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AI CRITICIZES SOVIET CRACKDOWN ON DISSIDENTS IN LITHUANIA; MOSCOW GROUP MEMBER ARRESTED, SECRETARY'S FLAT SEARCHED

An AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL statement on 15 January criticized the current wave of interrogations and arrests of "dissidents" in Lithuania—a wave which has now extended to Moscow. AI had already cabled its concern to Soviet authorities, specifically mentioning biologist SERGEI KOVALYOV, a member of AI's Moscow group, who was arrested on 28 December and flown to Lithuania (see box below). Although no formal charges have been made public, Dr Kovalyov's detention apparently was for alleged involvement with *The Chronicle of the Lithuanian Catholic Church*, a samizdat journal whose suppression is an object of the current KGB investigation known as "case 345".

Some of the many Lithuanians arrested on political charges have been held in pre-trial detention for more than the nine months allowed by Soviet law. They include PETRA PLUMPA-PLUIRA, POVILAS PETRONIS and IONAS STASHAITIS, all recently sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from 8 years' hard labour to one year, but who had been detained for over a year in Vilnius before being brought to trial.

Referring to Dr Kovalyov, AI's statement noted that he had worked for the defence of human rights in Lithuania well before AI's group in Moscow had been recognized formally, and that under AI rules groups may not adopt prisoners in their own country.

In April 1974 Dr Kovalyov had publicized the fact that the mother of SIMAS KUDIRKA—a Lithuanian seaman recently released from a prison sentence imposed after his attempt to flee to an American ship in 1970 (August 1974 Newsletter)—had been arrested while attempting to reach the United States Embassy in Moscow. Mr Kudirka, now living in the United States, has praised Dr Kovalyov's efforts to help him and his mother emigrate safely.

"Dr Kovalyov is a law-abiding Soviet citizen whose concern for human rights has led him to join Amnesty International and work for prisoners of conscience throughout the world," AI said in its statement.

The statement also noted that, at the instigation of Lithuanian

Sharp Rise in 1974 in Numbers of AI Adoptees Released, New Cases and New Groups

The International Secretariat learned of the release of 1,403 AI-adopted prisoners during the calendar year 1974. This was a jump of 32 per cent over the 1,059 prisoners released in 1973.

Some 2,458 new cases were taken up during 1974, an increase of 31 per cent over the 1,875 new cases taken up the previous year.

These figures include the 48 releases AI learned of in December and the 116 new cases taken up in the final month of the year.

During the whole year the number of AI groups throughout the world increased by 237 to a total of 1,576. AI's total individual membership has now soared past 40,000.

an KGB officials gathering evidence for "case 345", agents had on a number of recent occasions searched the flat of ANDREI TVERDOKHLEBOV, secretary of the AI Moscow group.

AI HITS AT VIETNAM PACT COUNTRIES FOR FAILURE TO ACT ON PRISONERS

AI has accused the parties to the 1973 Vietnam peace agreement of failing to discharge their responsibilities in ending the suffering of the tens of thousands of civilian prisoners still detained in the country.

In a statement issued on 27 January, the second anniversary of the signing of the agreement in Paris, AI said that even prisoners who had finished their sentence were still detained, released prisoners had been re-arrested, untried political detainees had been systematically reclassified as common criminals and torture of detainees during interrogation was still rife.

AI said primary responsibility for the situation lay with the four governments that signed the pact: South Vietnam (Saigon), North Vietnam, the United States and the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG).

"We call on the four signatory governments, as well as the members of the International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS) and those states which participated in the 1973 Peace Conference to discharge their legal and moral responsibility to ensure the release and humane treatment of the tens of thousands of civilian prisoners held throughout South Vietnam," AI said. "Otherwise they should, as the Canadian government has done, renounce publicly any continuing responsibility as guarantors of the agreement."

AI had previously written to the four signatories along the same lines, citing article 8c of the agreement which provides that Saigon and the PRG will resolve the prisoner issue "in a spirit of national reconciliation and concern....in order to ease

Chairman of AI Moscow Group Says Soviets Holding up Letters from London

VALENTIN TURCHIN, Chairman of AI's group in Moscow has accused Soviet authorities of holding up materials and letters sent to the group by the International Secretariat in London.

