

BANKERS TRUST URGES U.S. TO SEND MARINES TO IRAN

Dec. 19 (IPS)--The Shah of Iran today denounced the Ford-Giscard agreement to monetize gold and inflate the value of currency used to purchase oil and threatened a massive oil price increase.

Responding to the Shah's pronouncement, the Bankers Trust Company of New York told IPS reporters: "This is a declaration of war. The United States should send the Marines to Iran."

Informed of the Bankers Trust war cry, a spokesman for the Defense Department in Washington then explained U.S. policy in the following terms: "We have no plans for seizing the oil."
IPS: "Will you send troops if the price goes up substantially?"
Pentagon: "It would be foolish to speculate on what we might plan if the situation were to change."

The Pentagon spokesman repeatedly denied, without being asked, that Bankers Trust makes policy for the Department of Defense.

ROCKEFELLER CROWNED; FORD WATERGATED

WASHINGTON, D.C., Dec. 19 (IPS)--The U.S. House of Representatives today voted to confirm Nelson Rockefeller as Vice President of the United States. In a coronation ceremony hastily convened after the vote, Rockefeller was crowned Absolute Ruler in charge of "global policy," capping his four-month-long drive for the post.

Interviewed by reporters as he left his New York office for Washington, an overzealous Rockefeller tipped his hand in the course of extolling the virtues of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution (providing for non-elected succession to the Executive throne) and the American system. Said Rockefeller: "We've chosen a President and two Vice Presidents in such quick succession. You never can tell, maybe we'll have to choose another one soon." Earlier this morning the CIA's own New York Times fired the opening shots in a Watergate Gerry Ford campaign in a front page expose of Ford's Colorado housing swap with Richard Bass, oil millionaire and holder of a 20,700 acre Federal coal lease in Wyoming. According to the Times, Bass stands to gain or lose a considerable sum depending on whether Ford vetoes the strip-mining bill now on his desk.

On the same day that Rockefeller seized the reins and Ford fumbled, White House Chief of Staff and former Rockefeller Ambassador to NATO Donald Rumsfeld consolidated the Cabinet coup he has been preparing for Rockefeller's ascension. Rumsfeld, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity from 1969-70 and

director of the Cost of Living Council, U.S. Economic Stabilization Program from 1971-73, overseeing wage-price controls, is credited with replacing Secretary of Transportation Brinegar and Office of Management and Budget director Roy Ash with two of his old buddies, John Robson and former HUD Secretary James Lynn. Rumsfeld is responsible for a new organization chart defining the division of responsibilities and lines of authority in the White House, as well as bestowing on another close personal associate, William Walker, key responsibility for White House personnel.

The secret of President Ford's new staff was revealed by Joseph Kraft in today's Washington Post. In a rundown of the newly constituted team huddling around Ford, Kraft sighed with relief that Nelson is in the driver's seat: "So while the Administration is changing, and changing for the better, it is still hard to see the powerful figure who could pull things together in a major effort to turn around the recession. The one hopeful possibility is that the President might, as he has hinted, turn over the leading domestic policy role to the one undoubtedly strong man in his administration--Nelson Rockefeller."

JACKSON BLUSTERS AS SOVIETS HIT U.S. TRADE BILL

Dec. 19 (IPS)--The U.S. Congress is moving to pass a final version of the Trade Reform Act; final action is expected late today or tomorrow, before the bill reaches President Ford's desk for his signature. However, the sense of calm reassurance within top layers of anti-Soviet Democratic Senators was severely upset by the Soviet Union's denial yesterday that any deal had been arranged regarding Soviet emigration policy.

The Soviet press agency Tass issued a frontal attack on the so-called Jackson amendment to the trade bill, which requires "liberalization" of emigration by the Soviet Union. In addition, Tass released an Oct. 26 letter from Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. The letter rejected as "unacceptable" any efforts to set conditions on trade that violated the internal sovereignty of the Soviet Union. The Tass statement and the Gromyko letter completely deny that any agreement had been reached between Kissinger and the Soviets regarding Senator Henry Jackson's (D.-Wash.) demand for increased emigration from the Soviet Union as a condition for lower tariffs and credit for the Soviets.

Previously Jackson, leader of a pack of anti-Soviet Senators, including "liberals" Javits and Ribicoff, in favor of the amendment, had assumed an air of pompous assurance that he had succeeded in forcing the Soviets to allow this psychological warfare "foot-in-the-door." He believed the Soviets had fallen into the trap of bowing to pressure from the U.S. regarding internal Soviet policy as an acceptable price to be paid for U.S. credits.