

## amnesty international



## newsletter

MISSIONS

**AFRICA:** The Secretary General, MARTIN ENNALS, left November 18 for a two week tour of East Africa, visiting Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, Ethiopia and Egypt. In Tanzania he was to speak to officials about persons detained without trial on the mainland and about the numerous instances of violations of human rights in Zanzibar. In Zambia he hoped to discuss detained members of the opposition United Progressive Party and Rhodesian and other refugees held without trial there. In Uganda he hoped to speak to President IDI AMIN and the Minister of Justice about the disappearance of prominent Ugandans in recent months and about the status of Asians in the country. In Ethiopia he was attending the meeting of the Organisation of African Unity's Refugee Committee on which *Amnesty* has observer status. In Cairo he hoped to visit the one Egyptian prisoner under *AI* adoption. Details of the tour will appear in the January *Newsletter*.

**TURKEY:** MUIR HUNTER QC, a leading British lawyer, his wife and SIR OSMOND WILLIAMS, Vice Chairman of the British Section, arrived in Ankara November 24 for talks with government officials about the position and treatment of political prisoners and detainees. Details in the next *Newsletter*.

**SOUTH KOREA:** A.J.J. SANGUINETTI, a Hong Kong barrister representing both *Amnesty* and the International Commission of Jurists, attended the appeal trial in Seoul on November 23 of SOH SUNG, a student sentenced to death for espionage. Mr Sanguinetti was asked to urge the court to commute Mr Soh's sentence. He will also report to *AI* on grave torture allegations made in court by Mr Soh.

ORGANISATION

**INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** The IEC met November 10-12 in the new IS headquarters. Its main topic was the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture (*see next column*), the 1973 Paris conference and general plans for it. The existing budget does not provide for the Campaign and additional funds are being sought from trusts and individuals. The IEC discussed *AI's* initiative for the release of civilian prisoners in Indo-China (*see Countries*) and paid tribute to the Chairman, SEAN MacBRIDE SC, for his work in drafting the proposed protocol and circulating it to the governments concerned. The IEC also considered the appropriate action to take on decisions reached in Utrecht. A full report of the meeting will be sent shortly to National Sections. The next IEC meeting will be held January 19-21 1973.

**ELECTION:** In accordance with the amendments to the statutes passed by the International Council in Utrecht, a ballot of the IS staff was held November 1 and ANNE BURLEY was elected non-voting staff representative on the IEC for a one year term. She joined *Amnesty* as a volunteer in 1968 and became a fulltime researcher in 1971. She currently works on Greece, Iran, Israel and Turkey.

**TORTURE CAMPAIGN:** All information for the launching of the Campaign on December 11 has now been sent to National Sections. Arrangements are being made for publication of the new torture report in September 1973. National Sections are asked urgently to send the IS all information they have about any torture of their adopted prisoners. Scandinavian sections will be organising a regional conference during Prisoner of Conscience Week 1973 on the medical aspects of torture. Other sections should send their own plans and ideas to the IS as soon as possible. Details of the December 1973 Paris conference will be sent to sections soon.

**CHRONICLE OF CURRENT EVENTS:** Despite harrassment by the KGB, issue number 27 has appeared in Moscow and is now being translated into English in London. Among other material it contains details of the many Ukrainian trials of well-known dissidents held during the past few months which resulted in unusually heavy sentences.

**STAFF VACANCIES:** The IS occasionally needs experienced executive assistants (who mostly conduct correspondence with groups) and secretaries. The positions require good shorthand, typing and English. National sections should inform GEORGE GOMEZ, the Administrative Manager, of suitable candidates who are prepared to work in London for at least one year. Their names will be placed on a list for consideration when vacancies occur.

**MONEY:** Anyone sending money to the IS must always indicate who it comes from and what it is for. The IS regularly receives money orders and cheques without such details.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** The new secretary of the Swiss Section from December 1 is FRITZ BIERI. All correspondence concerning the section should be addressed to him at Amnesty International, Swiss Section, Postfach 1051, 3001 Bern. Telephone number: (031) 45 04 06.

**REQUEST:** HOWARD BLUE of the American Section will be in Europe from February to July 1973 doing research for a book about *Amnesty*. He would welcome the addresses of non-American former *AI* prisoners of conscience now living in Europe or the USA. Please write (before January

1) to Howard Blue, 2 Leland Street, E. Northport, New York 111731 USA, or (after January 1) c/o The International Secretariat.

