

# amnesty international newsletter

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## AI STAFF MEMBER JAILED

### PAT ARROWSMITH SENTENCED TO 18 MONTHS FOR DISTRIBUTING LEAFLETS TO SOLDIERS

PAT ARROWSMITH, a member of the International Secretariat staff of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment on 20 May after a jury found her guilty of charges arising from the distribution of leaflets to British troops. The leaflets informed them of ways to avoid service in Northern Ireland (April *Newsletter*).

Miss Arrowsmith, aged 44, a leading British pacifist, is being adopted for the second time by AI as a prisoner of conscience. In 1968 she became the first ever British PoC when she was jailed for six months after she refused to pay a fine levied on her in connection with a peaceful demonstration outside a factory supplying war material for Vietnam.

Her latest conviction came under Britain's Incitement to Disaffection Act which forbids attempts to "seduce" military personnel away from their duty. The leaflets, which Miss Arrowsmith distributed at an army camp, gave soldiers information on how they could leave the army. These included procedures for becoming a conscientious objector, legally buying one's way out of the army, and seeking asylum in Sweden.

In a statement issued after the five-day trial, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS expressed the organization's deep shock over the severity of the sentence.

"It seems inconceivable that a confirmed pacifist like Miss Arrowsmith should receive such a sentence for the non-violent expression of her views," Mr Ennals said. He pointed out that the contents of the leaflet had already been published widely without prosecution and that the leaflet itself had been found inoffensive by another court on a previous occasion.

Mr Ennals had written to the British government on 22 March urging repeal of the act which, he said, "constitutes an unacceptable limitation on freedom of speech protected by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" and is "an unjustifiable and arbitrary restriction on the dissemination of ideas".

### 34 SENTENCED TO DEATH IN ZANZIBAR

AI appealed urgently to President ABOUD JUMBE of Zanzibar to spare the lives of all those in Zanzibari custody who were sentenced to death on 18 May for their alleged involvement in the assassination of the President's predecessor, Sheikh ABEID KARUME, in April 1972.

Thirty-four persons, 14 of them in absentia, were sentenced to public execution by firing squad for their part in the assassination plot. Eleven other defendants received 15-year prison sentences and four 10-year sentences. Thirteen of the 14 sentenced in absentia are detained on the Tanzanian mainland. The other was freed by

### AI WAS 'LIGHT OF HOPE' TO EX-PRISONERS, PORTUGUESE RELIEF GROUP SAYS

The Portuguese prisoner relief group CNSPP wrote the following letter to the AI International Secretariat on 6 May:

"Dear Friend,

"This will possibly be our last letter to you, concerning the problems of political prisoners and their families in Portugal. As you must have known through the cable I sent you some days ago, all the political prisoners have been released.

"We therefore ask you to thank everyone who, in any way and time, have given moral and/or financial support to all the prisoners and their families who were cruelly persecuted by the overthrown regime, support you have given for so many years.

"You may be sure that for many ex-political prisoners, Amnesty International was a light of hope shining in the darkness of their despair.

"However, concerning political prisoners in Portuguese African colonies, as the methods of this regime are different from the last one's, we shall go on trying to help them, hoping to achieve the liberation of them all. When this purpose is attained, and only then, shall we consider our mission finished. We are therefore at your disposal to help you in this matter within our capacity.

"All the members of the CNSPP send their kindest regards to all the members of Amnesty International."

mainland authorities on 4 May.

Many of the defendants alleged that they were forced to sign confessions after being tortured, allegations given added weight by the prosecution's own admission in court. Attorney General WOLFGANG DOURADO said in his final submission on 13 February:

"I am conceding that some form of arm-twisting was adopted in order to obtain these statements. It would be dishonest on my part if I were to submit otherwise."

### AI HITS AT ADVERTISERS FOR HOLDING 'HUMAN RIGHTS' CONGRESS IN IRAN

AI has criticized the International Advertising Association for holding a congress on the theme of human rights in Iran, where thousands of political prisoners are detained and torture and executions are rife. The Congress was held in Tehran 23-25 May.

