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## American International Group

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# Insurance giant helps China's dictators

by Joseph Brewda

The National Democratic Policy Committee, political action committee of the LaRouche Democrats, announced on July 25 that it intends to make a special example of the American International Group (AIG) of New York City, in its campaign to impose economic sanctions against the butcher regime of Deng Xiaoping in Communist China. The NDPC has circulated over a 1 million leaflets demanding a boycott of the People's Republic of China.

Among the NDPC's demands is a boycott against all firms doing business with the P.R.C. A special focus of attention is AIG, a \$13 billion insurance and risk-analysis giant, because of its essential role in organizing economic and military aid to the Deng regime.

Tied to U.S. intelligence since its formation in the 1930s, AIG (formerly known as the CV Starr Co.) helped put the Maoists in power. In 1986, AIG played a major role in the CIA overthrow of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos. It has for decades played a dirty role against South Korea, the Republic of China (Taiwan), and other Asian states.

Primarily involved in insurance, AIG advises and insures many of the major firms involved in the China trade. Its large political risk department has been acquiring numerous new clients since the Tiananmen Square massacre. Reportedly, it has been advising them to continue to do business in China.

### A rogue's gallery

AIG's board is a full roster of destabilization specialists:

AIG's chairman is **Maurice "Hank" Greenberg**, a life-long friend of the late CIA director William Casey, and reputedly his former business partner. Greenberg was instrumental in the overthrow of Ferdinand Marcos, through AIG's control of Philippines banking. He has been a major patron of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), the establishment think tank with which Henry Kissinger is associated. In October 1985, Greenberg funded a two-day "simulated" overthrow of Marco at CSIS, which helped prepare the 1986 CIA-sponsored coup. CSIS later commended Greenberg's "global political economic expertise," especially "in regard to the East Asian region," as an important asset to the think tank in its effort to

topple President Marcos.

**Henry Kissinger**, the formulator of the insane strategic doctrine known as the China card, is chairman of AIG's International Advisory Board. AIG's political risk department works closely with the consulting firm Kissinger Associates. Kissinger's firm has made a lot of loot in recent years, coordinating the U.S.-P.R.C. trade that the former secretary of state made possible through his China card manipulations. The two firms maintain common clients, and comprise one network.

Like Kissinger, Greenberg is also on the Chase Manhattan International Advisory Board. Chase is one of the principal U.S. banks involved in China; not accidentally, it has been repeatedly implicated in narcotics money laundering, opium and heroin being the P.R.C.'s largest export.

In the 1950s AIG helped form the CIA's Civil Air Transport, later notorious as Air America, which played a major role in the Southeast Asian dope trade which addicted American GIs to heroin.

**John Train** is AIG's investment counselor. A grandson of a partner in the Morgan banking empire, Train is a CIA controller of the "Get LaRouche Task Force." Train commissioned all of the major post-1984 slanders of LaRouche, working closely with his longtime associates Henry Kissinger and Leo Cherne. LaRouche's opposition to the China card policy and the dope trade, is among the reasons that the Get LaRouche Task Force came into being. The Train family wealth was originally made through the Boston clipper ship opium trade with China.

Originally based in Shanghai, AIG was founded in the 1930s by **Cornelius Vanderbilt Starr**, who had been tied to both British and Soviet intelligence operations in China in the 1920s. At the beginning of the Sino-Japanese War, C.V. Starr and AIG were forced to flee the country. Starr returned in 1942 as the head of the "Starr Group," deployed by the Office of Strategic Services (OSS—the wartime predecessor of the CIA), whose purpose was to undermine the "SACO Agreements" between U.S. Naval Intelligence and the Kuomintang party, through which the United States supported nationalist leader Chiang Kai-shek to a limited degree. Under the direction of the Morgan and Mellon-run OSS, and with the approval of President Franklin Roosevelt, Starr set up the original U.S. connection to Mao Zedong. The U.S. began supplying arms to the Maoists, without which they could have never taken power.

Greenberg, who was Starr's designated successor as AIG chairman, has since played a role in many CIA operations, in collaboration with such other Asia hands as former CIA Deputy Director Ray Cline, currently involved in efforts to destabilize Taiwan; U.S. Ambassador to Beijing James Lilly; former Pentagon covert operations director Gen. Richard Stilwell; President George Bush; and Bush aide Donald Gregg, nominated to be U.S. ambassador to South Korea. These individuals were also deeply involved in the Iran-Contra deals.