- 3. DND, through its contemporary communication strategy, has succeeded in attracting the attention of Canadians to its White Paper. It may well be that the Government as a whole and the Department of External Affairs need to formulate and implement a communication policy which would enable foreign policy and ACD statements to attract wide attention. For example when it was pointed out that Canada contributes only 2.2% of GNP to defence, that 94 countries spend more than we do in this area, many seemed to be taken aback.
- 4. While Canadians realize the value of the Washington Summit and the elimination of an entire class of nuclear weapons, they have high hopes that, in the very near future, agreements will be reached to limit strategic nuclear weapons, to conclude a chemical weapons treaty, and to reduce the level of conventional troops and armaments in Europe.
- 5. Audiences were gratified to hear of the high standing Canada enjoys at the United Nations, but some voiced a fear that our image might be tarnished by the DND White Paper.
- 6. At almost every public forum, questions were raised concerning how members of the public could become more involved in ACD matters. It appears as if there is still potential to be realized. The question of special roles for women and older people was also raised.
- 7. The efforts and accomplishments of the Ambassador for Disarmament were appreciated and he was exhorted to be firmer and more direct in his dealing with the PM and SSEA. Few Canadians appeared to know that the office of Ambassador for Disarmament, as organized in Canada, is unique in the world. Also, few seemed to know that the Canadian government-citizen consultative mechanisms were virtually unique as well.
- 8. The tour was of value, it accomplished its aims. It ought to be continued on a yearly basis and perhaps be longer, with more emphasis placed on educational institutions and such community organizations as service clubs and women's groups. Continued valuable personnel assistance to the Ambassador should be provided by the Arms Control and Disarmament Division, and the Canadian Permanent Mission to the U.N.