

## BANK OF AMERICAN OFFICIALS FEAR ROCKEFELLER TAKEOVER

NEW YORK, N.Y., Dec. 13 (IPS)--Top officials of Bank of America today revealed their hysteria about the possible takeover of this California-based operation by the Rockefeller financial empire. When IPS asked if the Bank's rumored support of the fusion power bill sponsored by Rep. Richard T. Hanna (D.-Cal.) implied an attack on the energy-centered Rockefeller financial empire, these high ranking officers became frantic.

At the same time these bank officials denied any knowledge of Hanna's fusion bill, they arranged a comprehensive continuing investigation of the International Press Service. This included calls to bourgeois reporters and the dispatching of a messenger to IPS headquarters for sample literature.

The hysterical response of Bank of America is easily explained. Senior management there are aware that a takeover by Rockefeller of this last competitive financial empire--a goal for the past 25 years--is more possible than ever before.

Since the early 1950s, Bank of America's only significant industrial connection--the Kaiser industries--was undercut by the Rockefellers in their drive to crush this competitive financial empire. Through the deliberate cancellation of defense contracts, Kaiser was forced to crawl to the Rockefeller-controlled Eastern insurance companies and investment houses for cash under conditions which effectively undermined Bank of America's influence.

### No Defenses

As a result, Bank of America's financial and industrial base is limited and it is now vulnerable to absorption by the Rockefeller financial web. Most of its assets are limited to construction, textiles, and agriculture--precisely those sectors which have borne the brunt of Rockefeller's deflationary credit policy.

Simultaneously, a large proportion of Bank of America's loan funds are in the form of savings of small depositors now eroding through skyrocketing inflation and unemployment. Without direct control over investment banks, insurance companies, and personal trusts, Bank of America lacks the alternative sources of funds necessary to defend against a Chase Manhattan coup.

Already, Bank of America operates as a de facto junior partner in Rockefeller's financial network. On the Board of Directors of its bank holding company sit executives associated with such Rockefeller corporations as Prudential, Standard Oil of California, and Lawrence Rockefeller and Associates, and such Eastern financed think-tanks as the Council of Foreign Relations, the Conference Board, and the Trilateral Commission. More

significantly, they have followed the Rockefeller line of deflationary and selective credit policies domestically and the financial sponsorship of development projects internationally. And in areas like Brazil and the Pacific basin, Bank of America has entered into direct cooperative arrangements with Chase Manhattan Bank.

#### IRA SUCCEDES TO MI5 CONFUSION CAMPAIGN

Dec. 13 (IPS)--David O'Connell, Provisional IRA (Provos) chief of staff, did exactly what British Intelligence expected when he denied IRA culpability for the Birmingham pub blasts which have killed 21 people. The British domestic intelligence agency MI5 used the hysteria created after that explosion to push through "draconian measures" aimed allegedly at the IRA but representing the first stages of military rule in Britain.

Since the mid-1960s, the British government has created the options in Irish politics which allow them to stir up the situation to a level necessary for the next stage of military control. Now that Northern Ireland is a police state, the government is bringing tactics tested there to create a similar situation in Britain itself.

The primary tool of this terror has been the Provos, sections of which were set up by MI5 in the late 1960s to provoke more violence in the Province. Stories in the press over the last six months have spread confusion surrounding IRA activities in Britain, which MI5 has designed to make the IRA the brunt of every call for increased law and order. The situation is now so confused that even most Provos cannot tell if they, a police section within the Provos, or another police countergang is actually responsible for the latest bombing. (For a full report on how the British set up the IRA, contact IPS.)

O'Connell broadcast further confusion within the ranks of the IRA by stating that no member of his organization could have been responsible for the Birmingham blasts or an earlier Tower of London blast because: "The IRA has clear guidelines for waging its war. Any attack on non-military installations must be preceded by a ten minute warning so that innocent civilians are not endangered. Attacks like those in Birmingham are murder.

While refusing to name specifically who was responsible for the explosions, the IRA currently is "investigating" who might have done it. O'Connell did mention that two anarchist groups, the Angry Brigade and Red Flag '74, were possibilities.