

Thorsrud has been active in Scandinavia for over two decades. He collaborated with master brainwasher Dr. Eric Trist, currently deployed in the U.S. coal fields on the eve of the threatened United Mineworkers (UMW) strike, in a 1962-63 Tavistock study on the "problems of industrial democracy," published under the title of Form and Content in Industrial Development. The Times does not mention Thorsrud's connections to Tavistock.

SPECIAL REPORT

ROCKEFELLER'S CONTROL OF THE MINERS' STRIKE

NEW YORK, Oct. 27 (IPS)--As the scheduled Nov. 12 strike of the United Mineworkers (UMW) draws near, IPS has been able to monitor and grid the precise preparations by which Rockefeller forces have assured themselves of nearly total control over every aspect of this mass counterinsurgency operation. The "coal shortage" created by the strike will give Rockefeller a cover story for the sweeping lay-offs and deindustrialization that are in fact necessitated by the economic collapse. The strike will also set the stage for the relocation of miners and other workers to Rockefeller's energy development projects in the Rocky Mountains. Last winter's strike of the British mineworkers is the conscious model being used by Rockefeller for the UMW strike. Occuring during the height of the oil hoax, the British miners' strike brought the country to its knees, resulting in three-day work weeks, heating fuel shortages, and the collapse of the Heath government.

The key control agents in this operation are Leonard Woodcock of the United Auto Workers and University of Pennsylvania-based master brainwasher Eric Trist. The UMW itself is funding one of Trist's infamous productivity studies in Johnstown, Pa. IPS also has uncovered the "long, close, personal friendship" of UMW head Arnold Miller and John D. Rockefeller IV. (See the following IPS article.)

UAW President Woodcock, who sits on David Rockefeller's Tri-lateral Commission, a supranational planning apparatus, has deployed agents from the UAW Community Service and Education Departments into the UMW. The UMW's 200 strike demands, authored by a negotiating team trained by the UAW, include explicit support for Rockefeller's fascist programs: Worker relocation assistance similar to that provided under the proposed National Employment Priorities Act (more commonly known as NERA) and district-wide hiring practices (a euphemism for labor pools). These provisions will facilitate the herding of miners into slave labor energy development projects.

"Community Support"

The UAW operatives have helped the UMW set up a Community Service Unit (CSU) modelled after their own. The main function of the CSU will be to enlist necessary community and other support once

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the strike begins. This represents an absolutely critical part of the UMW strike preparations. According to UMW sources, without the CSU's support work, which includes procuring minimal food supplies, food stamps, and unemployment benefits for the strikers, a prolonged strike would be impossible.

Prior to this recent influx of UAW cadre, Woodcock and Miller had established another "aid" program. For the last two years, Miller has ordered key parts of the UMW secondary leadership to attend a special educational program at the UAW notorious Black Lake brainwashing facility. Most of these bureaucrats' "education" was geared toward preparing them for this year's contract negotiations and strike.

Both UMW Vice President Mike Trbovich and Assistant Public Relations Director Phil Sparks have confirmed that the UAW is intimately involved in the UMW's strike preparations.

Sparks told IPS that Woodcock is being consulted personally. When he is temporarily unavailable, Sparks stated, liaison is maintained through "Woodcock's right-hand man, (UAW Vice President) Irv Bluestone."

Special Relationship

According to Trbovich, Miller's personal friendship with Woodcock has played a significant role in shaping the "recent developments of the UMW." This "special" relationship to Woodcock and the UAW has come about only since Miller's Miners for Democracy (MFD) took power, Trbovich told IPS.

Gerald Lazarowitz, a key member of the staff of the UAW's Black Lake brainwashing center, was on personal loan from Woodcock to the UMW for a recently ended six-month period. He assured IPS that the UMW will have operative Community Service strike support units, capable of handling a prolonged strike. Miller reportedly became acquainted with Lazarowitz on one of his many visits to Black Lake. In an extraordinary move, Miller appointed Lazarowitz, a skilled manipulator of groups, parliamentarian of the UMW's December 1973 annual convention.

Meanwhile, Dr. Eric Trist, who pioneered the use of Tavistockian "leaderless" group control in the subjugation of the British Miners Union over the last two decades, is attempting to perform a similar job on the UMW. IPS has obtained documentary proof that the UMW, with the approval of its CIA-installed President Arnold Miller, is sharing the cost of Trist's Rushton Mine experiment with the company and the government.

