

CANADA

**EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S.A. CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT TO
EXTEND THE AGREEMENT OF MAY 12, 1958⁽¹⁾, AS EXTENDED ON MARCH
30, 1968⁽²⁾, RELATING TO THE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF
NORAD**

THE AMBASSADOR OF CANADA TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Washington, May 10, 1973

Note No. 165

SIR,

I have the honour to refer to recent discussions between Canadian and United States authorities in the Permanent Joint Board on Defence and elsewhere, concerning cooperation between our two countries in the joint defence of North America. These discussions included an examination of the development programmes for modernized air defences and the strategic situation as related to our joint participation in the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD). The principles governing the organization and operation of this Command were set out in the Agreement between our two governments dated May 12, 1958. This Agreement was renewed with some additional provisions for a period of five years by an agreement between our two governments dated March 30, 1968.

The discussions between representatives of our two governments have confirmed that there is a continuing need for integrated operational control over forces made available for the air defence of Canada and the United States as provided by the aforesaid Agreements. The discussions also indicated, however, that additional time is required to examine the component elements of the concept for a modernized air defence system now under development. Further joint consultations will undoubtedly be needed in order that our two governments will be able to consider and decide upon the extent of modernization that will satisfy future requirements for the joint defence of North America, taking into account the evolving strategic situation, including developments in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. Representatives of our two governments consequently believe that the interests of both Canada and the United States would be best served in these circumstances by extending the NORAD Agreement on its present terms and conditions, for an additional period of time.

My Government, therefore, proposes that the Agreement on the North American Air Defence Command effected by the exchange of Notes, signed at Washington, D. C. on May 12, 1958, and as renewed by the exchange of Notes signed at Washington, D. C. on March 30, 1968, be extended without alteration in its present terms and conditions for a further period of two years, from May 12, 1973.

⁽¹⁾ Treaty Series 1958 No. 9

⁽²⁾ Treaty Series 1968 No. 5