In a statement given to foreign newsmen on 16 January, Mr Turchin said no material addressed to him from London had been received since November. The Moscow group, the first-ever AI group in the Soviet Union, was formally recognized by the International Executive Committee last September (October Newsletter). Among the material sent from London were the three case sheets of prisoners of conscience assigned to the group. The prisoners are detained in Spain, Yugoslavia and Sri Lanka.

Mr Turchin said authorities had also brought other pressures to bear on the group. He cited the arrest of biologist SERGEI KOVALYOV, a prominent member of the group (see above), and the harassment of the group's secretary, ANDREI TVERDOKHLEBOV.

Mr Tverdokhlebov had been summoned for questioning by the KGB and his flat has been searched twice recently. Large quantities of documents, including AI material, were confiscated. At least one of the searches violated Soviet law in that it was carried out at night and material not specifically proscribed was taken away.

suffering and re-unite families”.

Yet the mass of evidence received by *AI* since January 1973 indicates that the plight of the prisoners has, if anything, worsened. As recently as last November a detained Buddhist monk had attempted to disembowel himself in protest against prison conditions.

AI described the work of the ICCS and the Joint Military Commission which were policing the agreement as inadequate. It called on the four signatories to see to it that international humanitarian organizations are granted unrestricted access to prisoners in order to investigate conditions of detention.

CHAD URGED TO FREE DETAINEES

AI urged President NGARTA TOMBALBAYE of Chad on 19 January to grant an amnesty to the hundreds of political detainees who have been held without trial in the sub-Saharan African republic for up to 2½ years.

Secretary-General MARTIN ENNALS asked President Tombalbaye to declare an amnesty similar to the one which freed 106 political prisoners in August 1974. This, Mr Ennals' letter said, would be in keeping with the provisions of the Chad constitution which guarantee basic human rights and freedom of belief and opinion.

Most of the prisoners were arrested between July 1972 and early 1973 and detained since then in poor prison conditions. Some reportedly have been tortured through beatings and electric shocks.

The prisoners include civil servants, workers, prominent former politicians and others who have incurred the displeasure of President Tombalbaye and his ruling—and the country's only legal—political party, the *Mouvement National pour la Revolution Culturelle et Sociale*. Chad's population numbers nearly four million.

Prisons in the Chad capital of N'Djamena, as well as the urban centers of Moundou and Doba, hold hundreds of these untried detainees. One account of conditions in N'Djamena prison dating from the summer of 1973 spoke of 25 prisoners crowded into a cell measuring 6 meters by 7 meters.

The report said no beds were provided and the door of the cell only was opened twice a day to admit food. The only medication allowed to prisoners were anti-malarial tablets and aspirin.

AI Dismayed at Council of Europe Decision

AI expressed dismay on 23 January at a decision that day by the Legal Affairs Committee of the Council of Europe's Consultative Assembly meeting in Strasbourg to drop capital punishment from its agenda. The dropped motion called on member states to abolish the death penalty.

Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS, who attended the Strasbourg meeting, said he was “surprised and disappointed that a motion which ultimately effects the lives and human rights of people in all the member countries of the Council of Europe should have been dropped so casually.”

Singapore PoCs Face 12th Year in Detention

Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS wrote on 27 January to Prime Minister LEE KUAN YEW of Singapore to express *AI*'s concern for the well-being of three prominent political prisoners entering their 12th year of detention.

The three are Dr LIM HOCK SIEW, MOHAMMAD SAID BIN ZAHARI and HO TOON CHIN (alias HO PIAO), all of whom were originally detained 2-3 February 1963 in a wave of arrests known as “Operation Cold Store”, and all of whom continue to be held under the terms of Singapore's Internal Security Act. The attention of the Prime Minister also was drawn to the case of LEE TZE TONG, who was served with a detention

order on 23 October 1963, deprived of his citizenship in late 1967, and who is now held under a banishment order in Queenstown Remand Prison, Singapore. *AI* has adopted all four prisoners.

Dr Lim Hock Siew was a committee member of *Barisan Sosialis*, the main opposition party active in 1963. Said Zahari was the editor of *Utusan Melayu*, a leading Malay newspaper, and he is also well-known as a poet. A volume of his poems entitled *Poems from Prison* (compiled from work smuggled out of the detention center) appeared in 1973. Ho Piao was formerly secretary of the Singapore National Seamen's Union which is now proscribed. Shortly after his arrest, Lee Tze Tong, also a trade unionist, had been elected to the Singapore parliament as a *Barisan Sosialis* candidate.

