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# EIR

## From the Editor-in-Chief

**P**resident Carter delivered his State of the Union message this week with a “call to arms” and a virtual declaration of war against the Soviet Union. The rhetoric drew applause from the august assembly of the Congress and the members of the executive—a more sober view came from one man on the street who described Carter as “Teddy Roosevelt on LSD!” This week our Special Report tells you why this is the case, why our military capabilities are totally unable to match those of the Soviet Union, and why, if we follow Carter’s “flight forward,” we will end up a dead nation.

The report, entitled “The Erosion of U.S. Military Capability,” has been prepared under the direction of our special advisor and frequent contributor on military affairs, Uwe Parpart, whose introduction leads this report. This is followed by a comprehensive survey and comparison of the military force capabilities of the Soviet Union and the United States, written by staff member Dean Andromidas. Then we take a close look at a devastating picture of the state of U.S. military manpower, including factors like education level and drug consumption which have downgraded the quality of the American soldier, a report prepared by Susan Welsh. Finally, Dr. Steven Bardwell, an accomplished scientist himself, examines the collapse of defense research and development in the U.S. and its impact on American military capability. This is only the first part of a two part report, so the story will not end here.



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- 6 'A German on a stone... he'll turn it to bread'**  
"Put a German on a stone and he'll turn it into bread" is a Russian saying very familiar to West German businessmen. Their response to Jimmy Carter's plea for embargo and trade sanctions against Eastern Europe, traditionally their leading export market, is not a little anger, and determination that threats, armtwisting and blackmail from London and Washington will not be allowed to prevent them from absolutely increasing trade with the Soviet Union and its allies.
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Photo: Alan Keler/Sygma. Marines on war maneuvers, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Oct. 17, 1979

### 16 The erosion of U.S. military capability

In 1961's Cuban missile crisis, the U.S.A. had clear superiority in virtually all military categories; Khrushchev's move into Cuba proved militarily untenable. In the current Afghan crisis, Jimmy Carter finds himself in Khrushchev's position. Massive Soviet superiority across-the-board is not even primarily due to their own military build-up, but to an in-depth erosion of U.S. military capabilities, an erosion of the U.S. industrial economy.

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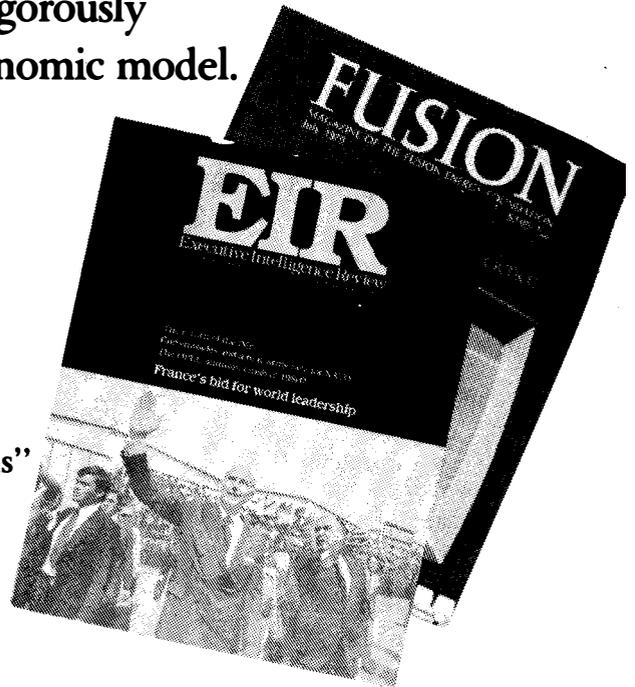
# What technologies should we invest in ?

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