

maintain a deep interest in European affairs and exemplifies the interdependence of Europe and North America.

NATO security also extends to North America where, through a series of bilateral arrangements between Canada and the US, Canada contributes to the protection of the North American area of NATO through the auspices of the Canada-United States Regional Planning Group, one of the original four planning groups established by the Defence Committee in 1949.

North American defence. The foundations for the mutual defence of North America are rooted in the Ogdensburg Declaration of 1940 and the formation of the Permanent Joint Board of Defence in that same year which established the framework for Canada/United States defence co-operation. Through a series of bilateral agreements signed over the past 46 years, Canada participates with the United States in the protection of the North American landmass, off-shore waters and aerospace approaches. The best known of these agreements is the North American Air Defence (NORAD) agreement in effect since 1959. Under this agreement, the Commander-in-Chief NORAD is responsible to the United States joint chiefs of staff and the Canadian chief of the defence staff. Through the agreement, Canada participates in aerospace surveillance and warning, active air defence, command and control, and measures designed to protect the deterrent capacity of the United States.

21.8.3 The Canadian forces

The Canadian forces are organized to reflect the major commitments assigned by the government. All forces devoted to a primary mission are grouped under a single commander. Specifically, the Canadian forces are formed into National Defence Headquarters and five major commands reporting to the chief of the defence staff.

Maritime command. All Canadian maritime forces are under the commander, maritime command (headquarters, Halifax, NS). The commander, maritime forces Pacific (headquarters, Esquimalt, BC) exercises operational control over assigned maritime forces in the Pacific. The role of maritime command is the surveillance and control of the sea approaches of the three oceans bordering Canada, and the provision of combat-ready ships in support of Canada's commitment to NATO and continental defence. The commander, maritime command is also the commander of the Canadian Atlantic sub-area of the western Atlantic command, under the supreme

commander, allied command Atlantic. Additional roles are to support Canadian military operations as required; to conduct search and rescue operations in the Halifax and Victoria search and rescue regions (the Atlantic provinces, British Columbia and the surrounding ocean areas); and to carry out regional commitments in these areas.

Increased surface and air resources have been devoted to the surveillance and control of waters of Canadian economic interest, particularly in support of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. A multitude of ships are identified each year and many are boarded by officers of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, assisted by Canadian military personnel.

The naval reserve is organized in 19 divisions across Canada and provides support for maritime command at sea and ashore.

Mobile command. The role of mobile command is to provide land forces trained and equipped for the protection of Canadian territory, to maintain operational readiness of combat formations in Canada required for overseas commitments, and to support United Nations or other peacekeeping operations.

The forces assigned include a brigade group in the West (headquarters, Calgary, Alta.) a brigade group in the East (headquarters, Valcartier, Que.) and a special service force consisting of air-portable elements (headquarters, Petawawa, Ont.). The command also provides troops to the United Nations force in Cyprus.

The militia is one of the oldest institutions in Canada, dating back to the late 17th century. Command of the militia is exercised by the commander, mobile command. Its role is to augment the regular forces in peace and war. The militia is organized under five area headquarters and 22 militia districts. There are a total of 117 major units and 14 minor units.

Air command. The role of air command is to provide operationally ready regular and reserve air forces to meet Canada's national, continental and international commitments, and to carry out regional commitments within the Prairie region — Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba as well as the northwest part of Ontario. Air command (headquarters, Winnipeg, Man.) consists of the following functional groups: fighter group, air transport group, and maritime air group, 10 tactical air group, 14 training group, and air reserve group.

Fighter group (headquarters, North Bay, Ont.) provides the air defence forces required to enforce