In a letter to Dr GORAN TAMM, President of the IAA, Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS expressed disappointment that a congress with such a theme was held there.

"Those who rule Iran are noted for their total disregard for the human rights of the Iranian people", Mr Ennals said. "While such to-

pics as 'Advertising in Action for Human Rights' are being discussed at your congress, thousands of political prisoners will continue to be detained in Iranian prisons."

Mr Ennals said that despite official allegations that the prisoners had participated in terrorist activities, "not one has received a trial which would satisfy the requirements of justice in a democratic country, and they have

#### AI APPEALS TO INDIA TO RELEASE 30,000 DETAINED DURING STRIKE CRISIS

AI has appealed to India to release the estimated 30,000 trade unionists and railwaymen detained in the wave of arrests that followed the announcement of a general strike in the country. The strike was due to end on 29 May.

A statement expressed deep concern at the continuance of the mass arrests and at reports that more than 20 leaders of the walk-out are on hunger strike in New Delhi's Tihar Jail. They include two members of the Indian parliament: Mr GEORGE FERNANDEZ, President of both the striking All-India Railwaymen's Federation and of the Socialist Party, who is also a member of AI, and Mrs PARVATHI KRISHNAN.

been convicted on the basis of 'confessions' which may have been extracted by torture."

Mr Ennals noted that more than 200 people have been executed as a result of these trials in the last two years.

"Iran's extremely high rate of judicial executions is against all standards of civilized behaviour and makes nonsense of its pretensions to an interest in human rights," Mr Ennals said.

#### TURKEY LIMITS SCOPE OF AMNESTY

Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS cabled Prime Minister BULENT ECEVIT of Turkey on 15 May expressing great disappointment that political prisoners were not included in the amnesty just declared in the country.

#### JOINT AI-ICJ MISSION VISITS URUGUAY; FIVE 'MARCHA' JOURNALISTS RELEASED

INGER FAHLANDER, head of AI's Latin America department, and NIALL MacDERMOT, Secretary General of the International Commission of Jurists visited Uruguay 29 April to 4 May on a joint mission to investigate conditions of political imprisonment and allegations of torture.

Miss Fahlander and Mr MacDermot met with senior Uruguayan officials and visited a prison where political suspects were held subject to trial. A report of their mission will be published soon.

On 14 May Uruguay freed five members of the staff of the internationally-known weekly newspaper *Marcha* who were arrested in February in connection with a short story competition organized by the journal (*March Newsletter*).

The five include the 71-year-old founder and editor in chief of *Marcha*, CARLOS QUIJANO, and HUGO ALFARO, MERCEDES REIN, JUAN CARLOS ONETTI and JULIO CASTRO.

#### THREE MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES VISITED AI's Researcher on the Middle East, KATRINA

MORTIMER, has returned to the Secretariat after visiting Egypt, Lebanon and Iraq.

She spent three weeks in Beirut and a week in Cairo in April, collecting information on political imprisonment in the Middle East, establishing contacts with political exiles, lawyers, journalists, and human rights organizations, and investigating the possibility of setting up AI Sections.

From 27 April to 2 May Miss Mortimer and Sir OSMOND WILLIAMS, Acting Chairman of the British Section, visited Baghdad at the invitation of Iraq's Human Rights Society (*May Newsletter*). They met with members of the society and delegates of the Iraqi Bar Association and with government officials. They explained AI's aims and methods and discussed with them the question of human rights in Iraq and other Middle Eastern countries.

#### AI RESEARCHER VISITS PORTUGAL

Mrs EVA BLUMENAU, AI's researcher on Portugal and its African colonies, visited Lisbon 15-18 May for an on-the-spot assessment of the effects of the military coup that overthrew the Caetano regime in April (*May Newsletter*). All political prisoners in metropolitan Portugal were released after the coup and some but not all were freed in the colonies.

Mrs Blumenau had talks with several members of the Portuguese group which aided political prisoners, the Comissao Nacional de Socorro aos Presos Politicos (*see box page 1*), some of whom are now ministers in the provisional government.

