F-35
"Joint Strike Fighter"

Lockheed Martin is the prime contractor for F-35 stealth bombers.

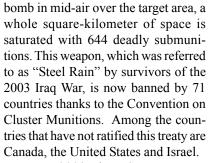Israel will be the first non-NATO country to receive F-35 warplanes.

LM also manufactures the M270 Multiple Launch Rocket System.

The M270 fires M26 cluster bombs that travel up to 32 km before dispersing 644 submunitions which then saturate a square-kilometre with "Steel Rain."

M270

Microsoft

Canada Pension Plan Investments

2012 shares = $367 million
(Direct & indirect investments)

2011 shares = $105 million
(Direct investments only)

With 2011 revenues reaching US$70 billion and total assets of US$108 billion, this computer behemoth is the world's largest software manufacturer. Meanwhile, Microsoft's co-founder and current chairman, Bill Gates, consistently ranks among the world's richest men.

Israel has an key role in the Microsoft empire. While the company makes US$120 million in annual sales in Israel, Gates has proclaimed that country to be on the "cutting edge of world technology." Founded in 1989, Microsoft Israel (MI) is the firm's largest R&D Centre outside the US. Gates has praised MI saying Microsoft is "super-satisfied with the contributions of our R&D center in Haifa."

Gates explains that "there are specialists in Israel in fields like information security who get much of their experience from their service in the army." Consider long-time MI executive Moshe Lichtman. A 2011 *Haaretz* article says Lichtman "served in a Phantom [F-4 warplane] squadron, and...carried out attacks on Lebanon." "I took part in all sorts of operations," he said of missions in the 1982 war when Israel invaded Lebanon.

Lichtman also described MI's Zionist agenda: "I am not ashamed to say that one of the center's objectives is also Zionist. It has helped draw Jews back to Israel – high-tech people...."

MI's political stance sparked controversy for Microsoft in 2002 when it erected billboards using Microsoft's logo and the text "From the depth of our heart – thanks to The Israeli Defence Forces" [IDF] against a backdrop of Israel's flag. Adam Keller, spokesperson for Israeli peace group Gush Shalom, wrote in protest to Bill Gates to denounce Microsoft for

"disseminating crude nationalistic and militaristic propaganda at Israeli population centers, and effectively

bomb in mid-air over the target area, a whole square-kilometer of space is saturated with 644 deadly submunitions. This weapon, which was referred to as "Steel Rain" by survivors of the 2003 Iraq War, is now banned by 71 countries thanks to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Among the countries that have not ratified this treaty are Canada, the United States and Israel.

In 2008, the US government approved the US$22 billion export of 25 of LM's F-35 warplanes to Israel, with an option for 50 more later. Israel will be the first non-NATO country to receive these stealth fighter bombers.

References
Top 100 Defense Contractors, *Defense News*
www.defensenews.com

Top 100 Defense Contractors, Gov't Executive
www.govexec.com

"Companies that Support the Israeli Occupation of Palestinian Land," United Methodist Church - New England.
www.neumc.org/console/files/oFiles_Library_XZXLCZ/Companies_Recommended_for_Divestment_HJKKVNTP.pdf

Contracts to Lockheed Martin Corp.
www.fedspending.org/fpds/search.php

Lockheed Martin
www.boycott-israel.co.uk/business-links/122-lockheed-martin

Government Contracts USA Defense Dep't
www.governmentcontractswon.com

Israeli Air Force
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli_Air_Force

General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/F-16#Israel

Israeli Air Force, Wikipedia
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli_Air_Force#Missiles.2C_bombs_and_satellites

"Profiting from Occupation: UK and International Companies Complicit in Israeli War Crimes Against Palestinians," Corporate Watch, 2009.
corporateoccupation.files.wordpress.com/2010/02/palestine_cw_report.pdf

AGM-114 Hellfire
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AGM-114

Robert Fisk, *The Great War for Civilisation: The Conquest of the Middle East*, 2005. pp.773-788.

Michele Esposito, "The Israeli Arsenal Deployed Against Gaza During Operation Cast Lead," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Oct. 29, 2009.
www.palestine-studies.org/files/pdf/jps/10341.pdf

Israel – Joint Direct Attack Munitions, June 1, 2004.
www.dsca.mil/pressreleases/36-b/2004/israel_%2004-09.pdf

Israel – Various Munitions and Weapon Systems, August 3, 2007.
www.dsca.mil/pressreleases/36-b/2007/Israel_07-32.pdf

GBU-28
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GBU-28

"Bunker bomb sale to Israel," *Reuters*, April 27, 2005.
www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3077976,00.html

David S. Cloud and Helene Cooper, "US Speeds up Bomb Delivery for the Israelis," *New York Times*, July 22, 2006.
www.nytimes.com/2006/07/22/world/middleeast/22military.html

M270 Multiple Launch Rocket System
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M270_Multiple_Launch_Rocket_System

Israeli MLRS Firing into Lebanon
www.youtube.com/watch?v=aAMma_qoVlA

Lockheed Martin
www.caiaweb.org/tfp/Lockheed_Martin.html

lend[ing] its public support to the destructive war recently launched by the Sharon Government – a war sharply censured by the international community and controversial among citizens of Israel."

MI's public praise for the IDF came during its attacks on the Jenin refugee camp in which Amnesty International (AI) said the military committed war crimes such as unlawful killings and torture. AI also said the IDF used civilians as human shields, bulldozed houses with people inside, and prevented ambulances and aid groups from helping Palestinian victims.

