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UN Human Rights Prize

'LET THERE BE NO MISTAKE ...'

"Let there be no mistake about who is being honoured here today," said Suriya WICKREMASINGHE of *AI's* International Executive Committee on accepting the 1978 UN Human Rights Prize at a special ceremony in the United Nations on 11 December 1978.

"It is everyone who has ever put their name on the bottom of an *AI* appeal. It is everyone who has ever written a letter asking for the release of a prisoner of conscience. It is everyone who has ever stood in a vigil mourning the death of a political prisoner.

"It is everyone who has ever handed out leaflets, stuffed envelopes, licked stamps, kept membership lists, done the accounts and helped out behind the scenes. . . ."

The UN Prize, which *AI* was awarded along with seven other recipients, recognized the organization's "outstanding contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights and

fundamental freedoms".

"Human rights cannot be left to governments, legislators and jurists," said Ms Wickremasinghe. "They are the concern and the responsibility of the man and woman in the street, of the labourer, the farmer, the office clerk, the student. Every name on every petition counts" □

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT 1978

The latest annual survey of political imprisonment, torture and execution throughout the world compiled by Amnesty International will be published this year on 1 February 1979.

Political killings, arrests continue in Nicaragua

Political killings, torture and arbitrary detentions are still being carried out by Nicaragua's National Guard after the September 1978 nationwide insurrection.

A list of 519 Nicaraguan citizens known to be detained by the government was made public by *AI* Secretary General Martin ENNALS on 20 November 1978 during a visit to San José, Costa Rica.

"We are particularly concerned about the murder by National Guard troops of refugees returning from neighbouring Honduras," he said. "Recent interviews in refugee camps in Honduras conducted by Amnesty International have confirmed that numerous refugees have been detained and shot in cold blood upon returning to their homes in Estelí and Chinandega in late October."

More than 10,000 destitute Nicaraguan refugees have been granted asylum and material assistance in Honduras. Most are cared for in tent villages in the southern province of Choluteca, where the Honduran government has granted full administrative authority to the Honduran Red Cross.

"We would like to praise the Honduran Red Cross for their tremendous efforts which have enabled these refugees to avoid the fate of arbitrary detention and summary execution to which so many of their fellow citizens have been subjected," Ennals said. (See story page 4) □

President of Guinea asked for 'living proof' that former OAU official is still alive

President Ahmed Sékou TOURE of Guinea has been challenged by *AI* to show "living proof" that the former administrative Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Telli DIALLO, is still alive.

It is now widely reported that Telli Diallo may have died in detention since his arrest in July 1976. He has never been brought before an independent court and the Guinean authorities have never made public any sentence passed on him.

At a news conference in Guinea's capital, Conakry, on Sunday 26 November 1978, President Sékou Touré is reported to have said: "Telli Diallo has been sentenced, therefore he is no longer under my authority. All those who have been sentenced to death are dead."

If Telli Diallo has not been formally executed, he may have died as a result of being deprived of food and water—a fate which many other political prisoners in Guinea have suffered.

During the same news conference President Sékou Touré criticized *AI* and described the organization as "trash" (*"une ordure"*).

After refusing to disclose how many political prisoners his government was holding, the President attacked *AI* statements about violations of human rights in Guinea and challenged the organization's impartiality and political independence. He said its policies were being dictated by "powers who wish to isolate Guinea".

It is not the first time that governments have accused *AI* of political bias but, at the same time, those governments have been unwilling or unable to deny the facts about human rights violations cited by *AI*.

In its *Guinea Briefing Paper* published in June 1978, *AI* expressed concern at the use of torture in Guinea. Judicial proceedings affecting political prisoners in the country fall far short of recognized international standards. Prison life is reported to be extremely harsh.

According to *AI* there were several thousand political prisoners held in Guinea's prisons in June 1978 (July 1978 *Newsletter*). Since then there have been reports from Conakry of the release of more than 1,000 political prisoners. However, the most prominent prisoners have not been set free and *AI* has been able to confirm the release of only a small proportion of the total number of prisoners reported to have been released. *AI* welcomes the news of the releases but urges all those concerned with human rights in Guinea to continue to press for the release of all political detainees □

Czechoslovakia

Charter 77 spokesman in pre-trial detention

A Czech professor of psychology who suffers from a serious spinal disease is still waiting for court proceedings to begin after being held in pre-trial detention on political charges for nearly three months.

Professor Jaroslav SABATA, a spokesman for Charter 77, the human rights movement founded in Czechoslovakia in January 1977, was arrested on 1 October 1978 as Czech and Polish human rights activists attempted to meet at the border of the two countries. He is charged under articles 155 and 156 of the Czechoslovak penal code with "grossly insulting and assaulting a public functionary".

At the time of his arrest, Dr Sabata was reported to have been beaten badly by the police and witnesses say they saw his face covered in blood.

