

Renault SA

Canada Pension Plan Investments

2012 shares = \$39 million
(Direct & Indirect investments)

2011 shares = \$19 million
(Direct investments only)

While Renault, with some US\$90 billion in assets, is the largest car manufacturer in France, it also produces military trucks. In fact, Renault helped create the largest truck company in Europe and the second largest in the world, when it joined forces with the Swedish company, Volvo. (See p.50.)

Renault is now the largest shareholder in Volvo, holding a 22% stake in the company. Renault Trucks has a military division that makes thirteen varieties of “tactical, logistic and armoured vehicles” for “high intensity infantry combat,” “special forces,” “internal security” and “weapons system carriers.” Its slogan is “Whatever the Mission, Wherever, Whenever.” With such complicity in war profiteering, it’s no wonder Renault is excluded from the FTSE4Good index for responsible investors, developed by Eiris and the Financial Times Stock Exchange.

During World War II, when Vichy France capitulated with the Nazis, Renault built more than 34,000 military trucks for the German occupiers. After the war, France arrested Renault’s founder on charges of industrial collaboration with the Nazis, and promptly nationalized the company.

The Volvo Group

The “Who Profits from the occupation” database reports that Renault holds 18% of an Israeli company called The Volvo Group, and is its largest shareholder. Israel’s Volvo Group makes trucks, engineering equipment and buses. Its member companies, in particular Volvo Construction Equipment and Volvo Trucks, make bulldozers and other vehicles

“used in house demolitions of Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem, and in the construction of military checkpoints and Israeli settlements in the West Bank.”

Through another subsidiary, Volvo Buses, the Volvo Group owns 27% of an Israeli firm called Merkavim. The “Who Profits” database reveals that Merkavim makes buses used “for transporting prisoners for the Israeli Prison Authority. These buses are then used for the transporting of Palestinian political prisoners from

Electric Vehicles

Another link between Renault and Israel’s military is its commitment to supply of 100,000 vehicles to Better Place, a US-Israeli electric car company. (Better Place is 35% owned by Israel Corp. See pp.6-7.) Israeli firms and government ministries are expected to be among its main customers. In 2009, Is-

Renault owns 22% of Volvo and is its largest shareholder



Umm Al Kheer, S.Hebron Hills, West Bank

www.whoprofits.org

Through Volvo, Renault is complicit in making equipment used not only to build illegal Israeli settlements and military checkpoints, but also to demolish Palestinian homes. Israeli police and 1,000 medium-ranked military officers were supplied with Renault’ cars.



the occupied territory to prisons inside Israel, these buses are also used as mobile interrogation rooms for political prisoners.” Merkavim’s armored buses are also used to transport people to and from almost all of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank.

Military Police patrol cars

The Israeli military police have used patrol cars made by Renault, specifically its “Megane” model. Israel’s military have also used Renault’s “Megane” as the official vehicle that it supplied to about one thousand medium-ranked officers.

rael’s business paper, *Globes*, said “Better Place is in talks with the [Israeli] Ministry of Defense to add electric cars to the defense establishment fleet.” The plan is for Renault cars to “be included in the Ministry of Defense’s service fleet, which operates several hundred cars, and in the IDF [Israel Defense Force] fleet, which numbers 8,000 cars.”

With Israel as a lab to test the Better Place system, Israel’s sales director said in early 2012 that “5,000 Fluences will be silently running on Israeli roads and highways within a year.”

Israel’s military, *Globes* said, was also “considering applying Better

Rockwell Collins Inc.

Canada Pension Plan Investments

2012 shares = \$4 million
(Direct & indirect investments)

2011 shares = \$6 million
(Direct investments only)

Place's recharging infrastructure at IDF bases." *Inside Climate News* reported that "In Israel, Better Place infrastructure would support future electric military jeeps, dune buggies and other vehicles."

Globes reports that "50 firms in Israel... plan to replace company cars with 35,000 electric cars." These firms include Israel's third largest war industry, Rafael. (See previous issue, pp.48-49.) Several other firms catering to the IDF and Israel's military industries, like Matix IT and Orbotech, a former Elron company, are also planning to convert their fleets, as are Pelephone (owned by Bezeq) and Partner Communications. (See previous issue, p.11, and this issue p.29.)

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These unpowered, 2,000-pound "Guided Bomb Units" are dropped from Israel's US-made F-15 warplanes.

Data obtained by the Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade from the "Government Contracts USA Defense Dep't" database show that between 1999 and 2009, Rockwell and its subsidiaries received 94 contracts worth US\$69.9 million for products and services related to AH-64 attack helicopters, and F-15 and F-16 fighter/bombers. The US has exported aircraft of all three types to Israel which used them, for example, in air strikes against Lebanon (2006) and Gaza (2008-2009). Rockwell Collins' contracts for these weapons systems included:

- US\$67.6 million for components in F-15s (including US\$23 million for weapons-related hardware such as "Gunnery Fire Control Components"),
- US\$1.8 million in technical repair services for F-16s, and
- US\$464,000 for the AH-64's "Gunnery Fire Control Components."

Although it has military revenues totaling US\$2.9 billion, this US company was selected by the Ethisphere Institute to be one of the "World's Most Ethical Companies" in 2011. Rockwell Collins is also among the world's most successful war industry, ranking 27th largest by military revenues. The company promotes itself and its role in the production of various weapons systems with these words:

- "battle-proven communication, navigation, instrument landing systems" for fighter and bomber aircraft,
- electronics for "missiles and munitions" such as "critical guidance, navigation and controls needed to put a weapon on target," and
- "surveillance, targeting and communications" for aerial drones used "in some of the world's toughest battlespace."

Rockwell Collins sold US\$7.04 billion worth of such products and services to US military departments and agencies between 2000 and 2009. These contracts made up 99% of its business with the US federal government. The company was the US military's 33rd largest supplier in 2009 and ranked within the top-50 Pentagon contractors between 2004 and 2009.

Although Rockwell Collins has been among the world's top 35 war industries every year since 2002, its predecessor, Rockwell International, was America's number one military contractor in the 1980s. Rockwell International was, for instance, the prime contractor for GBU-15 bombs, which are still part of the Israel's arsenal.

Israeli F-16I armed with GBU-15s



GBU-15

These 2,000-pound "Guided Bomb Units" dropped from Israel's US-made F-15 and F-16 warplanes, were made by Rockwell Collins' predecessor, Rockwell International.

The Jewish Virtual Library reported in 2010, that Rockwell Collins' "Cedar Rapids offices have long been selling military and civilian products to Israel. Currently, for example, Israel's military is buying navigation and communications equipment. Rockwell also subcontracts some of its defense work to Israeli companies."

Rockwell Collins' 2010 annual report lists Israel among its "principal markets outside the U.S."