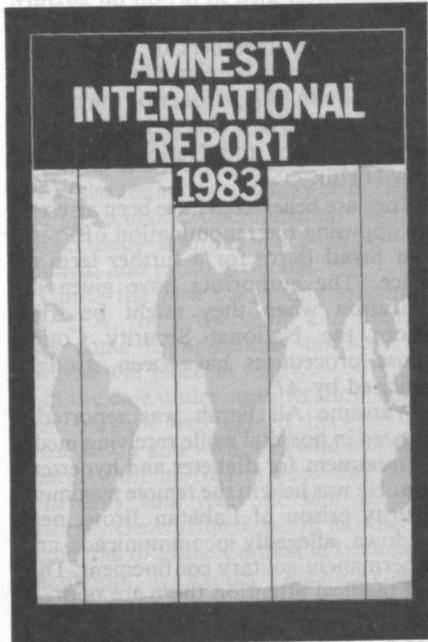




amnesty international newsletter



AI's latest worldwide annual report attacks efforts by governments to manipulate public opinion by covering up torture and killings in their own countries while making political propaganda about such abuses elsewhere.

Governments have used "deception, distortion and disinformation on human rights questions", the report says. They have jailed human rights activists, stifled information and used different standards in reacting to violations in different countries, it says.

The 351-page report, with detailed entries on 117 countries and territories, covers the calendar year 1982. It describes the movement's efforts to stop the imprisonment of people for their ideas or origins and its campaigns against torture and the death penalty.

In a preface which underlines obstacles to protecting human rights, the report deals with the reactions of governments of all types to the politically explosive aspects of human rights.

"Statements about human rights have been misused to make political propaganda," it says. Among examples, the report cites: reporting by Soviet news media on Poland; statements by US officials on Central America; and the sudden attention given in Britain during its conflict with Argentina to torture and "disappearances" in that country.

"The concealment of facts, the dissemination of half-truths or lies and other forms of manipulation of public opinion by governments must be challenged," the report says.

The report is available from *AI Publications* in London (address on back page), price £5; or from section offices □

Wave of executions in China

At least 500 executions are reported to have been carried out in the People's Republic of China since the beginning of August 1983—and reports emerging from the country indicate that the actual number of people executed might be as high as 5,000.

The executions are part of a country-wide campaign against crime which has led to thousands of arrests and a more extensive use of the death penalty.

On 2 September the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress approved a decision for more offences to be punished by the death penalty in serious cases.

These offences include trafficking in human beings, organizing secret societies for counter-revolutionary activities and luring or forcing women into prostitution.

At the same time the procedures for trial, appeal and execution were changed to speed up the judicial process. In one case known to *AI*, **Chen Guangsen** was executed in Guangdong (Canton) on 12 September—only eight days after his alleged offence.

In many cases convicted offenders are

reported to have been paraded through the streets or before mass rallies before execution. The actual executions—by a shot in the back of the head—are by law not to be held in public. Photographs of the bodies of those executed have been displayed publicly.

On 23 August 29 men and one woman—convicted of murder, rape or robbery—were executed in Beijing (Peking).

Just beforehand they were taken to a mass rally in the city's workers' stadium, where the Mayor gave a speech on the need to preserve public order to some 100,000 people who had been brought there by fleets of buses and trucks.

Other reports of multiple executions include those of 40 people in Tianjin in August and of 42 people, aged between 18 and 51, in Xian, Shaanxi province, on 6 September.

Large-scale executions have also been reported in Shanghai, Qinghuangdo, Dalian, Guiyang, Zhongqing and Urumqi.

Many of those executed are reported to have been unemployed people of between 18 and 40. The majority had been convicted of murder, rape or robbery, but people have also been executed for spying, smuggling art treasures, embezzlement or molesting women □

United Kingdom 'Diplock courts' concern

AI has expressed its concern about the so-called "Diplock courts" in Northern Ireland to the judge appointed by the United Kingdom Government to inquire into emergency legislation in the province.

In August 1983 *AI* submitted material documenting its concerns to Sir George Baker, the English judge who is conducting an inquiry into the workings of the Emergency Provisions (Northern Ireland) Act of 1978.

