

# monthly newsletter from amnesty international

## postcards for prisoners campaign

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September 1967.

Here is some news about previous prisoners:-

Dr. R.H. Rajakumar, Malaysia, (March 1966 Newsletter) Dr. Rajakumar was released at the beginning of September. His fiancée sent the Group which had adopted him a cable confirming the news and thanking Amnesty for their help.

Mohammed Harbi. Algeria (September 1965 Newsletter) Many Algerian prisoners have been released during the last few months, including 20 from El Harrach. Mohammed Harbi and the other 3 leaders of the Organisation de la Resistance Populaire are still detained in a military barracks near Annaba. The government is expected to announce further releases during September. Members are asked to write to President Boumedienne, renewing their appeals for the last remaining prisoners.

Michael Holman Rhodesia (August 1967 Newsletter) He is going to appeal against his restriction order by questioning the "discretion of the Minister" Mr. Lardner-Burke, in serving orders on him. It is expected to be another Test Case to challenge the Smith regime.

Yury Glanskov, Alexei Dobrovolsky, Peter Rodzievsky, Vadim Delone, Yevgeny Kushev, Ilya Gabei and Vladimir Bukovsky. Soviet Union. (August 1967 Newsletter) On August 31st Bukovsky, Delone and Kushev went on trial charged with organising an illegal demonstration which disturbed public order. Although the trial was officially public no Western correspondants were allowed into the courtroom. Bukovsky was sentenced to three years imprisonment while Delone and Kushev were given suspended sentences and released.

Glanaskov, Dobrovolsky, Rodzievsky and Ginsburg (Card Campaign February) are still in prison awaiting trial. Amnesty has applied for a visa for Mr. Edward Lyons, Labour M.P. for Bradford East, to attend the trial as an observer whenever it takes place.

Geoffrey Boon St. Kitts (June 1967 Newsletter) Geoffrey Boon left the island after the Supreme Court of the West Indies ordered the release of all the political detainees. Since then the Prime Minister rushed through new Emergency Legislation, rearrested the Opposition leaders and was again forced by the Supreme Court to release them because of a flaw in the drafting of the new Emergency Legislation. The government has now brought criminal charges of "conspiracy", and Billy Herbert and 9 other members of the opposition are now on remand awaiting trial in October, having been refused bail. Mr. Bradshaw put

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Geoffrey Boon continued....

pressure on the government of Antigua to which Mr. Boon fled, and he has been deported from the island.

Ilias Iliou Greece (May 1967 Newsletter) Iliou is now detained in the military hospital attached to Averoff prison in Athens. You are asked to send further cards on his behalf to the Government, or your nearest Greek Embassy, and particularly to the Prime Minister, Mr. Koliass.

Here are this months prisoners:-

Alexandra Filipescu. Rumania.

Alexandra Filipescu is a 32-year-old doctor, imprisoned for leaving Rumania illegally. She was arrested in September 1966 on the Bulgarian Yugoslav border while trying to travel to Western Europe. She was taken back to Rumania, tried by a Military Court in Bucharest, and given a sentence of five years hard labour. All her personal possessions have been confiscated by the State. Dr. Filipescu has recently had jaundice and is probably still in poor health.

This is yet another instance of an East European imprisoned for trying to travel abroad. Amnesty has many others of a similar nature, but Dr. Filipescu's sentence seems unusually severe. A Rumanian friend who knew her plans, but failed to inform the police, was given three years in prison, while a West German acquaintance who helped was also tried and sentenced.

Passports are rarely issued by the Rumanian Government except to members of official delegations, so Rumanians must either stay at home or break the law.

You should send your cards either to:-

The Rumanian Embassy in your own country. or to:-  
Ministrul Justitiei,  
Adrian Dimitriu,  
Bul.6 Hardie No 33,  
Bucaresti,  
Rumania.

Ask for an early release and stress that imprisonment for this offence contradicts the right to freedom of movement.

U Myint Thein - Burma.