"At this point in time the new provisional government must be given time to deal with its own stated priorities, particularly in the overseas territories," Mrs Blumenau said on her return. "But it will, of course, remain of primary importance to Amnesty International to ascertain that all prisoners of conscience have been released in the overseas territories as well as in Portugal; that those who are still suffering from the effects of their prison experiences are helped as extensively as possible; that past excesses of interrogation and torture are exposed; and that any international links in the torture processes are exposed."

#### TWO EGYPTIAN PRISONERS RELEASED

Two AI-adopted prisoners in Egypt, trade unionist MUHAMMAD ALI AMER and lawyer NABIL EL HILALI, were released in March and April respectively after successful appeals against their sentences. The expected release on 18 May of another adoptee, the writer ADIB DIMITRI, has not yet been confirmed.

All three were arrested last year for attempting to re-form the Communist Party. A special court sentenced them last June to one year's imprisonment, renewable each year for five years. Earlier this year AI wrote to President ANWAR SADAT urging their release (*March Newsletter*).

#### JUDGE'S MISSION TO PARAGUAY AND CHILE

Dr HORST WOESNER, a judge of the West German Federal Court, visited Paraguay and Chile 7-28 May on a mission for AI. In Paraguay he was accompanied by Inger Fahlander, head of AI's Latin America Department (*see above*). They had talks with President ALFREDO STROESSNER, the

Minister of the Interior, and other ministers and made representations on behalf of long-term political prisoners.

In Chile, Dr Woesner observed two trials, one in Santiago and one in the provinces. He also had talks with the Chilean College of Lawyers, the President of the Supreme Court and many defence lawyers. Dr Woesner will report on both his missions to the International Executive Committee of AI.

### MALAWI ASKED TO FREE 1,000 PRISONERS

AI called on President HASTINGS BANDA to mark his official birthday on 14 May by declaring an amnesty for the estimated 1,000 political prisoners detained without trial in Malawi.

Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS reminded Dr Banda in a letter that Dr Banda himself had been detained without trial for over a year in 1959-1960 for his leadership of the African nationalist movement in what was then known as Nyasaland, since renamed Malawi.

"As a person who himself suffered unjust imprisonment, without trial, I am sure that you are acutely aware of the suffering which can be inflicted on prisoner, family and friends by such internment and detention," Mr Ennals wrote.

### JAPANESE LAWYER AT SOUTH KOREAN TRIAL

A leading Japanese civil rights lawyer and former judge, KENKICHI NAKADAIRA, went to Seoul on 10 May to observe the trial of five South Korean intellectuals who were arrested on espionage charges earlier this year. The trial had not been concluded when this *Newsletter* went to press.

The five include two of the country's best known writers, LEE HO-CHUL and CHUNG UL-BYONG, and three literary critics and university lecturers, YIM HUN-YONG, KIM UH-CHONG and CHANG BYONG-HEE. They were among a group of 61 intellectuals who issued a public statement on 7 January calling for amendment of the new South Korean constitution.

### THREE US BLACK ACTIVISTS 'FRAMED'

Three American black activists convicted of arson in North Carolina two years ago were framed, AI said in a statement on 15 May.

The three are Dr JAMES EARL GRANT, who has been adopted as a prisoner of conscience, and CHARLES PARKER and T.J. REDDY, who will soon be adopted. They were convicted in 1972 of arson in connection with the burning in 1968 of a riding stables, a fire in which 15 horses died.

The stables' policy of only hiring horses to white people had been the subject some time before of a civil rights demonstration by a group which included Mr Parker and Mr Reddy. Both are now serving 10- and 20-year sentences respectively in the Cleveland County Correctional Center, Shelby, North Carolina, for the alleged crime.

Dr Grant, a community organizer and journalist with a Ph.D (Doctorate in Philosophy) degree in chemistry, received 25 years. He is currently serving two consecutive 5-year sentences (10 years in all) in Atlanta, Georgia, federal penitentiary after being convicted earlier in 1972 on federal charges of aiding and abetting fugitives from justice. AI believes Dr Grant

is also innocent of the federal charges.

