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INDONESIAN WORKERS

Since the 1965 coup it has been extremely difficult to obtain information on working conditions and labor activism in Indonesia. This May, however, the Indonesian Documentation and Information Center in Leiden, the Netherlands, published **Indonesian Workers and their Right to Organize**, a 160-page book containing recent reports from and about Indonesian workers.

Of particular interest, INDOC briefly describes Fairchild Semiconductor's Jakarta assembly plant, which currently employs more than 4200 people. Fairchild dismissed two union members, charging them with "seeking information about the firm to make it available to the workforce." Though one was re-hired, the two complained of other dismissals. INDOC also reported, "They also stated that there was a trade union unit in the enterprise but that it did nothing to fight for an improvement in working conditions since its board was appointed directly by the management."

INDOC cites a 1976 interview with Fairchild Indonesia's top executive, an American: "If management works well, then a labor union is hardly necessary . . . That is why we do not work on the basis of a Collective Labour

Agreement.' He regarded himself as less of a manager than a father 'taking care of his family.'" (p. 39)

Indonesian Workers can be ordered (via surface mail) by transferring Hfl17,50 to INDOC Leiden, Account Number 56.60.95.122 of Algemene Bank Nederland, Box 11034, 2301 EA Leiden, NETHERLANDS.