

# **Rockefeller's Financial Empire**

#### I: INTRODUCTION

September 2 (IPS) — In the New York Times and Washington Post, attempts already are in progress to downplay the significance of Nelson Rockefeller's financial holdings. These proceed along two lines. First, he is portrayed as "one of the poorer Rockefellers." Second, it is alleged that his primary goal is not to enrich himself further, since he is entirely content with his holdings. These are estimated at well under half a billion dollars, an impressive but not overwhelming figure when compared with the Hughes, Gettys, and Arab oil sheikhs.

The lie in this mode of presentation is not a question of falsification of Nelson Rockefeller's personal holdings. On the contrary, the question to be raised in the process of confirmation hearings is the manner in which the Rockefeller family's financial and political connections operate in such a way as to achieve a single set of agreed-upon goals. No competent judgement of Nelson Rockefeller's financial position can be made without viewing this web in its totality.

The actual significance of the well-known Rockefeller family holdings, including Chase Manhattan Bank and the old Standard Oil companies is not their mere cash value, but their role as nodal points in a world financial empire. At this moment in history, all world finance of significance is controlled by this empire. This statement is not alarmist; it has become true within the past 90 days. [See "The New York Banking Conspiracy," special IPS report prepared by the U.S. Labor Party.] The structure of the Rockefeller financial holdings has made this development possible.

The actual web of financial control is centered on eight major banks in the city of New York. Strands extend from there to the banking center of Chicago, the City of London; Montreal and Toronto; to friendly banks in West Germany; to a financial network throughout the underdeveloped world; and, through close personal and historical connections, to leading international institutions such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and various national central banks.

Given the scale of necessary financing for current needs, it is impossible for any single bank to match itself to a major customer. Indeed, leading financial developments are necessarily the fruit of collaboration among a large number of institutions. What makes the Rocke-feller family and its associates — the most significant of whom are the royal family of the Netherlands, the owners of Royal Dutch Shell; the historic Morgan interests, which no longer can be identified as a family group; and the Mellon interests, to which the same description applies — is their ability to use their combined leverage throughout the world to dictate the main lines of financial activity.

This leverage is of the following principal types:

- Board of director interlocks.
- Equity control or influence.
- Historical family connections.
- Collaboration in joint ventures.

#### **Equity Control**

The 1968 Patman report, which listed the equity voting rights of leading banks in the country's major corporations, shows that the pattern of equity holdings by the trust departments of the major Rockefeller and related banks involves holdings of between four and eight per cent of quoted companies, or, in general, the minimum necessary to exercise leveraged control over these companies. Thus, the assets of the Rockefeller family and its allies are deployed to obtain the maximum control over the widest possible area, in the same way an army is deployed to control the widest possible territory with a limited number of troops. Thus, the chart representing the major holdings of the Rockefeller family only a partial list, since it excludes the trust holdings of First National City Bank owned by the Stillman-Rockefellers, as well as Morgan Guaranty Trust — indicates a financial empire extending many times beyond the mere cash value of members of the family.

#### **Board of Director Interlocks**

Between 1968 and the present, the dependence on external financing of corporations has more than doubled, increasing the voice that banks have in managing their affairs. Board of director interlocks, as a general rule, reflect a regular customer relationship between a bank and non-financial corporation, if not a stronger connection such as equity control. While there are few direct interlocks between the major banks, there is a web of third-company interlocks between Chase Manhattan Bank, First National City Bank, Morgan Guaranty Trust, Chemical New York Bank, Manufacturers Hanover Trust, Bankers Trust, Irving

Trust, Bank of New York, First National Bank of Chicago, the Continental Illinois National Bank, and Marine Midland Grace Trust. Through this web, policy decisions can be communicated which determine the general activity of U. S. business as a whole.

#### **Historical Family Connections**

While there are only minimal financial connections between New York's two largest banks, First National City and Chase Manhattan, the historical connection between the Stillman-Rockefellers (the leading stockholders in the former) and the Rockefeller family (the leading stockholders of Chase Manhattan), provides an element of simultaneous control to the same elite. This continues despite the show "competition" between the two, which on lower levels — e.g., bidding for City of New York bonds — is certainly "legitimate."

