

## Editorial

# Can we avoid strategic disaster?

Last week a series of false alarms from the U.S. defense network's computer system indicating that the Soviet Union had launched nuclear missiles against the United States brought us once again to the brink of nuclear disaster by miscalculation. While the Soviets warned that such "mistakes" could lead to World War III, Capitol Hill is abuzz with rumors that the errors were in fact deliberate and consistent with the provocative U.S. military posture based on "calculated insanity."

Senator John Tower, the Republican minority leader of the Senate Armed Services Committee, called on his colleagues to investigate. American strategic bomber crews were placed on alert, silo-based missiles were brought closer to the stage of firing, and ballistic missile submarines at sea were on the alert!

Investigation of the Iran rescue mission debacle by the same committee revealed "major errors" were made in the planning and execution.

These scandals come as an increasing number of traditionalist military men are publicly expressing alarm over the erosion of U.S. military capability, from a severe lack of military R and D, to the drugged-out all-volunteer army, and the state of breakdown of military equipment. However, it was the *Executive Intelligence Review* in collaboration with the Fusion Energy Foundation that first drew attention four years ago to the devastating facts concerning the collapse of U.S. military capabilities and the contrasting Soviet advances.

Soviet commitments to large increases in military-related experimentation and personnel development in the most advanced fields of military-related technology has yielded crucial breakthroughs in beam-weaponry—a development that changes the geometry of strategic warfare.

But even though the U.S. is incapable of fighting a war against the Soviet scientific superpower, the provocations of the Brzezinski insanity doctrine have increased. War by miscalculation, strategic

disaster, and threatened humiliation must be the subject of national debate. When General David Jones, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff argued on June 9 that the NORAD computer errors had served a useful function, because they showed the U.S.S.R. that the U.S. was prepared to take military action if required, the wretched bluff was caught by many who are now set on knocking the General out of his position and President Carter out of the Democratic candidacy.

But now the essential question which must be answered is what it will take to cool out the current bent toward war and at the same time recreate a healthy well prepared military.

*EIR* founder and contributing editor Lyndon H. LaRouche has gained a growing policy influence over the past four years in European capitals by advising that only a crash program in nuclear fusion development can deal with the problem of the woeful inadequacy of U.S. military capability.

*Executive Intelligence Review* will sponsor a conference, "Can the U.S. Avoid Strategic Disaster?" on Wednesday afternoon, June 25 at the Hotel Washington in Washington, D.C. Dr. Stephen J. Bardwell, director of plasma physics for the Fusion Energy Foundation and author of "Sputnik of the 80's," an outline of Soviet advances in beam weaponry, will give a comparative analysis of U.S./U.S.S.R. warfighting capabilities. Dr. Bardwell, who has toured Soviet plasma physics research facilities, will demonstrate with the help of advanced computerized modeling techniques, the source of the current disparity in U.S./U.S.S.R. warfighting capabilities.

Costas Kalimtgis, consultant on strategic affairs for the *EIR*, will outline why the SALT process cannot avoid war. He will propose a concrete plan for global war avoidance through a U.S.-led, capital-intensive development program in the Third World, combined with international scientific collaboration in space and energy development.