AI submitted a detailed analysis of the legislation along with a summary of its concerns which it had submitted to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland in December 1982.

In its submission, *AI* expressed concern that the proceedings in the "Diplock courts" might not conform to international standards for fair trial.

These courts were named after the

judge who recommended in a 1972 inquiry that "terrorist" offences committed in Northern Ireland should be tried by senior judges sitting alone with no jury. None of those tried in this way have been adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience.

Defendants in these courts have access

Continued on back page

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Pakistan Thousands arrested over political protests

Several thousand people have been arrested throughout Pakistan in connection with political protests since early August. *AI* considers many hundreds of them to be prisoners of conscience.

Some of these prisoners of conscience have been tried by Summary Military Courts for offences related to the peaceful expression of political opinions and participation in public demonstrations against the government and the continuation of martial law. A number have been sentenced to up to one year's imprisonment plus flogging.

As of the beginning of September more than 130 prisoners had been sentenced to be flogged (see October *Newsletter*). The authorities have not said how many of these sentences have been carried out—although the Governor of Sind province, Lt-General S.M. Abbasi, has stated that no political worker or politician has been flogged in Sind.

Civil disobedience

The arrests followed a decision by an alliance of banned opposition parties—the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD)—to launch a campaign of civil disobedience on 14 August to press its demands for the immediate holding of repeatedly postponed general elections and the restoration of fundamental rights as provided in Pakistan's 1973 constitution. The MRD's campaign has been open and it has publicly announced where its demonstrations were to be held.

In the 10 days before the 14 August launching of the campaign some 150 people were arrested.

In a cable to President Zia-ul-Haq of 15 August, *AI* expressed concern at the arrest of prisoners of conscience, including **Aftab Sherpao**, President of the Pakistan People's Party in North West Frontier Province, **Maulana Fazlur Rahman**, President of *Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Islam*, the Association of Islamic Scholars,

and **Syed Munir Shah**, acting President of *Tehrik-i-Istiqbal*, Steadfastness Movement. All three were arrested before the beginning of the civil disobedience campaign.

MRD activity has found most support in Sind province, where some demonstrations have resulted in violence, including attacks on law enforcement personnel and damage to property—at least 60 people are reported to have been killed in the violence.

On 20 September *AI* expressed concern to President Zia-ul-Haq about recent human rights violations in Pakistan. It acknowledged that acts of violence had taken place but pointed out that some of those arrested were simply engaged in the peaceful expression of political opinions.

AI welcomed the release on 17 September of over 1,000 people held in connection with anti-government protests, but urged the prompt release of all those held for peaceful participation in demonstrations and processions, if there is no evidence of involvement in criminal acts.

No right of appeal

Over 170 people were tried by Summary Military Courts in the first 20 days of anti-government protests. The accused has no right of appeal against the verdict of these courts and *AI* received reports that those brought to trial were permitted no access to defence counsel.

Among those tried by Summary Military Court No. 39 in Rawalpindi was a group of nine members of opposition political parties. They were sentenced to one year's imprisonment and 10 lashes each on 19 August for violation of martial law regulations—they were accused of shouting slogans and delivering speeches "in an attempt to create dissatisfaction among the people".

According to reports reaching *AI*, the nine had participated in a peaceful political gathering in Islamabad on 17 August. *AI* has taken up their cases for adoption as prisoners of conscience □

Somalia POC dies in top security prison

Warsame Ali Farah, a member of parliament who was adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience, died in prison on 20 July 1983. He had been arrested in June 1982 with six other members of parliament, including former Foreign Minister **Omar Arteh Ghalib** (*AI* prisoner of the month in June 1983), and charged with capital offences under the National Security Law (1970).

They are believed to have been arrested for opposing the renomination of President Siyad Barre for a further term of office. The authorities have given no indication when they might be tried before the National Security Court, whose procedures have been strongly criticized by *AI*.

Warsame Ali Farah was reportedly arrested in hospital while receiving medical treatment for diabetes and hypertension. He was held in the remote maximum security prison of Labatan Jirow, near Baidowa, allegedly incommunicado and in permanent solitary confinement. Diet and medical attention there are poor.