Operation Cold Store was designed to stifle leftwing opposition to the proposed merger of Singapore into the Federation of Malaysia. Singapore joined the Federation in September 1963 but left abruptly in August 1965.

Mali Announces 1975 Amnesty for Prisoners

President Moussa Traoré of the West African state of Mali announced in a New Year's broadcast that 1975 would be a year devoted to national reconciliation, and would be marked by the release of political prisoners.

The President's remarks came one month after the culmination of an *AI* campaign aimed at encouraging a general amnesty for Mali's political prisoners, some of whom have been held without trial since 1968 (see December *Newsletter*). Reports from the Malian capital, Bamako, at first indicated that the amnesty might cover only persons detained during 1974 (about 20 of the over 50 prisoners adopted by *AI*), but there are hopes that in fact all persons held for political reasons will be released. *AI* Secretary General Martin Ennals cabled President Traoré on 4 January congratulating him on his declared intention of freeing the prisoners and urging that the amnesty be a general one.

Firing Squad Executes 10 Somalis in Public

The public execution by firing squad of 10 men in Mogadishu, capital of Somali Democratic Republic on 23 January was condemned in a statement by *AI*.

The 10 had been tried by the northeast African country's National Security Court and found guilty on 18 January of “exploiting religion to create national disunity and subverting state authority”. They were alleged to have “had links with international imperialism” and to have mounted a campaign of “false propaganda” against a recent decision of the Somali Supreme Revolutionary Council to grant equal rights to women.

The equal rights decision was announced by Somali President Siyad Barre at a public ceremony in Mogadishu on 11 January. At that time he warned that “reactionaries, those opposed to equality, and bad religious leaders” would fight the ruling. Barely seven days later the National Security Court announced sentences of death on six men for opposing the decision, and sentenced three others to 30 years imprisonment and two to 20 years in jail on similar charges. It is assumed that the 10 men now reported shot include the six who were given the death sentence on 18 January.

AI said the Somali government, in rightly implementing the equal rights for women provisions of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights, had, in executing the 10, paradoxically and flagrantly violated the right to life clause of the declaration.

“Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases,” *AI* said. “In condemning these shootings we are motivated by the same humanitarian spirit under which we have previously condemned executions in South Africa, Rhodesia, the Soviet Union, Uganda, Morocco, Iran, Iraq, Indonesia and other countries throughout countries.”

Prisoners of the Month Campaign

Participants in the Campaign are reminded that appeals must only be sent to the officials named at the end of each case. In no circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner.

Abdellatif DERKAoui, Morocco

ABDELLATIF DERKAoui was a young teacher of architecture until his arrest in the spring of 1972. He was one of a number of other young teachers and students who were rounded up by the Moroccan police at that time, in an apparent attempt by the government of King Hassan II to stamp out growing leftwing radicalism within the educational system.

It was rumoured that the arrested students, most of whom were held under poor conditions in Casablanca Prison, would be charged with plotting against the internal security of the state. This was a period during which the Moroccan authorities, whose relations with leftwing and social democrat elements in the country's political leadership have for over a decade been a mixture of repression and *rapprochement*, were taking a hard line against radical elements in the educational sector.

During the winter of 1972-1973 the Moroccan National Students' Union was dissolved and large numbers of students were expelled from the universities of Fes, Rabat, and Casablanca. During this whole period Mr Derkaoui and his colleagues were imprisoned at Casablanca, where, in November and December 1972, they staged a hunger strike in order to reinforce their demands for better prison conditions and the granting to them of the official status of political prisoners.

Finally, in the summer of 1973, 80 members of the group with which Mr Derkaoui had been arrested were brought to trial in Casablanca charged with inciting strikes at colleges and schools, attending forbidden meetings, and distributing illegal pamphlets. During the trial there were strong allegations of torture—a disturbing feature which has regularly marked Moroccan political trials since the early 1960s—and when the verdict was announced in early September 1973, a number of the accused received heavy prison sentences. Mr Derkaoui was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment. He is now serving that sentence at Kenitra Prison.

Please send courteously-worded appeals for his release to: His Majesty King Hassan II, Rabat, Morocco.

