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In a wide-ranging discussion the following issues emerged: Canadian foreign policy -- its perception at home and from abroad, Canada's arms sales/exports and production, the independence of Canadian foreign policy and Canada's influence over the U.S., appropriate models for development, Canada's role and programmes for development and economic redistribution and the effect of millitarism in the Third World.

In discussing the nature of the Disarmament/Development relationship; several participants cautioned that the issues should not be oversimplified. The problem was viewed as a global one encompassing many different dimensions and should not be focussed too closely on any single item or issue. It was suggested that disarmament was only a "symptom" of the problem and that it was more important to identify the causes and to treat them appropriately. For example, it was suggested that the world recognize the effect of historical tensions in the Mid-East and work actively to resolve these longstanding problems. Second, it was recommended that the West pay more attention to Soviet proposals and initiatives. It was suggested that the basic problem remained that of human nature which would have to change if a more peaceful world was to evolve. As well, the world would have to develop a new global philosophy which would encompass all religions and ideologies.

In discussing Canadian foreign policy, Canada was perceived as being "revolutionary abroad and conservative at home." It was suggested that Canada needed to develop a more independent foreign policy if it was to have an audible and influential voice in the international scene.

It was noted that Canada's foreign policy was widely viewed as being intimately linked to that of the U.S. on major international issues. Thus it appeared to some, as in the recent example of the U.S. attack on Libya, that the U.S. and Canada speak with one voice. It was strongly suggested that Canada strike a more independent position on important issues.

Many believed that the U.S. was deliberately isolating itself from world opinion and Canada was cautioned and advised to distance itself from U.S. policies. Whilst it was recognized that there were difficulties in Canada working independently, Canada was repeatedly urged to take courageous initatives and to use persuasiveness and diplomacy to encourage nations to more fully participate in the multilateral world.