The independence of Iran is also in our own vital interest and that of our closest allies — and we will support it....

If others interfere (in Iran), directly or indirectly, they are on notice that this will have serious consequences and will affect our broader relationship with them.

We will not get involved in conflict between Asian Communist states. Our national interests are not directly threatened, although we are concerned at the wider implications of what has been happening....

Many nations are troubled — even threatened — by the turmoil in Southeast and Southwest Asia. To stand by our friends and help meet their security needs in these difficult times, I will consult with the Congress to determine what additional military assistance will be required. This added measure of support is crucial for stability throughout the Indian Ocean area.

And let me repeat: In the Middle East, in Southeast Asia and elsewhere in the world, we will stand by our friends — we will honor our commitments — and we will protect the vital interests of the United States....

Finally, let me put this agreement in the context of our overall relations with the Soviet Union and the turbulence that exists in many parts of the world. The question is not whether SALT can be divorced from this context. It cannot. As I have often said, our relationship with the Soviet Union is a mixture of cooperation and competition, and as President of the United States, I have no more difficult and delicate task than to balance the two. I cannot and I will not let the pressures of inevitable competition overwhelm possibilities for cooperation — anymore than I will let cooperation blind us to the realities of competition....

It is precisely because we have fundamental differences with the Soviet Union that we are determined to bring this most dangerous dimension of our military competition under control....

State acts like it's preparing for conflict

Further indication that the Carter Administration is consciously pursuing a policy of confrontation with the Soviet Union comes from deployments by the United States State Department over the past two months. During that period, the State Department has employed an extraordinary gamut of dirty tricks both to provoke the Soviets and, equally significant — to silence voices opposing a confrontationist course. Particularly significant, State has intervened vigorously to block contacts between European forces and the U.S. Labor Party, headed by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., the leading — and sole nationally prominent — U.S. figure opposing the Carter Administration's confrontation course.

Notable cases include:

Italy: U.S. Ambassador Richard Gardner is heavily involved in the collapse of the Andreotti government. In an interview on Italian television Dec. 29, Gardner announced his intention to force a collapse over the issue of Communist participation in the government. "There will be a government collapse within January," said Gardner, "the PCI cannot join the government . . . . That is Brzezinski's foreign policy." To show the extent of his influence, Gardner further suggested that he and President Carter engineered the 1978 Italian government crisis over the same issue. Since then, Gardner has become involved in a public scandal involving U.S. demands that Italy stop hunting terrorists and devote more attention to spying on the Soviet Union (see COUNTERINTELLIGENCE).

Afghanistan: Warren Christopher, the Assistant Secretary of State, second only to Cyrus Vance, last week openly spread misinformation about the assassination of the U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan. Christopher accused the Soviet Union of substantial responsibility for the murder of U.S. Ambassador Dobs in a meeting with Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin.

Christopher's accusation was later exposed as false by the reports of the U.S. embassy in Afghanistan itself. The Afghani government had clearly indicated that the Soviets played no role in the tragedy, it was later revealed. But this did not stop Christopher from using the false report to further the deteriorating relations between the U.S. and USSR.

At the same time, the State Department is illegally harassing the European Labor Party and the U.S. Labor Party. Both parties have led international organizing in support of the European Monetary System of West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and French President Giscard d'Estaing. This is the proper context for the State Department's part in disseminating lies that both organizations are "KGB agents," "Russians," or "crazy cults" to West German, Italian, and Arab officials.

U.S. counterforce posture: calculated madness

Anyway you cut it, U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown's newly adopted military doctrine — the counterforce doctrine — is sheer lunacy. The change in the Carter Administration's policy was leaked by British journalist Richard Burt in the New York Times Feb. 10, just as Brown had arrived for his provocative tour of the Middle East.

The doctrine — which targets Soviet missile silos, military installations, and other military targets and concentrated forces — is, in reality, a nuclear-war-losing strategy. It would be wrong, however, not to recognize that there is an evil method to Brown's madness.

West Germany

• A close collaborator of the ELP within the Christian Democratic Party (CDU) reported that the U.S. Embassy in Bonn was calling CDU members to demand that they stop conferring with the party.

• A member of the CDU used a Russian name to refer to an Executive Intelligence Review correspondent when approached for comments.

Brussels

• An Arab official gave the ELP a copy of a slanderous report given to him by the International Documentation Center, in Washington, D.C.

Italy

• Leading Christian Democratic Party members have informed the ELP that they have been approached by the U.S. Embassy to warn them against collaborating with the ELP.

• A caller to the U.S. consulate in Milan got the following information from then vice-consul Mr. Whiteman Jan 25: "(the ELP) is a cult, like every cult, they recruit from the petit bourgeoisie in Italy and Europe" . . . The U.S. embassy in Rome claimed the ELP was a "bunch of crazies" and referred questioners to the Israeli embassy for more information.

The real purpose of Brown's sudden adoption of counterforce doctrine in the present world crisis is not the actual preparation for a first strike against the Soviet Union or a refined deterrent in anticipation of a Soviet attack. Counterforce has nothing to do with a traditional military posture at all. The shift to counterforce is a signal to the Soviet Union that the United States has fully embarked on Henry Kissinger's political madness doctrine of psychological warfare, a doctrine devised at Harvard with Daniel Ellsberg in the 1950s. The object is to throw the opponent into a frenzied state of fear and passive nonaction.

"We're crazier than you are"

The question is why is the Carter Administration adopting this nuclear policy posture of madness and brinkmanship unpredictability? Because the central thrust of the British monarchy's International Monetary Fund and World Bank dictates that the United States be enabled to launch — with impunity — regional wars fought by surrogates and-or mercenaries and simultaneously break the back of the forces behind the European Monetary System. This is to be done in behalf of the looting rights of the IMF and Robert McNamara's World Bank.

According to the insane British geopolitical doctrine, of which the counterforce doctrine is merely an extension, any framework for world peace and development established through a series of agreements among France, West Germany, and the Soviet Union must be crushed if the British colonial, IMF-World Bank mechanisms and depopulation policies are to survive. The combination of Britain's genocidal policies and the British Round Table doctrines for a geopolitical encirclement of the Soviet Union would turn the entire developing sector and, shortly thereafter, the more advanced industrial nations into permanent regions of destabilization, where coups, riots, terrorism, and bloodbaths reign supreme.

In short, Brown and his Anglophile supporters — Kissinger, Brzezinski, Schlesinger, and Turner — expect that the counterforce big-bluff madness — "we are crazier than you are and will do anything" — will enable them to pull off their plans to return the world to the Dark Ages. Counterforce, in the minds of these berzerkers, equals economic warfare against industrial and scientific progress.

In reality, as events are demonstrating daily, these goals contain an inherent miscalculation that leads to thermonuclear confrontation and a disastrous defeat for the