

Funds allotted to SDI research in Canada would only create 300 jobs but that 1,000-1,500 jobs could be created in education, health and home construction programs. It could also go toward "good" outer space technology like the satellite systems used to broadcast the Live Aid concert. The council appealed to Parliament to pass a law that would make Canada a nuclear-free zone.

Soviets pose threat

The Schiller Institute (Guy Huard) said that Canada and other American allies should be part of the Strategic Defense Initiative because the Soviet Union poses a very near and real threat to our security. According to Mr. Huard, the Soviets are refurbishing their economic and military programs. They are updating their arsenal of nuclear weapons while restructuring the economy in the name of defence. They are also trying to "slowly and surely Finlandize the rest of Western Europe," said Mr. Huard. "They are planning strategies against us. Terrorism is on our doorsteps."

Canada should join the U.S. in SDI and encourage other NATO allies to do so because without installing this military system we are jeopardizing the world.

Canada has much to offer in the way of laser technology and it would be a boon economically to contribute to the program, perhaps even creating our own NASA, Mr. Huard concluded.

SDI creates bad atmosphere

Dr. Don Bates (Physicians for Social Responsibility, Montreal Chapter) said that arms control is far from satisfactory but it cannot be improved, enhanced or replaced by "torpedoing" it with SDI.