The statement said the three men "are victims of an intentional and gross miscarriage of justice resulting from their political activities."

### BREAKDOWN OF RULE OF LAW IN UGANDA

The rule of law and respect for the human individual have broken down in Uganda to an extent seldom seen elsewhere, according to a feature article written for National Sections and newspapers by JOHN HUMPHREYS, AI's Deputy Head of Research and head of the Africa Department.

The article, "Political Murders in Uganda", traces the recent history of political repression and murder in the country since January 1971 when the current President, General IDI AMIN, ousted the civilian government of President MILTON OBOTE.

Mr Humphreys points out at the time of the coup General Amin was welcomed by many in Uganda as a liberator. But soon opponents of the regime, and even individuals who criticized it casually, began to "disappear". The Langi and Acholi tribes, which both opposed Amin, were victims of genocide.

Mr Humphreys concludes: "It is not known how many people have died during Amin's period of rule, but one of Amin's former cabinet ministers, now in exile, puts the number at 80,000. Pogroms on this scale are difficult for Amnesty International - an organization designed to help prisoners rather than victims of large scale massacres - to deal with, but we hope that by giving wider publicity to the political killings which have occurred in Uganda over the past three years we will help to concentrate world opinion against the violations of human rights taking place in Uganda, where the rule of law and respect for the human individual have broken down to an extent seldom seen elsewhere."

## POSTCARDS FOR PRISONERS

### FROM PAST CAMPAIGNS

#### FREED TANZANIANS MAULIDI MSHANGAMA AND ALI MUHSIN BARWANI THANK AMNESTY

Maulidi MSHANGAMA, who was on the *Postcards for Prisoners Campaign* in August 1973, and fellow Tanzanian Ali Muhsin BARWANI, January 1971 *Campaign*, were freed with 27 other detainees in an amnesty on 5 May. Both had been held without trial since 1964 on the mainland of Tanzania.

Mr Mshangama wrote to the International Secretariat on 7 May "to express my heartfelt gratitude to you and to all our friends of Amnesty everywhere for all that you have done for us these 10 years..."

Mr Barwani wrote on 10 May to his adoption group in Norway, saying: "I am a free man! ... I must end this letter by thanking you and all the brothers and sisters of AI for all that you have done for us."

\* \* \*  
General Pyotr Grigorevich GRIGORENKO of the Soviet Union, who was on the June 1972 *Campaign*, reportedly suffered three heart attacks during April. On 12 May a psychiatric commission met and recommended that he be set free. But before this can happen, a court hearing will have

to be held to approve the recommendation.

Viktor FAINBERG of the Soviet Union (September 1972 *Campaign*), whose release from a psychiatric hospital was reported in the April *Newsletter*, was re-arrested 30 April and briefly interned again in a mental hospital after he sent an urgent appeal to the West on behalf of VLADIMIR BUKOVSKY (May *Newsletter*). Mr Fainberg was eventually released.

### THIS MONTH'S CAMPAIGN

#### Simas KUDIRKA, *Soviet Union*

In November 1970, Simas KUDIRKA, the radio operator of a Lithuanian fishing boat, the *Sovetskaya Litva*, attempted to defect to the United States while his boat was anchored in American territorial waters off Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. Mr Kudirka boarded an American cutter, the *Vigilant*, and remained there for nearly 10 hours, pleading for asylum. However, his pleas were refused and Mr Kudirka was returned to the Soviet vessel.

Mr Kudirka was placed under arrest, an investigation carried out by the KGB and a charge brought against him under Article 62 of the Lithuanian Penal Code for "betrayal of the fatherland." At his trial, which took place between 17 and 20 May 1971 in the Lithuanian Supreme Court in Vilnius, Mr Kudirka pleaded not guilty. He said he had not betrayed Lithuania which he regarded as his fatherland, not the Soviet Union. At the end of the four-day hearing, the court sentenced Mr Kudirka to 10 years in strict regime labour camps with confiscation of property.

