

- Reductions in strategic nuclear weapons under START I will leave large arsenals in place through 1996, while START II is not likely to produce further reductions before 2000. We believe that the air-breathing component of the Soviet force is likely to increase during the next five years, both in numbers and capability.
- Changes in international security likely to result from major developments in political relationships will take some time to work out and will require careful management through a period of transition.
- Factors likely to alter the circumstances after, rather than prior to, 1996 are widespread applications of stealth technology, ballistic missile defence, and the appearance of long-range weapons in non-European states. And space-based radar, able to track aircraft and cruise missiles, which will revolutionize the effectiveness of surveillance for civilian as well as military use, will not be available for considerably more than five years.

**10 years or indefinite renewal** -- The advantage of a long renewal is that it diminishes uncertainty and disruption, as well as the costs of far-reaching periodic reviews. It enables governments and defence staffs to plan well into the future. Such renewals would *not* mean that Canada was committed to NORAD in perpetuity, without recourse, since allowance for withdrawal after a certain period of notice is already provided for in the Agreement. However, shorter renewals do provide opportunities for reappraisal in light of changing requirements and circumstances, and for this reason the Panel did not support long-term or indefinite renewal.

#### *The Panel's view*

*As indicated above, all members of the Panel favour renewal of the NORAD agreement. Most favour five years, primarily because they see this as a reasonable length of time for managing the transition in international relations. Another view favours a two-year renewal, to give time for a major review of national requirements and current international developments before considering further extensions of the mandate.*