Professor Sabata became prominent during the 1968 "Prague Spring" as the driving force for liberalization in the South Moravia (Brno) region. An able organizer, speaker and political leader, he was expelled from the Czechoslovak Communist Party and dismissed from his post as university lecturer after the occupation of the country by the armed forces of five Warsaw Pact States.

He was arrested in November 1971 and sentenced to 6½ years in prison for "subversion". After being released in 1977 on probation, he signed the Charter 77 manifesto and eventually became one of the spokesmen for the movement. His three children were also imprisoned in the early 1970s. All were adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience, and Dr Sabata has again been adopted following this latest arrest.

Political prisoners sentenced

Six other Czech citizens have been recently sentenced for exercising their right to freedom of expression.

• Jiri CHMEL, a 24-year-old geophysicist was sentenced in October 1978 to 18 months' imprisonment for allowing several people to sign Charter 77 in his flat. He was also accused of playing a tape recorded text of Charter 77 and compositions of non-conformist musical groups in a public place. The latter

charge was subsequently withdrawn by the Prosecutor at the trial as not proven.

• Frantisek HRABAL, a worker, and Jiri VOLF, a driver, both aged 26, were sentenced on 26 October by the Prague Municipal court to 3 years each for subversion. They were accused of disseminating Charter 77 documents and other "anti-State, anti-party and anti-social texts".

• Petr CIBULKA, aged 28, a worker, Libor CHLOUPEK, aged 23, a librarian, and Petr POSPICHAL, aged 19, a printer's apprentice (September and November 1978 *Newsletters*), were convicted by the Brno Municipal Court on charges of organizing private performances of musical and other non-conformist groups and of duplicating and disseminating typewritten and tape recorded anti-state writings.

Petr Cibulka received 2 years', Libor Chloupek received 20 months' and Petr Pospichal received 11 months' imprisonment □

STOP PRESS

KENYA RELEASES DETAINEES

Kenyan writer, Ngugi wa Thiong'o four parliamentarians and all other detainees were freed on the country's Independence Day, 12 December 1978.

Israel

Recent arrests in the West Bank

A number of arrests have recently taken place in the West Bank which are reportedly designed to punish individuals for their political attitudes toward the Camp David accords.

On 5 December 1978, *AI* wrote to the new Attorney General of Israel, Professor Itzhak ZAMIR, expressing concern at the arrests. The *AI* letter cited the cases of 14 people, including several students and teachers from Bir Zeit University and a trade unionist who were arrested between 23 and 26 November 1978 in the vicinity of Ramallah.

The interrogations of these prisoners have apparently not focused on accusations of illegal acts as is usually the case, but on the political beliefs of the detainees and on their opposition to the proposed peace agreement between Egypt and Israel. Several of the detainees claim to have been severely maltreated while in custody. *AI* has received a report in which their lawyer attests to the injuries allegedly sustained during interrogation □

El Salvador

Starved prisoner escapes through prison bars

A political prisoner in El Salvador who was fed only twice a week for 10 months eventually lost so much weight that he was able to squeeze through the bars of his tiny prison cell and escape.

Reynaldo CRUZ MENJIVAR, a peasant organizer for the Salvadorean Christian Democratic Party, who escaped from incommunicado detention in late September 1978, has now told his story after being given asylum by the Venezuelan embassy in the capital, San Salvador.

Until his escape from prison on 29 September 1978, Reynaldo Cruz Menjivar had "disappeared". He had been arrested on 21 December 1977 at the home of his brother by members of the *Policía de Hacienda* (Treasury Police)—one of El Salvador's main security forces. Although his brother was a witness to the arrest, the government refused to acknowledge it.

After 10 months in incommunicado detention, Reynaldo Cruz escaped into

a tropical rainstorm after squeezing through the bars of his prison cell. His weight had dropped to 31.5 kilograms. He escaped wearing only his underpants, his body scarred by torture.

He said he had been tortured after his arrest and then held continuously in a dark and filthy cell which was so small that he was unable to stand up in it. Most of the time he was kept in manacles.

He was able to communicate with two other prisoners, one of whom was seriously ill and who he believes may have died in his cell a few days before the escape.

The other prisoner, Cecilio RAMIREZ, is reportedly still detained in the San Salvador headquarters of the *Policía de Hacienda*, possibly in secret underground cells below the outdoor basketball court in the Treasury Police complex.

AI has launched an urgent action on behalf of Cecilio Ramírez and all other prisoners held in the police cells □

Prisoner Releases and Cases

The International Secretariat learned in November of the release of 108 prisoners under adoption or investigation and took up 234 new cases.

Campaign for Prisoners of the Month

Each of the people whose story is told below is a prisoner of conscience. Each has been arrested because of his or her religious or political beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin or language. None has used or advocated violence. Their continuing detention is a violation of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International appeals can help to secure the release of these prisoners or to improve their detention conditions. In the interest of the prisoners, letters to the authorities should be worded carefully and courteously. You should stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. In *no* circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner.