AI is investigating whether his death was attributable to neglect by the authorities. The Somali Government has not so far responded to its inquiries □

Sudan Prisoners freed as Shari'a law is introduced

In a measure accompanying the introduction by decree of Islamic *Shari'a* law in Sudan, President Numeiri in September announced the release of all 13,000 prisoners convicted under the previous secular penal code. It is not yet clear whether all of the 200 or more political prisoners arrested in the past three years were among those released.

The President also announced that all people convicted of murder and under sentence of death would have their sentences commuted if the murder victim's family in each case agreed to accept financial compensation from the convicted person's relatives.

On 25 September 1983 former Prime Minister **Sadiq el-Mahdi** was arrested together with over 120 of his supporters after he publicly criticized the President's *Shari'a* decree. *AI* has called for their immediate release.

The organization is concerned that the new *Shari'a* law extends the use of the death penalty in Sudan, provides for execution by beheading or stoning to death, and—for the first time in Sudan—imposes amputation of the left hand as the penalty for certain forms of theft and flogging for certain sexual and alcohol-related offences □

Releases . . .

Chile: **Javier Ruiz Vera**, who featured in the October Prisoners of Conscience Week Campaign (see October *Newsletter*), was freed on bail on 4 October. Although no longer held, he has to report regularly to the authorities and risks further imprisonment if found guilty of the charges against him.

Kenya: Two Kenyans, **John Khaminwa** (who also featured in the October POC Week Campaign) and **Al-Amin Mazrui** (prisoner of the month in March 1983) were released on 12 October.

DEATH PENALTY

***AI* has learned of 42 people being sentenced to death in 10 countries and of 417 executions in six countries during September 1983.**

Prisoner releases and cases

The International Secretariat learned in September of the release of 230 prisoners under adoption or investigation; it took up 86 cases.

Campaign for Prisoners of the Month



George ANYONA, Kenya
A prominent critic of the government and former member of parliament, he has been detained without charge or trial since mid-1982.

Although George Anyona was arrested by police in Nairobi on 30 May 1982, the authorities refused to acknowledge the fact or explain what had happened to him until a *habeas corpus* petition was heard in the High Court three days later.

It was then revealed that he had been detained under the Public Order and Security Act, which provides for indefinite detention without charge or trial on the grounds of "the preservation of public security".

His lawyer, John Khaminwa, was arrested the next day and detained under the same act, apparently because he had legally represented George Anyona and another critic of the government detained the previous month; the lawyer was freed on 12 October 1983.

Although the authorities have never stated any precise reasons for George Anyona's detention, it appears to have been the result of his advocacy of the formation of an opposition political party. Ten days before his arrest he had publicly stated that Kenya "was ripe for a second political party". He was then expelled from the Kenya African National Union (KANU)—the sole permitted party since the banning of the Kenya People's Union (KPU) in 1969.

His arrest took place just before he was reportedly due to announce the formation of a second party.

There was at the time no constitutional bar to forming one—however, four days after the arrest the government published a proposed constitutional amendment declaring Kenya to be a one-party state and prohibiting the existence of any party besides KANU; parliament unanimously adopted this amendment five days afterwards.

The authorities have not divulged George Anyona's place of detention but he is believed to be in Shimo-la-Tewa prison in Mombasa, where conditions are said to be harsh.

He was held incommunicado for at least the first 12 months of his detention and is reported to be in permanent solitary confinement, forced to sleep on the cell floor with only blankets and a mat

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.

and denied any reading or writing material or exercise in the open air.

Diet in the prison is monotonous and nutritionally poor. Prisoners suffer from heat and poor hygiene—with rats and lice allegedly seen in the cells—and malaria is common.

George Anyona was previously adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience after he had been detained under the same act from 1977 to 1978 under the late President Jomo Kenyatta's government, which he had criticized in parliament.

He is in his late thirties and married with three children.

Please send courteous letters appealing for his release to: His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi/Office of the President/P.O. Box 30510/Nairobi/Kenya.

