

ourselves from direct attack. Commonsense and geography have led us to undertake this task as a joint endeavour.

The tradition of co-operation in matters of continental defence was established in the dark days of 1940 by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister King, when they met at Ogdensburg, New York, and agreed to set up a Permanent Joint Board on Defence to "consider in the broad sense, the defence of the north half of the Western Hemisphere". The Permanent Joint Board on Defence is still in existence and continues to render invaluable service to the common cause of joint defence.

It is obvious that the most likely and effective means of attack against North America is by air and that the shortest and most direct air routes from prospective enemy bases to North American targets traverse the Arctic and Sub-Arctic regions. The armed forces of our two countries are working in close co-operation to meet the possibility of such attack.

For the past four years work has been going on at high priority on the construction of a large and costly radar chain which is required not only to detect enemy bombers but also to control fighter aircraft engaged in the task of interception. Co-operation between the United States and Canadian air defence commanders is close and unidentified aircraft are investigated by the most immediately available interceptor forces, whether Canadian or American.

Recently our two Governments came to the conclusion that additional early warning of possible attack should be provided by the establishment of a further radar system generally to the north of the settled territory in Canada. As soon as this decision was reached the necessary surveys were initiated and are already well advanced.

In addition to improving the continental early-warning system, both countries are working continuously to improve the air defence installations in the vicinity of the major target areas. Here, too, co-operation between the United States and Canadian air defence forces is close.

Canada and the United States must continue to carry out these co-operative measures with energy and vigilance. Only thus can we assure our chance of survival. As President Eisenhower has said:

"You of Canada and we of the United States can and will devise ways to protect our North America from any surprise attack by air and we shall achieve the defence of our continent without whittling our pledges to Western Europe or forgetting our friends in the Pacific."

#### North America Looks to the East

While we are fulfilling our obligations as partners in the formidable fellowship of NATO, our preoccupation must not be with defence alone or with the problems of Western Europe and the North Atlantic community. We must look, too, to the East -- to the needs and