

In a related development, Rockefeller stooge King Faisal of Saudi Arabia has threatened to lead a total Arab oil embargo should a fifth Arab-Israeli war erupt, according to the London Financial Times. Of course, a renewed use of Rockefeller's "Arab oil weapon" would be nothing more than a pretext for the activation of Rockefeller's fascist "energy conservation" measures.

According to press reports, the Syrian Air Force is currently on full alert and patrolling the skies over Damascus. Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Tlas has announced that Syria is ready for war, although the actual preparations taking place would remain secret. In Egypt, following last weekend's high-level meeting of Sadat's general staff, the Cairo military command has dispatched a team to Syria in order to "coordinate military actions." In addition, Syria and Egypt have undertaken "urgent contacts" with Jordan over war preparations.

Italian radio reports today described what could be the final provocation that would lead the Israelis to strike Syria. According to these reports, the Soviets are delivering 200 SCUD ground-to-ground missiles to Syria, of which 150 have already been delivered. The SCUDs are capable of reaching Israeli population centers carrying high explosives. The presence of the SCUDs has been cited as prompting Israel to consider a pre-emptive strike.

BANKS FORCE DAIRYLEA MILK COOP COLLAPSE

Nov. 20 (IPS)--Backed against the wall by creditors, the Dairylea Cooperative has decided to assess 8,000 dairy farmers a total of \$18.6 million to reduce its huge deficit. The assessment is expected immediately to bankrupt 10 per cent of Dairylea's membership. The collapse of Dairylea, representing 10 per cent of all dairy farmers in New York State, as well as members in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New England, is a hard blow for working class consumers.

Squeezed by the rising costs of grain and other farm supplies and by heavy debts, dairy farmers have already been wiped out by the hundreds this year across the country. Milk production, declining steadily since the mid-1960s, this year will hit the lowest level since 1948. The Dairylea assessment, costing the average producer \$2,300, is enough to push hundreds more over the brink in the Northeast region.

Dairylea's self-destruct act was forced when its major creditor, the Springfield, Mass. Bank for Cooperatives, demanded that Dairylea shift to a "pay as you go" basis immediately to cut its large losses. In an IPS interview today, a spokesman for the Springfield bank admitted that several other Northeastern milk co-ops also are nearing bankruptcy and were given similar "advice."

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The Bank for Cooperatives is part of the U.S. government-backed Farm Credit System. Largely farmer-owned, the Farm Credit System has been a traditional source of funds for farmers and farm cooperatives when private banks close their doors. However, according to Forbes magazine, representatives of the Rockefeller-controlled Federal Reserve System met with the Farm Credit Administration (FCA) head last June in an arm-twisting session, where they expressed "concern" over the expansion of FCA lending. The Dairy-lea bankruptcy clearly flows from the FCA's new tight-fisted "anti-inflationary" policy since the June meeting.

In addition, Dairy-lea is reported to have taken heavy losses in the Bohack food chain collapse engineered by the Rockefeller-linked Manufacturers Hanover Bank.

IPS is also investigating the suspicious role of Dairy-lea's newly-hired executive vice president David F. Greenwalt, who is said to be the main backer of the \$18.6 million assessment.

Times Watergated Dairy-lea

Also key is the role of the yellow press New York Times which effectively isolated Dairy-lea through a series of "watergating" exposes. In September, the Times suddenly revived a months-old case in which Dairy-lea was charged with milk adulteration. Although Dairy-lea already had been fined \$150,000, the Times self-righteously demanded a criminal investigation--leading to the recent indictments of several Dairy-lea officers. Through the Dairy-lea scandal, the Times also brought to task the New York State and U.S. Departments of Agriculture for their alleged failure to conduct adequate investigations.

The Rockefeller cabal has targetted both agriculture departments for a thorough house-cleaning to purge any residual pro-farmer elements. In the case of the New York agriculture department, the Commissioner himself is a former dairy farmer and ex-Dairy-lea officer.

ROCKEFELLERS IEA TO BYPASS CONGRESS IN OIL EMERGENCIES

Nov. 20 (IPS)--The International Energy Agency, a pet project of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, was brought into existence on Monday by 18 highly-industrialized oil consuming nations. Although no national legislation or machinery has been set up in the U.S. to allocate energy supplies to the IEA, both the Office of Preparedness and the State Department informed IPS today that if an oil emergency were to occur immediately, the "emergency energy plan" of the IEA would go into effect.

The "emergency plan" becomes operative when any member's oil supplies fall below seven per cent, at which point oil would be diverted from those countries with oil reserves.