



## List names 113 Dead or Missing in Guatemala

A list of 113 cases of death squad killings and "disappearances" in Guatemala during the last quarter of 1977 was released by *AI* on 22 February. None of those killed or missing was considered to be a victim of abduction for ransom, murder for financial gain, or murder in private quarrels. Each case appeared to be part of a longstanding pattern of political murder and intimidation. Official investigations into the cases have been insubstantial and inconclusive.

More than 20,000 Guatemalans have been murdered by paramilitary groups since 1966. These groups were originally formed in response to leftwing guerrilla activity and enjoy total impunity before the law. An apparent decline in the number of killings in urban areas early in 1977 was followed by a significant increase in violence by mid-summer.

*AI* said that there was little indication that the Guatemalan authorities had taken any action over the past year to stop the free operation of the death squads. There was, however, considerable evidence that the highest levels of government tacitly condoned the continuing abductions and murders, especially of peasant farmers and of the urban poor □

### SOVIET WORKERS DOCUMENT PSYCHIATRIC ABUSE

*AI* has received new documentation from Moscow issued by the unofficial Association of Free Trade Unions of Workers in the USSR, whose formation was announced in Moscow by a group of workers in January 1978.

*AI* has delivered their appeal for recognition as a trade union, dated 1 February, to the International Labour Organization.

The documents list dozens of cases of workers who it states have been confined to psychiatric hospitals in recent years for protesting too vigorously about poor working conditions and for persistently lodging complaints against their work superiors. One of the documents, an open letter signed by 43 workers, details 14 such cases since January 1977.

Between December 1977 and the end of February 1978, ten of the workers who signed these documents had been detained by police. Four of these have been confined to psychiatric hospitals. Seven of the detained members were "missing" or known to be in psychiatric hospitals on 27 February. From the workers' documents, *samizdat* and emigré sources, it appears that a number of these workers have been acting collectively in support of their complaints since 1976 □

### FAIR TRIALS DENIED IN IRAN

On 28 February, English barrister Brian WROBEL testified to the United States Congressional Sub-Committee on International Organizations, that despite recent amendments to the law, trial procedures for political prisoners in Iran "were such as to deny defendants any possibility of a fair trial".

Mr Wrobel, who gave his testimony on *AI*'s behalf, had attended a political trial in Tehran, Iran's capital, in April 1977. He stressed that fair trials are not afforded to those people charged with offences over which the military tribunal has jurisdiction. He pointed out that as long as defendants are not permitted to call formal evidence that a confession has been improperly extracted, denials of ill-treatment during interrogation may not command a great deal of respect.

*AI* publicized Mr Wrobel's testimony and a detailed analysis of the procedure governing military tribunals which was submitted to the Shah of Iran in November 1977. This submission summarized the major areas of *AI*'s concern about trial procedures:

- no legal advice is permitted on arrest;
- no legal advice is permitted during lengthy pre-trial detention;
- preliminary investigations before the examining magistrate are conducted in secret by the National Intelligence and Security Organization (SAVAK). No legal advice or representation is permitted;
- defence counsel, who are military officers or civilians whose "competence" has been endorsed by the authorities, are not permitted to meet their clients freely before trial. The defence is allowed only 15 days to study the file at the bureau of the court, depending on "sufficiency of time" but is not given its own copy of the file. There is no procedure by which defence counsel may ask to appear before the tribunal to make preliminary applications;

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### APPEALS ON DEATH SENTENCES IN UNITED STATES

*AI* made several appeals to United States Governors George C. WALLACE of Alabama and George BUSBEE of Georgia during January and February to exercise clemency on behalf of two black prisoners under sentence of death.

In Alabama, Johnny HARRIS was due to be executed on 10 March after being convicted of participation in the killing of a prison guard, but benefited from a stay of execution of 60 days.

In Georgia, Gary Lee HAWES remains under a death sentence imposed in 1976 when, aged 15, he was convicted of murder.

In its appeal to Governor Busbee *AI* pointed out that article 6 of the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, signed by President CARTER on 5 October 1977, states:

"Sentences of death shall not be imposed for crimes committed by persons below the 18 years of age. . . ."

• In February and March *AI* appealed to President Carter and to Governor James B. Hunt of North Carolina on behalf of adopted prisoners James GRANT, Charles PARKER and T J REDDY, known as the "Charlotte Three".

*AI* acted in support of a petition for a pardon of innocence submitted to Governor Hunt by the three black political activists who were convicted of arson in April 1972.