These connections are especially significant with respect to investment banking, where the most prestigious houses — Goldman Sachs, Lehman Brothers, Brown Brothers Harriman, not to mention Morgan Stanley or Lazard — are linked historically through at least three generations of family connections to the Rockefeller interests. There are, apart from this, exceptional cases of direct links. Robert V. Roosa of Brown Bros. Harriman is a Trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation, and Andre Meyer of Lazard is investment banker for the Rockefeller family. But the critical point of control is the old relationships between the Schiff, Loeb, Kuhn, Harriman, and Rockefeller families.

#### Joint Ventures

This is primarily a means of control in the sphere of international banking and corporate activity. For example, the Orion group of banks in London is owned jointly by Chane Manhattan, the British National Westminster Bank, the Mitsubishi Bank of Japan, the Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale of West Germany, the Credito Italiano of Italy, and the Royal Bank of Canada. The same banks are the stockholders of the Libra group of banks, which specializes in lending to South America. These banks are the single largest operators in the Eurodollar market, the \$185 billion pool of funds consisting of offshore dollar deposits.

More generally, careful study of the "tombstone" advertisements of international loans shows that the same group of international banks regularly appears as the core of contributors to syndicated Eurodollar credits, i.e., loans which are divided between as many as one-hundred banks to provide a very large sum, often in the hundreds of millions of dollars, for a single borrower.

Beyond the banking and corporate connections, personal relationships between financial officials and the Rockefeller interests are of major significance in determining world financial policy. Robert McNamara of the World Bank was President of the Ford Motor Company in 1960; and between 1963 and 1968, he filled the shoes of John J. McCloy, former Ford Foundation President, as well as chief executive of Chase Manhattan Bank and present legal counsel to the "seven sisters" oil companies. Johannes Witteveen, the present chief executive of the International Monetary Fund, is a member of the board of directors of Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch multinational whose principal stockholder is Prudential Life Insurance, a domain of the Morgan interests. Former finance minister and present West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt is a member of the Rockefeller-funded Council on Foreign Relations, as is British Home Secretary Roy Jenkins. British Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey collaborated with Schmidt and former Canadian Premier Lester Pearson in NATO's elaboration of the "flexible response" strategy. Guido Carli, the governor of the Bank of Italy, is a longtime close personal friend of David Rockefeller, according to the Chase Manhattan Bank's public relations personnel. David Rockefeller himself is a "Class A" director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the branch of the Federal Reserve System responsible for international financial policy.

#### **Capability for Conspiracy**

Thus, the network for conspiratorial direction of the world economy unquestionably represents a capability in the hands of the Rockefeller interests. In the brief entitled "The New York Banking Conspiracy," the "S. Labor Party presented to members of Congress and the Justice Department assembled evidence of the public record that the last months' events in the financial world bore the clear marks of conspiracy. We argue that the criminal act itself, the motive, and the capability are available for Congressional investigation. It is the responsibility of the Congress to employ its investigative powers to establish whether a member of the Rockefeller family, with respect to this **preliminary** evidence, is suitable for the Vice-Prssidency of the United States.

#### II. AMERICAN BANKING

The New York-Chicago banking fraternity now accounts for approximately 70 per cent of all bank lending to commerce and industry in the United States. Only six months ago, its proportion of the total was closer to 40 per cent. The process by which this occurred is detailed in "The New York Banking Conspiracy." What concerns us here is a better definition of this fraternity. An indication of its power is given by the following table:

TABLE A											
Name of Bank	Companies per	bank Interlocks per	Bank Companies per bank								
Morgan Guaranty	233	251	270								
Chase Manhattan	193	208	158								
Bankers Trust	224	259	109								
Citibank	167	188	229								
Manufacturers Hanover Trust	200	257	132								
Chemical Bank	278	326	67								
Total:	1,295	1,489	965								
	(Source: Commer	cial Bank and Their Trust	Activities,								
	Subcommittee or	Domestic Finance, Hou	se Banking								
and Currency Committee, 1968.)											