John CHIRISA, Rhodesia

John CHIRISA was served with an indefinite detention order immediately after he had been acquitted of political charges by a Special Court in Salisbury in May 1977.

He had been accused under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act with recruiting young blacks to leave the country for training as nationalist guerrillas, an offence which has carried a mandatory death penalty in Rhodesia since November 1974.

Rhodesian authorities have made it a common practice to issue detention orders against nationalist supporters who have been charged with political offences but who have been subsequently acquitted or discharged before their case has come to court. In Chirisa's case, as in others, no specific reasons were given by the Minister for Law and Order for the imposition of the detention order.

Chirisa, 49, the former National Organizing Secretary of the internal wing of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), led by Joshua Nkomo, has been detained at least four times since 1964 and has spent a total of some eight years in detention without trial. His most recent period of detention was from mid-1973 until January 1976, when he was released to join in negotiations for a settlement in Rhodesia between ZAPU and Prime Minister Ian Smith. These negotiations were broken off two months later.

It was expected that Chirisa would be freed as a result of the internal settlement agreement reached in Salisbury on 3 March 1978. It was generally understood that the release of all detainees was one of the conditions of the agreement. However, at least 100 political detainees—including Chirisa—have not been freed.

He is now held at Wha Wha detention prison under the provisions of the Emergency Powers Regulations.

Please send courteously worded appeals asking for John Chirisa's immediate release, to each of the following: Prime Minister Ian Smith, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, Chief Jeremiah Chirau, Office of the Executive Council, P/Bag 7700, Causeway, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

Mykhaylo OSADCHY, Soviet Union

Mykhaylo OSADCHY is a Ukrainian journalist, poet and literary critic. He has been a senior lecturer in journalism at Lvov University and a member of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The 42-year-old writer was arrested in January 1972 on charges of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" when police searched his flat and seized *samizdat* writings. Eight months later he was sentenced in a closed trial to 7 years in a corrective labour colony and 3 years' internal exile.

This is Osadchy's second imprisonment. In 1966 he was sentenced to 2 years in a corrective labour colony after being convicted of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" for expressing "nationalist" sentiments.

Shortly before his second arrest in 1972 he signed a number of statements protesting against the arrest of prominent Ukrainian intellectuals. At the same time his book *Cataract*, which recounts his experience in prison, was being widely circulated in *samizdat* form in the Soviet Union.

Osadchy is completing the sixth year of his sentence in the Mordovian ASSR in a special regime corrective labour colony—the most rigorous category of labour camp—and he still faces 3 years' exile in a remote region of the USSR.

Please write courteously worded letters appealing for the immediate

release of Mykhaylo Osadchy, to: Moskva, Kreml, Generalnomu Sekretaryu TsK KPSS, i Predsedatelyu Prezidiuma Verkhovnogo, L.I. Brezhnev; and to: Moskva, Pushkinskaya ul. 15a, Prokuratura SSSR, Generalnomu Prokuroru R.A. Rudenko.

Ciro MOLINA, Nicaragua

Ciro MOLINA, a 30-year-old poet and author of *La Puerta Unica* (The Only Door), is one of Nicaragua's leading literary figures. He has been a polio victim since the age of two and has been confined to a wheelchair all his life.

During the general insurrection in Nicaragua in September 1978, *Ciro Molina* was arrested by the National Guard while visiting relatives in Quilali in Nueva Segovia district. On 25 September, 16 days after his arrest, he was transferred to the National Guard command post in his home town of Esteli. He was bound and forced to lie on the floor of a jeep throughout the 64 kilometer journey, despite the fact that he is a cripple.

He is now being held without charge in the National Guard command post at Esteli. Although he is suffering considerable pains in his back due to polio, he has been refused medical treatment.

The arrest of *Ciro Molina* is one of more than 500 politically-motivated arrests reported during the September 1978 insurrection in Nicaragua. Since then there have been reports of more than 1,000 arrests and 5,000 deaths (December 1978 *CAT Bulletin*).

Ciro Molina's studio was demolished when National Guard troops entered Esteli and all his unpublished manuscripts since 1973, including essays, poems and plays, were completely destroyed.

*Please send courteously worded letters requesting medical treatment and the immediate release of *Ciro Molina*, to: Su Excelencia Presidente Anastasio Somoza Debayle, Palacio Presidencial, Managua, Nicaragua.*

A copy of your letter may be sent to: Sr Director, Diario El Nacional, Caracas, Venezuela.

Human Rights and Peace are linked

On 18 November 1978, *AI* wrote to Prime Minister Menahem BEGIN of Israel and to President Anwar SADAT of Egypt, who share the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize, urging that they each act to end violations of human rights in their countries.

AI called on the two leaders to reaffirm the fundamental link between peace and human rights□

Nicaragua Refugees afraid to return home

Most of the Nicaraguan refugees who are now camped outside the country have said they would not return to their homes under the present circumstances.