Aziz YOUSEFI, Iran

AZIZ YOUSEFI is one of hundreds of Kurds in Iran who

have been imprisoned because of their support for Kurdish nationalism. Although the Shah is currently supporting the Iraqi Kurds in their fight for autonomy, his treatment of his own Kurdish subjects has always been extremely repressive and many of them have been arrested.

Aziz Yousefi has been arrested and imprisoned many times since 1948 because of his political activities. In 1958 he was arrested again. He and four others were sentenced to death by a secret tribunal after being held for a year and allegedly tortured. The sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment and he has been detained ever since.

Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for his release to: His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah of Iran, Niavaran Palace, Tehran, Iran.

Muhammad Salih bin Abdullah FADHLI, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

MUHAMMAD SALIH BIN ABDULLAH FADHLI, an officer in the federal regular army, was arrested with his brother in November 1967 and has been detained without trial ever since in Al Mansura prison in Aden.

After independence was declared in South Yemen in November 1967, the new government of the National Liberation Front arrested all those sultans and members or officials of the federal government who had not already fled the country. Six of them were tried and sentenced to between 10 and 15 years' imprisonment; others were tried in absentia. The rest, including Muhammad Salih bin Abdullah Fadhli, were never brought to trial at all. The reason for this is not known.

Though not a member of the federal government, Muhammad Salih bin Abdullah Fadhli may have been arrested because his father was a former Sultan of the Fadhli Sultanate who was deposed many years before.

Muhammad Salih bin Abdullah Fadhli was adopted in February 1972 and we have never received any reply from the South Yemeni authorities to our appeals for his release.

Please send courteously-worded appeals for his release to: His Excellency President Salem Rubiya Ali, Chairman of the Presidential Council, Aden, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

BISHOP TJI PARALYZED IN ONE ARM

Bishop TJI HAK-SUN, Honorary President of AI's South Korean Section, who is serving a 15-year sentence under one of the now-rescinded emergency regulations, (September and December 1974 *Newsletters*) is reported to be paralyzed in one arm. AI has received conflicting reports of the cause of the paralysis: the most recent one said that it was the result of severe chilblains caused by the severe cold of his detention conditions.

Reports said members of the Roman Catholic prelate's church in Wonju city brought him blankets, but Bishop Tji insisted on giving them to fellow prisoners.

AI's International Executive Committee, during its meeting in London 10-12 January, sent President PARK CHUNG-HEE of South Korea an emergency telegram urging him to extend to Bishop Tji the Christmas amnesty he had declared. The amnesty did not apply to political prisoners. Bishop Tji, an outspoken critic of President Park's regime, was jailed for his opposition to the controversial South Korean constitution of 1972 and for giving money in humanitarian aid to the poet KIM CHI-HA.

Czechoslovakia Expels Iraqi Kurdish Student

AI cabled Dr GUSTAV HUSAK, First Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, on 22 January urging that members of the Kurdish Student Movement in Prague should not be deported to Iraq since this might result in their imprisonment, torture or execution.

Reports received earlier that day said that FADIL RASH, secretary of the Kurdish Student Movement, had been arrested on 17 January for circulating leaflets criticizing certain socialist countries for helping Iraq to crush the Kurds, and had been threatened with deportation. The Czechoslovak police also reportedly were searching for seven other Kurds.

During the afternoon of 22 January, 30 Kurdish students occupied the Swedish Embassy in Prague and left only after Fadil Rash had been released and assurances received from the Czechoslovak government that none of them would be deported to Iraq. On 23 January, Mr Rash was expelled from Czechoslovakia to East Berlin. He was then transferred to West Berlin. But his Czechoslovak wife remained behind in Prague.

Moroccans Send Thanks for Help with Prisoners

The international congress of Morocco's opposition party *Union Socialiste des Forces Populaires* held in Casablanca 10-12 January sent a cable to *AI* expressing the party's "sincerest thanks" for the "courageous action" which *AI* has taken on behalf of imprisoned Moroccans in the past.

AI adopted many members of the party following two large political trials, one in Marrakesh in 1971 and one in Kenitra in 1973 (September and November 1973 *Newsletters*). Although many USFP prisoners have been released since the autumn of 1974, the latest wave of arrests in Morocco (see *CAT Bulletin*) has stressed the need for continuing *AI* action. This will be planned at a meeting of *AI* coordination groups in Amsterdam on 1-2 February.