In the letter to President Carter, *AI* stressed that, despite the charges, *AI* "is convinced that the real reason for their imprisonment was their political activities and ethnic origin" □

### AI REPORTS ON BANGLADESH

On 27 February *AI* released the report of its mission to Bangladesh which expresses concern at the wide jurisdiction given to martial law courts to try civilians as well as members of the armed forces.

*AI* drew attention to at least 130 and perhaps several hundred summary executions of military personnel which followed the abortive military uprisings in September and October 1977. These executions were carried out after summary trial by military tribunals and continued at least until December. "We are gravely disturbed at these executions, particularly in view of the absence of legal safeguards in military trial procedures where trials are held *in camera* without appeal to a legal authority," *AI* stated.

The report also expresses concern at the *Continued on next page, column 1*

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wide powers to arrest and detain political prisoners contained in the Special Powers Act and the Emergency Power Rules and estimates that the number of political prisoners in Bangladesh is between 10,000 and 15,000. The report, prepared following a visit by Sean MACBRIDE SC and a member of AI's International Secretariat, from 4 to 12 April 1977, was presented to the Bangladesh government on 23 June.

In a foreword to the report, Thomas HAMMARBERG, Chairman of AI's International Executive Committee, expresses concern about the hundreds of executions thought to have been carried out towards the end of 1977, of which the government has confirmed only 37.

Official sources state that 92 military personnel were sentenced to death after summary military trials for alleged involvement in military uprisings which occurred in Dacca on 2 October and in Bogra on 30 September. However, AI has the names of 130 persons who have been executed and of 27 others awaiting execution, as of December 1977.

AI Secretary General Martin ENNALS met President Ziaur RAHMAN and other officials in December to discuss the recommendations made in AI's report and the executions which followed the attempted coups of September and October. Assurances were received from the government that the use of military courts was decreasing and that martial law would be lifted before the end of 1978. Despite these assurances, AI remains concerned that executions still continued at the time of Mr Ennals' visit—in some cases, it was reported, without any form of trial.

In its recommendations, AI urged the Bangladesh government to restore customary legal safeguards at an early stage and to take immediate steps to restrict the use of martial law courts. It recommended that the government announce a date for the release of all political prisoners held for more than six months without trial and take steps to improve the conditions in which political prisoners are being held, which, the report says, fall far short of the requirements listed in the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

On 5 October 1977, AI received a reply from the Home Ministry, which, whilst challenging the estimates of numbers of political prisoners in Bangladesh, did not contest the report's findings. The letter is published in an appendix to the report □

### DEATH SENTENCE IN SOUTH AFRICAN POLITICAL TRIAL

Solomon MAHLANGU aged 21, alleged to be a member of the African National Congress (ANC), was sentenced to death by Kempton Park Circuit Court in South Africa on 2 March after a three-week trial. He was convicted of murder and on charges under the

Explosives, Terrorism and Internal Security Acts. He was alleged to have shot dead two white garage workers and to have wounded a third, during an attack at a garage close to John Vorster Square police station, headquarters of Johannesburg's security police.

When the trial began Mr Mahlangu was charged together with Mondy MOTLOUNG, aged 20, who was captured with him at the scene of the attack. However, Mr Motloung was subsequently found to be mentally unfit, probably due to head injuries inflicted either at the time of his arrest or soon after. Claims by Mr Mahlangu that he had been tortured during interrogation were discounted by the trial judge.

The death sentence passed on Mr Mahlangu is the first imposed in a political trial in South Africa since the mid-1960s. AI has appealed to State President Nico DIEDERICHS and Minister of Justice James KRUGER to exercise clemency.

• **Banned African Leader Dies in South Africa:** Robert SOBUKWE, leader of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) until it was banned by the South African government in 1960, died at Kimberley on 26 February. He had been severely ill with lung cancer for some time.

At the time of his death, Robert Sobukwe was restricted under a banning order, originally imposed for five years in 1969, which was renewed for a further five year period when it expired in 1974. Before that, Sobukwe had served a 3-year prison sentence imposed in May 1960. Like all convicted political prisoners in South Africa he was allowed no remission of sentence. Instead, when his prison term expired in May 1963, the South African government rushed through a new law to provide for his further detention without trial for an indefinite period. He was moved from Pretoria Prison, where he had served his sentence, to South Africa's main political prison on Robben Island. There, he was kept separate from other prisoners, including other PAC members and the African National Congress (ANC) leader, Nelson MANDELA, until his eventual release in 1969.

