

likelihood that BMD will be effective only if there are deep cuts in offensive systems, pressure to negotiate acceptable limits on both BMD and offensive systems will probably increase. Success in this area will, however, require that greater attention be focussed on the air breathing threat (i.e. bombers and cruise missiles) and perhaps on the defences to counter it.

One of Canada's long-standing goals has been a comprehensive test ban (CTB) but the opposition of both the United States and the Soviet Union has in the past rendered its accomplishment problematical at best. Now the more cooperative attitude of the superpowers may hold out the prospect that some progress at least can be made in that direction.

Perhaps the most dangerous threat to world peace and security in the foreseeable future is nuclear proliferation, when nuclear weapons and their delivery systems get into hands which are not subject to the restraints which operate on the five-nuclear powers (USA, USSR, Britain, France and China). That time could come in the next decade. It is to be hoped that in the meantime substantial reductions of their nuclear arsenals by the existing nuclear weapons states will ease pressures for horizontal proliferation by present non-adherents to the NPT.

#### Importance to Canada

There are few if any direct implications for Canada in recent arms control developments that do not apply to other countries as well. All states in the international system stand to suffer if the military rivalry is mismanaged.