50 percent believed it had decreased and 35 percent felt it had stayed the same. The Soviet Union was thought slightly more likely than the United States to begin a nuclear war deliberately--with 22 percent support versus 21 percent. However, the United States was thought more likely to begin an accidental nuclear war--30 percent versus 17 percent. By a margin of 61 percent to 32 percent, respondents believed a nuclear war was more likely to begin accidentally, than deliberately. Fifty percent of respondents felt Soviet leader Gorbachev had done the most for peace over the past few years, while 24 percent believed President Reagan had done the most, (16 percent felt that both had worked toward peace). Finally, the United States was thought by 43 percent of respondents, and the Soviet Union by 36 percent, to contribute more to political instability.

The CIIPS poll asked many questions pertaining to international affairs in general, some of which are summarized below. Asked which situation posed the greatest threat to world peace, 5 percent of respondents identified Soviet actions on the international scene; 11 percent, US actions; 23 percent, the superpower arms race; 32 percent, the spread of nuclear arms to smaller countries; 24 percent, the Middle East situation; and 4 percent, conflicts elsewhere in the world.

Five percent of those polled believed that a nuclear war was very likely within the next twenty-five years; 25 percent believed it likely; 56 percent, unlikely; and 14 percent, very unlikely. Asked whether the chances of nuclear war breaking out were greater, less, or the same, as ten years ago, 27 percent felt that they were greater, 47 percent that they were less, and 26 percent that they were the same.

Fifty-nine percent believed that a nuclear attack would be initiated by accident, 41 percent believed such an attack would be deliberate. Asked who they believed would be responsible for either an accidental or deliberate attack, 10 percent identified the United States; 13 percent, the Soviet Union; 32 percent, both superpowers; and 45 percent, some other country. Finally, 32 percent believed a substantial reduction in present nuclear arms levels would slow down the arms race, while 68 percent believed nations would continue to develop and produce more destructive weapons after a reduction, thereby continuing the arms race.