In November, *AI* conducted a series of interviews among refugees in neighbouring Honduras. The refugees cited instances of the murder of their friends or acquaintances who had gone back to Nicaragua in recent weeks.

Twenty-two year old Alcides DURAN LANDERO was shot dead when he showed his Honduran government refugee credentials to Nicaraguan troops on 28 October 1978. Two brothers, Horacio and Julio GONZALEZ,

who had returned to Esteli to collect their social security payments had been detained and murdered three days earlier.

Seventy-five per cent of the refugees in Honduras are under the age of 20; many are young women alone with small children. There are now over 300 children under six years of age in Campo Luna in Choluteca, the largest tent village which holds 1,200 residents. Ten babies were born there in the first week of November 1978.

Refugee organizations estimate that up to 27,000 Nicaraguans have entered Honduras since the insurrection began in September 1978, although most have not yet requested refugee status or special assistance. Similarly, over 30,000 have entered Costa Rica, where the government is working for their welfare in cooperation with several charitable institutions□

USSR Another Helsinki monitor sentenced

Soviet Helsinki monitor Robert NAZARYAN has been convicted of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda". On 2 December 1978 the 30-year-old physicist was sentenced to 5 years in a corrective labour colony to be followed by 2 years' internal exile. Nazaryan, who is also a deacon of the Armenian Apostolic Church, was a founding member of the Armenian Helsinki monitoring group. He was arrested on 24 December 1977 and spent almost one

year in pre-trial detention. Another member of the Armenian Helsinki monitoring group, Shagen ARUTUNYAN, was sentenced in January 1978 to 3 years' imprisonment for allegedly "resisting a policeman or people's guard".

• Two new issues of *A Chronicle of Current Events* have now been published in English. Numbers 48 and 49, cover the period from 30 November 1977 to 14 May 1978□

Vietnam Buddhist monk 'dies in detention'

The death in detention of THICH Thien Minh, one of the leaders of the Unified Buddhist Church (UBC) has been reported from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The immediate cause of his death on 17 October 1978 is not known, although he suffered from ill health due to injuries sustained in an unsuccessful attempt on his life in 1966.

His health deteriorated further after 1969, when he was sentenced to 15 years' hard labour under the administration of NGUYEN Van Thieu for alleged "defamation of the military". Following international protests, he was released after eight months' detention.

In April 1978 he was arrested again, this time by the new government. Although it is not clear on what charges he was arrested, he had not been tried at the time of his death.

Thich Thien Minh had been involved in the planning of several Buddhist initiatives to promote peace during the 1960s and early 1970s. The UBC opposed the presence of American and other foreign troops in South Vietnam and repeatedly pressed for a ceasefire and the ultimate creation of a re-unified and non-aligned Vietnam.

Since the end of the war in April 1975 and the establishment of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, several prominent members of the UBC have been arrested; their cases have been taken up for adoption by *AI*.

AI has written to Prime Minister PHAM Van Dong, to express grave concern over reports of the death in detention of Thich Thien Minh, and over reports that two of the other detained Buddhist monks are seriously ill□

Tanzania Ministers meet AI mission

Progress has been made towards greater respect for human rights in Tanzania where, for several years, *AI* has been actively concerned about political imprisonment, detention without trial, torture and harsh prison conditions.

Late last year an *AI* mission, led by Secretary General Martin ENNALS, visited Tanzania for talks with the government.

Although the mission was unable to meet President Julius NYERERE or Vice President Aboud JUMBE, in talks with other cabinet ministers and government officials in Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar, the *AI* delegates welcomed recent developments:

- most *AI*-adopted prisoners of conscience and many others detained on the mainland have been released;
- death sentences have been commuted and prison terms reduced for those convicted in the 1973 Zanzibar treason trial;
- torture on mainland Tanzania appears to have been eliminated as a result of the prosecution of two security officers (September 1978 *CAT Bulletin*).

The *AI* mission appealed for the release of the only known prisoner of conscience on the mainland—Gray MATTAKA, who has been held almost continuously since 1969—and 14 political prisoners on Zanzibar.

An estimated 100 to 200 people are held under the Preventive Detention Act. All are alleged criminal offenders, but *AI* is investigating cases where torture has been alleged.

The *AI* mission presented the government with accounts of torture, ill-treatment and harsh prison conditions reported by released detainees. Inadequate medical attention is provided in prison and procedures for reviewing detention orders are unsatisfactory.

Senior government officials undertook to investigate these complaints, including cases such as that of Dunstan CHIPAKA who was sentenced in 1970 to life imprisonment for treason and who is reportedly being kept constantly in leg-chains.

AI has now submitted detailed recommendations to President Nyerere and Vice President Jumbe on the basis of the mission's findings□

After several years of intensive research, *AI* has published a major report, *Political Imprisonment in the People's Republic of China* (December 1978 Newsletter). The report outlines the country's constitutional, legal and penal systems under which political dissenters can be detained, interrogated, tried and punished without access to fair trials and without safeguards against maltreatment during detention. The following article sketches developments in the country since completion of the *AI* report in mid-1978.