He was then served with a banning order which restricted him to the Kimberley area, prohibited him from contact with other banned people or from being quoted in any way, and stipulated that he should live under conditions of partial house arrest.

Robert Sobukwe was clearly regarded by the South African authorities as a major political figure. His imprisonment in 1960 occurred shortly after 67 unarmed PAC supporters were shot dead by South African police at Sharpeville while demonstrating against the pass laws.

Mr Sobukwe's banning order remains in force even though he is dead. As a result, it continues to be illegal for any person in South Africa to quote anything that may have been written or said by Mr Sobukwe □

### HUMAN RIGHTS WORKERS ARRESTED IN THAILAND

Two leading members of the Coordinating Group for Religion in Society (CGRS), an inter-denominational organization of Buddhists, Roman Catholics and Protestants in Thailand, were arrested on 17 February in Surat Thani Province, Southern Thailand.

CHAIWAT Yao-Vapongsiri and SUKON Tanthakeyoon, both aged 24, were investigating a report of the arrest and subsequent disappearance of five villagers when they themselves were arrested. A local resident who assisted them, Miss BOONTHAM Chindawong was also arrested. All three are being held on a broad-based charge of "ill intentions towards the country" and are accused of possessing subversive literature.

All three cases have been taken up (for adoption) by AI.

• All three were released on bail on 17 March and are scheduled to go on trial on 14 June □

### FRENCH PRESIDENT URGED TO COMMUTE DEATH SENTENCES

On 15 February AI requested President Valéry GISCARD D'ESTAING of France to commute, on humanitarian grounds, three death sentences which were passed recently. Three men, Michael ROUSSEAU, Mohammed YAHIAOUI, and Jean Joseph PORTAIS, were each convicted of murder.

The court of cassation has not yet decided whether to uphold the verdicts against these three men and it may refer cases back to a lower court for re-hearing. It may do so only on points of law, however, not through re-examination of the evidence. Under article 17 of the French constitution, the President alone has the right to commute these sentences.

According to recent information, at least one of the three men has already been transferred to a "quartier de condamnés à mort" (death row).

AI expressed its concern at the possibility that any or all of these three men may face execution. It pointed out that three other people have been executed in France in the past three years.

AI is gravely concerned at the persistent and frequent use of the death penalty throughout the world. At a conference in December 1977 which was attended by delegates from all five continents, the Declaration of Stockholm was adopted, calling for the unconditional abolition of the death penalty (January Newsletter).

In its appeal to President Giscard d'Estaing, AI referred to this declaration and to the recent episcopal document produced by the Roman Catholic Church in France which stated that the right to life is absolute.

President Giscard d'Estaing stated on 11 April 1974, while he was a presidential candidate, that he had "a profound aversion to the death penalty". Despite this, there

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# Prisoners of the Month Campaign

Participants in the campaign are reminded that appeals must only be sent to the officials named at the end of each case. In *no* circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner. It is important for the prisoner that messages to the authorities are worded carefully and courteously and that they are never sectarian.

## Jiri LEDERER—Czechoslovakia

Jiri LEDERER, aged 56, is a well-known Czechoslovak journalist who was arrested in January 1977 after signing the Charter 77 manifesto.

In its manifesto the Charter 77 movement is defined as a "loose, informal and open association of people of various shades of opinion, faiths and professions united by the will to strive individually and collectively for respect for civic and human rights in our own country and throughout the world—rights accorded to all men by the two mentioned International Covenants [the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights], by the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights".

Jiri Lederer was one of the editors of the radical political weekly *Reporter* during the Dubcek government in 1968. He was subsequently expelled from the Czechoslovak Communist Party for his dissenting views and in 1970 he was also expelled from the Union of Czechoslovak Journalists. He then worked under a pseudonym as a translator, and was arrested the same year following the publication of an article he had written which criticized the Polish authorities. He was held for two months and then released. He was re-arrested in January 1972 for giving his articles to the journal *Kultura* (published by Polish emigrés in Paris) and sentenced in March 1972 to 2 years' imprisonment for "defamation of a state belonging to the world socialist order". He was released in December 1972 on 5 years' probation. His Polish wife lost her job as an interpreter at the time of his second detention in 1972 and is still without work.

Since his arrest and imprisonment in the Prague Ruzyně prison, Mr Lederer's health has reportedly deteriorated and he has complained of digestive trouble and weakened eyesight. In October 1977 Mr Lederer was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment for subversion of the republic under article 98 parts 1 and 2(a) of the penal code. This sentence was confirmed in January.

