

## Canadian peace skepticism

by Mark Lowe

**SASKATOON (CUP)** — Canadians are more skeptical of both the superpowers when it comes to peace and East-West relations than they were twenty years ago, according to a recent survey.

The survey was conducted by Don Munton, a political science professor at the University of British Columbia, for the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security. A questionnaire was sent to over 2,000 homes across Canada and Munton reported a response of 1,015, or 48 per cent.

"Most Canadians now perceive the policies and weaponry of both superpowers, not just the USSR, as the major problem in East-West relations," the survey concluded.

But Munton noted this does not suggest a rampant anti-Americanism. "It is not America Canadians are negative about, nor Americans. It is certain American policies."

Among the findings was that a quarter of Canadians view the su-

perpower arms race as the greatest threat to world peace, while 29 per cent thought the spread of nuclear weapons to smaller countries was most serious, and 28 per cent blamed the situation in the Middle East. Only a small number considered Soviet or U.S. actions to be the most dangerous.

While most respondents (52 per cent) felt Soviet-American relations had remained about the same in the past two or three years, more believed they had improved (35 per cent) than saw deterioration (14 per cent). A follow up question indicated about 50 per cent of respondents thought that both countries were responsible for improvement and blamed the US if they felt there was deterioration.

The survey also showed slightly more Canadians believed there is 'much danger' of a nuclear war (55 per cent) and more thought the danger had increased from ten years ago (31 per cent). The survey compared these results to a similar survey done in 1971 and found the

number considering the likelihood of nuclear war to have more than doubled over ten years.

About 56 per cent thought of Canada as being neutral between the superpowers, despite Canada's involvement in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and 57 per cent supported the idea of Canada becoming a nuclear-free zone.

But the survey also found that though Canadians seem to be in favour of nuclear arms control, they are not against armed defence in general.

In his conclusion, Munton said growing suspicion of American policy should not be blamed entirely on the Reagan era, and the recent Intermediate Nuclear Forces agreement would probably result in a more positive view of both sides.

"These attitudes, distinctly post-cold war and post-deterente in nature, seem destined to play a continuing and key role in future policy debates within Canada and the Western alliance," said Munton.



### No! This meeting is for Gateway staff!

But we need *you* to show up for some important stuff, such as:

Editor elections  
CUP reform update  
Computer news  
Joke issue discussion  
Abortion supplement

Friday, March 17

1 p.m. Rm 282 SUB

### WRITING COMPETENCE PETITIONS: NOTICE TO STUDENTS

This notice is intended for students who have not met the University's writing competence requirement and whose deadline for meeting that requirement occurs on or before September 1, 1988.

If your deadline is **May 1 or July 1** and you plan to register in the Spring or Summer Session Term or in a subsequent session, you may be able to petition the GFC Writing Competence Petitions Committee (WCPC) in March provided that you are currently registered and have written the writing competence test at least once.

If your deadline is **September 1** and you plan to register in the Fall term, you may petition the WCPC in March for an extension of your deadline provided that you are currently registered and have written the writing competence test at least once.

Students are urged to seek advice on preparing their writing competence petitions. Such advice can be sought from the **Student Adviser's Office** (300 Athabasca Hall) which is offering information seminars on preparing petitions; call **432-4145** for dates and times or for an information pamphlet. Also, advice can be sought from the **Student Ombudsmen**, (Room 278, Students' Union Building 432-4689).

The regulations and procedures used by the WCPC are available in either of the above-noted offices.

Petitions must be **received** in the University Secretariat, 2-5 University Hall, **by Thursday, March 17, 1988, 4:30 p.m.**

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