

Clyde Sanger, a Canadian correspondent for the *Guardian* and the *Economist*, pointed out that in Canada there were no journalists (with the possible exception of John Walker) who specialized in defence and foreign policy issues. To support this contention, he pointed out that the Editor-in-Chief of the *Globe and Mail* rotated people through Ottawa every three years. Mr. Sanger said that this was a serious shortcoming among Canadian journalists. At the Carleton School of Journalism, where he lectured, he encouraged students to consider concentrating on a specific field. A related point made by Mr. Sanger was that newspapers tended to cover high-profile, "spot events", such as a skyjacking or hostage taking, rather than covering peace and security issues on an ongoing basis.

Mr. Honerich responded that the *Toronto Star* did have a defence specialist who focused on specific issues. However, he agreed with Mr. Sanger's point that, in general, newspaper reporters were not specialists. He contrasted this with the situation in Washington, where there were journalists who have covered the White House, the Pentagon and the State Department for decades. The result was that they were able to couch current issues in a much broader perspective. In response to Mr. Sanger's other point, that newspapers followed "events" rather than "trends", Mr. Honerich pointed out that disarmament activists in Canada had had some influence over recent editorial decision-making. By convincing editors that peace and security issues were of interest to a large number of people, they had prompted the assignment of journalists to cover this area in greater depth.

Ann Adelson emphasized the fact that, although the panel session was called "Citizens and Government", the discussion had centred on the role of the media. There was a gap, she said, between citizens and the government, and somehow the media had been assigned the role of intermediary. In general, governments set the agenda and the terms of debate on defence and foreign policy, and the media often simply fell into line, putting people into one or another of the defined categories. She took up a point raised earlier: many people saw these issues in terms which are different from the set agenda. Somehow, she said, those people who did not see the situation as "win/lose" but as a problem shared by all, must change that agenda.