Chile Frees Some but Repression Continues

Chile's military junta has released several political prisoners who were *AI* adoptees, including former Foreign Minister CLOD-MIRO ALMEYDA, JORGE TAPIA and LUIS VITALE. Despite the recent releases, repression and court martials are still going on. At the beginning of January, *AI* received information on a second air force trial that took place *in camera* in December 1974. Details of the first air force trial in May 1974 were contained in last year's *AI Chile Report* (October *Newsletter*). According to *AI*'s information, the prosecution has demanded up to 25 years imprisonment for a group of young officers and technicians for having supported the overthrown government of the late President SALVADOR ALLENDE.

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AI has prepared several documents about the continuing repression in Chile and Brazil for consideration by the 31st session of United Nations Commission on Human Rights which meets during February and March.

The documents submitted on 27 December and 24 January, itemize a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights. These include new evidence of repeated interrogation and torture of political prisoners even after their sentence, application of drugs, and recent disappearances. *AI* will be represented at the Geneva meeting by HENRY JACOBY, FREYDOUN KADJAR, its permanent representatives in Geneva and by Professor FRANK C. NEWMAN of the University of California Law School, Berkeley.

IEC Looks at Effects of Inflation on Budget

AI's International Executive Committee met in London 10-12 January and devoted considerable attention to the medium and long term budgetary problems created by the current world inflationary situation. The IEC set 8-9 March as the date for the Treasurers' meeting in London to consider contributions for the budgetary year 1975-76.

The budget figure agreed by the International Council meeting in Denmark last September was for an overall budget of £313,000, plus extra for the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture (October *Newsletter*). Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS reported that a budget ceiling of this amount would represent a considerable cut in the actual program of the International Secretariat during the year. It will be this situation that will be discussed at the March meeting.

The IEC meeting also took up the question of *AI* development, particularly the proposed Pan-Pacific Conference on Human Rights to be held in Tokyo in December 1975, subject to funds being found for it as a special project.

Detailed plans were also discussed for the regional conference to be held in Delhi in March. This will be attended by *AI* members from Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan. Authorized missions were taking place in Indonesia and Sri

Lanka at the time of the IEC meeting. Arrangements also were confirmed for *AI*'s attendance at the Organization of African Unity's Bureau for Placement in Education of African Refugees, to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, early in February.

Smith Halts Release of Rhodesian Prisoners

On 10 January, just one month after Rhodesian Prime Minister IAN SMITH announced his decision to "release the African leaders from detention and restriction, and their followers as well" (January *Newsletter*), Minister of Law and Order DESMOND LARDNER-BURKE stated that no more detainees would be released until nationalist guerillas operating in eastern Rhodesia ceased their activities.

AI believes that only 60 or so of the more than 350 African nationalists detained in Rhodesia were released before Mr Lardner-Burke's announcement. Those known to have been freed include the nationalist leaders who were released on parole to attend the Lusaka talks on Rhodesia's future and a number of their close associates.

However, even those who are free—including former *AI* "Prisoner of the Year" DANIEL MADZIMBAMUTO—continue to be hampered by government restrictions on their movements and activities.

LUXEMBOURG RAISES 2 MILLION BF's

AI's Luxembourg Section raised more than two million Belgian francs (£24,000 sterling) in a concerted fundraising campaign during December. Former government ministers joined members of the section in collecting money on the streets of the principality. The section is preparing a detailed report of the campaign, which will be circulated to other sections.

Meanwhile, a call to fundraisers has come from JUNE SPALDING of the Swiss Section who would like sections or groups which have successfully sold *AI* candles to contact her. She has *AI* stickers available that can be attached to the candles. Her address is 3 rue de Fribourg, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland.

AI News in Brief

MARIE-JOSE PROTAIS, Vice-President of the French Section and a member of *AI*'s International Executive Committee, and *AI* Legal Adviser NIGEL S. RODLEY represented the organization at a seminar of jurists held in Paris 18-19 January under the auspices of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers. The seminar discussed Vietnam.

Indonesia Frees Lawyer on *AI* Greetings Card List

YAP THIAM HIEN, the prominent Indonesian lawyer who was on *AI*'s end-of-1974 greetings card list, and who is a member of the executive committee of the World Council of Churches, was freed from detention in Jakarta on 24 December, according to reports received by the International Secretariat in London in January.