*Please write courteously worded letters appealing for the release of Jiri Lederer, to: Dr Gustav Husak, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Praha-Hrad, Czechoslovakia; and to: JUR Jan Nemeč, Minister of Justice of the CSR, Praha 2—Nove Mesto, Vysehradská 16, Czechoslovakia.*

## Djibo BAKARY—Niger

Djibo BAKARY, aged 56, has been imprisoned without charge or trial in Niger since August 1975, accused of corruption, intimidating an official and attempting to reform a banned political party. The Niger authorities allege he was involved in a conspiracy against the government at the time of his arrest.

Djibo Bakary led the *Sawaba* party, the marxist-orientated party, until it was banned by the French colonial government in 1959 because it campaigned against retaining strong political and economic ties with France. He remained in exile for more than 15 years and only returned to Niger after the overthrow of President Hamani Diori in April 1974. Allowed limited freedom by the new military government, he was told to remain in the capital Niamey and not engage in political activity. Less than a year after his return, he was detained together with 18 other former members of the *Sawaba* party. Mr Bakary and 14 of these prisoners have been detained without trial since that time. He is reportedly detained in N'Guigmi, an isolated town near Lake Chad.

*Please send courteously worded letters appealing for the immediate release of Djibo Bakary, to: Son Excellence Lt Col Kountché, Président de la République du Niger, Niamey, République du Niger.*

## Professor Abdul Mawla Khalil DUGHMAN—Libya

Professor Abdul Mawla Khalil DUGHMAN, aged about 50, was born in Benghazi, Libya. He studied in Egypt and later at Boston University in the United States of America where he obtained a Master of Arts degree in anthropology. On his return to Benghazi he became assistant professor of literature at the University of Libya where he was subsequently promoted to dean of the faculty of literature. He was later appointed rector of the university.

Professor Dughman was arrested in 1970, with a group of friends, and accused under the Revolution Protection Law of 11 December 1969 of preparing and distributing a leaflet critical of the domestic policies of Colonel Gaddafi's government. He was also charged with plotting against the state but this charge was later dropped. He and the others arrested with him were tried by a court in Tripoli in 1972 when he was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment. Professor Dughman, who is said to be suffering from diabetes, is held at Tripoli Central Prison,

where conditions are reportedly satisfactory.

*Please write courteously worded appeals for the immediate release of Professor Abdul Mawla Khalil Dughman, to: Colonel Mu'ammarr Al Gaddafi, Secretary General, General People's Congress, The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiria.*

## Fair Trials Denied in Iran

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- during the trial, the prosecution is not required to call witnesses and the defence is unable to cross-examine persons who have made statements to SAVAK, and on whose accounts the prosecution relies without proof. Nor is the defence permitted to call its own witnesses or call formal evidence of mistreatment during pre-trial detention;
- appeal procedures are unsatisfactory.

In addition, Mr Wrobel told the sub-committee that AI is disturbed by recent reports which suggest that freedom of expression and association continue to be denied in Iran□

## CONCERN OVER FRG ANTI-TERRORIST MEASURES

AI is concerned that a section of the new anti-terrorist measures, which were narrowly approved by the *Bundestag* (parliament) of the German Federal Republic on 16 February is likely to detract from the appearance of fairness in the process of justice in that country.

In a message sent to all fraction leaders of the parliamentary parties and to Chancellor Helmut SCHMIDT on 14 February, AI referred specifically to paragraph 138a of the proposal, which would allow for the exclusion from legal proceedings of the defence lawyer of a prisoner charged under the law concerning "criminal" or "terrorist association", if it were suspected that the lawyer was involved in the same deed as the prisoner.

AI expressed the view that paragraph 138a leaves too much discretion in the hands of the authorities in deciding individual cases of suspect behaviour by defence lawyers of terrorist suspects. The message stated: "The right of arrested persons to choose their own defence counsel and to benefit fully from the service provided by defence counsel is fundamental to just treatment of suspects and to the visibility of justice. Even marginal or isolated restrictions on the right to legal defence should be imposed only when it is abundantly clear that these are essential to protect the workings of justice".

AI urged parliamentarians considering the proposed law to bear in mind the principle that justice must not only be done but must be seen to be done□

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have been three executions during his presidency. France and Spain are the only countries in Western Europe to have carried out judicial executions since 1972. There has, however, been no execution in Spain since the death of Generalissimo Franco □

### PAKISTAN URGED TO COMMUTE DEATH SENTENCES

*AI* appealed on 18 March to Pakistan's Chief Martial Law Administrator, General Mohammad ZIA-ul-Haq, to commute on humanitarian grounds the death sentences imposed on former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali BHUTTO and four co-accused after their conviction on murder and conspiracy charges.

