

'Israel' - the go-between

A closer examination of current Israeli-Zaire relations reveals distinct parallels to the Israeli role as imperialism's surrogate and arms merchant in Latin America. The Reagan Administration is anxious to increase military aid to Zaire, but has run into Congressional opposition due to Mobutu's horrible human rights record. Also, the imperialists are wary of the corrupt and near bankrupt state of Zaire's economy (despite, or rather because of, Mobutu's having amassed a personal fortune that runs in the billions). Mobutu hoped that by reestablishing relations with 'Israel', he could get the help of the Zionist lobby in influencing the US Congress. The Zionist lobby has complied, but even if their efforts don't bear fruit, 'Israel' can serve as a conduit for US aid. "In view of the Reagan Administration's policy to increase military aid to Zaire above the originally proposed \$20 million, and of Mobu-

tu's subsequent rejection of US aid, it would not be surprising if covert CIA funding of Israeli arms sales and assistance to Zaire are already in process" (*Journal of Palestine Studies*, No. 47, Spring 1983, p. 47).

In the coming issue of "Democratic Palestine", we will conclude this study by examining Israeli relations with the bantustans of South Africa.

For further information...

For a more thorough review and evaluation, see "Zaire and Israel: An American Connection", by Najib J. Hakim and Richard P. Stevens, *Journal of Palestine Studies* No. 47, Spring 1983, p. 41. Obtained from: *Journal of Palestine Studies*, P.O. Box 19449, Washington D.C. 20036, USA.

Profiteers of Reagan's Arms Build-up

The US General Electric Company

by Wieland Orth

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First and foremost, the US General Electric (GE) company extolls products serving "human progress", such as educational facilities, environmental control mechanisms and medical devices for fighting cancer. In so doing, the company wants to make the public believe that it is "peace-loving". If possible, they camouflage the fact that they manufacture a wide variety of armaments.

Wide-ranging production for arms build-up

In reality GE has been one of the big earners from the arms deals for many years. It ranked fifth amongst the Pentagon's main contractors with an arms production turnover of \$2,200 million in 1980, and fourth with \$3,000 million in 1981. The 1982 internal GE company report stated, "Top-quality technology has made General Electric one of the leading US armament contractors; many of its space products and aircraft engines are of vital importance to national security. "National security" - its managers, too, are good at paraphrasing a relentless and unrestrained arms build-up. On the one hand, this company has a decisive influence on governmental policies. On the other hand, it benefits enormously from Reagan's policy of confrontation, from involvement in the development and production of the

first-strike weapons directed against the Soviet Union, the other socialist countries and against the progressive third world countries. Together with other arms manufacturers, it creates the military and technological prerequisites needed to wage and win a nuclear war,

through which the US intends to attain world domination.

As to the US nuclear build-up, Western media always mentions five companies imperative to this. General Electric is on top of the tree, being in monopoly control over significant areas concerned with nuclear energy sections, principally nuclear warheads and reactors for warships and submarines, a market which is shared between GE and Westinghouse.

Pratt & Whitney (United Technologies) and GE are the leading US aircraft suppliers. Thus the ultra-modern

