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# EIR

## From the Editor-in-Chief

As we warned last week, the world is heading into the greatest crisis since at least the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. Our special report has been dictated by the rapid pace of global events toward war as a result of the Soviet response to the new doctrine of strategic "encirclement" which under the direction of Zbigniew Brzezinski and Cyrus Vance is determining U.S. policy. Confronted with Brzezinski's "China Card," underlined by Harold Brown's visit to China, and the new "Islamic Card," the not-so-disguised pitch for alliance with Khomeini's Islamic hordes against the Soviet Union, Moscow has chosen Afghanistan as the place to deliver a message to Carter.

Our special report examines the unfolding crisis from three perspectives: from the view of the Soviet Union; from the U.S.; and finally the European view. We begin with a strategic overview encompassing the Soviet moves and the Carter administration policy, provided by our Contributing Editor Criton Zoakos. This is followed by an in-depth look at the Soviet decision, how it was made and why, written by our Soviet desk chief Rachel Douglas. We have also added a military analysis and a look back at Prague, 1968 to fill out the Soviet picture.

On the U.S. end we have taken a look at the China card and the Islamic card—including why they won't work. Finally the European view and particularly that of France and Germany, including an important statement by French Foreign Minister Jean François-Poncet on why France for one will not line up with Brzezinski on the road to war.



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## Next Week

### The strategic significance of Gandhi's India

The next issue of *EIR* will give our readers an in-depth look at the meaning of Indira Gandhi's return to power in India, with an overwhelming mandate for her policies. Few persons, even few political leaders, realize the extent of the international significance to be attached to a new Gandhi government. She is a nation-builder, and her government has acknowledged significance for India. She is a traditional friend of the Soviet Union, and that significance of her government is also not lost on observers. But still more, the advent of a Gandhi government could even have influence on the outcome of the U.S. presidential elections.

## Economics

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All of a sudden, vehemently anti-dollar factions in London and the United States are rushing to maintain the reserve role of America's beleaguered currency. It would almost seem that Soviet tanks, streaming into Afghanistan, have made the dollar an essential feature of NATO's facade of power, doing more for its value than months of European central bank efforts... But the new arrangements are as temporary as NATO's facade.

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Photo: P. Manoukian/Sygma. A Soviet soldier on the outskirts of Kabul, Afghanistan.

### 22 The U.S.S.R. sends Carter a message

After plenty of provocations from the West, and repeated warnings from the Kremlin, the Red Army command went into Afghanistan in force, displaying not only impressive military capabilities and strategic planning, but primarily, an iron show of strategic determination. With aid of Chinese aggression in Southeast Asia, destabilizations throughout the Islamic world, and capitulation by the Europeans, the Carter administration thought it might be able to encircle the U.S.S.R. The Russian answer came in southwest Asia. Will Carter get the message?

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The Carter administration helped topple a powerful ally in the Shah of Iran, helped install a maniac cult dictatorship in the Shah's place, manipulated the maniac into a ferociously anti-American posture, and now wants the maniac to ally with the U.S.A. against the Soviet Union. Understandably, Carter's GOP opponents—who supported every aspect of the policy—are now throwing "national unity" overboard in favor of some political profit-taking.

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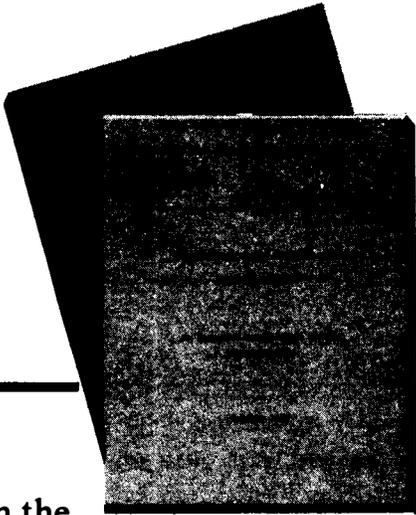
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