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**Item Description:** This document is a typed paper that Lindsey wrote pertaining to overhead surveillance of air and sea approaches to Canada, and the requirements of monitoring vast areas of the Canadian North.

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## THE IMPORTANCE FOR CANADA OF OVERHEAD SURVEILLANCE

In the debates about Canadian foreign policy some of the subjects that need to be considered are security, sovereignty, the future of the Canadian Arctic, and relations with the United States.

A requirement that is present for each of these four important subjects is that Canada should know what is happening on the air and sea approaches to Canada, and in the vast sparsely inhabited areas of the Canadian North.

### Security

For both Canada and the United States, the security problems faced in the Cold War were focused on defence against intercontinental bombers and ballistic missiles launched from the Soviet Union. The response was the creation of NORAD, which continues to provide surveillance of the approach by aircraft or missiles, and a capability to intercept aircraft.

Today, with the threat of terrorism based in distant lands, security demands surveillance of the ships which could be bringing terrorists or their equipment into North America, or launching an attack from harbours or coastal waters. And terrorists could deliver attacks from sites in Northern Canada, perhaps for demolition of vulnerable hydro-electric facilities, sources of oil and gas, or the power lines and pipelines needed to transmit energy to Southern Canada and the United States. Effective surveillance of the sparsely inhabited regions of the Canadian North would be a valuable contribution to the defence of North America against the terrorist threat.

### Sovereignty

While there may not be serious challenges today to Canadian sovereignty over the land, sea, and airspace which we claim as our own, changing circumstances could cause claims to be made which we might be hard put to oppose, due to lack of surveillance and control of activities in these border regions.

over the threat of terrorism, against which it needs protection against approaches or attacks from the oceans, or from Canadian territory. If changes to the American priorities for their own defence, or of the capabilities of rapidly advancing technology, motivate them to desire better overhead surveillance of all of the approaches to the United States, and Canada does not cooperate, the US will do what they consider necessary themselves. This could well include detailed US overhead surveillance of Canada.

Also, in addition to geography and security, sovereignty and economics make the relations between Canada and the United States the most important element of Canadian foreign policy.

#### OPPORTUNITY OFFERED BY NEW TECHNOLOGY

Remarkable recent developments in the technologies of radar, electro-optics, and digital imagery have made it possible for a single satellite or aircraft to survey vast areas of the earth's surface in a few hours, and to present the results to central agencies on the ground in real time. It is possible to collect imagery through cloud cover or in the dark, and to show colour, movement, or changes over time.

Canada should seize this opportunity to provide effective overhead surveillance of her own sparsely inhabited territory and its sea approaches. We should expand NORAD so as to join with the United States in more extended protection of the security of North America against terrorism. And effective overhead surveillance of our own country could pay many dividends for domestic objectives such as preservation of sovereignty and development of the Canadian North.

George Lindsey

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