Mr Kudirka was sent to a Mordovian labour camp to serve his sentence, where, as far as we know, he is still being held. During his imprisonment he has signed several open letters which have reached the West after being smuggled out of the camp. In December 1971 he was one of nine prisoners who signed a letter to the International Red Cross, describing the conditions in the labour camp and appealing for the intervention of the Red Cross.

*Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for his release to: L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, and N.V. Podgorny, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet. Their address is the Kremlin, Moscow, RSFSR, USSR.*

#### Cayetano RODRIGUEZ Garcia, *Spain*

Arrested together with his wife, Rosario Ramirez Mora, in December 1970, Cayetano RODRIGUEZ Garcia has been held in Granada Provincial Prison ever since. They are both accused of illicit association and illegal propaganda, charges for which the prosecution is demanding a total 12-year sentence for Senor Rodriguez. He suffers from pleurisy with heart complications and is not receiving adequate medical care for his condition. The couple has two children, who are now living with Senor Rodriguez' mother.

*Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for release or a fair trial to: Sr. Don Francisco Ruiz-Jarabo y Baquero, Ministro de Justicia, Ministerio de Justicia, Calle San Bernardo 47, Madrid, Spain.*

#### CHUA Kee Seng, *Singapore*

CHUA Kee Seng, who was Assistant Secretary of the Singapore Commercial House and Factory Employees Union, was arrested at the end of 1966. Originally, he was detained without trial for suspected communist affiliations.

Mr Chua is in a particularly difficult situation because, although he was born in Singapore, he has no birth certificate and cannot prove that he is a citizen of Singapore. Consequently, the government regards him as an alien and has served him with a Banishment Order. Since Mr Chua refuses to be deported, he is held in Queenstown Remand Prison on a criminal charge of failing to obey the Banishment Order.

The prison conditions of "political banishees" in Singapore are worse than those of other political prisoners. Many are held on the top floor of Queenstown Prison, they are allowed no visitors and they cannot send or receive any letters. Only censored newspapers and one book per fortnight are permitted. Chua Kee Seng probably has no real communication with the outside world at all.

*Please send courteously-worded cards, in English, appealing for his release to: Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister's Office, City Hall, Singapore 6; and to: Mr E.W. Barker, Ministry for Law and National Development, St Andrew's Road, Singapore 6.*

#### IEC APPROVES WIDE RANGE OF MISSIONS

The International Executive Committee, meeting in London 3-5 May, approved a wide range of missions to carry out fact-finding investigations on behalf of AI. Included were missions to Portugal, South Korea, Paraguay, and Chile - all of which have already taken place - and Spain, Greece, and Tunisia.

The IEC also authorized the immediate filling of 4½ new posts in the International Secretariat. These comprise an extra researcher for Latin America, a half-time researcher on North America and the Caribbean, an executive assistant on Latin America, an executive assistant on Africa and a secretary on Eastern Europe.

Among other decisions taken by the IEC was the setting up of an international committee of AI members to examine possible sites for relocating the Secretariat.

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#### PRISONER RELEASES AND CASES

The International Secretariat learned in April of the release of 69 AI-adopted prisoners and took up 109 new cases.

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#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FREES 25 POLITICAL PRISONERS

News that the Dominican Republic has freed 25 political prisoners, including at least five AI adoptees, reached the Secretariat as this *Newsletter* went to press. Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS cabled President JOAQUIN BALAGUAR shortly before the presidential elections of 16 May expressing grave concern at the plight of political prisoners on hunger strike throughout the country and urging a general amnesty for all the estimated 300 political prisoners in the Dominican Republic.

## COUP IN PORTUGAL EXPOSES FULL HORROR OF TORTURE PRACTICED BY SECRET POLICE

The April coup in Portugal has brought to light many of the horrors that have for years been alleged against the Salazar and Caetano regimes.

