

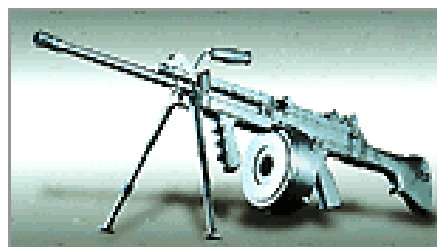
Where is TIAA-CREF's money going? Bankrolling Burma's Bloody Dictators

*"If forced labor goes hand-in-glove with the military, yes there will be more forced labor."
- John Imle, former President, Unocal*

Few of its shareholders may realize that TIAA-CREF, the largest U.S. pension fund, is invested in weapons trafficking and a company that is on trial for human rights abuses overseas. Here's a few facts about two of TIAA-CREF's irresponsible investments:

Singapore Technologies (ST): This company, one of the largest in Asia, has, through its subsidiary Chartered Industries, been a vital player in the Burmese regime's small arms capacity, including providing a factory so that the junta can manufacture its own small arms. ST has also played a role in the notoriously controversial Yadana oil pipeline project as weapons produced through this factory have been issued to troops in the pipeline area.

The company has been connected to the massacres of non-violent demonstrators and ethnic minority civilians. In 1988, during peaceful protests where thousands of Burmese protested the military's iron grip on power, the military massacred as many as 10,000 people including children and monks, even gunning down injured demonstrators in Rangoon's hospitals. Right before the massacre, Chartered shipped massive amounts of ammunition, mortars, and other weapons materials to Burma.



Unocal: Along with French-owned Total, this California-based company is the most notorious of the junta's foreign business-partners, and is the largest U.S. investor in Burma. Unocal is currently on trial over human rights abuses associated with its project in Burma, being sued by Burmese plaintiffs in both California and U.S. Courts. The Yadana pipeline project, a joint-venture of Unocal, Total, the Petroleum Authority of Thailand, and a state-owned Burmese company, has been built at an enormous cost counted in uprooted villages, displaced persons, murder and rape victims, and deforestation. In 2000, a U.S. federal district Court concluded that "the evidence does suggest that Unocal knew that forced labor was being utilized and that [Unocal and Total, a co-venturer in the Yadana project] benefited from the practice." The State Dept. documented how the project contracted Burma's military to "provide security", and Unocal's President at the time of the project's implementation, John Imle, has admitted that he knew the military was pressing people into forced labor for the Project's infrastructure and that "more forced labor" would result as the project progressed.

Unocal maintains that their presence in Burma is welcome. However, countless Burmese organizations from Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy to the Federated Trade Unions of Burma have called on the company to pull out of Burma.

*Call TIAA-CREF today! Tell them to dump their stock in ST, and to urge Unocal to leave Burma!
Call the new TIAA-CREF CEO Herbert Allison; at 800-842-2733. Ask for Mr. Allison or ext. 4280.*

**For more information on the campaign to get TIAA-CREF to support human rights in Burma, or for about the struggle for human rights and democracy in Burma, please contact:
Free Burma Coalition, 1101 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, #204, Washington, D.C. 20003
info@freeburmacoalition.org, www.freeburmacoalition.org; 202-547-5985**