The B.C. labour organization said it had fought for years to initiate new job creation programs. The SDI plan, however, should not be considered in this light. The number of jobs created would be minimal and it would make no sense to put people to work developing systems of destruction.

Plans for arms control

Institute of International Relations, University of British Columbia (Dr. Douglas B. Ross, senior research associate) asserted that the program in its maximum form was "a clear threat to international security." He suggested in an Institute submission a six-part plan with the emphasis on arms control.

Among the measures advocated were these: monitoring the ABM Treaty to protest any Soviet or American violations; urging early renegotiation of the ABM Treaty to permit significant expansion of ground-based ballistic missile defence; in the event of collapse of the ABM Treaty, applying diplomatic pressure with others to limit new ballistic missile defence deployments to ground-based defensive systems only; stressing at an early date to preserve the ABM Treaty; carefully regulating and controlling any SDI sub-contracting work done in Canada so that only research on ground-based missile defence systems could be carried out in Canada; securing a House of Commons resolution making clear Canada could not envisage participating in a scheme of active air defence of North America that would be intended to provide a comprehensive and hence destabilizing air defence shield.

Critical Opposition

UBC Students for Peace and Mutual Disarmament (Chris Corless and others) urged Canada to reject any participation. The Canadian government should suport this decision by refusing to assist Canadian involvement through government grants or Defence