

necessary to the United States, for its own defence, once effective space-based networks become possible; and so Canada might either drop out of the joint arrangements with relative impunity, on the one hand, or find itself obliged to argue hard for their continuation on the other. The latter still seems the more likely course at the present time, although much will depend on the political complexion of the Canadian federal government in the second half of the 1990s. Probably, Canada will pursue the idea of space-based surveillance networks that are managed jointly with the United States, rather than a national military space network, since there seems to be neither sufficient interest in, nor financial commitment to, the latter. The likeliest prospect at present is for the continuation of NORAD or some similar arrangement, and for joint research, development and deployment of space-based systems that will cost Canada several hundred million dollars per annum in this decade and possibly more each year thereafter.

Other Air Defence Tasks

The responsibility for carrying out the overall task of national air defence rests with Air Command, which consists of five functional Air Groups plus a headquarters in Winnipeg. Fighter Group -- as discussed immediately above -- is dedicated to aerospace defence and surveillance functions. The other four groups have similar specialized duties in other environments. At the time of writing they include Air Transport Group, Maritime Air Group, 10 Tactical Air Group, and Air Reserve Group. In addition, One Canadian Air Division and 444 Tactical Air Squadron are in Germany, as part of Canadian Forces Europe.

Air Transport Group was examined in some detail in the 1986 report of the Senate Special Committee on National Defence entitled: *Military Air Transport*. That study recommended consolidating the fleet by the mid-1990s on six aircraft types and one transport helicopter type: i.e., 45 *Hercules C-130s*; 6 *Boeing 707s*; 2 *Twin Otters*; 20 *Dash 8s*; 8 *Challengers*; and 20 replacements for the *Labrador* helicopter. All *Buffalos*, *Dakotas*,