

[news](#)[sports](#)[today](#)[business](#)[opinion](#)[weekly sections](#)[classifieds](#)[all services](#)[LFP Home](#) | [Special Reports](#) | [Photo Gallery](#) | [Federal Election](#) | [D-Day Feature](#)

Click for your chance to win \$20,000  
& a trip for 4 to Turks & Caicos. [Foresters](#)

The London Free Press  
**NEWS**

[lfpres.com](#)  
[lfpres.com](#)  
[lfpres.com](#)

Select a guide:

## News

[School till 18 for all](#)[Workers fight back](#)[Student artist's inner beauty shone through](#)[Public debate cited as inevitable](#)[Norwich street leads pothole poll](#)[Outside workers reach deal with city](#)[Father Tony to be consecrated a bishop](#)[Besting Banting](#)[Provinces blamed for shortages](#)[Flag flap raises appreciation of vets: Harper](#)[Most Canadians against shield: poll](#)[French troops target of Ivory Coast mayhem](#)[Iran urges Bush to change approach](#)[Insurgent attacks kill more than 30](#)[Blair to be Bush's first post-election guest](#)[Saudi religious scholars urge Iraqis to support holy war](#)[Fate of medal rests with fundraiser](#)[Spaceship designers collect \\$10M](#)

# Most Canadians against shield: poll

**BILL RODGERS**, Free Press Parliamentary Bureau Chief

2004-11-07 05:13:47

OTTAWA -- Prime Minister Paul Martin could pay a heavy political price if his Grit government agrees to join the U.S. missile defence shield. Almost two-thirds of Canadians oppose such a move, according to an SES national poll conducted between Oct. 26 and Nov. 1. The survey shows only 29 per cent of Canadians support joining the American defence shield, while 58 per cent are strongly or somewhat opposed. Thirteen per cent of the 1,000 Canadians polled were undecided or unsure where they stood.

"If Martin gets too cozy with the Americans, it could drive Liberals to the NDP," SES pollster Nik Nanos said. "He has to watch his left flank."

Jack Layton and his New Democrats have mounted strong opposition to what appears to be a general willingness on the part of the Martin government to sign on to the missile defence shield.

Martin has promised to hold a debate and a vote in the House of Commons on the issue, but Defence Minister Bill Graham has said both would likely come after the government signed an agreement with the U.S.

Layton insists the PM must accept the wishes of Parliament and Canadians.

"Canadians would find it deeply disturbing if Mr. Martin were to go ahead with





missile defence even if the Parliament were to vote against it. That would be quite shocking."

Layton urged Canadians to speak out against the "weaponization" of space.

"One of the most important issues is to stop a new arms race from creating one of the most dangerous worlds we could ever imagine."

-30-

Copyright © The London Free Press 2001,2002,2003

---

#### Sections:

[News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Business](#) | [Today](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Weekly Sections](#) | [Classifieds](#)

#### Important Links:

[Place an Ad](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Become a Carrier](#) | [Email Directory](#) | [Customer Service](#)  
[Comments](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#) | [Privacy Statement](#)

**JOG YOUR  
MEMORY...  
FREE!**



**GET A FREE  
MEMORY  
UPGRADE**

on select  
Dell PCs!

Available now until  
November 11, 2004

► [CLICK FOR DETAILS](#)

**DELL** 