As of 1968, total trust holdings of these banks amounted to approximately \$65 billion, or more than one-tenth of all outstanding equity on the American markets.

Of these six banks, two are related to the Morgan interests: Morgan Guaranty and the Bankers Trust, created by J.P. Morgan before the turn of the century as a "central bank" for the financial institutions of Wall Street. Three are related to the Rockefeller interests: Chase Manhattan, whose chairman of the board and chief executive is David Rockefeller; First National City Bank, through the Stillman-Rockefellers; and the Chemical Bank, which is controlled by the Rockefeller family interests in cooperation with other leading families, including the DuPonts and Mellons. Two other significant New York banks, Irving Trust and Marine Midland Grace Trust, adhere to the Morgan and Rockefeller groups respectively.

The type of interconnection between these interests is illustrated by the following table of stockholders in the largest New York bank, First National City (Table B).

Taking the New York banks as a group, the Patman report provided the accompanying table of their mutual stockholdings, indicating a very high degree to interpenetration. (See foldout Table C)

Given this information, there is absolutely no question that in speaking of a New York banking fraternity, one refers to a compact and highly coordinated team of financial institutions. In addition to the New York group, there is significant penetration of the leading banks of Philadelphia, Chicago, and Boston.

First National Bank of Chicago is, historically, the banker to Standard Oil of Indiana, which in turn has close director interlocks with Chase Manhattan and large stock holdings by both the Rockefeller Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Continental Illinois has numerous third-company interlocks with the New York banks and Rockefeller-owned companies. Harris National Bank and Trust during the early 1960s shared a director with Chase Manhattan Bank, Sen. Charles Percy, as well as director interlocks with Standard Oil of Indiana.

The two leading Philadelphia banks, Girard Trust and First Pennsylvania Bank and Trust, are related to the Morgan interests.

#### Oil Control

The control of this banking apparatus over industry bears mention. Appropriate information is not available universally about the control of the top oil firms. But Rockefeller control, in some cases shared with the Morgans, is indisputable.

The Temporary National Economic Committee in the 1930s reported that of the stock of Standard Oil of New

TABLE B										
First National City Bank of New York Chemical Bank New York Trust (Presumably in trust for the Stillman-Ro	0.84 per cent	Morgan Guaranty Trust Bankers Trust Philadelphia Banks	2.72 per cent 0.73 per cent 1.54 per cent							
James Stillman Rockefeller Robert Winthrop Charles C. Parlin (head of Shearman a	0.01 per cent 0.31 per cent	George F. Baker, Jr.  Total under control of the Morgans	0.09 per cent							
Stirling, the law firm with power of attorners Stillman-Rockefeller holdings)		Chase Manhattan Bank	1.90 per cent							
Total control of Stillman-Rockefellers	5.19 per cent	[Source: Ibid.]								

.

Jersey, now Exxon, the Rockefeller family owned 8.7 per cent, their foundations 4.8 per cent, the Harkness Family 4.3 per cent, and Standard Oil of Indiana 6.7 per cent. The Chase Manhattan Bank, whose energy department is known in financial circles as the most sophisticated in banking, remains the firm's chief bank. Some finance and directors, however, are provided by the Morgan allies.

Mobil Oil (Standard Oil of New York) is more closely allied to the First National City Bank and Bankers Trust in operational terms, although about six per cent of its stock is owned by the Rockefeller family and 0.7 per cent is owned by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. In the case of Standard Oil of California, the Rockefeller family holds five per cent of the equity. SOCAL, in addition, maintains close links with the First National City Bank of New York. In combination, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund control slightly less than three per cent of the equity. Apart from its director interlocks with the First National Bank of Chicago and Harris Bank and Trust, Morgan Stanley is its leading investment bank.

In addition to the Rockefeller holdings in petroleum, Gulf Oil is the Mellon's domain, and Atlantic Richfield is the Morgan oil company.

