

APPENDIX F  
This conclusion is that the Committee should firmly recommend that the Canadian Government decline the American invitation, for the following reasons. The SDI program could have a destabilizing effect on the international strategic environment, could lead to a major escalation of the Arms Race, to an erosion of the AMB and other Arms Control Treaties, and Canada's participation would impede our ability to play an effective role as a peacemaker.

In addition there are very real questions as to whether the envisaged SDI system is even feasible. On the issue of job creation, the evidence provided to the Committee discredited the notion that there would be significant employment benefits to Canada. These points are further explained in the Liberal Task Force Interim Report on SDI.

A qualified rejection of the American invitation would have received the careful consideration of the Liberal members. However with no decision on SDI, any further discussion of alternatives, such as a Canadian space program or other initiatives aimed at strengthening Canadian sovereignty, while extremely important, cannot be considered by the Committee. At this time, decisions on this subject are not appropriate. They should be addressed after the Committee fulfills its mandate on Canadian participation in SDI.