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From the Editor-in-Chief

F ed Chairman Paul Volcker has once again sent interest rates up, while the inflation rate in the U.S. threatens to fly into the 25 percent range. The solutions being proposed in Washington, in London and elsewhere are the policies of extreme deflation, of collapse of credit and industrial production. The historical precedent for such policies are those of Nazi Germany in 1936-38, the policies of Hitler's Finance Minister Hjalmar Schacht. Then as now the accompaniment of these policies is a buildup of war industry and war itself.

This deadly mix of economic and strategic policies is examined in our special report this week, under the direction of our Economic Editor David Goldman. We have first looked at the overall policy discussion and then at the present state of the economy under the Volcker regime. What follows is a sharp analysis of the fascist economic roots of this policy—the economics of Milton Friedman and his antecedents—provided by our Contributing Editor, Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.

The final section of the report takes a look at the just released report of the so-called Brandt Commission, the private group commissioned by World Bank President Robert McNamara to study "North-South" issues. The result is a call for a one-world government and economic system under the direction of the global managers of deflation and zero-growth, the International Monetary Fund. This report is prepared by our Latin American Editor Dennis Small and this writer.

Inie Christer

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Following Chancellor Schmidt's denunciation of Carter policy in the Afghan crisis as "incalculable," European-U.S. relations are at their lowest point in memory. All of Secretary Vance's overtures (and threats) to obtain coordinated action against the U.S.S.R. have been rejected out of hand. The French president has defined NATO as a defensive alliance-and nothing more. The West German and Austrian heads of state have pledged peace initiatives akin to the French. There are even peacevoices raised in Britain. If Carter is determined to make the international strategic crisis as dangerous as possible, Europe will go its own road ...

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