The new provisional government has announced that as members of the notorious DGS (Directorate General of Security) are brought to trial, at least some of the evidence against them will become public. Shortly after the coup the nature of this evidence became clear. Inside the DGS Headquarters were found films that instruct novices in the techniques of torture, charts of the human anatomy that indicate vulnerable points that will leave few if any traces of torture, as well as photographs of victims during interrogation. These last were made in order to provide prison doctors with accurate data about the effects of torture.

Portugal presents a unique case for study of the institutions of torture. The files of the DGS and the trials of its agents will undoubtedly yield information about the training of torturers, the sale and distribution of torture equipment, and the international cooperation among torturers.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL has a particularly capable contact in Lisbon in the person of Dr AFONSO de ALBUQUERQUE, a psychiatrist who has names of over 600 victims who were tortured during the last five years. With other experts, he is conducting a research project in the methodology of torture, the short- and long-term effects of torture on the victims, and the participation of the medical profession in torture. AI sent Mrs EVA BLUMENAU, researcher on Portugal, to Lisbon to meet Dr de Albuquerque and members of the provisional government; she returned with an outline for close cooperation between AI and Dr de Albuquerque, who will probably attend the first post-Paris Conference meeting of the CAT Medical Commission in Holland on 28-30 June.

### CAT MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE

The IEC Subcommittee for the anti-torture campaign and the Medical Commission for the campaign will hold a joint meeting 28-30 June in Holland. The IEC Subcommittee, chaired by ERIC BAKER from Britain, will define future strategy and priorities. The Medical Commission, led by Dr HERMAN van GEUNS from Holland, will review implementation of the decisions taken at the Paris Conference, and is expected to give special attention to the present situation in Portugal, in particular the involvement of doctors in the practice of torture under the old regime, and the after-care of torture victims.

### SYSTEMATIC TORTURE ALLEGED IN TUNISIA

After AI protested to President HABIB BOUR-GUIBA in January over torture and ill-treatment of detainees in detention centers in Tunisia (February *Newsletter*), AI has recently received fresh allegations of systematic torture in Tunisia.

amnesty international

# CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE

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In view of some of the methods used, including the administering of drugs, medical personnel are believed to be involved. These new allegations, which reinforce concern that torture has become an instrument of government policy, are at present being investigated in Paris, and a report is expected soon.

### NEW AI DRAFT UN RESOLUTION ON TORTURE

AI is at present seeking governmental support for the inclusion of the question of torture on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly at its next session. This is in order to accelerate the follow-up of UN Resolution 3059 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973, in which the General Assembly unanimously rejected any form of torture, and decided to "to examine the question of torture...as an item at a future session of the General Assembly."

Several governments have so far responded positively to this initiative, and it is hoped that the necessary support will be found shortly.

With a view to promoting these efforts, AI has prepared a new Draft for a UN Resolution on a Convention on Torture and the Treatment of Prisoners, which, on the basis of Resolution 3059, would request the UN Secretary General "to establish a Committee of Experts to examine the complaints received by, and the reports of, the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and by the Commission on Human Rights and other bodies concerned, and in the light of this examination to report to the General Assembly and to prepare a draft Convention (on torture)...and to provide an international implementation machinery."

This new draft resolution, which adds several new elements to the one that was presented by AI and the Special Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations on Human Rights to all member states of the United Nations, is being submitted to a number of governments for consideration as well as to member organizations of the Special Committee.

### MORE PUBLIC FLOGGINGS IN NAMIBIA

There are persistent reports of public floggings in Namibia that have appeared even in the South African press. Flogging is not restricted to political offenders in Namibia, but they do in practice receive most of the blows.

The floggings are ordered by tribal judges and executed by tribal policemen, all of whom cooperate with the South African government's policy towards the African "homelands." If an

unruly African has been arrested by the South African police, he is often turned over to tribal authorities who have him publicly flogged.

The instrument used is the firm central rib of the Makalani palm branch, which can cause severe pain and bleeding as well as injury to the spine.