Wall posters in Peking call for human rights

Wall posters displayed in the streets of Peking at the end of November 1978 demanded that human rights be respected and that free debate be allowed in the People's Republic of China.

The posters started appearing in the capital a few days after it was officially announced that people arrested in the 1976 demonstrations in Peking's Tienanmen Square had been "fully rehabilitated" and "exonerated as revolutionaries". In April 1976, the demonstrations had been stigmatized as "a counter-revolutionary incident".

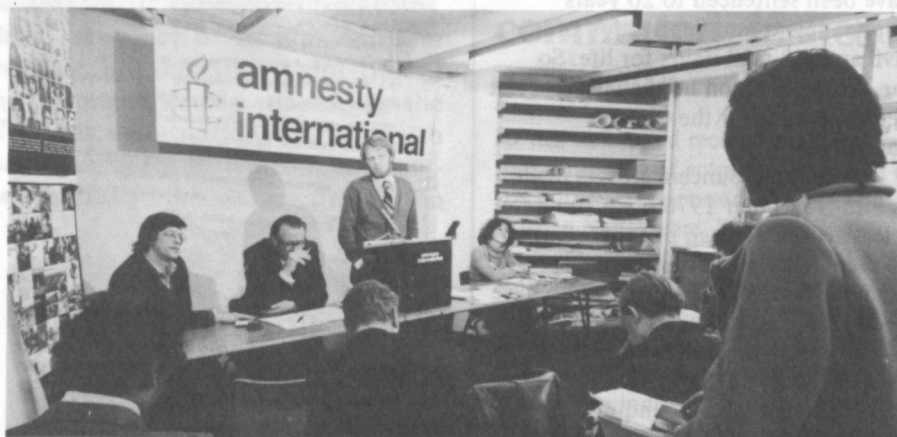
A report by the *New China News Agency* on 18 November 1978 stated that none of the "more than 300 cadres and other people arrested" in the demonstrations was a "counter-revolutionary". This judgement followed a "re-examination of the whole case" started by Peking police in May 1978.

It is not known whether the figure of "more than 300" referred only to people whose cases were "re-examined" recently. Some of the arrested demonstrators are reported to have been released earlier, in 1977 and early 1978. According to unconfirmed reports, more than a thousand people had been arrested in connection with the demonstrations.

Arrests are continuing

At an international news conference in London, England, on 27 November 1978, *AI* said it welcomed the recent announcements of releases and rehabilitations of prisoners in China. The news conference launched the *AI* publication *Political Imprisonment in the People's Republic of China* (December 1978 Newsletter).

While official statements indicate that efforts are being made to correct past miscarriages of justice, the laws providing for political imprisonment are still in force. Arrests on political grounds and executions of political offenders have continued during the past year. *AI* is still waiting to hear



Achache, Gamma

"Official government statements and Chinese laws confirm the patterns of political imprisonment described by former prisoners," said Thomas Hammarberg of *AI*'s International Executive Committee at the international news conference which launched *AI*'s report. "We are not dealing with a situation where the government says one thing and the prisoners say another," he added.

from the Chinese government about prisoners of conscience who are believed to be still imprisoned, and it hopes to discuss its report with the Chinese authorities.

Urgent revision of laws

Chinese officials have made recent statements concerning possible reforms in the country's legal system. According to a report in the *People's Daily* of 29 October 1978, the Minister of Public Security (police), Chao Tsang-pi, stated in October that "more than 30 categories of existing laws and statutes need to be urgently revised" and that there was also a need to draft a criminal code, a civil code and a code of criminal procedures.

The Minister said that the drafting of the codes should be done by "a special unit . . . organized by the judicial and public security [police] group". He said that letters from people in various localities have revealed that cadres in many areas "have violated laws, wantonly abused their powers, bullied and oppressed the masses and encroached upon people's rights while enforcing laws."

"They have even wantonly arrested people and obtained confessions from them by torture or by hanging them up

to beat them", he said.

In a statement made earlier, the President of China's Supreme Court, Chiang Hua, also said that "the verdicts against many people who were falsely or unfairly accused have not yet been reversed or redressed."

Rehabilitations and releases

Measures have been taken recently to "rehabilitate" some categories of people who had been imprisoned, maltreated or deprived of their rights. One such step concerns the rehabilitation of people who had been labelled as "rightists" in 1957 for voicing opinions critical of the Chinese Communist Party policy. The *People's Daily* of 15 November 1978 confirmed that a decision had been adopted by the Party Central Committee in April 1978 to remove the "rightist label of all the remaining rightists".

The newspaper specified that "five groups, the majority of the rightists, had their rightist labels removed between 1959 and 1964".

