

CHENAULT KENNETH I  
 Form 5  
 February 14, 2006

**FORM 5**

**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).  
 Form 3 Holdings Reported Form 4 Transactions Reported

**ANNUAL 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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 CHENAULT KENNETH I

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER, 200 VESEY ST, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10285

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/31/2005

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Chief Executive Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting

(check applicable line)

Form Filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form Filed by More than One Reporting Person

**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)	(A) or (D)	5. Amount or Price	6. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/27/2005	^	G	400	D	\$ 0	1,056,084	D	^
Common Stock	^	^	^	^	^	^	27,600	I	By Wife
Common Stock	^	^	^	^	^	^	14,903	I	By Grat II
	^	^	^	^	^	^	18,092	I	By Isp Trust

Common Stock										
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	40,764	I		By Trust For Children
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	86,000	I		GRAT 2005
Common Stock	12/27/2005	Â	G	400	A	\$ 0	43,611	I		Wife As Trustee/custodian

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

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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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Phantom Stock Units	\$ 0 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/27/2005 <sup>(2)</sup>	Â	J <sup>(2)</sup>	196 Â	Â <sup>(1)</sup> Â <sup>(1)</sup>	Common Stock	196 \$ 0

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CHENAULT KENNETH I 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER 200 VESEY ST, AMERICAN EXPRESS TOWER NEW YORK, NY 10285	Â X	Â	Â Chief Executive Officer	Â

## Signatures

/s/ Stephen P. Norman,  
attorney-in-fact

02/14/2006

\_\_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) The units are to be settled following the reporting person's retirement or other termination of service.
- (2) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under the Company's Supplemental Retirement Plan on 1/27/2005, 4/22/2005, 7/28/2005, and 10/11/2005, at prices ranging from \$49.18 to \$55.47 per share.
- (3) The phantom stock converts into common stock on a one-for-one basis.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.