

# TO: IBM STOCKHOLDERS

# FROM: IBM WORKERS

# UNITED

## WOULD IBM HAVE SOLD COMPUTERS TO HITLER?

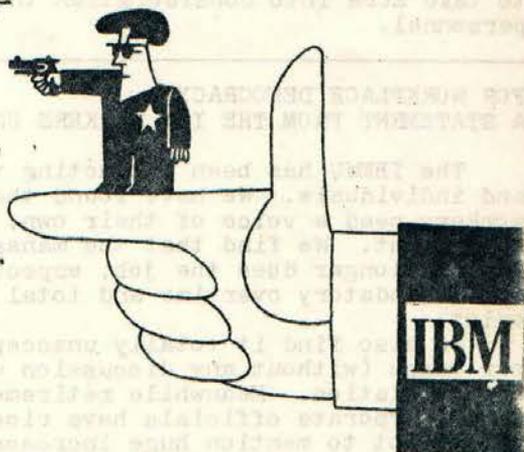
As you attend this annual IBM stockholder meeting, the cruel system of apartheid finds new victims. We in the IBMWU feel it is unnecessary to reinform you of what apartheid means to non-white South Africans. You should well know by now. We will tell you of IBM computerization of apartheid instead.

At least one third of all IBM business in South Africa is with the repressive government. IBM maintained and serviced computer systems are in many government agencies.

IBM's position is that these computers are used in normal administration operations; that all computer sales follow U.S. and U.N. regulations, and that they know of no use of any IBM computers in South Africa that directly support any part of apartheid.

At IBM's 1977 stockholder meeting, Chairman Cary said "We would not bid any business where we believe our products are going to be used to abridge human rights." But who's kidding who?

Even routine functions such as accounting and inventory control have an important effect when used in a police state. The use of IBM computers in South Africa goes beyond anything we in IBMWU felt could be called normal. Especially alarming and disgusting is the use of two of our 370/158 systems in the population registration system known as the "Book of Life". This system of registration keeps track of Asians, Coloureds, and whites much the same way the Nazis divided people into race catagories in Hitlers Europe. Each person is forced to carry a pass book of information about the individual. If you haven't one or it is "improper" you will go to jail. South Africa has one of the largest prison populations in the world. The Department of Prisons has an IBM 360/20, supposedly for "financial" use.



(over)

Yes Chairman Cary, you are right - Business is business, but how do the rest of us who work for IBM feel about the sale of human rights for profit. You have heard calls for withdrawal from church groups to divestment groups on our campuses and in our cities, and still IBM does business with the cruel South Africa regime. Now you will hear it from IBM workers--IBM OUT OF SOUTH AFRICA!  
The IBMWU supports the good work being done by anti-apartheid groups around the world.

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#### STATEMENT FROM IBM WORKERS IN FRANCE

In the Paris Headquarters of IBM World Trade for Europe, the permanent discontent and claims of the personnel express themselves through the union section of the powerful Confederation Francais et Democratique du Travail.

This union reaches the personnel thanks to its actions aiming at improving:

- the often unbearable working conditions
- the absence of practical education program for non-exempt personnel
- the abusive working hours and the unacceptable workloads
- the absence of career prospects for most people
- the sex discrimination
- the dehumanization and manipulation of employees, management decisions being mostly arbitrary.

In order to resist the growing influence of the C.F.D.T., the management who do not make any tangible social decision, try to make believe (which is not in fact the case) that IBM is still among the most socially advanced companies in France.

We want shareholders to be informed and to question the management of IBM World Trade Europe on its Personnel policy, and to force them to take more into consideration the discontent and claims of the personnel.

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#### FOR WORKPLACE DEMOCRACY

#### A STATEMENT FROM THE IBM WORKERS UNITED

The IBMWU has been contacting various IBM worker groups, unions and individuals. We have found that we all totally agree that IBM workers need a voice of their own, separate and independent from management. We find that the management controlled grievance procedure no longer does the job, especially in the manufacturing plants where mandatory overtime and total management control over our lives exist.

We also find it totally unacceptable that management controls our wages (without any discussion with employees), in this day of high inflation. Meanwhile retirement benefits for Chairman Cary and other Corporate officials have risen from \$120,000 to \$200,000 in one year! Not to mention huge increases in salary. This is especially disgusting considering what the majority of retired american workers are going through just trying to get by day after day.

As IBM workers UNITED we want:

- the right of all IBM workers to organize themselves into democratic committees in the plants, offices, and in the field.
- the right of these committees to federate into a rank & file controlled organization
- company financed day-care centers at all IBM facilities for working parents.
- worker control over health and safety, no more hazards being hidden by management.
- the installing of democratic work processes, (control over work speeds, overtime, an end to management "dictatorship").

To IBM stockholders(non-IBM) and corporate officials, you are no longer speaking for us. As IBM workers we will forge our own future. We will speak with our own voice. After all it is WE who create your dividends and profits. We will be silent no more.

For more information write: IBM Workers United