

STOP IBM's

AID TO COMMUNIST COUNTRIES

Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria have purchased IBM's 1400 series data processing systems. Now IBM is in the process of selling its most advanced system, the 360 series, to these countries as well as East Germany.

Although IBM has not yet sold these systems to the Soviet Union, it is only a matter of time. It should be pointed out that these Communist nations share technological information.

Especially revealing was a news item in *The Washington Post* of March 4, 1968: "The American firm IBM has taken the unusual step of hiring a local man in a Socialist country to be its representative there. He is Marjan Dermastija, 58, formerly head of the Yugoslav railways and governor of the National Bank. He's also a current member of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly, presenting an unusual conflict-of-interest situation for Yugoslavia." (Also poses an "unusual conflict-of-interest situation" for IBM, not to mention a further compromise of American security.)

IBM refuses to accept responsibility for its actions, but directs all who question its Communist trade to the State Department. Here is what the State Department might say:

1. "IBM's computer sales will help 'woo' the satellites away from the Soviet Union." But the U.S. has tried, through foreign aid and trade, to implement such a policy. Satellite nations continue to adhere to the international Communist line, whether in the United Nations, the Middle East, or Vietnam.

2. "IBM Communist trade will help demonstrate the superiority of capitalism to the Communists." Obviously the Communists realize that IBM products are superior, or they wouldn't buy them. The best way to make the Communists realize the inefficiency of their system is to have them suffer the consequences of that system, not to make up its deficiencies.

The Wisconsin, Washington, D.C., Massachusetts, and Missouri state YAF organizations joined the STOP-IBM campaign in February. The STOP-IBM campaign has become a major national YAF project.

Is your state organization or chapter doing its part?

"The capitalist countries of Western Europe and America will grant us credits, which will fill the coffers of the Communist organizations in their countries while they enlarge and improve our armaments industry by supplying all kinds of wares, which we shall need for future and successful attacks against our suppliers."

— V. I. Lenin

THE issue of East-West trade, or, more bluntly, trading with the Communists, is a simple and yet challenging one for Americans. It is simple because the questions involved and the overriding considerations of policy lead to the conclusion that such trade is *not* in the best interests of the United States. The issue is complex for several reasons:

The arguments for Communist trade are stated in emotional terms. Proponents of such trade are said to be *for* peace. Opponents are said to be militating *for* war. The proponents are in power, and Congressional opponents must watch the administration closely. The Commerce Department continues to authorize shipments of strategic materials, and Congressman Glenard Lipscomb of California spoke for many when he questioned the way in which the Export Control Act is administered.

The issue is further complicated in that it is related to other administration programs. When war policy in Vietnam continues to stress limited use of American

"The Soviet Union is experiencing great difficulty in the field of automatic data processing. This situation exists despite the fact that it is well publicized that the Soviet Union is second rank in the world in production of computers. Why is this so? An explanation is given by M. Glushkov, Head of Cybernetics of the Economy of Science, USSR:

Of special concern are the low reliability of computers and ancillary devices and the sub-standard quality of magnetic tapes. . . the best computers made in the Soviet Union operate only a few hundred hours between failures, while ancillary devices break down practically daily, and the information stored on tape cannot be stored without some loss for more than a month. Magnetic tapes are not interchangeable, e.g., the mass of information recorded on tape for one computer cannot be used by another unit.

He also says that foreign made computers offer an important advantage to the USSR in that they come equipped with programming much superior to that available to users of Soviet computers. In recent years, millions of dollars of Western computers have flowed to the Soviet Union and East European states. Because many of these computers are exported from the United Kingdom and France it often goes unnoticed how much these computers incorporate component parts constructed in the United States. For instance, a \$915,000 British computer installed at Bratislava, Czechoslovakia recently required some \$96,000 worth of American parts for continued operation. This computer, interestingly enough, was purchased by the Czechs to optimize production in a petroleum refinery which it appears processes Rumanian and Soviet crude oil."

— Rep. Glenard P. Lipscomb, March 8, 1967

"The heart of research here is the computer. Here the Russians admit they're behind the United States by 5, even 10 years. But Soviet scientists have come a long way from the days when Stalin decreed that computers were a wicked, capitalist invention. Without the computer, there would be no Soviet space program.

— Frank McGee on NBC, January 7, 1968

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The Case Against East-West Trade

power, rather than a victory policy in theory and practice, it is not surprising to see greater Communist trade advocated by the administration.

True, there is a war going on. Yet our determination and our mobilization of resources for *winning* that war are questionable. Since the administration seems to view Communist initiatives as unrelated and uncoordinated, it is not illogical, given this absurd assumption, to follow both a policy of military stalemate in Southeast Asia and economic assistance for the Soviet Union and Eastern European Communist nations.

A Detente With Communism?

In other words, as Dr. Richard Allen of Stanford University has pointed out, given the assumptions of a detente with Communism, the pursuit of Communist trade is a logical corollary. Given that a detente does not exist (examples: Southeast Asia and the Vietnam conflict, the Middle East and the Soviet role in the Arab-Israeli conflict, Latin America and Cuban subversion), it follows that East-West trade is folly.

The arguments against Communism trade do not hinge on the Vietnam conflict. Although it is foolish to supply nations which provide moral and material support to an enemy in wartime, if the Vietnam conflict