One aim of the set-up strike is to institute Trist's system industry wide so that "increased safety provisions" and related demands will be traded off for "increased productivity." In this deal, "safety" will be the pretext for massive closing of mines in preparation for relocation, while "productivity" will mean working to death at labor-intensive projects.

After two years of propoganda in both the trade union and CIA press organs, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) has been moving to establish plant-level labor-management health and safety committees nationally. The miners are merely groundbreakers in this respect.

A Family Atmosphere

The focus of the Rushton project, described as "Eric's baby" by Blair Rickard, Superintendent of Rushton Mining, is the creation of a "family" atmosphere in which workers will willingly submit to speedup and deteriorating work conditions "for the good of the team," while the union is reduced to the role of management police. Intensive psychological interventions by Trist and his cohorts encourage feelings of fear and competition toward workers outside the team and the complete dependence of miners on the company. As Rickard put it to an IPS reporter, "The idea of us all working together as a big happy family is the key to increased productivity."

This preliminary model is of course decked out as attractively as possible; but once the corporatist set-up is accepted in principle by the UMW's ranks, it can be implemented in its openly fascist form. Trist's work in Britain resulted in the laying-off of two-thirds of the British mining labor force as "unproductive" while the remaining third, effectively non-union labor, has actually increased total output--without any major technological improvements.

The contract between the National Quality of Work Center and the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School explains that private model projects like the Rushton job are necessary because "official" Federal government status and government overemphasis on "productivity" were "inhibiting...acceptance (of "productivity measures") by large portions of the business and labor sectors of the economy."

Miners volunteering to participate in the Rushton project are put into teams, within which job classifications are abolished. These workers are paid a flat rate (in this show-case operation, the top wage of \$50 a day) and expected to learn a variety of jobs, for maximum flexibility in job assignments. Trist's proposal for the project notes that this will "keep down the need for outsiders."

The union sacrifices the right to raise grievances, which are instead handled by various levels of corporatist labor-management committees, in the appropriate "family atmosphere." Foremen are stripped of their usual functions and made responsible solely for health and safety matters.

Rickard told IPS that at first there was a certain degree of mistrust about the new system on the miners' part. They suspected that their increased productivity was benefitting the company far more than it was them. But Trist henchman Goodman met with the miners and, in Rickard's words, "explained to them that this wasn't so."

With the UAW counterinsurgency apparatus embedded in the UMW and the miners themselves being softened up by the ravages of world-wide depression and by Eric Trist's counsel, the stage has been set for a "strike" which, coinciding with another staged Arab oil embargo, will result in millions of layoffs and general terrorization of the working class. To light the fuse, the Rockefeller-dominated Bituminous Coal Operators Association issued its "final offer," a full month in advance of the strike deadline, announcing that they "categorically refused" to negotiate health and safety demands. The announcement was calculated to fan strike fever among miners who have been bombarded for several months by union propaganda about the need for strict enforcement of health and safety codes and the establishment of functioning health and safety committees.

IPS INTERVIEW

JAY ROCKEFELLER AND THE UMW

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 27 (IPS)--In an exclusive interview with IPS John D. Rockefeller IV, son of John D. III and trained counterinsurgent, revealed that he had a "long, close, personal friendship with Arnold Miller," President of the United Mineworkers (UMW). The young Rockefeller, known as Jay to friends, received his training in pacification techniques while on Peace Corps assignment in the Philippines in the mid-sixties. He is currently based in the heart of the coal country as President of West Virginia Wesleyan University.

The UMW is set for a strike Nov. 12 which will provide a pretext for massive political and economic chaos. Excerpts from the interview follow:

IPS: Are you in regular touch with Miller?

JDR: Yes. He doesn't like me to advertise the relationship, for obvious reasons, but we've spoken together at least three or four times over the last few weeks, usually late at night. That's the best time to talk to Arnold, you know.

IPS: When did you first meet him?

JDR: It was in the late 1960s. Arnold was involved in the Black Lung reform movement, which I, as Secretary of State of West Virginia, looked upon with sympathy. But earlier, when I was head of Action for Appalachian Youth (part of the "War on Poverty" apparatus and viaduct for various counterinsurgency--Ed.), I first made contact with a number of people high in the UMW bureaucracy who came to power with Miller's Miners for Democracy (MFD).

IPS: Did you know Jock Yablonski? (Yablonski was the MFD candidate for UMW murdered in 1970--Ed.)