COUNTRIES

*SOUTH KOREA:* The IEC cabled President PARK on November 12 expressing *Amnesty's* concern about the house arrest reportedly imposed on four leading members of the Korean Section, including the chairman, Bishop DANIEL TJI. Bishop Tji was released the following day but there is still no news of the other three members.

*INDO-CHINA:* In a major initiative early in November *Amnesty* sent all parties to the Indo-China conflict a draft protocol providing for the release, rehabilitation and resettlement of an estimated 200,000 civilians detained in the region (November *Newsletter*). SEAN MacBRIDE unveiled the protocol at a news conference in Paris November 2 and urged its consideration during the peace negotiations. He expressed *AI's* fear that the ceasefire might result in a wholesale massacre of the prisoners unless provision was made for them. Private approaches also were made to the governments involved, and later in the month new letters were sent to President NIXON and North Vietnam's Prime Minister PHAM VAN DONG and other heads of participant governments urging prompt action on the protocol. National Sections are urged to take strong supporting action to publicise the protocol and to approach their own governments and embassies concerned.

*BRAZIL:* A circular was sent recently to National Sections asking for reactions to the Brazil Report from journalists and politicians and particularly anyone who has been to Latin America lately or who plans to go there soon. The IS is trying to assess the usefulness of such reports in view of their cost in time, effort and money. The IS is particularly interested in how the Brazilian authorities reacted to the report (October *Newsletter*). Note: The IS has just ordered more copies of the Brazil Report in English and still has a number of copies left in French (£1 each for non-members, 50p each for members).

TO ALL GROUPS WITH BRAZILIAN PRISONERS:  
The President of the Superior Tribunal Militar is now WALDEMAR de FIGUEIREDO COSTA. The address is the same as before: Praca da Republica, 123, Rio de Janeiro Gb.

*GHANA:* A military tribunal in Accra November 14 sentenced three civilians and five soldiers to death by firing squad for their alleged part in a plot to overthrow the military regime of Colonel I.K. ACHEAMPONG which took power in a coup in January 1972. *Amnesty* was dissatisfied with various aspects of the trial and appealed to Colonel Acheampong on November 15 to spare the lives of the eight men. Earlier in the month MARTIN ENNALS, in a letter to Colonel Acheam-

pong drafted by JOHN HUMPHREYS, Head of the Africa Department, expressed concern at evidence that fundamental human rights were being violated in Ghana where more than 250 members of the previous government, members of parliament and supporters of the Progress Party have been detained without trial since January.

*AUSTRALIA:* *Amnesty* cabled Prime Minister WILLIAM McMAHON on November 14 appealing for clemency for MICHAEL MATTESON, a conscientious objector who was sentenced to 18 months hard labour in Sydney for refusing compulsory military service. Mr Matteson had surrendered voluntarily to police the week before after 14 months in hiding.

*GUATEMALA:* *Amnesty* wrote to the Minister of the Interior, DR HERRERA IBARGUEN, on November 10 about the disappearance of hundreds of people in the country over the past two years. The letter, drafted by BECKY BABCOCK and the Latin America Department and signed by MARTIN ENNALS, appealed to Guatemala to ensure human rights for all her citizens and to take concrete measures to find those who had been kidnapped and either release them or bring them to trial.

*MOROCCO:* Eleven military personnel were sentenced to death by a military tribunal at Kenitara for their alleged part in the plot to assassinate KING HASSAN II in August. On November 9 *Amnesty* cabled King Hassan pleading for clemency.

*SOUTH AFRICA:* German group 404, helped by the German Section, has raised 9,000 rand (about £4,500) bail for their prisoner MAX TABATA and for two others, ALBERT KWEZI and MONTFORD MZOLI MABUTO, who received five year sentences in what has become known as the 'Maritzburg Trial of the 13'. The 13, all members of the African People's Democratic Union, were found guilty on April 4 1972 after being charged under the Terrorism Act of conspiring with fellow party members to recruit guerrillas abroad. Only the three for whom Group 404 raised the money were allowed bail pending an appeal which is likely to be heard in February 1973.

*EAST GERMANY (GDR):* The amnesty for political and other prisoners announced in October began on November 1 with a steady release of both West and East German citizens. Children of refugees to the west and women (not prisoners) with husbands or fiances in the west were allowed to leave the GDR and join their relations. Under a new citizenship law refugees no longer will be regarded as citizens of the GDR and may visit their relations in East Germany without danger of arrest. Dr ZBYNEK ZEMAN, *AI* Director of Research, welcomed the amnesty in an interview on West German television.