#### III. INTERNATIONAL BANKING

The City of London banking community, which encompasses more than half of the \$185 billion Eurodollar market, is recognized internationally as the second world financial center after New York City. Broadly speaking, two categories of banks define the City's activites, the clearing banks and merchant (investment) banks. As a group, the four top clearers - Barclay's. Lloyd's, National Westminster, and Midland, have almost as much financial muscle as their New York cousins. The merchant banks, which under British banking law (unlike American) are permitted to engage in normal banking activities, specialize in investment banking, consultation, and trade finance. As arrangers of international syndicated loans and Eurobond placements, the influence of such merchant banks as Rothschilds Intercontinental, Schroeders, Hambros, and Barings extends far beyond their balance sheets.

From the standard reference work, Jane's Guide to European Companies, the following connections are available between the New York banking group and the City of London:

- National and Grindlay's: Commercial bank with a huge network throughout Africa in former British colonies, 40 per cent owned by First National City Bank.
- Standard and Chartered: Merger of two banks in 1968 representing the greatest penetration of British

capital into Asia; 13.77 per cent owned by Chase Manhattan. National Westminster, the second-largest clearing bank, owns 9.8 per cent.

- Wm. Brandt and Sons: Leading merchant bank, owned 60 per cent by First National and Grindlay's (which in turn is owned 55 per cent by the clearing bank Lloyd's, linking Lloyd's to First National City Bank), and 40 per cent by First National City directly.
- Schroders Ltd: Member of the board of directors is Kissinger associate Paul H. Nitze, former U.S. Secretary of the Navy and longtime associate of the Rockefeller family.
- Samuel Montagu: Leading merchant bank. Chief executive David Montagu replaced John Haley of Chase Manhattan as chief executive of the Orion bank in October, establishing a direct family connection.
- Morgan Grenfell: Leading merchant bank with especially strong Mideast connections. 31.67 per cent owned by J.P. Morgan Overseas Capital Corporation, with "important links" to Morgan Guaranty Trust, according to Jane's Guide.

All four top clearing banks have strong Rockefeller connections:

- National Westminister is a shareholder both in Orion group and Standard and Chartered, dominated by Chase Manhattan.
- Barclay's the largest clearer, holds 30 per cent of the Anglo-Romanian Bank, in which Manufacturers Hanover has a 20 per cent stake.
- Midland Bank owns 4.50 per cent of the Standard and Chartered Bank, in collaboration with Chase and National Westminster.
- Lloyd's role in National and Grindlay's is mentioned above.

In addition, the Rothschild interests own 10 per cent of Manufacturers Hanover Ltd., 75 per cent of which is owned by Manufacturers Hanover. Baring Brothers, the leading merchant bank, has a 20 per cent stake in the London Multinational Bank, which Chemical Bank dominates with a 20 per cent holding.

#### American Subsidiaries in London

Apart from the "British" banks proper, which gained international reputation through the growth of the Eurodollar market and the financing of multinational companies during the 1960s, the leading American banks maintain their own subsidiaries in the London financial center.

U.S. banks with offices in London include Chase Manhattan, Citicorp International Bank, Manufacturers Hanover, Bankers Trust, Morgan Guaranty, Chemical Bank, First Boston Europe (First Boston is a Rockefeller-Mellon owned investment bank), and many smaller offices. It has been estimated that Chase Man-

hattan Ltd. alone is one of the 30 largest banks in the world.

Following the international banking tremors provoked by the collapse of West Germany's Herstatt bank June 26, the great bulk of Eurocurrency business has been restricted to 25 or so top international banks, according to the estimate of Terry Robards in the August 21 New York Times (an estimate which appeared weeks earlier in New Solidarity). While no precise figures are available, it seems unquestionable that the banks listed above now dominate the \$185 billion Eurodollar market with little competition. In particular, the London Economist cites Morgan Guaranty, Chase Manhattan, and First National City Bank as the main recipients of Eurocurrency deposits during the last month.

#### IV. IS THIS A CONSPIRACY?

We have shown that the Rockefeller interests may be quantified as a share, unquestionably the largest share, in a financial apparatus which has a determining influence in control of U.S. equity, and in dollar-denominated finance throughout the world. In addition, this group maintains control of critical sectors of the nation's economy.

