

defensive weapons would lead both superpowers to greater reliance on the cruise and other "stealth" technology.

Few other countries could match Canada's expertise in the technology that would be required to develop a satellite monitoring agency under the United Nations. This would be an essential precondition for a more effective international peace effort.

"In this way Canada could promote the development of its space and high tech industries while contributing to a valuable component of a global common security system."

Safeguards for sovereignty

D.G. Newman (President, Cametoid Ltd.) urged the Committee to support Canada's involvement in SDI while seeking prudent safeguards to respect Canadian sovereignty in a true partnership with the United States. Mr. Newman felt that Canada's participation was important not only in a strategic sense but in terms of deriving the benefits of the coming spurt in technology linked to the SDI program. "SDI is not merely a military strategy; it is a true national strategy addressing the legitimate economic and political aspirations of the United States as well as its security needs."

Computer reliability questioned

David Horwood (Institute for the Peaceful Uses of Technology) argued that computer scientists largely agree that if SDI is deployed, it would be controlled and driven by the largest, most complex system ever designed or built -- and that this computer-dependent system is certain to be unreliable.