Hassan KAKAR, Afghanistan
A distinguished historian, he is serving an eight-year prison sentence for counter-revolutionary offences imposed after a secret trial in May 1983.

Professor Hassan Kakar, Head of the Department of History at Kabul University, and seven other university teachers were arrested by the Afghan security police, the *Khad*, on 21 March 1982.

The arrests apparently followed increasing expressions of disquiet among staff and students over the growing number of Russian teachers on the campus and earlier widespread arrests of students. There had also reportedly been pressure on university teachers to join the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA).

Although Professor Kakar refused to join the PDPA, he is known to have helped several members of the party's now dominant Parcham faction during the previous government of Hafizullah Amin, when Parcham members were being arrested and killed by the authorities. He personally sheltered several members in his home.

Professor Kakar was denied any access to a lawyer during the period of his detention or at his trial which was held *in camera*. No family visits were allowed until after the trial.

He and two other university lecturers were charged with counter-revolutionary offences; he was accused also of forming an unlawful association. (The two lec-

urers are believed to have received prison sentences of 10 and eight years respectively. The five others had earlier been freed, reportedly after making statements of support for the government.)

Professor Kakar denied the charges against him and said the group which he had tried to form was purely a vocational association, entirely consistent with the Afghan Constitution. He also stated his complete rejection of violence to bring about social and political change in Afghanistan.

Professor Kakar, who has written widely on Afghan history, both in Persian and English, has lectured at the Universities of Boston and Harvard. He received his postgraduate education at London's School of Oriental and African Studies.

Please send courteous letters appealing for his release to: H.E. President Babrak Karmal/Office of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and President of the Revolutionary Council / Da Khalkoo Koor / Kabul / Afghanistan.

Tamer KAYAS, Turkey
A former newspaper editor, he is serving a long term of imprisonment imposed earlier this year by a military court which had convicted him of making communist propaganda.

Tamer Kayas, who was Editor-in chief of the Istanbul daily newspaper *Politika* until it was banned in early 1980, is reported to have been arrested in Istanbul on 11 March 1983. On 12 April he was sentenced by a military court in the city to seven and a half years' imprisonment.

He is believed to have been convicted under Article 142 of the Turkish Penal Code. It prohibits making propaganda aimed at achieving the "domination of a social class over other social classes". As interpreted by Turkish courts, this means making communist propaganda.

Many left-wing Turkish journalists have been prosecuted on similar charges, both before and after the 1980 coup, and Tamer Kayas' sentence is the one commonly given after conviction in such cases.

He is believed to be serving his sentence in Istanbul, but *AI* does not know in which prison.

Please send courteous letters appealing for his release to: President Kenan Evren/Cankaya/Ankara/Turkey.

If you prefer, you may send your appeals to the embassies of these governments in your country

The recent acquittal of a prisoner who had been under sentence of death for 33 years (see below) has rekindled debate in Japan on the death penalty and concern has been expressed in the country that innocent people may be hanged. An AI mission visited Japan earlier this year and its report calls for the abolition of the death penalty and points out that this could be facilitated by the fact that Japan's penal code is being revised.

The death penalty in Japan

AI has called for an immediate halt to executions in Japan and criticized the country's justice officials for refusing to disclose which prisoners on death row had been hanged or were still alive.

The organization's mission that visited Japan in February and March 1983 tried to verify details on 54 prisoners believed to be under sentence of death, but Justice Ministry officials would not confirm the list because all executions in Japan are carried out in secret.

Official policy is to release periodic statistics on executions but not to state whether a particular prisoner is still alive.

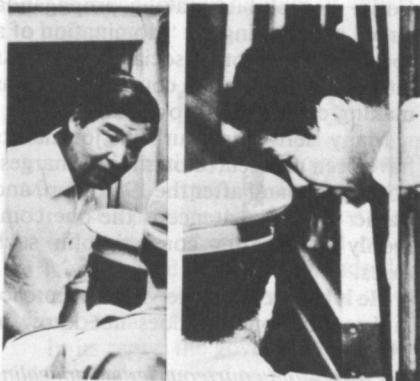
Prisoners who are deemed "unstable" are not notified of their execution date and in some cases families have learned of the execution only after it has taken place, AI's delegates were told.

