

Buckminster Douglas E.  
Form 4  
November 29, 2010

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Buckminster Douglas E.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
AMERICAN EXPRESS CO [AXP]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
BELGRAVE HOUSE, 76  
BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
11/24/2010

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

Pres, Int'l Consumer & SBS

(Street)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

LONDON

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |                                                    | Code                           | V Amount (D) Price                                                |                                                                                               |                                                          |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 11/24/2010                           |                                                    | M                              | 39,984 A \$ 38.922                                                | 125,999                                                                                       | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    | 11/24/2010                           |                                                    | S                              | 38,100 (1) D \$ 42.7608 (2)                                       | 87,899                                                                                        | D                                                        |                                                       |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                   | 11,603 (3)                                                                                    | I                                                        | 401(k) Trust                                          |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) | Amount or Number of Shares |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 38.922                                              | 11/24/2010                           |                                                    | M                              | 39,984                                                                                  | 02/26/2003 <sup>(4)</sup> 02/25/2011                     | Common Stock                                                | 39,984                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                  | Relationships |           |                            |       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------|
|                                                                                 | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                    | Other |
| Buckminster Douglas E.<br>BELGRAVE HOUSE<br>76 BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD<br>LONDON |               |           | Pres, Int'l Consumer & SBS |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Michael G. Kuchs,  
attorney-in-fact  
Date: 11/29/2010

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Represents the sale of shares to cover the cost of exercise and applicable withholding taxes in connection with the exercise of employee stock options reported above.  
The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$42.70 to \$42.79. The reporting person undertakes to provide to American Express Company, any security holder of American Express Company, or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within this range.
  - (2) Shares held in reporting person's account under the Company's Retirement Savings Plan. This plan uses unit accounting, and the number of shares that a participant is deemed to hold varies with the unit price of the Company pooled stock fund.

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(4) These options vested in three equal annual installments beginning on the date shown as "Date Exercisable."

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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