



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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EXTENSION OF THE CURRENT NORAD AGREEMENT

The Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, today tabled in the House of Commons an Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Governments of Canada and the United States of America to extend the current North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) Agreement for a year.

The Notes were exchanged today in Washington by Canada's Ambassador to the United States, Peter Towe, and Sharon E. Ahmad, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Canadian Affairs in the State Department.

The Canadian Government sought this extension in order to provide an opportunity for the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence to express its views on the subject. Due to the recent election, such a review could not be undertaken before the expiry of the Current Agreement on May 12, 1980.

-- The texts of the notes exchanged in Washington are attached.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON NORAD RENEWAL

Washington, D.C.

May 12, 1980.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to discussions which have taken place between representatives of our two Governments regarding future co-operation between Canada and the United States of America in the defence of North America through our joint participation in the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD). The principles governing the organization and operation of this Command were last set out in the Agreement between our two Governments which remains in effect until May 12, 1980.

The Canadian Government, conscious of the importance of this co-operation to the security of the Canada-United States region of NATO and to the overall security of the NATO area, wishes to provide an opportunity as it has in the past to hear the views of the appropriate committee of the Canadian House of Commons on the subject. My Government, therefore, proposes that the current agreement be extended without alteration in its present terms and conditions until May 12, 1981.

If the Government of the United States concurs in this proposal, I have the honour to propose that this note, which is equally authentic in English and French, and your reply to that effect, shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments with effect from May 12, 1980.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

P. M. Towe

May 12, 1980

United States Note on NORAD Renewal

Excellency:

I have the honour to refer to your Note of May 12, 1980, and to the discussions which have taken place between representatives of our two governments concerning the renewal of the Agreement on the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD).

The Government of the United States of America shares the view of the Government of Canada on the importance of cooperation between our two nations for the security of the Canada-USA region of NATO, under the arrangements embodied in the NORAD Agreement. The USA looks forward to the successful completion of negotiations and the subsequent renewal of the NORAD Agreement at an early date, to allow for timely planning for future cooperative efforts. In this regard, it would be the hope of the USA that the current negotiations could be concluded before the full year extension proposed in your Note will have elapsed.

I am pleased to inform you that my government concurs in the considerations set out in your Note, and further agrees with your proposal that your Note and this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two governments effective as of May 12, 1980.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Secretary of State,

Sharon E. Ahmad