

research and focus on "serious" proposals that might actually make nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete.

The group said President Reagan was guilty of trying to apply pre-nuclear thinking to the nuclear age. "For better or worse, we have no option but to finally concede that nuclear weapons are so powerful and dangerous that there is no sufficiently effective technological defence against incoming missiles... There is no longer any American security without Soviet security.

The importance of participation

Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies (G.S. Bell and B.S. Macdonald) argued that Canada could not afford to remain detached from the Strategic Defense Initiative. Canadian participation in SDI was crucial to the economy, industrial strategy and improvement of its trading position with the U.S., they said.

The aim of SDI was to maintain the strategic balance and thereby assure stable deterrence. Basically it was a long-term program aimed at finding cost-effective survivable approaches to defending NATO against the threat of nuclear-armed and conventionally-armed ballistic missiles.

During the lengthy period of SDI research, Canada's concern must be to ensure its participation and technological development in this "dynamic" period.

World Federalists of Canada (Fergus Watt, Executive Director) listed several arguments that SDI would be destabilizing and said Canada should work towards creation of an international satellite monitoring agency.