NORAD

Q. Would the deployment by the US of a missile defence system involve NORAD?

Suggested Reply

- Ballistic missile defence is not a NORAD mission.
- BMD cannot become a NORAD mission without Canadian agreement.

Q. Would NORAD have a future if we declined to participate in BMD?

Suggested Reply

- The current NORAD missions of aerospace warning and control are critical to both Canada and the United States. They will remain important, even if Canada were to decide not to participate in BMD.
- As a result, even if we declined to participate in a missile defence system, NORAD would remain central to our relationship.

Q. Assuming Canada were to participate, do you believe that it will be necessary to revise or even to re-write the NORAD Agreement?

Suggested Reply

- The NORAD Agreement states that "the expansion of binational cooperation... could evolve if both nations agree. Both Governments undertake to ensure that full and meaningful consultations on aerospace defense cooperation take place when requested by either party."
- For ballistic missile defence to become a NORAD mission, Canada would have to agree and it is expected that the NORAD agreement would need to be amended.