

research serving U.S. military interests and reassert Canada's interest in peace.

The Voice of Women discounted common rationalizations for SDI in terms of job creation and the argument about making the Soviet Union more willing to negotiate. The project was essentially capital-intensive. And the concept about prodding the Soviets had never worked in the past.

The VOW urged the committee to resist further militarization of the North and further erosion of Canadian sovereignty by increasing dependence on American military and economic policy.

Project Ploughshares (Pictou County Group - Anthony Law) opposed SDI because its deployment would markedly increase uncertainty, insecurity and instability -- and hence the danger of nuclear war. Moreover, it said, SDI would risk overturning various efforts aimed at arms control. Mr. Law proposed that the Canadian government reject SDI and forbid private participation in the endeavour.

Restricted participation suggested

Professor Joel Sokolsky (Dalhousie University) suggested that Canada should not at this time oppose the research development phase of SDI, but should withhold final judgement while monitoring its progress.

Private firms, he said, should be allowed to bid on SDI contracts in Canada. But government funding should be restricted. Where a particular aspect of SDI research, such as space-based surveillance and warning, contributes to Canadian needs, some funds should be made available, Professor Sokolsky said.