

and the CBC, show very few Canadians in favour of decreased defence spending. Attitudes appear roughly evenly divided between favouring increased and maintaining current spending levels. However, fewer Canadians express support for increased military spending if that means either reduced social spending or increased personal income taxes.

### NATO

Canadians are, and have long been, firm supporters of the NATO alliance and Canada's participation in it. Approval of the alliance has typically been substantial since the NATO treaty was signed in 1949, and there is no evident current trend toward a decline. A recent Goldfarb survey found 85% supporting continued Canadian participation in NATO, and those more interested in and more knowledgeable about international affairs tended to be most supportive. It also found three in four Canadians believe that a military balance in Western Europe is necessary to offset Soviet power. Perhaps paradoxically, these levels of support in principle are not matched by a broad awareness or understanding about NATO. About four in ten Canadians consistently deny "having heard or read anything" about it. And a significant proportion—albeit a minority—of those who claim some knowledge of NATO are usually unable to explain the organization's purpose.

### CRUISE MISSILE TESTING

One of the most controversial defence issues in the last several years has concerned the testing of the US cruise missile over northern Canada. A series of questions asked by various survey organizations suggests that Canadians overall remain roughly evenly divided for and against this testing. The only trend or change has been a very slight shift toward fewer voicing objections. A May 1985 Gallup poll found 45% in favour of Canada permitting the cruise tests and 45% in opposition. The proportion