*AI* said it would continue to oppose the death penalty imposed on Mr Bhutto because it regards the death penalty to be 'cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment' and because it feels that inherent in every trial - and certainly a trial, like Mr Bhutto's, conducted in a tense political atmosphere - there is a risk of miscarriage of justice.

*AI* pointed out that Mr Bhutto could appeal in the Supreme Court but it was deeply concerned about reports that his lawyer was refused permission to meet him in Kot Lakhpat Jail on 18 March, the date of his conviction by the Lahore High Court. *AI* urged the Pakistan government immediately to allow Mr Bhutto unhindered visits of close relatives and his counsel, in order to give him full opportunity to prepare his appeal □

### TRIAL IN ISRAEL 'NOT PUBLIC'

The Israeli Attorney General, Professor Aharon BARAK has informed *AI* that the forthcoming trial of Brigitte SCHULZ, Thomas REUTER, Husain Hadi al-ATTAR, Mohmoud Musa Hasan al-MAKUSSSI and Ibrahim Tawfiq Ibrahim YUSUF will take place *in camera*.

*AI* had previously requested permission from the Israeli government to send an observer to the trial by military court. All the prisoners have been detained in Israel since January 1976 in connection with an attempt to shoot down an El-Al aircraft at Nairobi Airport, Kenya. *AI* is concerned that these prisoners were held incommunicado for 14 months and that torture has been alleged.

In a letter of 9 March to Professor Barak, *AI* welcomed the decision that representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany would be permitted to attend the trial but expressed regret that the trial would not be open. *AI* requested that the results of investigations into the torture allegations be made public □

### CONFIRMATION SOUGHT OF GUINEA RELEASES

Reports from Conakry Radio in January that 300 political prisoners had been released in Guinea led *AI* to ask President Ahmed Sékou TOURE for details of the number and identity

of those freed. *AI* also urged the President to extend the reported amnesty to include more of the country's estimated 2,000 to 4,000 political prisoners.

Some confusion still exists about the number of prisoners released. Some unofficial sources claim that only 40 or 50 prisoners were actually released, while others say that only the three prisoners named by the authorities were freed under the amnesty. These are French nationals who were expelled from Guinea after their release. They had been held since early 1971, following a wave of arrests throughout Guinea after a combined force of Portuguese soldiers and Guinean exiles had led an attack on Guinea's capital, Conakry, in November 1970.

The three released prisoners were reportedly held at Camp Boiro, the most notorious detention camp in Guinea, where conditions of imprisonment are reported to be extremely harsh. Accounts by other former prisoners released and expelled from Guinea in recent years allege that prisoners at Camp Boiro are regularly subjected to starvation, torture and physical abuse □

### OVER 300 ARRESTS IN INDONESIA

More than 300 arrests in Indonesia were reported in January and February. Those arrested were mainly students from universities in Jakarta, Bandung and Jogjakarta. The arrests came after weeks of student unrest about the corruption in public life and the presidential elections in March in which President SUHARTO was the sole candidate.

The students' strike continued in March at the Institute of Technology in Bandung, where the rector has resigned in protest against the presence of the army on the campus.

*AI* is investigating the arrests and has already taken up the case of Mahbub DJUNAEDI, the former editor of *Duta Masjarakat* and President of the Indonesian Journalists' Association (PWI) □

### FORMER OPPOSITION LEADER DETAINED IN SWAZILAND

Dr Ambrose ZWANE, leader of Swaziland's former main opposition Ngwane National Liberatory Congress (NNLC) party was detained on 10 February. The NNLC was banned in April 1973 when the Swaziland constitution was indefinitely suspended.

Dr Zwane is held under an administrative order which provides for detention without charge for up to 60 days. He has been detained under this law on at least four previous occasions, and was formerly adopted by *AI*, but he has never been charged with a political offence.

In recent months, the Swaziland government has made increasing use of its detention powers and there are now believed to be at least 20 political detainees in Matsapha Central Prison □

### NEPAL RELEASES FORMER PRIME MINISTER

In a letter to King BIRENDRA of Nepal on 3 March, *AI* welcomed a report that B P KOIRALA had been released on bail for health reasons. Mr Koirala, a former prime minister and leader of the banned Nepali Congress Party, was arrested in December 1976 on his return to Nepal after an eight year self-imposed exile in India. Charged with treason and sedition, he was brought to trial before a special court.

