



The Anglican Church of Canada L'Église anglicane du Canada

600 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2J6

May 23, 2003

The Honourable Bill Graham, P.C., M.P.
 Minister of Foreign Affairs
 House of Commons
 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
 Fax. 613-996-9607 OR 613-996-3443

Dear Mr. Graham,

We write on behalf of the Anglican Church of Canada to express our alarm at the threat of weaponization of space that the US Missile Defense system poses, and we urge the Government of Canada not to support or participate in such a system. Further, we repeat our request that Ottawa initiate an international treaty conference for the purpose of negotiating a space preservation treaty with appropriate mechanisms for enforcing it.

The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada has already called on the Government of Canada to take a strong stand against the US National Missile Defense, to refuse Canadian participation in it, and to work for a treaty to ban the weaponization of space in which NMD is the first step. It is our belief that space can and should be kept as the common peaceful heritage of the world.

We communicated these requests in a letter to the Prime Minister dated November 12, 2002, copied to you and to the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable John McCallum. Minister McCallum sent a reply dated December 16, 2002, in which he confirmed that Canada's long-standing policy is to "oppose the weaponization of space, which is defined as the deployment of weapons in space." He also asserted that the US has not yet decided what types of missile defence system it will deploy, "nor has it indicated whether the deployment of weapons in space will form part of a ballistic missile defence architecture."

We are grateful that the Government of Canada has taken a strong position against the weaponization of space. However, in our view, Minister McCallum's claim that USMD does not involve space weaponization, echoed in a statement you made recently, is false. Space weaponization is not a Jules Verne science fiction fantasy. It is a reality, plainly spelled out in US documents:

- *Vision for 2020*, the mission statement of the US Space Command, says, "NMD will evolve into a mix of ground and space sensors and weapons", making a clear link between missile defence and space weaponization.
- The national security review document, signed by President Bush last September, reinforces this linkage.
- The US Missile Defense Agency issued a fact sheet in March 2002, "Boost Phase Missile Defense". The fact sheet specifies space-based lasers and space-based kinetic energy "kill vehicles" as technologies for dealing with "safe havens", regions where missiles are out of

reach to earth-based interceptors. The object of research and development work in this area is "product line decisions in the next two or three years that would deliver useful initial boost defense capability by 2010, either from a mobile sea-based or space-based platform." The fact sheet refers to the testing of a sea-based kill vehicle designed to create intercept capability by 2006, and concludes, "This activity will simultaneously support a space-based experiment (SBX) using a space-based kinetic energy kill vehicle."

- The US Missile Defense Agency further states, "We will begin developing a space-based kinetic energy interceptor in FY04 [fiscal year 2004], with initial, on-orbit testing to commence with three to five satellites [in 2008/9]."

It is unmistakable to us that space weaponization is indeed linked to missile defence and is indeed being sought. We therefore urge the Government of Canada to maintain its opposition to weapons in outer space, to open its eyes to these US military designs for space, and not to enter into a Missile Defense agreement with the US.

We have proposed before, and consider it more important than ever, that the Government of Canada reassert its leadership and credibility in the international community by initiating and coordinating an Ottawa process that will engage other nations in an international treaty conference for negotiating and signing a space preservation treaty. Such a treaty would ban space weapons and establish an independent outer space peacekeeping agency that would provide for effective verification and enforcement of the ban.

As people of faith, we do not speak of "kill vehicles" or "space based experimentation". We speak a different language. We pray daily that God's will be done, "on earth as it is in heaven". Space, or "the heavens", represents to us the horizons of unexplored possibilities. Space, or "the commons", represents to us something sacred and shared, to which all earth-creatures have title and access. When space is regarded as a realm for killing, when it is treated as a site for establishing military rule, or a locus for raining down death and destruction, we fear our very spirit is diminished and our humanity threatened.

In your reply to us, we would like to see answers to some of these questions prepared by Mr. John Godfrey, Member of Parliament from your party, namely:

- What specific role is Canada considering playing in National Missile Defense?
- Would joining National Missile Defense diminish Canada's capacity to take a leadership role in restoring multilateralism, promoting nuclear disarmament, etc?
- On what basis does Canada assert that the US has no plans to weaponize space?
- If the US government does weaponize space, would our government withdraw from NMD? How?

Sincerely,

Archdeacon Jim Boyles, General Secretary
The Anglican Church of Canada

Copy to The Hon. John McCallum

Minister
of Foreign Affairs



Ministre
des Affaires étrangères

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

The Honourable L'honorable
Bill Graham P.C., Q.C., M.P., c.p., c.r., député

*copied to
Maylana
July 7/03*

JUL - 2 2003

JUL 07 2003

The Venerable Archdeacon Jim Boyles
General Secretary
The Anglican Church of Canada
600 Jarvis Street
Toronto, Ontario
M4Y 2J6

Dear Archdeacon:

Thank you for your letter of May 23, 2003, on behalf of the Anglican Church of Canada, concerning possible Canadian participation in missile defence.

Canada and the United States have a long history of partnership in the defence of North America. It is a fundamental pillar of the relationship between the two countries. Our partnership is unique: nowhere else in the world do officers of two sovereign countries operate in the mutual defence of those countries in a single command structure as Canadian and American officers do in the binational North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD).

It is on the foundation of this binational cooperation that on May 29, 2003, the Government announced that it would enter into discussions with the United States on possible Canadian participation in the ballistic missile defence of North America with the aim of protecting Canadians, Canadian territory and other Canadian interests. This declaration followed careful consideration of the U.S. administration's announcement in December 2002 that it will deploy an initial missile defence system in the fall of 2004, bringing the concept into reality.

We believe that it is a fundamental responsibility of the Government to look into options that could enhance the safety and security of Canadians. However, while we believe that missile defence has the potential to benefit Canada, any participation would not be unconditional. It is our responsibility to ensure that any arrangement protects our national interests. This will be at the forefront of our discussions. The Government will not make a final decision until after these discussions have concluded.

Canada has a comprehensive approach to ballistic missile proliferation, which is based on the following: engaging diplomatically with potential ballistic missile proliferators; promoting multilateral arms control mechanisms; and examining the employment of defensive capabilities. Through this approach, Canada is actively seeking to address the threats posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and missile technology, in a manner that respects

Canada's longstanding policies on arms control and strategic stability - including Canada's opposition to the weaponization of space, as articulated in the April 1999 Government Statement on Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.

Canada is a founding member of the Missile Technology Control Regime established in 1987 as a means to counter the threat of weapons of mass destruction proliferation by controlling the transfer of missile equipment, material and related technologies. Canada was also instrumental in the development of the 2002 Hague Code of Conduct against ballistic missile proliferation - the first multilateral agreement which establishes principles and confidence building measures regarding ballistic missiles and related activities.

Complementing these efforts to halt the proliferation and use of missile delivery systems. Canada remains active in working to control the development and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that could be employed as warheads for such weapons. The Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty forms the foundation of Canada's nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation policy and Canada continues to play an active role in strengthening this important cornerstone of strategic stability.

Current U.S. missile defence plans do not involve the weaponization of space for the 2004-2005 deployment. However, we are watching developments in the United States very closely and raise our concerns about the possible weaponization of space regularly. The issue of space weaponization is still hotly debated in the United States.

I appreciate you sharing your views on missile defence. Rest assured that no final decision to participate in missile defence will be taken unless the interests of Canadians are protected and our concerns are addressed.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,



Bill Graham

*P.S. Congratulations for all you wrote on the
residential schools file. The position taken
by the Church is much appreciated here.*