The question remains, has this capability been put to conspiratorial use?

The overwhelming circumstantial evidence is that it has. The Intelligence division of the National Caucus of Labor Committees received this report of the oil crisis from the chief economist of Morgan Grenfell's in London, December 1973. According to Morgan Grenfell's, which specializes in Mideast finance, the decision to embargo oil shipments and later to raise oil prices on the part of the member nations of OPEC was motivated in large part by statements made by Treasury Secretary George Schultz during August and September. At the August meetings of the Committee of Twenty on International Monetary Reform, and later at the Nairobi annual conference of the International Monetary Fund, Treasury Secretary Schulz proposed that the "excess" dollar reserves of countries be frozen, i.e., put into unspendable acounts, in order to brake the increase of international liquidity. (The world's money supply doubled between 1970 and 1973, mainly as a result of the increase in U.S. dollars in circulation.)

The Arabs, in turn, had spent years negotiating oil price increases partly because they felt that increases were necessary due to the inflated dollars in which they were paid. According to Morgan Grenfell's, the decision to launch the "oil crisis" was made by Harvard-trained Sheikh Yamani, the Saudi Minister for Oil and Natural Resources. King Faisal, whose mind is not well attuned to the twentieth century, confirmed the decision partly out of concern fo Saudi dollar reserves, and partly out of sincere commitment to Jihad against Israel.

According to numerous press reports, Chase Manhattan Bank is the leading financial advisor to the Saudi Arabian monetary agency, just as First National City Bank is advisor to the Kuwait equivalent.

As noted above, the principal beneficiaries of the oil crisis — which drew an amount roughly equal to 2.5 per cent of one year's wage bill of the industrialized countries — have not been the Arabs and other oil producers, who, on their own, are literally incapable of spending their oil revenues. The two principal beneficiaries are the large international banks, who have received the use of a very large proportion of the total revenues, and the large oil companies. The oil companies increased their profits on at least two accounts: first, through inventory profits during the fourth quarter of 1974, based on purchase of oil at the old price and sale at the quadrupled price; and second, through the huge increase in their turnover resulting from the higher oil prices. In addition, major oil companies are under investigation and in some cases indictment in almost every industrial country for conspiracy to fix prices and other violations of monopoly legislation. The answer to the oft-repeated question, "Who benefits?," can be only the Rockefeller family and related interests.

In passing, it should be added that Mr. George Schultz, the agent provocateur of the oil crisis, is now a Vice-President of the Bechtel Corporation, the nation's (and perhaps the world's) largest privately-owned corporation, a major contractor for the Central Intelligence Agency in South Vietnam and elsewhere. (Former CIA director John McCone was a founder). Stephen D. Bechtel Sr. is a member of the Board of Directors of Morgan Guaranty Trust.

This huge financial and political capability, rather than Mr. Nelson Rockefeller's personal cash worth, should be the subject of Congressional investigation.

[This is the first of a series of documentary reports being prepared by the U.S. Labor Party to be entered as evidence against Nelson Rockefeller's nomination for Vice President of the United States.]

**TABLE** 

## Stockholder links an

Bank holding stock	Chase M	anhattan l	Benk N.A.	First N	First National City Bank			
	1962	1966	Percent increase	1962	1966	Percent increase		
Chase Manhattan Bank N.A	2.04	2. 30	12.7	1.99	1.62	-14.8		
First National City Bank	1.12	1.87	66.9	4.01	4.26	6.2		
Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co	1.64	2.00	28.0	1.58	2.00	26.5		
Chemical Bank New York Trust Co		1.37		.84	2.24	106.6		
Morgan Guaranty Trust Co	3.08	3. 18	1.6	2.72	3.89	43.0		
Bankers Trust Co	.71	1.70	120.4	.73	1.90	160.2		
Total	8. 54	12. 42	45.4	11.76	15. 91	35.3		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes holdings of bank nominees.

