

There was some discussion given to the question of private vs. public diplomacy. It was believed that the Government was falling back on the excuse of quiet diplomacy because it was, in reality, unwilling to take difficult positions and offer determined direction on foreign policy matters. There was a perception by the Canadian people of an inconsistency between private and public actions eg. whilst Canada has an open and declared policy on a CTB, we were silent on the moratorium issue. It was believed that the positive results of the example set by a more forward position, for example support of a moratorium, would far outweigh the negative response Canada would receive from the U.S. Canada was therefore encouraged to take open and declared policies and to establish clear, firm positions which were backed-up by concrete actions.

In closing the discussion, two major points were made: first, on Canadian foreign policy, it was stressed that Canada would have to establish proper policies to deal with our position which made us geographically and strategically one of the most important pieces of territory in the world.

Second, on Disarmament and Development, it was reaffirmed that the answers and solutions to these problems do not simply rest with government. There was a recognised and important ongoing role for NGOs. Canada was encouraged to continue its support of NGOs and to consider assisting NGO representatives from developing countries to attend the Paris conference as well as helping to fund a Canadian NGO presence at the Paris conference.

Participants:

Prof. Louis O'Neil	- Université Laval
Paul Cappon	- Centre for Nuclear Disarmament and Community Health Montreal General Hospital
Prof. Michel Fortmann	- McGill University
John Verigin Jr.	- Operation Dismantle
Katheryn Anderson	- United Church International Affairs Committee
Michel Bourbonnais	- Federation of Military & United Services Institute of Canada
Philip Ehrensaft	- Université de Québec à Montréal
Dr. Donald Bates	- McGill Study Group for Peace and Disarmament
Lt.Col. F. Fournier	- Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies
Dorothy Rosenberg	- Voice of Women
Maj.the Rev. A.E. Gans	- Canadian Institute for Strategic Studies
Prof. Jean-Guy Vaillancourt	- Department of Sociology, University of Montreal
Ann Gertler	- Voice of Women
Ms. Joan Hadrill	- West Islanders for nuclear disarmament