each other.

In view of these developments, I have the honour to propose the following:

Our two Governments reaffirm the value of continued cooperation between Canada and the United States in the aerospace defence of North America through participation in the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD).

Canada