The mission's report, *The Death Penalty in Japan*, published on 3 October, says there is growing concern in the country that innocent people may be hanged.

In July this year, **Sakae Menda**, one of the prisoners cited in the report, was found innocent at a retrial after spending 33 years awaiting execution on murder charges (see September Newsletter). Retrials are now taking place in two other cases:

- **Shigeyoshi Taniguchi**, who will be 64 next month, has been under sentence of death for more than 31 years—he was 19 when he was arrested for murder in 1950 and was sentenced in January 1952.

In June 1979 the Takamatsu District Court accepted his second application for retrial, ruling that one of the few pieces of material evidence against him—spots of blood allegedly found on his



Shigeyoshi Taniguchi (left) and Yukio Saito on their way to retrial hearings.



Sakae Menda reads about his acquittal after 33 years under sentence of death.

trousers—was no longer considered valid and that a confession attributed to him may have been fabricated.

His retrial began on 30 September 1981 and is continuing.

- **Yukio Saito**, also in his sixties, has been under sentence of death for murder and arson since October 1957. He had originally confessed to killings committed in 1955, but retracted his confession before being indicted and maintained his innocence throughout his trial.

Requests by him for retrial were rejected until the Sendai District Court decided in his favour in December 1979. The State appealed against this but in January this year the Sendai High Court upheld the District Court's ruling.

Yukio Saito's conviction was based mainly on his retracted confession and on expert evidence about bloodstains allegedly found on his clothes. In its December 1979 ruling, however, the Sendai court cast doubt on the confession and accepted other contrary expert evidence on the question of the bloodstains.

The AI mission, the first it has sent to Japan, was led by Dr L.M. Singhvi, senior advocate of the Supreme Court of India and President of India's Supreme Court Bar Association. It was in Japan from 21 February to 2 March 1983 for talks on the death penalty with senior Justice Ministry officials, members of

parliament, lawyers and religious leaders.

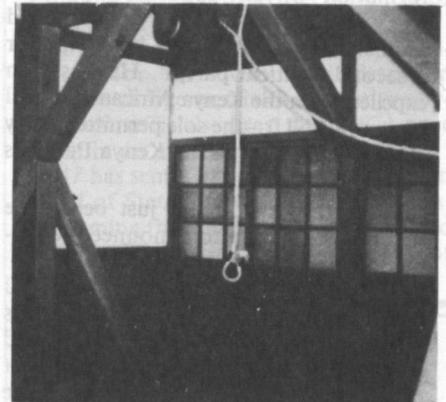
Urging total abolition of the death penalty, the report says the revision of Japan's penal code, now underway, provides an opportunity for this.

However, officials told AI's delegates that the new code would probably retain the death penalty for eight offences, including murder, the crime for which it has mainly been imposed in recent years.

The death penalty, which was abolished in Japan for 346 years from 810 to 1156 A.D. during the Heian period, is now in force for 17 offences including leading an insurrection and killing someone in a duel.

The number of executions known to have been carried out has declined over the last hundred years from 200 a year in the 1880s to fewer than 20 a year since 1971. Only one execution a year took place in 1979, 1980 and 1981, the last dates for which official statistics are available.

In recommending abolition of the death penalty for all crimes, AI's report points out that there is no scientific evidence that execution deters crime more effectively than any other punishment. The death penalty, it says, can be inflicted arbitrarily, is unnecessary in an enlightened penal policy and is brutalizing to all those involved in the process□



A photograph taken in 1960 of the execution chamber in Osaka Detention Centre.

Executions in Japan are carried out in secret and no public announcement is made at the time. The only information made available is in the form of statistics issued periodically by the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry says this secrecy protects the families of prisoners from the shame of having it known that their relative has been executed.

Iraq: Political executions and deaths under torture

AI has appealed for an end to political executions in Iraq and has called on the government to conduct a thorough investigation into reported deaths under torture.