In January, *AI* launched an urgent action on his behalf after his doctors stated that he urgently needed more surgery on a neck artery. He had been released on parole in June 1977 for medical treatment in the United States but was re-arrested and again brought before the special court on his return to Nepal in November.

It has also been reported that four of the seven charges on which Mr Koirala was being tried have been withdrawn. In the letter to King Birendra, *AI* asked for details of the three remaining charges and urged that Mr Koirala's case be transferred to an ordinary court of law □

### HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE SESSION IN GENEVA

The Human Rights Committee, the independent monitoring organization established by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, held its third session in Geneva from 16 January to 3 February.

Its main task was the examination of state submitted reports on the implementation of the rights contained in the Covenant. Reports submitted by the governments of Libya, Sweden, Mauritius, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic and the United Kingdom were examined.

Examination of reports from Chile and Iran was postponed until the next session, due to be held in New York in July. This next session will also examine submissions from the governments of Norway, Madagascar, Federal Republic of Germany, Soviet Union, Canada and Bulgaria.

The committee also considered individual communications and the question of cooperation with specialized agencies □

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#### Prisoner Releases and Cases

The International Secretariat learned in February of the release of 160 prisoners under adoption or investigation and took up 147 new cases.

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## Doctors Discuss Torture in Athens

On 11 March approximately 100 doctors called on their colleagues throughout the world to regard the results and incidence of torture as a traumatic disease, inflicted by humans on fellow humans, that should be investigated and publicized by the medical profession.

The doctors, from Europe, Latin America and North America, made their call at the end of a two-day *AI* seminar in Athens, Greece. The theme of the seminar was "Violations of Human Rights: Torture and the Medical Profession".

The doctors further called on governments to allow full access to all prisoners and detention centers by doctors assisting the International Committee of the Red Cross and other human rights organizations.

The seminar reviewed *AI*'s medical program in the fields of research, ethics, and individual cases. *AI* medical groups have already undertaken investigatory missions and will make further missions, when necessary, to investigate allegations of torture and of severe prison conditions amounting to medical neglect of political prisoners.

*AI* has a dozen current research projects against torture. The need for sponsored research into all aspects of torture was stressed, including forensic study, the training of torturers, the detection of torture lesions, and the provision of improved medical care for torture victims. Universities, medical foundations, and governments which oppose torture should give moral and financial support.

Researchers, investigating the specific effects of electrical torture, hope to improve the techniques for detecting this type of torture which often leaves no visible marks. *AI* doctors from Denmark have conducted research in Greece into the effects of *falanga* (beating on the soles of the feet) on the victims tortured during the junta years. Doctors from the Netherlands, Canada and Sweden have begun work with refugee torture victims, many of whom are from Latin America.

*AI* doctors re-affirmed their commitment to the World Medical Association's 1975 "Declaration of Tokyo", which forbids doctors to collaborate in the torture or ill-treatment of prisoners. Earlier in March, *AI* doctors wrote to 17 doctors and psychiatrists in Chile, South Africa, the Soviet Union and elsewhere who are accused of collaborating in the torture of political detainees. This is the beginning of a new campaign to discourage members of the medical profession from cooperating with torturers and to strengthen efforts by national and international medical organizations to discipline offending doctors. The seminar called on

the World Health Organization to expedite the drafting of binding ethical codes against torture for the medical profession and to investigate allegations of doctors' involvement in torture.

Individual casework for prisoners was a significant part of the seminar program. Dr Estela CORNALEA DE FALICOFF of Argentina appealed to her colleagues for help on behalf of her husband, Argentine physician Alberto FALICOFF, who was kidnapped from his home in Buenos Aires on 25 November 1976 (January *CAT Bulletin*).

Before his own abduction, Dr Falicoff had treated the relatives of detained and "disappeared" persons. Since December 1976, he too has "disappeared" into the Argentine prison system. Dr Cornalea de Falicoff was herself detained for a short period. She saw her husband after he had been beaten, tortured with electricity, and bound hand-and-foot for weeks.

Swedish physician Arnt MEYER-LIE spoke about the mass killings and torture in Ethiopia. "Quite apart from armed conflict arising from border disputes in Ethiopia," said Dr Meyer-Lie, "large numbers of suspected political opponents, many of them youths, as well as innocent men, women and children, have been killed in the recent government-backed "red terror" campaign (see page 2 *CAT Bulletin*). This campaign of political killing has been out of all proportion to the threat from opposition groups that have murdered a number of government officials. Torture has also been practised by government security forces on a large scale. This has recently come to include a new form of torture: pushing red-hot iron rods into women's vaginas, causing permanent physical mutilation."