More than 300,000 people are believed to have been ostracized as "rightists" in 1957. Foreign correspondents in Peking estimated in spring 1978 that about 100,000 people were still classified as such. The *People's*

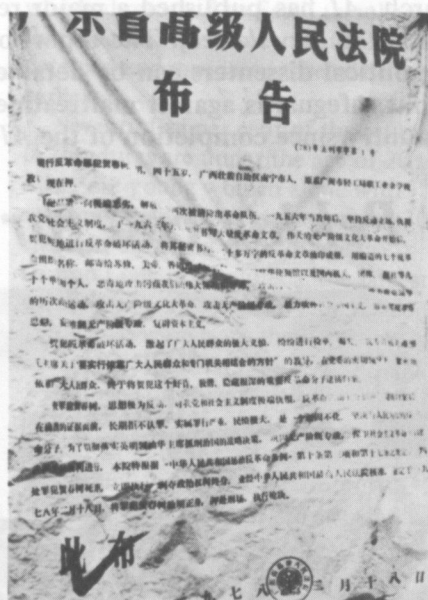
Daily of 15 November 1978 stated that "after 21 years of prolonged education and remoulding, the overwhelming majority of rightists have been transformed".

Among the cases of "rightists" known to *AI* is a girl named Lin Xiling—a 20-year-old student in Peking at the time of her arrest in 1957—who is said to have been sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment and deprivation of her civil and political rights for life. So far, *AI*'s appeals on her behalf have not been answered by the Chinese authorities.

Another announcement was made in mid-November 1978 concerning the release of 34 Tibetan prisoners—most of them high-level officials of the former Tibetan government—who have been granted pardon. *AI* has welcomed these releases, but knows of other Tibetan prisoners on whose behalf it has addressed inquiries to the Chinese government in the past year without receiving any reply. One of them is Chamba Lobsang, a Tibetan monk who was sentenced to life imprisonment during a public meeting in 1960 on accusations of "exploiting the masses in the name of religion" and who is believed to be still imprisoned.

Long-term prisoners

AI is also concerned about the fate of prisoners arrested more than 20 years ago. The former Roman Catholic Bishop of Shanghai, Kung Ping-mei, was arrested in 1955 and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1960 on charges of "leading a counter-revolutionary clique". Bishop Kung is reported to have been held in solitary confinement for several years after his arrest and prevented from seeing his family ever since. Now over 70 years



Bibliothèque Asiatique

Official policy on the handling of offenders in China states: "confession deserves leniency, resistance deserves severity". In February 1978, He Chunshu, the author of a "counter-revolutionary" leaflet, "obstinately refused to admit his crime". According to the court notice, "the wrath of the people was very great" and he was immediately executed.

old, he is believed to be still in detention.

In November 1978, *AI* launched a public appeal for the release of Bishop Kung on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. *AI* made a similar appeal on behalf of Hu Feng, a well-known Chinese writer who was also arrested in 1955 on charges of being a "counter-revolutionary". Hu Feng was in fact arrested for criticizing the rigid standards imposed on literary creation by the Party authorities in charge of literature and art. Little information has been available about him recently. If alive he is now 75 years old.

Continuing concerns

AI cabled Premier Hua Kuo-feng on 17 November 1978, inquiring about the fate of five former Red Guards, held for "criminal and counter-revolutionary" activities during the Cultural Revolution, who have been sentenced recently in Peking. Specific sentences have not been announced, but reports in the international press said it was feared that they might have been executed. The five are Nieh Yuan-tze, Kuai Ta-fu, Han Aiching, Tan Hou-lan and Wang Ta-pin. In the cable to Premier Hua Kuo-feng, *AI* said that it opposes the death penalty on humanitarian grounds and urged that their sentences be commuted if they have been sentenced to death. It also asked that the sentences passed on them be made public.

In a letter sent to Premier Hua Kuo-feng on 2 November 1978, *AI* presented recommendations based on the observations made in its report on political imprisonment in the People's Republic of China, urging the government to:

- repeal all laws prescribing administrative or criminal punishments for the non-violent expression of beliefs;
- ensure that all persons currently detained on political grounds are granted fair and open trials with full rights to defence;
- abolish the death penalty;
- establish formal safeguards to prevent the torture or maltreatment of prisoners;
- apply internationally-recognized standards for the protection of human rights□

Eyewitnesses challenge official story Uruguayans abducted in Brazil

Four Uruguayans including two small children are reported to have been kidnapped from southern Brazil and then illegally transferred across the border to Uruguay.

On 25 November 1978 the Uruguayan armed forces said the two adults, Universindo Rodríguez DIAZ and Lilián CELIBERTI de Casariego, were "apprehended crossing into Uruguayan territory with subversive material". They said the two children, aged three and eight, had been given into the care of their grandparents in Uruguay's capital, Montevideo.

But two Brazilian journalists, working for the weekly political magazine *Veja*, say they saw Lilian Celiberti being arrested in her home in Porto Alegre, Brazil, eight days before the Uruguayan armed forces' statement. The two journalists made their disclosure after learning of the Uruguayan official version of the event.