The organization has the names of 520 political prisoners reported to have been executed since 1978 and it has asked the Iraqi authorities to examine 23 cases of people reported to have died under torture since 1976.

In a report published on 19 October, following an AI mission to Iraq in January this year, the

Torture and ill-treatment

AI has frequently sent the Iraqi authorities the names of torture victims over the years and provided details of what happened to them and which official agencies were responsible for torturing them.

The government has seldom replied—and then only to dismiss the allegations as untrue.

During AI's January 1983 mission, its delegates were told that complaints of torture and ill-treatment had been investigated and guilty officials punished—but AI has received no evidence of this.

In its reply, the Iraqi Government offers to investigate the individual allegations of torture documented in AI's 1981 report *Iraq: Evidence of torture*, if the victims, interviewed in exile by AI, are identified and returned to Iraq.

AI welcomes the government's stated willingness to investigate torture allegations but may not divulge the names of the 14 victims whose cases featured in its 1981 report on Iraq: the victims asked for their names to be withheld for fear of reprisals against their families and AI remains bound to respect their requests.

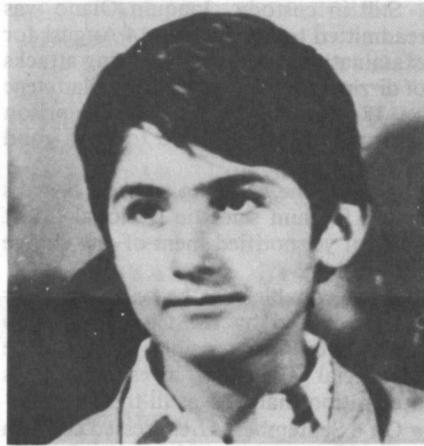
However, AI's latest report names other victims whose cases it has in the past brought to the Iraqi authorities' notice without any response and the organization again urges the government to investigate them and make the findings public. They include:

- **Reber Mulla Husain**, an Iraqi Kurd of about 19 who reportedly died under torture some four days after his arrest in April 1976. His body was returned to his family in Zakho on 26 April—apparently nine nails were imbedded in it, one of his eyes has been gouged out and his penis cut off. AI asked the government about this case in February 1977.

organization says the procedures and findings of any such inquiry should be made public.

The report urges President Saddam Husein to issue a personal statement prohibiting torture under all circumstances and to introduce safeguards to protect prisoners.

It also calls for an immediate halt to executions for non-violent political offences as a first step towards total abolition, and says special courts set up in Iraq to try political cases do not guarantee



Ali Hama Salih, aged 12 . . . his body is reported to have been handed to his family badly marked by torture after he had been detained for interrogation by security forces in February 1981.

- **Adnan Abd al-Jabbar**, a young man said to have been a "friend" of the Communist Party, is reported to have died in a Baghdad hospital on 1 October 1978 after being tortured in custody. He is said to have been beaten with truncheons, hung upside down and to have had a wire inserted into his anus. AI asked the government about his case in February 1979.

- **Ali Hama Salih**, a 12-year-old Iraqi Kurd from the village of Ja'aferan in Sulaimaniya Province, was arrested on 25 February and detained for interrogation at Karadagh security headquarters. On 5 March his body is reported to have been returned to his family badly marked by torture. AI asked the government about this case in November 1981.

* * *

The government's reply to AI's new report stresses that suspects are detained in official police stations and are entitled to contact their relatives, appoint a lawyer and be seen by a doctor.

AI has urged the government to inves-

fair trials and should be abandoned.

The recommendations were sent to the government after the AI mission had had talks with Iraqi officials between 22 and 28 January. It met government ministers, the Attorney General and the President of the country's Revolutionary Court.

In a 16-page reply included in the report, the Government of Iraq says there have been no political executions and that the torture allegations are false.

tigate the cases of 114 people who are reported to have been arrested by Iraqi security forces between 1979 and 1982 and whose legal status and whereabouts remain unknown to their families.

Although the Iraqi Government has repeatedly stressed that torture is prohibited by Iraqi law, AI remains concerned because the authorities have taken no definite steps against torture, apart from issuing a general order to the security forces that proper procedures should be followed and a warning that their powers should not be abused.