The seminar expressed concern for seven Soviet psychiatrists from the Sychovka Special Psychiatric Hospital and from two psychiatric hospitals in Krasnoyarsk Territory, USSR (see next column).

The *AI* doctors and groups appealed to doctors, medical officials, and organizations in Argentina, Ethiopia and the USSR to use their influence, publicly or privately, to help

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### NAMIBIA TORTURE REPORT REPUBLISHED AFTER BANNING

A major report on torture in Namibia, compiled by two white churchmen in the South African administered territory, was re-published in London on 27 February after it was banned by South Africa's Publications Control Board (March *Newsletter*). Following the first appearance of the report in Namibia, *AI* called upon Administrator General Marthinus STEYN to establish an open and independent inquiry into allegations of torture by South African security police. No formal response to this appeal has been forthcoming from Administrator General Steyn, but he was reported in the Namibian press to have declined to institute such an inquiry.

*AI* made renewed appeals to Mr Steyn on 16 February on behalf of two detainees held without charge under section 6 of the Terrorism Act. The two detainees, Bernadus PETRUS and Peter MANNING, had been detained virtually incommunicado since 2 December 1977 and 9 January respectively. Mr Petrus was subsequently released uncharged but Mr Manning, a polio victim, was reported in early March to have been charged with offences under the Terrorism Act □

### EVIDENCE OF CONTINUING PSYCHIATRIC ABUSES IN THE USSR

New information on psychiatric abuses in the Soviet Union is contained in *Information Bulletin Number 5*, issued by the unofficial Working Commission to Investigate the Use of Psychiatry for Political Purposes, set up by four Soviet human rights activists in early 1977 (September 1977 and February 1978 *CAT Bulletin*). The *Bulletin* reports on a number of individual cases and provides new information from a recently released victim of psychiatric abuses on seven psychiatrists who have been harassed, dismissed from their work and, in two cases, imprisoned for refusing to participate in treatment of political inmates of psychiatric hospitals. *AI* is particularly concerned about Dr Anatoly BARABANOV, formerly employed at the Sychovka Special Psychiatric Hospital, a notorious detention center in the USSR. According to the Working Commission and other sources, Dr Barabanov was arrested in 1976 and confined to a maximum security psychiatric hospital near the Sino-Soviet border for his sympathetic attitude towards political inmates of the Sychovka Hospital.

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# appeals

## YU In-tae—South Korea

YU In-tae, aged 30, was among 53 South Korean and two Japanese students arrested in South Korea early in 1974 in connection with student demonstrations against the government (see *AI* mission report on South Korea in 1975—*Report of an Amnesty International Mission to the Republic of Korea, 27 March-9 April 1975* [second edition]). Mr Yu, a graduate of Seoul National University, was accused of involvement in the alleged activities of a student organization described as the National Democratic Youth and Student Federation (NDYSF). The organization was alleged to be involved in a North Korean conspiracy to overthrow the government of South Korea. The NDYSF was declared illegal by Emergency Regulation Number 4, a special presidential decree introduced on 3 April 1974, which has since been rescinded. This decree imposed the death penalty or imprisonment for any person held to have "praised, encouraged or sympathized with" the NDYSF.

Mr Yu was sentenced to death after a trial by military court which the *AI* mission found to involve serious legal abuses, including the use of "confessions" extracted under torture. This sentence was later commuted to one of life imprisonment, but eight other defendants in the case were unlawfully executed on 9 April 1975 without having any opportunity to apply for re-trial or clemency.

Mr Yu is detained in Kwangju Prison, where he is serving his life sentence. He is reported to be in very poor health due to disease of the pancreas which he contracted when he was 17 and from which he has never fully recovered. Since his arrest he has also suffered from severe eczema and received surgery for a haemorrhoid condition.

*Please send courteously worded letters appealing for the prompt and unconditional release of Yu In-tae and urging that as a minimum he be allowed to receive all medical treatment necessary in a civilian hospital.*

*Write to:* His Excellency President Park Chung-hee, President of the Republic of Korea, The Blue House, Seoul, Republic of Korea; *and to:* His Excellency Mr Lee Sun-chong, Minister of Justice, Ministry of Justice, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

## Doctors Discuss Torture in Athens

*Continued from page 1, column 2*

free these prisoners and halt such abuses of human rights.

