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EIR

From the Editor-in-Chief

The Carter administration seems to have committed itself to a path of global confrontation with the Soviet Union. From grain embargos and trade cut-offs to arms for China and Pakistan, the policies of the administration add up to a "flight forward" into not only Cold War but perhaps Hot War. The current prevailing illusion in Washington is that this "get tough" posture will call the Soviets' "bluff."

Our contention, from the intelligence available to us, is that the empty hand is on this side of the global poker table, the other side knows it, and a continuation of what is now proven a failed strategic policy can lead ultimately only to total disaster. This week our Special Report focuses on a fact which has been almost completely covered up in the U.S. press: that our major European and Japanese allies agree with our assessment.

We have examined the European response in detail and how Europe is desperately trying to keep the world in a war avoidance mode. Our Contributing Editor Criton Zoakos leads this report with a strategic analysis of the European response. This is followed by European desk expert Susan Welsh's report on overall EEC policy, a further detailed look at French and German response, particularly that of German business, and an analysis by European Editor Vivian Freyre Zoakos of the crucial role that Italy might play in the crisis. We also provide our readers with the text of Soviet President Brezhnev's important statement responding to the administration's measures. Finally, we briefly describe the Japanese response—like that of the Europeans they say "no" on joining sanctions and the like.



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A kick-off for civil disorders

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The military capabilities of the superpowers

Next week's *EIR* Special Report will provide a thorough profile of the relative military capabilities of the United States and the Soviet Union, not only deployable front-line forces, but those in-depth war-fighting capabilities that are largely determined by economic-industrial strength. Whereas the U.S.S.R. has pursued high-technology industrial development with both realized and potential spin-off benefits to front-line strength, and in-depth war-fighting, by contrast, the same elements in the U.S.A. who have been pressing for "encirclement" and confrontation of the U.S.S.R. have pursued a long-term economic policy deliberately, extensively undermining the industrial backbone of U.S. military capability. Also next week, *EIR* continues coverage of the thrust of the European powers to head the world off its war-bound course.

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Special Report



Photo: Sygma. French president Giscard d'Estaing with West German chancellor Helmut Schmidt at the 1979 Tokyo economic summit.

20 Will Europe stop the drive toward war?

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55 The bones in Bush's closet

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What do oil prices do to average profit margins ?

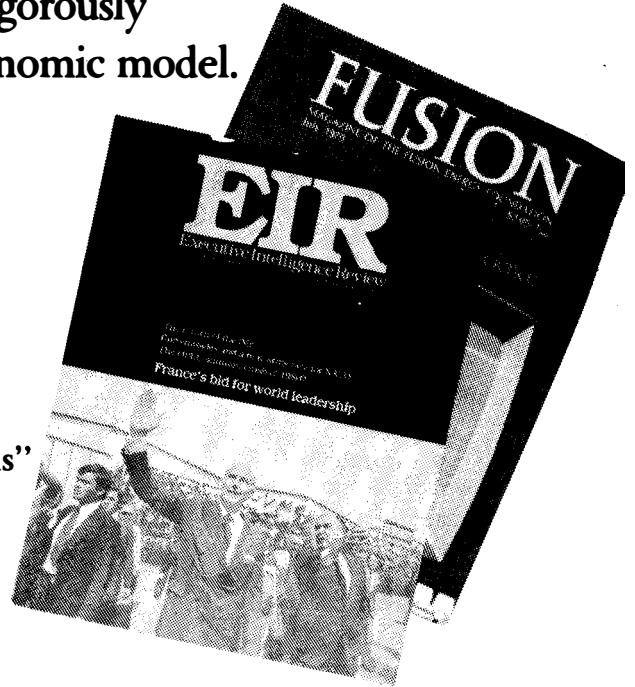
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