

Summary of Recommendations and Observations

1. The committee urges the government of Canada to undertake without delay the planned defence review. A Canadian defence policy must be defined for this and the last decade of the century and the Canadian people and our allies should be informed of its aim and substance. (Pages xii, 3, 48 and 56.)
2. The committee recommends that when the review of the NORAD agreement, due to occur in 1986, takes place, Canada should explore the possibility of renewing the agreement for a period of 15 years, to the turn of the century, with provision for review every five years. (Pages 41 and 56.)
3. The committee recommends that Canada should pursue and press current negotiations on transitional arrangements for North American air defence with the aim of bringing them to an early conclusion. (Pages 55 and 56.)
4. The committee recommends that the transitional arrangements currently being negotiated comprise, for air defence purposes, a full range of peripheral early warning, tracking, assessment, and interception systems in Canada. (Chapter IV, especially pages 26 and 29; and pages 55 and 56.)
5. The committee recommends that the transitional arrangements should include some AWACS or other airborne early warning systems. (Pages 20, 22, 26, 33 and 56.)
6. The committee recommends that the option to buy 20 additional CF-18s under the terms still available under the present contract be fully exercised in order to cover attrition and round out existing capabilities if all current air commitments of the Canadian Armed Forces in Europe and North America are maintained. (Pages 43 and 56.)
7. The committee recommends that an early inquiry be conducted into Canada's present and future military requirements in space with a view to establishing a national military space programme. (Chapter V, section 1, especially pages 39 and 40; and pages 56 and 57.)
8. The committee recommends that the Canadian government define its objectives in North American aerospace defence as clearly as possible and concentrate on those aspects that are essentially defensive in nature. (Chapter VI, especially pages 53 and 54; and pages 55 and 57.)