The assembled doctors recommended that governments and intergovernmental organizations, especially the United Nations, consider new methods of helping torture victims. A special United Nations fund was called for, to guarantee free and adequate medical treatment to torture victims, whether they

are refugees or residents in their home countries. They also recommended the drafting of an international convention, to be binding on the signatory states, that would clarify the responsibility of the State for financial compensation, rehabilitation, and social re-adaptation of torture victims. Even after changes of government in states formerly run by torture regimes, most torture victims are unable to demand rehabilitation under existing domestic legislation, despite a 1975 United Nations declaration calling on governments to provide redress and to compensate torture victims.

The doctors recommended that the European Commission of Human Rights be given facilities to act immediately upon receiving allegations of torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Such facilities should include immediate inspection of places of interrogation, detention or imprisonment and the use of medical experts in conducting such inspections. In this respect, it is necessary for all parties to the European Convention on Human Rights to make declarations recognizing the right to individual petition. Cyprus, France, Greece, Malta and Turkey have yet to do so.

Finally, an appeal was made to expose the mechanisms of oppression and torture that exist in many countries, including democracies, and to seek methods to eliminate them.

The seminar was sponsored by the *AI* Medical Advisory Board and hosted by *AI*'s Greek Section and the *AI* Greek Medical Group □

## Evidence of Continuing Psychiatric Abuses in the USSR

*Continued from page 1, column 3*

The Working Commission also gives details on the continuing practice of harmful, medically unjustified drug treatment of dissenters in psychiatric hospitals. In particular, the situation of Boris EVDOKIMOV, a 52-year old journalist from Leningrad, gives cause for concern. Mr Evdokimov was arrested in 1971 on charges of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" after writing a number of *samizdat* articles criticizing official practices. He was sentenced to compulsory confinement in a maximum security psychiatric hospital. According to the Working Commission, doctors in the Kazan Special Psychiatric Hospital, where Mr Evdokimov is now held, were prepared to recommend his discharge from the hospital in mid-1977. They were prevented from doing so by a psychiatrist who travelled to the hospital from the Serbsky Institute in Moscow, a leading psychiatric research center heavily implicated in psychiatric abuse. Although doctors in the Kazan hospital have privately acknowledged that Mr Evdokimov is not mentally ill, in mid-1977 they prescribed him a major course of treatment with neuroleptic drugs. Reportedly Mr Evdokimov can no longer get out of bed in the morning without taking a stimulant drug □

## INTIMIDATION OF CHARTER 77 SPOKESMAN IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Charter 77 spokesman Ladislav HEJDANEK was taken by Czechoslovak state security police from his work and roughly handled during nine hours of questioning on 6 January before being released. He was reportedly kicked in the back and forced to lie on a bare floor in an unheated room with the windows wide open during his detention.

Professor Hejdaneck, aged 51, is a philosopher who now works as a furnace stoker. He was dismissed from the Institute of Philosophy of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1971 and, when he was sentenced in 1972 to 9 months' imprisonment for informing the public of their constitutional right to abstain from voting in the forthcoming elections, he was adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience. A signatory of the human rights movement Charter 77, he became, in September 1977, one of its three spokesmen □

## 'RED TERROR' IN ETHIOPIA

In a cable to Ethiopian Head of State Lieutenant Colonel MENGISTU Haile Mariam on 8 March—International Women's Day—*AI* appealed for the immediate release of all women in political detention in Ethiopia. Although their numbers cannot be precisely estimated, more than 60 women and girls are known to have been detained for over three years in constantly deteriorating conditions. Many more are among at least 30,000 young people detained since December. Most will eventually be released after a period of harsh "political instruction", although some have reportedly been tortured and killed in custody.

Since the "red terror" campaign began in December 1977, at least 3,000 alleged opponents of the government have reportedly been killed in Addis Ababa alone since the military government ordered both military and civilian security forces to employ "red revolutionary terror" against "counter-revolutionaries". These political killings have frequently been committed arbitrarily and totally outside the framework of law. Foreign journalists visiting Addis Ababa in February were told by government officials that "red terror" was justified "as long as the counter-revolutionary forces are there".

Torture of political opponents has also been widely practised during this terror campaign. Torture methods include rape, torture and mutilation of the sexual organs of both girls and boys, pouring boiling oil on the body, burning the hair, and beating the soles of the feet. The bodies of those tortured, mutilated and murdered are often exposed in public or outside the victim's home. Relatives are not allowed to mourn them, but must join in demonstrations of support for the elimination of "counter-revolutionaries".

*AI* conducted an urgent action campaign in January, but the "red terror" continues unabated throughout Ethiopia □