## Sole and partial stockholder voting right lis

										Benk
	Chase	Manhatt	an Bank l	N.A.	Firs	t Nation	Manufacturers Ha			
Bank holding stock	Sole vo		Partial voting right		Sole voting rights		Partial voting rights		Sole voting rights	
	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent
Chase Manhattan Bank N.A	9, 404	0.04	148, 561	0, 71	110, 086	0. 53	77, 396	0. 37	127, 661	0.61
First National City Bank	37, 515	.14	161, 773	. 61					139, 427	. 52
Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co	15, 685	.13	32, 326	. 26					47, 739	.38
Morgan Guaranty Trust Co	14, 814	.16	41, 590	. 46	13, 533	.15	50, 868	. 56	50, 157	. 55
Chemical Bank New York Trust Co	32, 804	. 25	96, 516	.73	19, 789	.15	51, 386	.39	92, 333	.70
Bankers Trust Co	30, 956	. 34	39, 592	.44	14, 366	. 16	33, 168	.36	37, 141	.41
Total	141, 178	1.06	520, 358	3, 21	157,774	. 99	212, 818	1.68	494, 458	3. 17

### among 6 largest New York banks 1

#### Percent interest in-

1	Manufac	turers Haz Co.	over Trust	Chemic	eal Bank N Trust Co		Morgan	Gueranty	Trust Co.	Bankers Trust Co.			
	1962	1966	Percent increase	1962	1966	Percent increase	1962	1966	Percent increase	1962	1966	Percent increase	
	0.64	1.05	64. 0	1.37	1.90	38. 6	0.95	1. 65	73. 6	1.77	1. 33	<b>-33.</b> 0	
	1.01			. 96	1.76	83.3	.99	1. 32	33. 3	1.79	2. 30	28. 4	
	8. 10	7.37	-9.9	1.17	2, 25	92.3	1.69	1.96	15.3	1.85	2.48	34.0	
4	**********	. 46		3.99	5. 79	47.6		1.00		1.63	2. 02	23.9	
	1.32	2.20	66.6	1.30	4.13	217. 6	6.61	7. 75	17.2	5. 34	4.63	-15.3	
	.99	1.33	34.3	. 85	. 47	-80.8	. 67	1.24	85. 0	5. 10	8.26	61.9	
	12. 07	12.41	2.8	9.64	16. 30	69. 1	10.90	15.00	37. 6	17.47	21.02	20. 2	

Source: 1962 data from "Chain Banking," U.S. House of Representatives, 88th Cong., 1st sess., Committee on Banking and Currency, Apr. 15, 1963; 1966 data developed by staff of House Banking and Currency Committee from information submitted by banks.

## links among 6 largest New York banks as of Mar. 1, 1966

#### k in which stock is held-Voting arrangement

Ĺŧ	nover Tr	ıst Co.	Morg	an Guara	nty Trust	Co.	Chemical	Bank No	w York T	rust Co.		Prost Co.	t Co.	
	Partial voting rights				Partial voting rights		Sole voting rights		Partial voting rights		Sole voting rights		Partial voting rights	
ţ	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent
1	188, 077	0.90	187, 505	0. 89	136, 151	0.65			250, 566	1.20	122, 337	0. 58	74, 729	0.36
	259, 972	.98	495, 723	1.86	182, 879	. 69			332, 237	1.25	147, 114	. 55	105, 318	. 40
	187, 491	1. 50	6, 671	. 05	58, 084	. 46	283		11, 629	.00	2, 922	.02	62, 539	. 50
	81, 857	.90	170, 988	1.87	116, 383	1.28			72, 983	.80	9, 407	.10	28, 826	.32
	116, 800	.89	13, 383	.10	74, 596	. 57			435, 659	3.32	1,729	.01	<b>59, 4</b> 21	.45
	96, 391	1.06	15, <b>44</b> 8	. 17	68, 615	. 75			151, 101	1.66	4,011	.04	55, 932	.62
	930, 588	6. 23	889, 718	4.94	636, 708	4.40	283		1, 254, 175	8. 32	287, 520	1.30	386, 765	2.65