The journalists said they visited the Celiberti home after their magazine received an anonymous call warning them of a possible kidnap attempt.

Eight-year-old Camilo CELIBERTI, interviewed by Brazilian journalists on

30 November 1978 at his grandparents' home in Montevideo, said he and the other three had been first held in Federal Police headquarters in Porto Alegre. He and his three-year-old sister, Francesca, had then been driven to Montevideo and handed over two weeks later to the grandparents.

A Brazilian lawyer working on the case says the adults were flown by Uruguayan and Brazilian security agents to São Paulo and then to Montevideo.

The kidnapping has been publicly denounced by the President of the Brazilian Bishops' Conference□



amnesty international

campaign for the abolition of torture

appeal

Amnesty International opposes the torture of prisoners in all cases, wherever and whenever it is practised. Any act of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is a violation of the international human rights standards unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. International appeals can help to alleviate the plight of prisoners being subjected to cruel treatment. Your letters should follow carefully the instructions given below.

USSR

Boris Evdokimov — victim of psychiatric abuse

Former journalist Boris EVDOKIMOV who was the subject of an *AI* appeal in February 1978, is still confined to a special psychiatric hospital in the Soviet Union where, according to the latest reports, at least until recently he has continued to receive "treatment" with powerful neuroleptic drugs.

Evdokimov, now 55 years old, was arrested in Leningrad in October 1972 on charges of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" because he sent articles critical of the Soviet authorities to be published outside the country. He was ordered confined to the Dnepropetrovsk Special Psychiatric Hospital in the Ukraine. While there, he met Leonid PLYUSHCH, another prisoner of conscience, who has since left the USSR and who has publicly described Evdokimov's plight.

Four years later, Evdokimov was transferred to the Kazan Special Psychiatric Hospital where, according to persistent reports, he has been treated

with powerful drugs including tizertsin. As a result, his health has seriously declined. According to the latest reports, Evdokimov now has difficulty even in walking, a symptom probably attributable to his treatment. The doctor in charge of Evdokimov's treatment is reported to be Dr Olga Ivanovna VOLKOVA.

AI has adopted Evdokimov as a prisoner of conscience on the grounds that he is detained because of the non-violent exercise of his human rights rather than for authentic medical reasons.

Please write courteously worded letters to the Director of the Kazan Special Psychiatric Hospital expressing concern at reports that Evdokimov is receiving medical treatment which is damaging his health, and urging that all steps be taken to obtain his release.

Write to: SSSR, RSFSR, Tatarskaya ASSR, g. Kazan 420082, ul. Ershova 49, uchr. UE 146, Nachalniku, Polkovniku K.L. Sveshnikovu.

Iraq

Father of twelve 'tortured to death'

Haji Sayyid MA'ROUF, a 67-year-old Iraqi Kurd is reported to have been tortured to death in July 1977 according to delayed information reaching *AI*. A father of twelve, he was arrested for questioning after his son had left home to join the *pesh mergas* (the Kurdish forces engaged in armed opposition to the Iraqi government).

AI groups are now asking the Iraqi government to initiate an investigation into the circumstances of Haji Ma'rouf's death.

AI has received a number of reports of deaths under torture in Iraq. The mutilated corpse of Reber Mulla

HUSAIN, a 19-year-old student responsible for the Kurdistan Students Union in Zakho, was returned to his family on 26 April 1976 less than a week after his arrest. Nine nails were reportedly found in his body, one eye was gouged out and his penis had been cut off.

Sayyid Muhammad ISMAIL, an 80-year-old Iraqi Kurd who was arrested in May 1977 in connection with his son's alleged involvement in blowing up a secret police car in Arbil, reportedly died in custody soon after as a result of torture. In both these cases *AI* has asked the government to investigate the allegations but, as far as is known, no investigation has been undertaken□

Pakistan

Amputations are commuted; lashes continue

AI has welcomed recent press reports that sentences of amputation passed on three prisoners accused of robbing a bank in Nanakwara, Pakistan, have been commuted. In a letter of 20 November 1978 to Chief Martial Law Administrator, General Mohammed ZIA ul-Haq, *AI* said it hoped this cruel and inhuman punishment would now be rescinded.

AI also urged General Zia to end the flogging of political prisoners. The punishment is being inflicted on people who participate in peaceful processions as a means of exercising the right of freedom of expression, which is guaranteed in the Pakistan Constitution.

The imposition of this punishment, and particularly its frequent imposition for peaceful activities during recent months, has caused considerable international concern. *AI* has recommended that General Zia commute the sentences of all those sentenced by martial law courts to receive lashes.

Doctors involved

Amputation and flogging were introduced in Pakistan by martial law regulations following the military takeover of July 1977. *AI* has received no reports of execution of the sentence of amputation, which has to be carried out by a qualified surgeon under local anaesthetic. Recent reports of floggings suggest that a prison doctor is involved in supervising execution of this sentence as well.