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DECEMBER 10 is HUMAN RIGHTS DAY  
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POSTCARDS FOR PRISONERS CAMPAIGN

NEWS OF EARLIER PRISONERS

Nikos POLITIS - Greece (September 1972): Because of ill health he has just been given a six months suspension of the 20-year sentence he received in 1969. This means he is out of prison temporarily and living with his family while receiving continuous medical treatment. He has written a letter to the Rugby (England) group that has adopted him saying how much he appreciates the interest it has shown in him.

Otini and Mattiyah KAMBONA - Tanzania (August 1972): Recent reports say Otini Kambona has been moved from Ukonga prison in Dar es Salaam to Butimba prison in Mwanza on the shore of Lake Victoria in Northern Tanzania. But Mattiyah Kambona is still in Ukonga prison.

THIS MONTH'S PRISONERS

Muhammed Isaak GERAR - Somalia

Muhammed Isaak Gerar, a former headmaster of Abud Waq School in Somalia, was arrested in February 1971 and tried before the Dusa Narob district national security court on the charge of "holding the nation in contempt". He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

A number of persons have been convicted of similar charges under article 18 of the 1970 National Security Law which prescribes the death penalty (although lesser sentences such as imprisonment may be imposed) for persons who "distribute or disseminate information aimed at damaging the sovereignty of the revolution of the Somali nation". Charges may include "spreading false rumours against the government", "spreading malicious propaganda" and "uttering contemptuous remarks".

*Please send your cards to:* Sheikh Abdulgani Ahmed, Secretary of State for Justice, Religion and Labour, Mogadishu, Somalia; and Major General Mohamed Siad Barre, President of the Supreme Revolutionary Council, Mogadishu, Somalia.

Nikos KALOUDIS - Greece

Nikos Kaloudis, born in 1907, was a member of the politburo of the Central Committee of the Greek Communist Party. From 1949 to 1957 he was General Secretary of the Federation of Greek Maritime Unions.

In July 1970 he was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Athens Military Tribunal on a charge of "attempting the violent overthrow of the government and the abolition of the constitution". He was tried together with ten other Communists. The trial was observed by jurists from the USA, France, Sweden, Belgium and West Germany, who criticised the conduct of the proceedings. According to one observer: "No evidence in the true sense of the word was presented" by the prosecution to support the charge.

The defence maintained that the accused wanted nothing else but the restoration of the legal constitution of Greece.

Mr Kaloudis is now in Corfu Prison, one of the worst prisons in Greece. He is reported to have suffered at least two heart attacks since his imprisonment. The most recent report is that he is in a critical state of health and that in spite of the appeals of his fellow prisoners and a hunger strike by them, he has not been transferred to hospital.

*Send your cards appealing for Mr Kaloudis' release or transfer to hospital to:* His Excellency George Papadopoulos, Prime Minister, Palaia Anaktora, Athens, Greece; and His Excellency Anghelos Tsoukalas, Minister of Justice, Sokratous K. Zinonus, Athens, Greece.

Danilo Lavrentevish SHUMUK - Ukraine, USSR

Danilo Shumuk, a 58 year-old Ukrainian writer, has already served 27 years in labour camps and prisons. Before World War II he was imprisoned for 7-8 years for membership of the Communist Party which was then illegal in the Polish-occupied Ukraine. After his release, he enlisted in the Soviet Army and in 1941-42 he was in a German war camp for a year. He escaped from there and joined the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), an underground nationalist force that defied first German and then Soviet authority in the Ukraine until its suppression in 1950. Shumuk was arrested in 1945 and spent 10 years in a labour camp for his nationalist activities. In 1956 he moved to Dnepropetrovsk. He was arrested there a year later, reportedly on a trumped-up political charge; he was promised immediate release in return for co-operation with the KGB (the Soviet Secret Police), but he refused and consequently was sentenced to a further 10 years in penal servitude, this time in Siberia.

On his release in 1967, Shumuk obtained a permit to live in Kiev where he met and married Nadya Svitlychna, sister of the prominent Ukrainian dissident Ivan Svitlychny whose trial is imminent. Shumuk was arrested once again in January 1972, during a wave of political arrests - particularly in the Ukraine. The arrests were part of a reinforced clampdown on dissent by the Soviet authorities which is still continuing. At his trial in June, Shumuk was charged with anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda for his activities with *samizdat* (unofficial publications): he had apparently circulated his memoirs on the post-war Stalin labour-camps and works by Milovan Djilas, the former Yugoslav Vice-President. He received a sentence of 10 years strict-regime in labour camps and 5 years exile. This sentence, like the others passed on Ukrainian dissidents this year, is unusually harsh: and in view of the many years Shumuk has already spent in prison, it is particularly distressing.