The government claims that it cannot intervene in "tribal customs" to stop the floggings, although it in fact controls, directly or indirectly, all important matters of political and economic life in Namibia. Also, both Bishop AUALA, an Ovambo, and a 90-year old churchman have given sworn testimony in court that flogging, known as "Sjambok Hahn", is not tribal in origin, but was introduced as a systematic punishment under the white Commissioner of Bantu Affairs. Today, flogging is also used on women.

### LARGE-SCALE ATROCITIES IN CHILE

Numerous reports indicate that torture has still been widely practised in Chile in recent months, in spite of frequent denials made by junta officials to a number of international organizations that visited Chile to investigate torture allegations. This was again confirmed by Dr HORST WOESNER, who visited Chile on behalf of AI from 15-27 May. He observed trials in Santiago and Rancagua, and met with government officials, lawyers and churchmen.

Several political prisoners have died as a result of interrogation at Tejas Verdes, a converted military barracks near San Antonio. Military centers in Santiago where torture is known to have been used recently include the Ministry of Defence, the Air Force Academy of War, the Tacna Regiment, the Air Force base of El Bosque, the army camp of Cerro Chena, and a disused medical center in Calle Londres.

The main methods used include electric shocks, beatings, cigarette burns, and psychological threats including simulated executions. Allegations of torture have not been considered as admissible evidence by the courts martial.

In the first public trial with foreign observers admitted, the military prosecutor referred to one defence lawyer's allegation of torture as an "insult to the tribunal."

The continuing violence by the authorities has recently been denounced by prominent church dignitaries, including Cardinal RAUL SILVA HENRIQUEZ.

### AI PROTESTS USE OF TORTURE IN GREECE

Reports of systematic torture are coming from many independent sources. The torture, including falanga, electric shocks, beatings, enforced standing and sexual abuse, is known to have taken place in at least three different installations in Athens: the Boyati Military Prison, the ESA (security police) headquarters, and the Mesogion Street police station.

One of the Greek torturers' main targets over the last months has been the group of 35 communists who were arrested last February. Among them are ANTONIOS AMBATIELOS, the seamen's union official, who was hospitalized with broken ribs and whose whereabouts are now unknown, and Mr DIMITRIOS GONDIKAS, whose wife

described the terrible condition he was in when she was finally allowed to visit him.

Another case is that of the young actor, Mr DIMITRIOS TOKAS, who was unable to talk and hardly able to walk when he was recently seen at the ESA headquarters.

In a letter to President PHAEDON GIZIKIS, AI Secretary General Martin Ennals demanded that torture be stopped in Greece and called for an official investigation. Cables of a similar nature were sent to the three commanding officers of five accused torturers. The CAT Department also asked a number of AI National Sections to send letters and telegrams to the Greek authorities and to their local embassies.

### EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Under tight security on a remote airfield near Stavanger in Norway, the European Commission on Human Rights is at present hearing witnesses in its investigation into complaints and allegations of torture made by the Irish government against the government of the United Kingdom in 1971 and 1972.

In this case, admitted by the European Commission to its jurisdiction in October 1972, Ireland accuses Britain of violations of, amongst others, Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights (which prohibits torture), alleging that security forces in Northern Ireland had subjected detainees to treatment which constituted "torture and inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment." The case is expected to continue for some considerable time.

In the course of the last few months renewed allegations of ill-treatment by security personnel in Northern Ireland have been received at AI's International Secretariat.

### MEETING ON TORTURE PLANNED AT COUNCIL

A special meeting on the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture is being planned in conjunction with the next AI International Council meeting in Denmark, on Thursday 5 September 1974. International non-governmental organizations have been invited to send representatives, and it is hoped that many AI National Sections will be represented by their campaign coordinators or members of the campaign committees.

### SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN BY MEXICAN SECTION

AI's Mexican Section produced a highly successful week of public meetings in March on the theme of the abolition of torture. AI was hardly known in Mexico before, but the name is now widely recognized because of publicity in all the media.

During her visit to the International Secretariat, BRIGIDA ALEXANDER of the Mexican Section described the success of the whole program as having far exceeded expectations. Each session was a well-balanced combination of entertainment and education, including speeches, films, dance and theater, that drew several thousands of people.