Both punishments are provided for in the *Shariat* (Islamic religious law) for certain offences, but have not been prescribed—as far as *AI* knows—for political offences.

The infliction of these punishments is contrary to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the 1975 United Nations Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and other international human rights instruments. The imposition of these sentences under medical supervision contravenes the World Medical Association's 1975 "Declaration of Tokyo", which prohibits doctors' involvement in such practices□

New Evidence collected of torture in Iran

Political prisoners in Iran are being subjected to torture and cruel treatment at the hands of the police and SAVAK agents despite frequent assurances by the Shah that the practice has been halted.

A recent *AI* mission to Iran which visited six cities and towns in the course of a two-week stay in the country, from 11 to 24 November 1978, received detailed information which convinced them that torture is still being inflicted upon prisoners.

The *AI* delegates received numerous reports of disappearances and deaths under torture. They returned with lists of people alleged to have disappeared after being arrested and in some cases believed to have died under torture during the past year.

The mission, consisting of New York attorney David EMIL and a member of *AI*'s research staff, also brought back individual testimonies resulting from interviews with more than 60 released prisoners, relatives of prisoners and lawyers, including people arrested in recent months.

The interviews dealt with the treatment of political prisoners and detention conditions and confirmed allegations spanning the last 15 years that the torture of political prisoners has been practised systematically throughout the country and has not stopped.

In some cases the torture had been carried out during interrogation in

order to extract information or confessions. In other cases the torture appeared to be used as punishment for political activities or as a deterrent.

Methods of torture which appear to have been used recently include whipping with cables, the beating of the soles of the feet (*falanga*), kicking, punching, burning of parts of the body with cigarettes, extended sleep deprivation combined with forced standing, the application of nettles to sensitive parts of the body and long periods of solitary confinement.

In one case, a 56-year-old man from Zanjan was allegedly burned all over his body with cigarettes by SAVAK agents because he had in his possession a statement by the religious leader, Ayatollah SHARIAT-MADARI.

Another report concerned a group of young men who were arrested in Amoul in April 1978 and subsequently acquitted. The *AI* delegates were told that they were beaten with cables, had nettles placed in their mouths, armpits and other sensitive parts of the body and had been thrown into cold water.

The *AI* delegates received frequent reports of indiscriminate police brutality following arrest or detention. One such report concerned a 63-year-old man in Mashad who had suffered 12 bone fractures and spent seven days in hospital as a result of being beaten by a policeman after his detention on 8 November 1978.

In connection with the recent disturbances in Iran, the *AI* mission received reports that the army and police had impeded the medical treatment of wounded people in various cities. In one incident, a doctor in Mashad told the *AI* delegates that on 20 November 1978 three people, who had been wounded in a demonstration and who were in a critical condition, were brought to the hospital where he worked but were subsequently removed by soldiers in spite of the doctor's protests. The victims were later reported by the army to have died. A similar report was received about two other people taken on the same day to another hospital in Mashad.

AI Secretary General, Martin ENNALS, who met the Shah in March 1977 said he had received an assurance at that time that torture had been stopped in Iran. The Shah repeated similar assurances in the German magazine *Stern* on 30 August 1978.

"This is gross hypocrisy," said Ennals. "Two years ago Iran was a principal sponsor of a United Nations resolution aimed at preventing torture throughout the world. Since then it has made a unilateral declaration to be bound by a UN code against torture. Iran is also bound by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to prohibit torture. Our information clearly indicates that Iran has reneged on her own undertakings and has violated international law" □

Jordan Gov't says prisoner died in hospital

The Jordanian government has responded to requests both from *AI* Secretary General Martin ENNALS and from individual *AI* members urging an immediate inquiry into the reported death in detention of Omar Musa AJOURY.

Ajoury, a 20-year-old Palestinian student at Jordan University, was believed to have died in the Abdeli Intelligence Service Prison in Amman, the capital, on 5 June 1978, after an eight-day hunger and thirst strike (September 1978 *CAT Bulletin*).

AI has reason to believe that the arrest was due to his friendship with other Palestinian students, some of whom may have been involved in Palestinian resistance activities. Ajoury himself was understood by *AI* to be a prisoner of conscience.

Numerous allegations of ill-treatment of prisoners held for interrogation at the Abdeli prison have been received by *AI*. Prisoners held there are known to be frequently subjected to prolonged solitary confinement.

The Jordanian government, however, has said that Ajoury was arrested for involvement in violent activities and that he died in the Central Military Hospital where he was receiving intensive medical care for kidney failure. According to the government, he had already been suffering from a chronic kidney ailment before the arrest.

Nevertheless, the official government reply indicates that, although Ajoury had been arrested 5½ months earlier, he was still "being interrogated" less than 24 hours before his death.

To further clarify the facts about the case, *AI* wrote to the government on 1 December 1978 asking for further information about the charges brought against Ajoury, the legal procedures

followed between his arrest in November 1977 and his death in May 1978, his place of detention and the date on which he was transferred to the Central Military Hospital □

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