

# Prince Charles seeks backers in Australia

by Don Veitch

The heir to the British throne, Prince Charles, is to visit Australia in January 1994 to take part in celebrations marking the 206th anniversary of British colonization in Australia. While in Australia, he will formalize a business network to push British imperial ambitions. Some 40 of Australia's top executives have joined the Prince of Wales's Business Leaders Forum, an international group sometimes described as Prince Charles's "shock troops."

The Prince of Wales's forum is one of many networks of business leaders and think-tanks working on behalf of International Monetary Fund (IMF) austerity and free trade, providing justifications for looting Australia. The forum is arguing for "sustainable development," i.e., a devolution of the economy into a low-technology mode, and meeting "social and environmental needs" in emerging economies. A spokesman for the forum said: "The prince sees Australian companies as having a key role to play in the worldwide mission he launched four years ago, along with U.S., European, and Japanese companies. The forum's goal is to demonstrate that it makes good business sense to be socially and environmentally responsible."

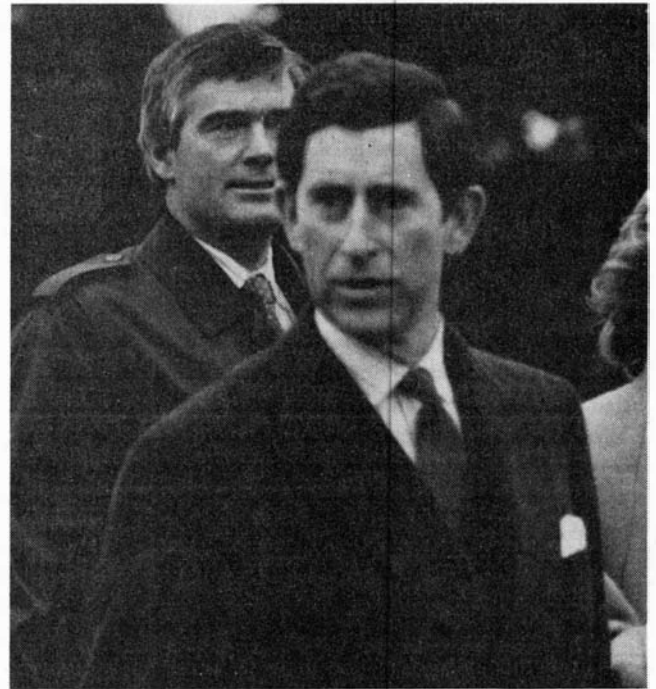
What members of the royal family mean by being "socially and environmentally responsible," is to attack the livelihood of the world's population. Prince Philip, for example, in Stockholm in June 1991, said that "ecological problems . . . are the result solely of human activity concerning industry, agriculture, forestry, and transportation. There are many large economic interests involved and it would be unrealistic to believe that we can achieve long-range environmental protection goals and conservation of the biodiversity without colliding with human economic interests."

Thus, environmentalist, free trade, and British imperial interests have emerged as one in the prince's forum, which links Australian business leaders directly to the anti-industrial, anti-development, and "greenie" agenda favored by the throne of England.

## Celebrating colonialism

Since 1990, forum members have been involved in helping to bring private enterprise to Russia and eastern Europe, as well as projects in South America, Southern Africa, Southeast Asia, China, and India.

Prince Charles's direct intervention into Australia is backed by such corporations as Coca-Cola Amatil, Weston



*Prince Charles is enlisting Australian businessmen to lock up the continent's resources and halt economic development. He may never succeed to the throne, but that won't keep him from pushing the Windsors' insane "green" agenda.*

Foods, Du Pont, and Philips Industries. Australia's largest banks and retailing, mining, and industrial companies are represented in the forum.

The timing and place of the meeting, on the eve of Australia Day and in the Legislative Council Chamber of New South Wales, Australia's oldest parliament, is significant. The purpose of his visit is to "celebrate" 206 years of British colonialism. Charles will preside over a gathering of his own selected councillors in the upper house of Australia's senior parliament. This initiative by a British royal is unprecedented in Australia in this century. It is as if the heir to the British throne is symbolically asserting his seigneurial rights to his colonies in Australia.

Prince Charles's forum is but the latest of a variety of think-tank networks in Australia pushing IMF austerity, shock therapy, and the whole free-trade looting agenda. The Business Council of Australia (BCA) is the wealthiest and most influential of such groups. The BCA's membership consists of the directors of the major Australian banks, insurance and oil companies, and the Australian branches of Anglo-American wealth: P&O, ICI, Du Pont, Jardine Matheson.

