

Canadian cities have also held referenda on disarmament, a project of Operation Dismantle in autumn 1983, when 116 cities voted "yes," with an overall yes vote of 76.5%. One year earlier (1982). 45 US cities voted on the freeze, with an average of 64.4% in favour. Only 4 fell below 50%. There are some explanations for the higher yes vote in Canada and the lower one in the US. It is easier for ordinary people to support disarmament (always presented as multilateral) than a specific measure like the freeze, which requires more explanation. Also, the US position as a nuclear superpower is very different from Canada's as a subordinate ally.

Cities have also passed various resolutions, such as opposing Cruise testing in Canada, opposing Star Wars, favouring a CTB, and so on.

## B. Strengthening International Organizations.

### 1. Official Plans

The most prominent governmental plan to strengthen the UN is contained in the September 1986 speech of Gorbachev. This is all the more surprising since the USSR has traditionally been the most opposed to any changes in the Charter or UN reforms.

As summarized in the 1987 Arms Control Reporter, Gorbachev proposed the following:

1. "Set up under the United Nations organization a multi-lateral center for lessening the danger of war. Evidently, it would be feasible to consider the expediency of setting up a direct communication line between the United Nations headquarters and the capitals of the countries that are permanent members of the