

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.