The Mission Statement of the BCA proclaims that it is working for an "open" and "market-oriented" economy "relatively free of regulation and government intervention." At a recent meeting, BCA chairman Brian Loton called on the nation to "stay the course" of IMF reform. Australia "must

become competitive," even though it will be a "painful" process, he admitted.

### A rogues' gallery

Prominent in both the BCA and the forum is Hugh Morgan's Western Mining Corp. WMC, Australia's largest mining company, has led the charge in attempting to smash ("deregulate") the labor market through another group, the H.R. Nicholl's Society, headed by Ray Evans, who is linked to the Mont Pelerin Society. WMC also funds the Tasman Institute in Victoria. This body advises the Victorian government of Jeff Kennett, a devotee of "economic rationalism." Also funding the Tasman Institute is Solomon Lew from Coles-Myer and the Reserve Bank, and Richard Pratt of Pratt Foundations. Pratt, Morgan, and Lew, or their companies, are all members of Kennett's private advisory body, the Round Table. Morgan is also part of the federal Liberal Party's think-tank, and the Institute of Public Affairs. The IPA is perhaps the most influential of the extremist free trade advocates which dominate the economic agenda in Australia.

Another think-tank is the Smorgon family-funded Sydney Institute, headed by Dr. Gerry Henderson, one of the most fanatical crusaders for free trade and deregulation in Australia. Not surprisingly, Henderson's think-tank has openly attacked U.S. statesman and "American System" economist Lyndon LaRouche.

Overlapping these groups is the Australian-American Dialogue, which was established in June 1993 to "broaden the economic, social, and political links" between the countries. The Dialogue group was initiated by George Bush and the head of Coca-Cola Amatil. Present in the group are representatives from the Liberal Party, BHP, the U.S. State Department, and Goldman Sachs.

The Australian prime minister's critical advisory group on the Australia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum consists of a group which includes Du Pont, WMC, Rod Adler of FAI insurance, and the wife of Australia's recently deceased junk bond king, Robert Holmes a'Court. APEC is emerging as a regional free-trade group.

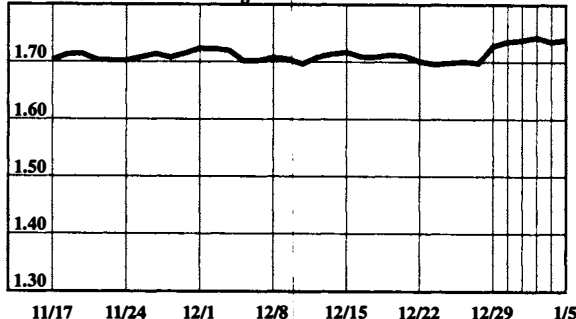
The Adler and Smorgon families are linked to Isi Leibler, co-chairman of the World Jewish Congress, through Leibler's Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs. Leibler, a Commander of the British Empire, is now leading a push into China through his company, JetSet.

Australian business leaders have done little to foster physical economy in Australia in recent times. Indeed, they are now firmly linked to the speculative and looting policies of British free-trade imperialism. One example of this is Rod Adler of FAI insurance. FAI insurance is linked to the BCA and the prime minister's advisory committee on APEC. Adler brags of his close connection to currency speculator George Soros, through Soros's company, Quantum Emerging Growth Partners, which now owns 10% of the Adler family company.

## Currency Rates

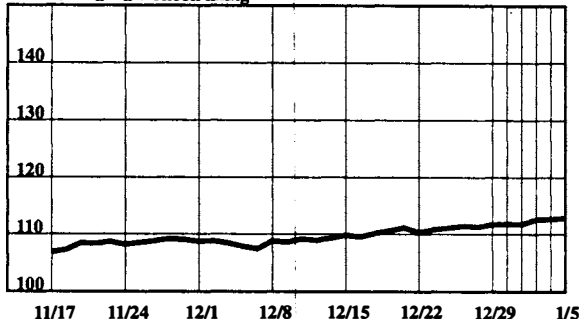
### The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



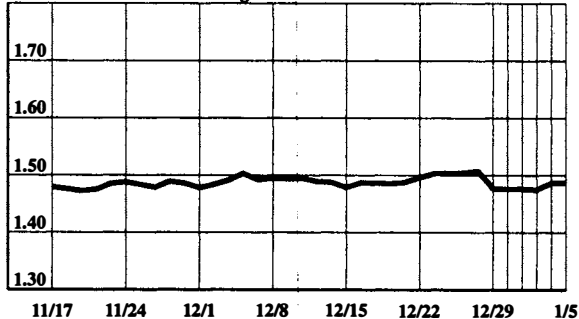
### The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



### The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



### The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

