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From the Editor

“Any attempt to keep the Soviet Union out of indispensable dialogue on the means to eliminate the cause of international tensions is to also take the risk of driving international relations into a cycle of incomprehension and misunderstandings and of abandoning oneself to the blind movement of events which could prove to be fatal.”

This was the report given to the French National Assembly by Foreign Minister Francois-Poncet on the emergency summit in Warsaw between French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and Soviet President Brezhnev.

What was called “otherwise inevitable war,” was temporarily calmed by the French after Secretary of State Muskie had announced the death of detente.

But will these first steps toward the formulation of a war avoidance policy work? In a world in which the Carter administration is bent on setting off “arc of crisis” conflicts throughout the world, in which the Israeli government is bent on war and Peking is being armed by the U.S. against the Soviets, dialogue is not enough.

Our Special Report this week, “Avoiding World War: Do Giscard and Brezhnev Know How?” documents the post summit mood in Europe and the Soviet Union. That thermonuclear annihilation hangs in the balance is a well-accepted fact.

We document Mexican President José López Portillo's call for real Third World development to avoid a new “Dark Age” and war.

A war avoidance policy and a strategy for peace is presented in excerpts from a soon-to-be published book by Lyndon LaRouche, “Why Revival of Salt is Intrinsicly Unworkable.” LaRouche details the “neo-Malthusian” policies of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and shows the underlying cause of the war danger. Termination of such policies and the formation of a new gold based monetary system capable of extending credits for transfer of technology to the Third World are the essential first steps.

Finally we document the dangers of the “Brandt Commission report” approach to both East-West and North-South relations. Too many world leaders, bent on war avoidance, are falling into the Brandt commission trap.

