

With the UAW counterinsurgency apparatus enmeshed in the UMW and the miners themselves being softened up by the ravages of world-wide depression and by Eric Trist's counsel, the stage has been set for a "strike" which, coinciding with another staged Arab oil embargo, will result in millions of layoffs and general terrorization of the working class. To light the fuse, the Rockefeller-dominated Bituminous Coal Operators Association issued its "final offer," a full month in advance of the strike deadline, announcing that they "categorically refused" to negotiate health and safety demands. The announcement was calculated to fan strike fever among miners who have been bombarded for several months by union propaganda about the need for strict enforcement of health and safety codes and the establishment of functioning health and safety committees.

IPS INTERVIEW

JAY ROCKEFELLER AND THE UMW

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 27 (IPS)--In an exclusive interview with IPS John D. Rockefeller IV, son of John D. III and trained counterinsurgent, revealed that he had a "long, close, personal friendship with Arnold Miller," President of the United Mineworkers (UMW). The young Rockefeller, known as Jay to friends, received his training in pacification techniques while on Peace Corps assignment in the Philippines in the mid-sixties. He is currently based in the heart of the coal country as President of West Virginia Wesleyan University.

The UMW is set for a strike Nov. 12 which will provide a pretext for massive political and economic chaos. Excerpts from the interview follow:

IPS: Are you in regular touch with Miller?

JDR: Yes. He doesn't like me to advertise the relationship, for obvious reasons, but we've spoken together at least three or four times over the last few weeks, usually late at night. That's the best time to talk to Arnold, you know.

IPS: When did you first meet him?

JDR: It was in the late 1960s. Arnold was involved in the Black Lung reform movement, which I, as Secretary of State of West Virginia, looked upon with sympathy. But earlier, when I was head of Action for Appalachian Youth (part of the "War on Poverty" apparatus and viaduct for various counterinsurgency--Ed.), I first made contact with a number of people high in the UMW bureaucracy who came to power with Miller's Miners for Democracy (MFD).

IPS: Did you know Jock Yablonski? (Yablonski was the MFD candidate for UMW murdered in 1970--Ed.)

JDR: Oh, yes. I offered him my aid and support in 1969, but he told me to keep things quiet. After the murder, I was influential in pushing Arnold Miller to run for the presidency.

IPS: Did you contribute to his campaign?

JDR: I helped him, but not with money. My contribution to the MFD was only about \$1000. Right now the two of us are working on setting up a labor studies center at Wesleyan to teach leadership skills, which are quite badly needed.

IPS: Are you involved at all in preparations for the upcoming strike?

JDR: Well, that's not my normal work, you know. But I do intend to keep in close touch with Arnold about the negotiations.

Among his many "friends" in UMW leadership, Jay Rockefeller listed the following:

*Don Stillman, the editor of the UMW Journal who formerly taught at a branch of Wesleyan University.

*Harry Huge, the man who heads up the UMW's pension work, described by Rockefeller as absolutely first class. Rockefeller further described Huge, a former lawyer, as being a key person in "getting" Tony Boyle, the former UMW president charged with plotting the murder of Yablonski. Rockefeller added that under Boyle, the UMW had actively organized against Rockefeller when he ran for Governor of West Virginia.

*Rick Bank, described by Rockefeller as a "key mover in the Black Lung Movement" and currently the executive assistant to Miller. Bank is also on the UMW negotiating team.

*Bill Schecter, head of COMPAC, the UMW's electoral arm. Rockefeller reports that Schecter is the man in the UMW on top of plans to relocate miners.

Rockefeller claimed to have no connection to Eric Trist, leading brainwasher from the Rockefeller-aligned Tavistock Institute, who is currently at work on productivity experiments in coal mines in both West Virginia and Pennsylvania--with the full complicity of the UMW leadership.