

SSEA: I think it makes sense in terms both of what we believe the Soviets are doing and in terms of the fact that there are negotiations now in progress in Geneva in which the SDI question is an issue.

Q: So it's a means of forcing the Soviet Union, their feet in the fire, as it were, during any of the negotiations in Geneva?

SSEA: One can't ignore the fact that the negotiations are going on and that, undoubtedly, that they weren't going on before the Strategic Defence Initiative was proposed. But the really important question and fact is that, to the best of our knowledge, which is pretty good, the Soviets are conducting a kind of research now that if it occurred in the United States it would be called research into strategic defence.

Q: What about the very broad and strategic questions?

SB: Gentlemen, that's enough.

Q: What is your position on that? That it be a good idea to go for space-based defence program?

SSEA: We can't answer that until we know if it works and that's what we're trying ... that's what we're looking at.



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