Taiwan Moves 'Urgent Action Campaign' Prisoner to Hospital

HSIEH TS'UNG-MIN, who was the subject of an *AI* urgent action campaign in November 1974 (December *Newsletter*) following reports that he was in bad health and had been refusing all food and medicines, has now been moved to hospital, according to a report received by *AI* from a reliable source in January.

South Africa Refuses to Free Ailing Prisoner

AI expressed deep disappointment on 27 January at the news that South Africa had rejected worldwide appeals to release BRAM FISCHER, 66-year-old former leader of the country's banned Communist Party.

Mr Fischer, who eight years ago was sentenced to life imprisonment under the Suppression of Communism Act, is reportedly seriously ill with cancer. *AI* and other organizations, including the United Nations, have appealed to South Africa to release him on medical and humanitarian grounds.

"In view of the poor state of Mr Fischer's health after more than eight years' imprisonment, it is difficult to see how he could be expected to pose any threat to the South African government," *AI* said in a statement. "Even if the government is reluctant to give Mr Fischer his freedom within South Africa, there can be no justification for denying him the opportunity to go into exile abroad."

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DEFENCE SECRETARY PRIVATELY CONFIRMS ALLEGATIONS PHILIPPINES ANNOUNCES INQUIRY AFTER PRIEST CLAIMS TORTURE

After fresh allegations of torture of political detainees held under martial law in the Philippines had led the government to announce an official inquiry, the Secretary of National Defence JUAN PONCE ENRILE admitted privately to Archbishop JAIME L. SIN of Manila that incidents of torture against martial law detainees had indeed occurred. According to a press report on 17 January Señor Ponce Enrile also said that some colonels and other high officers had been court-martialed.

The increasing pressure on the Philippines government during past months (see also January 1975 *Newsletter*) was precipitated by an open letter from the prison at Camp Olivas, 65 kilometers north of Manila, in which Roman Catholic priest Father EDICIO de la TORRE described his own beating after his arrest on 13 December 1974, as well as the torture administered to fellow prisoners. At the time of his letter (18 December), "Father Ed" had been treated better than non-clerical prisoners:

"A little bit of what might be happening reached me on the night of the 14th (December). I was asleep in bed when an interrogator came in and asked me two questions. I answered a bit sleepily. He punched me in the stomach. I screamed, 'My God!' and doubled over in pain. He followed with a blow to the back of my head. My scream drew attention. My assailant told the others, 'The father has ulcers.' He left with a parting jeer: 'Why does he call on God? I thought he was a (Communist) Party member.'"

Father Ed says that the treatment of prisoners who are not churchmen is much worse. REYNALDO ILAO, a worker, received a "massage" that damaged his ribs and gave him cuts in the face and around the eyes. A second man has a bandaged swollen foot, and a third walks with a limp that is also attributable to torture.

From other inmates Father Ed learned, during "snatches of communication" of two cases of electric shock to the genitals, and he alleges that the Reverend CESAR TAGUBA, who passed through Camp Olivas as he was being transferred from camp to camp, was forced to drink his own urine and was given truth serum while under interrogation.

Father Ed and another priest, Father MANUEL LAHOZ, have begun a hunger strike to protest against the torture and indefinite detention of political prisoners at Camp Olivas. Father Ed says in his letter, "I am preparing myself spiritually for torture and even death."

A Roman Catholic nun and physician, Sister LOURDES PALMA, visited 14 prisoners, including three pregnant women, at Camp Olivas at the end of December. Sister Palma was not able to give thorough examinations to the prisoners, but she stated that she had seen burns that could have been caused by cigarettes. Some prisoners also complained of having been hit in the chest with rifle butts.

Sister Palma reported to Archbishop Sin, who had appointed her and three others to investigate complaints of brutality after having received a personal letter from Father Ed. On 31 December the military refused three members of the group further access to the camp.

However, on 2 January Defence Secretary Ponce Enrile announced an official inquiry into these and other allegations of ill-treatment and torture, following an appeal to the government by Archbishop Sin at the end of December.