Please send your cards, asking that he be released on humanitarian grounds, to the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, N. Podgorny, and the USSR-Procurator-General, R. Rudenko. Their addresses are: SSSR, g. Moskva, Kreml, Predsedatelyu Prezidiuma Verkhovnogo Sovieta SSSR, N. Podgornomu; and SSSR, g. Moskva, Pushkin-skaya ul. 15 a, Prokuratura SSSR, Generalnomu Prokuroru, R. Rudenko.

#### RECOMMENDED BOOKS

LUNDQUIST, Sven. The Shadow: Latin America faces the seventies. 1972. Penguin Books, Harmondsworth, England. 55p.

Good background to general social and political study of Latin America.

FLEMING, Amalia. A Piece of Truth: Lady Fleming on the Colonels' Greece. 1972. Jonathan Cape, 30 Bedford Square, London. £2.95.

The author, widow of the discoverer of penicillin and herself a doctor, was imprisoned by the Colonels' regime in Greece, interrogated, tried and later forcibly deported to England. At the end of the book there are a number of statements by people in various Greek prisons. Highly recommended, especially for groups with Greek prisoners.

TODD, Judith. The Right to Say No. 1972. Sidgwick and Jackson, 1 Tavistock Chambers, Bloomsbury Way, London WC1. £2.75.

When Africans met to discuss the terms of the proposed Anglo-Rhodesian settlement, Judy Todd was one of the few white persons present as a friend and not as a representative of the British or Rhodesian governments. She describes the period during the Pearce Commission's visit to Rhodesia and her own experiences in prison with competence, sincerity and fervour. The result is fascinating as well as informative.

NO FUTURE WITHOUT US: The story of the African National Council in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia). 1972. Obtainable from S.R.G.N. Ngube, 106 Maurice Avenue, Wood Green, London N22 6PU. 25p.

This deals with the proposals for a settlement, the Pearce Commission, the African National Council and 'Rhodesian politics since Pearce'.

THE FOURTH WORLD: Victims of Group Oppression. 1972. Sidgwick and Jackson, 1 Tavistock Chambers, Bloomsbury Way, London WC1. £3.95. Also obtainable from The Minority Rights Group, 36 Craven Street, London WC2.

This highly recommended hardback volume collects together in permanent form the first eight reports which the Minority

Rights Group has produced on minority problems throughout the world (revised and updated, with maps), together with specially commissioned new essays on the situation of minorities by MILOVAN DJILAS, PHILIP MASON, BEN WHITAKER and RICHARD and HEPHIZIBAH HAUSER. The eight reports are on: Asian Minorities of East and Central Africa; Southern Sudan and Eritrea; Africans in Rhodesia\*; Blacks in Brazil; Ireland; Religions in the Soviet Union\*; Crimean Tartars and Volga Germans\*; and Japan's Outcasts. The starred (\*) reports may be of particular interest to AI groups.

ISVS Statistical Directory of Volunteer and Development Service Organisations. 1972. Published in English, French and Spanish. International Secretariat for Volunteer Service, 10 chemin de Surville, 1213 Petit-Lancy, Geneva, Switzerland. 8 Swiss Francs (US\$2.25) plus postage.

The new 148 page directory is twice the size of the 1971 edition and is the most comprehensive of its kind ever published. About 160 countries and territories are the subject of entries. The directory includes table of statistics by country and by continent of the numbers of volunteers and development service personnel, as well as the world totals. Among a host of other useful information there is a listing by country of over 260 volunteer and national development service organisations and their addresses.

APARTHEID. The testimony given to the United Nations Special Committee on Apartheid last August in London by a former prisoner on Robben Island (South Africa) is printed in full in SECHEBA, volume 6 No. 10, October 1972, pages 11-16. Obtainable from SECHEBA, 49 Rathbone Street, London W14 4NL. 10p.

#### CALENDAR

##### DECEMBER

- 4 Gen. Franco of Spain's 80th Birthday (1892)
- 10 Human Rights Day: Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by UN (1948); Independence days of Cuba (1898), Tanzania (1961)
- 11 Start of Campaign for the Abolition of Torture
- 12 Kenya's Independence Day
- 30 Soviet Union's 50th anniversary (1922)

##### JANUARY

- 1 Independence days of Haiti (1804), Sudan (1956), Cameroon (1960)
- 2 Fidel Castro assumes power in Cuba (1959)
- 21 Death of Lenin (1924)