Later that year, Microsoft landed a large, 3-year IDF contract. Israel's business paper, *Globes,* said this deal allowed "the Israeli defense establishment to use Microsoft desktop and enterprise software." The agreement involved the IDF teleprocessing brigade and its Central Data Processing Unit. *Globes* noted that "Israel's military procurement from Microsoft will be financed mainly with US aid."

MI's cozy relations with the IDF came to light again in 2004 when Israeli novelist Oz Shelach wrote to Microsoft saying that MI "promotes Israeli Military propaganda by propagating content from the Israeli Military's radio station." Shelach also said MI provides "the Military's radio station with web hosting, and an advanced content management system."

"The IDF radio station," said Shalach, "is one of the Israeli Military's important tools of propaganda. Its 'news' programs are supervised by the Israeli Military's Spokesperson's HQ." Shalach should know. During his military service in the late 1980s, he was a reporter and editor for Israeli army radio. When the First Intifada broke out, Shalach says he was involved in "editing problematic material, and sometimes airing lies." He now supports Israeli conscientious objectors.

Microsoft's website describes an "Intelligence System" called the "Microsoft SQL Server 2005" employed by "1,700 users spread across about 100 police stations in Israel." Microsoft's "Government Intelligence Systems" webpage says that:

"Armed with the right intelligence systems, law enforcement, intelli-

gence, and defense agencies can prevent and mitigate cross-border terrorism and combat crime."

Microsoft says Israel's police "simplified investigations by unifying 2 terabytes of intelligence data from more than 20 applications." It quotes an "intelligence system leader at the Israel Police" who said that, thanks to Microsoft, "from a single screen, intelligence officers can work on their own, exploring the full range of data and get virtually instant results." Microsoft's puff piece goes on to claim:

"With 27,000 officers protecting 6.7 million people, the Israel Police is regarded as one of the most progressive, best-trained, and most dedicated forces in the world,"

When Gates visited to Israel in 2005, *Globes* reported that he met with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, acting Finance Minister Ehud Olmert and "CEOs of leading Israeli companies using Microsoft products." Meeting Gates were corporate execs from firms deeply involved in serving Israel's military and spy agencies, like Amdocs, Hapoalim, Bezeq's Pelephone and Verint Systems (see previous issue, pp.5, 10, 11, 43-47), as well as NICE and Partner Communications. (See this issue, pp.24-25, 29.)

Microsoft's website includes a 2009 case study describing the Israeli Navy's use of several of its products:

"The Navy decided to upgrade its computers to the Windows Vista Enterprise operating system [for] improved desktop control, simplified deployment and maintenance tasks, [and] enhanced security....

[T]he Navy relies heavily on applications...developed...using the Microsoft.NET Framework.

The Israeli Navy needed a platform to develop and run the latest applications for national defense. It also needed an operating system that could take advantage of the latest hardware architecture....and work with the...Windows Server 2008 operating system, which the IDF is currently implementing.....

The Israeli Navy ...upgrade[d] its workstations to Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2007.

IT staff implemented Microsoft System Center Configuration Man-

ager 2007.... [and] the Navy is taking advantage of Windows Firewall and User Account Control ....

The Navy also uses Microsoft System Center Data Protection Manager...[and] Microsoft System Center Operations Manager 2007.

Finally, the Navy implement[ed] Microsoft Exchange Server 2007 e-mail messaging and collaboration software, and upgraded its work-stations to Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2007."

Another case study on Microsoft's website details the use of its software by the IDF's Information Systems Division. In 2010, more than 100 of its employees were using Microsoft Dynamics CRM software to provide IT services to Israel's Defense Ministry.

References

"Bill Gates in Israel...," *Globes*, Oct. 23, 2005. www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp?did= 1000022124

"Bill Gates – Israel is a high tech superpower," Oct. 30, 2005. israel21c.org/technology/bill-gates-israel-is-a-high-tech-superpower

Guy Grimland, "An insider's view of Microsoft Israel, a 'Zionist center,'" *Haaretz*, Oct. 14, 2011. www.haaretz.com/weekend/week-s-end/an-insider-s-view-of-microsoft-israel-a-zionist-center-1.389900

Microsoft supports Israeli army, April 19, 2002. www.inminds.co.uk/boycott-news-0022.html

Battle of Jenin (April 1–11, 2002) en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Jenin

Defense Ministry signs 3-year agreement with Microsoft, December 9, 2002. www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp?did= 641798

Ask Microsoft to stop Sponsoring Israeli Military Radio oznik.com/news/040326.html

Israel Police www.microsoft.com/casestudies/Case_Study_Detail. aspx?casestudyid=201101

"Bill Gates in Israel Wed," *Globes*, October 23, 2005. www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp? did=1000022124

Galya Yemini, "Microsoft owner Bill Gates to visit Israel on October 25," *Haaretz*, October 19, 2005 www.haaretz.com/news/microsoft-owner-bill-gates-to-visit-israel-on-october-25-1.172116

Israeli Navy www.microsoft.com/casestudies/Windows-Vista-Enterprise-Centralized-Desktops/Israeli-Navy/Navy-Deploys-Windows-Vista/4000004302

Israel Ministry of Defense Information Systems www.microsoft.com/india/casestudies/microsoft-dynamics-crm-3.0/israel-ministry-of-defense-information-systems-division/ministry-of-defense-improves-it-support-with-customer-relationship-management-system/ 4000006590