In a letter to President FERDINAND E. MARCOS, shortly after the inquiry was announced, *AI* Secretary General MARTIN

Shah States Iran Uses Psychological Torture

During a visit to Vienna for medical reasons the SHAH of IRAN was at a news conference asked about recent allegations of torture in Iran. He replied: "We do not need to use physical torture. There are methods of psychological torture developed in the West which are well known in my country". This followed the distribution to the press of the summary report on Iran in the January *CAT Bulletin* by *AI*'s Austrian Section.

Dr IRMGARD HUTTER, the section's chairwoman, has publicly sent to the Shah a copy of the *AI Report on Torture* with specific reference to the chapter on medical and psychological aspects of torture. She requested that all methods of torture be stopped immediately and that a commission be set up to inquire into prison conditions, treatment of prisoners and, in particular allegations of torture.

ENNALS urged that the inquiry be truly independent, allowing all parties to be heard fairly and guaranteeing full protection from reprisals to those who testify. Mr Ennals also urged that the full report be made public and expressed the hope that "the commission of inquiry will include independent legal and medical experts, and not be composed solely of military and police officials."

At the time of writing, no official comment has been given about Señor Ponce Enrile's statements to Archbishop Sin.

Just before this *Bulletin* went to press the *CAT* department received a report that the military commission of inquiry has found evidence that torture was used against some martial law detainees, and has recommended that stern measures be taken against the personnel responsible.

Updated *AI Report* Says Torture Still Used Throughout World without Political Limits

A revised edition of the *Amnesty International Report on Torture*, updating the book which 13 months ago gave details of torture allegations in more than 60 countries since 1964, was published on 13 January.

The 246 -page report, 22 pages longer than the first edition, includes fresh material on Chile, North Vietnam, Syria, Israel, Portugal and its liberated or about-to-be-liberated African colonies, Greece, Turkey, South Korea, Cyprus and Saudi Arabia—the latter two in the report for the first time.

"Amnesty International continues to receive information to indicate that torture is a truly worldwide phenomenon that does not belong solely to one political ideology or to one economic system," the new preface says.

Not all information received since the first edition has been incorporated into the second. What has been included is:

- information about countries not previously listed (Cyprus and Saudi Arabia);
- new evidence that confirms previous inferences ("incidents of torture in South Korea, for example, are not so difficult to

substantiate today as they were a year ago");

—re-written sections on countries where a change in government policy has been radical enough to warrant it, like Chile, where a wave of brutality followed the September 1973 coup, and Greece and Portugal, where dramatic changes of government during 1974 ended torture and revealed the full extent of torture under the previous regimes;

—allegations of torture resulting from the release of prisoners of war: such as those against North Vietnam, Israel and Syria.

The revised book also lists some of the advances made in the drive against government-sanctioned brutality since *AI* launched its global Campaign for the Abolition of Torture on 10 December 1972. These include the unanimous passage of a United Nations General Assembly resolution against torture and moves to establish codes of ethics for police, military and prison personnel, doctors, lawyers and others who may become caught up in the torture process.

Amnesty International Report on Torture, revised edition, 246 pages, is published by Duckworth's London in conjunction with Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP. England: price £1.50 paperback, plus 10 percent for post. & packing.

APPEALS

South Vietnam Frees Thieu Thi Tao

THIEU THI TAO (*CAT Bulletin* Appeal November 1974) was released on 12 December 1974 from Bien Hoa Mental Hospital, where she had been detained with mental disorders and partial paralysis as a result of tortures and her one and a half years spent in a tiger cage on Con Son island. Her legs are still very weak, she has difficulty in walking, and someone has to support her.

Initially sentenced to 2 years in prison in 1968 for "spreading communist propaganda"—a charge rejected by her former colleagues in Saigon—Miss Tao had her sentence twice extended for "obstinacy" while in prison, and was not due to be released until 1976.

Nepalese Police Accused of Torturing 12

In September 1974, 12 people were detained and some reportedly tortured during and investigation into the activities of the now defunct Kalyan Kari Parishad committee, a voluntary organization of approximately 200 members that had been formed to carry out welfare work. The police wanted to inquire particularly into the connection of this organization with the banned Nepali Congress Party.

The 12, including 10 teachers and two farmers, were taken to the police office in Shyanja and subsequently were transferred to a prison in Pokhara. Torture was reportedly used during interrogations which lasted, in one case, nearly a full month. BHUBAN-ESHWAR LAMICHHANE, a teacher at Matri Bhumi high school, was severely clubbed and beaten on his head, arms and legs, and he lost all hearing in his left ear when his eardrum was ruptured. He was also forced to inhale chili powder through his nostrils and was whipped with a nettle-like plant known as *cismu*, whose sharp prickles tore the skin off his torso and upper arms.

