

### III. DEFENSE ISSUES

It appeared that approximately half the participants in each group were aware of plans to improve the DEW line. Most of the participants were in favour of seeing these improvements go ahead because they seemed to view it as a "defensive" rather than "offensive" move. Some of the few who did not feel modernization of the DEW line was necessary claimed that the money could be put to better use elsewhere in Canada (e.g., job creation) and others argued that in light of "Star Wars technology," the DEW line may be totally obsolete before very long.

Most of the participants believed the DEW line contributes significantly to Canada's defense; this belief likely produced the general feeling that Canada and the U.S. should share the cost of updating the DEW line, with Canada paying a smaller portion of the amount than the U.S. based on a per capita assumption. A few participants argued that Canada should not contribute to the cost because any enemy attacks will be directed at the U.S. and therefore the DEW line is really only for their protection.

The participants recognized the benefits to Canada that would arise from our involvement in the modernization of the DEW line: a sense of security, the creation of jobs, a feeling of "good will" between Canada and the U.S., and most felt Canada should demand procurement benefits, in proportion to the amount of money Canada was spending.