

## Software assumptions false

Professor David Parnas (Department of Computer Science, University of Victoria). Professor Parnas, who resigned from a U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO), served as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Defense for nearly 14 years.

He questioned the validity of basing assumptions and positions on SDI software. He said it was very unlikely that software could be constructed to function as required in the SDI program. Even if this were done, no one with experience in military software would trust the proposed system enough to abandon other defensive systems.

Professor Parnas said it was not necessary to enter into "an ill-conceived and fraudulent military make-work program" in order to challenge Canada's community of high-tech professionals. Other areas where the same talents to challenge them could be applied -- protecting the border, protecting fisheries and forests, guarding against terrorism and protecting ships against missiles.

## Job creation minimal

British Columbia Federation of Labour (Art Kube, president) said it was unalterably opposed to any participation by Canada. "Canadians should not participate in that insanity..."

The group said the only deterrent to nuclear war was the elimination of nuclear weapons, not the increase of nuclear weapons' capacity to destroy. With all of the issues facing the world, it was incredible that Canada should consider participation in increasing "the technology of slaughter."