

could mean the collapse of arms control. There was little Canada could do, said Hagen, to influence the direction of American strategic doctrine, but any efforts at lobbying by Canada would be more productive if pursued immediately while the policy and programmes were still in flux. Hagen warned that the Canadian response would be hindered by the demonstrated reluctance of Canadian officials to engage in long-term analysis and strategic planning.

Albert Legault, Professor of Political Science at Laval University, responded to Mr. Hagen's paper. He said that he was more optimistic than Mr. Hagen about the future of arms control, but arms control negotiations were always played out in the context of crisis situations all over the world. Whether treaties did or did not get signed was often dependent on other events. Professor Legault cited, as examples of this, the Limited Test Ban Treaty, signed in the wake of the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the SALT II Treaty, which the United States had refused to ratify after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. He agreed, however, with Mr. Hagen's point that there was little that Canada could do in the competition between the superpowers.

Professor Legault characterized the Yonas/Garwin exchange over Star Wars as a debate between two priests, Yonas upholding the cult of technology, and Garwin condemning the futile search for technical solutions to what are essentially political problems. Professor Legault said that he found himself closer to the middle position put forward by Alton Frye: we could not stop research in the labs and we probably could not prevent strategic defence systems from being installed, but we must "impose a process of regulation" on this new technological thrust. Economic considerations might give rise to pressure for regulation. In 1960, the United States had possessed 40 percent of the world's gross national product (GNP), whereas now they had only 24 percent. By 2000 AD their share might be down to 18 percent. Under those conditions, neither the United States nor the Soviet Union could seriously consider dominating the world.

What was Canada to do? Legault admitted that it was going to have some problems. Canada would face pressure from the United States, but Canada had always had a remarkable capacity to withstand American pressures. If the United States developed an anti-missile defence which was purely conventional, Canadians would have to choose whether it would be better to have the fallout from interception above Canada or to ensure that interception was carried out as far north as possible?