The 33-year-old headmaster of the same school, DEENABANDHU ARYAL, suffered similar ill-treatment. He was whipped with *cismu* across his genitals and was struck all over his body with another thorny plant known as *kandhe lathi*, which resembles a hard spiny truncheon. According to an eyewitness, its thorns had been specially trimmed and sharpened. Other detainees were subjected to prolonged periods of inverted suspension.

Cases against the 12 have been filed before the Ganhaki Zonal Court under the Illegal Associations Act. Ten of the 12 have now been released on bail.

Please write courteously worded letters, appealing for the release of the remaining two, and for the dismissal of all cases on grounds of ill-treatment and torture, to: His Excellency Mr Lal Bahadur Khadayat, Minister of Law and Justice, Singhdurbar,

Kathmandu, Nepal; *and to: Shiva Raj Panta, Public Prosecutor, Shyanja District, Nepal.* In your letters you can refer to the fact that Nepal was one of the eight sponsors of United Nations Resolution 3059 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973, in which the General Assembly rejected "any form of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

Moroccan Professor Dies after Torture

A Moroccan professor of philosophy named BEKKALI (first name unavailable) died at the end of December 1974 as a result of two months of severe torture.

Professor Bekkali was arrested at the end of October 1974, along with approximately 120 suspected leftwing opponents of the government. It has been reported that he was transferred to the hospital of Avicennes in the middle of December, suffering from water in his lungs and severe injuries to his feet. It is also alleged that his eyes had been damaged irreparably.

After his death no official explanation was given, and although his family was informed they were refused possession of the body. As far as is known, no charges had every been brought against him.

Professor Bekkali's death cannot be seen as an isolated incident. According to news received from a French lawyer who visited Morocco from 3 to 7 December to investigate conditions of political detention, torture of political opponents is a frequent and systematic practice in Morocco. He denounced violations of judicial procedures and safeguards, and expressed particular fear for the lives of four men who were also captured in the recent wave of arrests, ABRAHAM SERFATY, a mine engineer, ABDEL-LATIF ZEROUAL, a teacher, MOHAMMED SRIFI, a member of the executive committee of the National Union of Moroccan Students, and a Mr HADDAD (first name unknown), a student. They had been sentenced by default to life imprisonment in the summer of 1973, and were after their arrest allegedly singled out for the severest forms of ill-treatment and torture.

Please send courteously worded letters, requesting disclosure of the circumstances of Professor Bekkali's death and urging humane treatment for all those detained for security reasons, to: Son Excellence M. Mohamed Haddou Echiguer, Ministre de l'Intérieur, Rabat, Maroc.

Some Releases Are Reported in Uruguay

Throughout the autumn of 1974 *AI* campaigned for international support on behalf of groups of torture victims in Uruguay, many of whom went on hunger strike to protest against torture and most of whom are members of the *Convención Nacional de Trabajadores* (CNT), which was banned a few days after the Uruguayan Parliament was forcibly closed in June 1973.

Among those appealed for was ALCIDES LANZA, aged 45, a leader of the Commerce and Industry Workers Union who was so severely tortured for three days that he could hardly walk, and was said to have suffered injuries to his head, chest, abdomen, wrists, arms, legs and respiratory organs (January Newsletter). Señor Lanza and many of his compatriots were released shortly afterward, following international pressure in which *AI* played a major part.

Some of the trade unionists, as well as students and faculty members from Uruguayan universities, remain in detention, and *AI* national sections are continuing to coordinate further appeals with national labour unions and university groups.

AN APPEAL FOR SUPPORT

The *Amnesty International Campaign for the Abolition of Torture* needs considerable resources in order to carry on its program and expand the scope of its activities. If you want to support the campaign financially please send your donation to the *AI* national section in your country or by bank transfer to account number 2101 6768 of Amnesty International, Midland Bank, 25 Bedford Row, London WC1R 6BG, England, with the specification CAT. You can also send your international postal money order with the same specification direct to: Amnesty International 53 Theobald's Road London WC1X 8SP, England.