U Myint Thein was arrested in the early hours of the morning of 2nd March 1962 in a coup d'etat staged by the army general, Ne Win. He seized power from U Nu's government and rounded up all the government and opposition leaders. Subsequent waves of arrests have brought the figures up to hundreds, possibly thousands, including most of the minority group leaders, journalists, lawyers, monks etc. Most of these men still remain in prison having had neither charges

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Mr. Grace Ibingira continued.....

more left wing supporters from power. The Government has referred in replies to amnesty members to "the advocacy of violence by Mr. Ibingira and his associates in a plan to overthrow the government in October 1965 and February 1966." If the government had been able to produce evidence to support these allegations they would certainly have brought the unfortunate ministers, now detained for 21 months without trial, to court.

Until December 1966 Grace Ibingira and the other ministers were all well treated as political detainees and given normal privileges. For the last nine months political prisoners have been kept in solitary confinement and only allowed out for one hour of exercise from Monday to Friday. All communication with the outside world has been cut and no visits are allowed from families. They have been moved into old "punishment" cells with no furniture and have been kept on a restricted diet and not provided with adequate medical attention. It is feared that many are beginning to break down mentally under the strain. It is believed that the government's intention is to reduce mentally the prisoners to a state where they will confess to imaginary crimes against the state.

You should send your cards to either:-

R.E. The President of Uganda, or;- The Uganda High Commission  
Mr. Milton Obote, in your own country.  
St. House, Entebbe,  
Uganda.

If there is no High Commission write instead to:-

The Ugandan Representative to the United Nations,  
801 2nd Avenue,  
New York 17,  
New York,  
U.S.A.

After independence the conflict of interests and culture between the northern tribes (strongly represented in the Government under a Kachweka (Kachweka) and the southern kingdoms and other parts of the country was a subject of discussion with the party. The five ministers began to form a powerful group within the party which was hostile to Obote's leadership, and the machinery which had been used to build the party was used to make it certain that Obote would be voted out at the next general election. The minister, however, who had been a member of the party, the minister with the Kachweka of the party and the minister with the party in power to vote against the minister and the party.

# July newsletter from amnesty international

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### CORRECTION

Some of the names of the Russian prisoners on page one have

been incorrectly spelt. They should read as follows:

Yury Galanskov, Alexei Dobrovolsky, Peter Rodzievsky, Vadim

Deloné, Yevgeny Kushev, Ilya Gabai and Vladimir Bukovsky.

Yury Galanskov, Alexei Dobrovolsky, Peter Rodzievsky, Vadim Deloné, Yevgeny Kushev, Ilya Gabai and Vladimir Bukovsky (September 1967 Newsletter) Many Algerian prisoners have been released during the last few months, including 20 from El Harrach. Mohamed Harbi and the other 3 leaders of the Organisation de la Résistance Populaire are still detained in a military barracks near Algiers. The government is expected to announce further releases during September. Members are asked to write to President Boumediene, renewing their appeals for the last remaining prisoners.

Michael E. Linn (August 1967 Newsletter) He is going to appeal against his restriction order by questioning the "discretion of the Minister" Dr. Idriss-Deby, in serving orders on him. It is expected to be another test case to challenge the white regime.

Yury Galanskov, Alexei Dobrovolsky, Peter Rodzievsky, Vadim Deloné, Yevgeny Kushev, Ilya Gabai and Vladimir Bukovsky, Soviet Union. (August 1967 Newsletter) On August 1st Bukovsky, Deloné and Kushev went on trial charged with organising an illegal demonstration which disturbed public order. Although the trial was officially public no Western correspondents were allowed into the courtroom. Bukovsky was sentenced to three years imprisonment while Deloné and Kushev were given suspended sentences and released.

Glouveny, Dobrovolsky, Rodzievsky and Ginsburg (Card Campaign February) are still in prison waiting trial. Amnesty was applied for a visa for Dr. Edward Linn, Labour M.P. for Bradford East, to attend the trial as an observer wherever it takes place.

Geoffrey Ross St. John (June 1967 Newsletter) Geoffrey Ross left the island after the Supreme Court of the West Indies ordered the release of all the political detainees. Since then the Prime Minister rushed through new Emergency Legislation, re-arrested the Opposition leaders and was again forced by the Supreme Court to release them because of a flaw in the drafting of the new emergency legislation. The government has now brought criminal charges of "conspiracy", and Billy Herbert and 9 other members of the opposition are now on remand awaiting trial in October, having been refused bail. Mr. Bradshaw put