AI considers that there should be more than a mere legal prohibition of torture. There should be rules about access to prisoners; and regulations about interrogation methods; supervision of interrogators and prison warders; medical treatment and proper documentation; the conditions for admissibility in evidence of statements made by prisoners under interrogation; investigation of complaints of torture; and prosecution of the culprits.

Special courts

AI is gravely concerned about the use of special courts in Iraq—such as the Revolutionary Court—which function differently from ordinary criminal courts and whose procedures do not provide the legal safeguards required by both Iraqi law and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

The President of the Revolutionary Court informed AI's delegates in January this year that the court's judges were always members of the ruling Ba'th Party and that the Revolutionary Court, unlike ordinary courts, interprets the law according to Ba'th Party principles.

Continued on page 6

Spain Basque detainee says Civil Guards tortured him

A Basque mechanic in incommunicado detention was admitted to hospital with serious injuries after a passerby had reported to a judge that he had heard cries coming from the headquarters of the Civil Guard in San Sebastian at the end of July this year.

At the time of going to press the mechanic, 25-year-old **Joaquín Olano Balda**, from Lasarte, was being held in the infirmary of San Sebastian's Martutene prison. His lawyers had not been notified of any charge against him.

Joaquín Olano was arrested on 29 July. The National Court, using its powers under the anti-terrorist law, gave permission for him to be held incommunicado without legal assistance for 10 days.

During the night of 29-30 July a passerby reported to the duty judge of San Sebastian that he had heard cries coming from the Civil Guard headquarters in the city.

The judge ordered Joaquín Olano to be medically examined in the station—afterwards he was admitted to the Red Cross hospital.

The report on the first medical examination is still confidential—but the report of a doctor at the Red Cross Hospital says that he was suffering from concussion, cuts on the head, multiple grazes and bruises (ecchymoses) on the back, abdomen and arms.

He was denied access to either a lawyer or a doctor of his choice while in the hospital and Civil Guards are alleged to have been stationed in his room at all times.

On 30 July a police statement said he had been injured after an attempt to

escape and as a consequence of efforts to restrain him.

On 11 August he was discharged from hospital and taken by Civil Guards to Martutene prison. By then he had made a judicial declaration that he had been tortured. He reportedly alleged in his statement that he had been beaten on the head with a telephone book, hit on the body and given electric shocks, and that water and plastic bags were used to nearly asphyxiate him. He alleged that he was also beaten up by Civil Guards in the van during the transfer to prison from hospital.

His lawyer has stated that he saw new marks on his back. A further confidential medical examination reportedly confirms this.

Still in custody, Joaquín Olano was readmitted to hospital on 14 August for examinations and tests following attacks of dizziness. He was returned to Martutene on 18 August and held in the prison infirmary. He is reported to be in good physical condition.

At the time of going to press lawyers acting for him said the National Court had not yet notified them of any charge against him.

It is probable that he will eventually be transferred by the Civil Guards to Madrid, to face possible charges. The Provincial Court is investigating his declaration that he was ill-treated.

• On 6 September *AI* expressed concern about his treatment and requested the intervention of the Minister of the Interior to ensure his safety during any transfer. The Minister of Justice was asked for information regarding the judicial investigation of his declaration of ill-treatment □

Ethiopia Political prisoners freed in amnesty

One hundred and seventeen political prisoners were among a total of 1,163 prisoners released in September under an amnesty marking the ninth anniversary of the 1974 revolution. They had been arrested at various times since 1974 and represented a wide range of actual or suspected opponents of the Provisional Military Government.

Some of those freed had been arrested because of their high status under the previous government. These included: **Rebecca Asrate**, her sister **Teruworq** and her brothers **Mulugetta**, **Wendwossen** and **Kassa Asrate** (their father **Ras** (Prince) **Asrate Kassa** had been summarily executed in 1974); **Sara Mesfin** and her sisters **Rahel** and **Hirut Mesfin** (their father, **Ras Mesfin Sileshi**, had also been executed in 1974); and **Mehret Mekonnen**, daughter of the late Prince Mekonnen. They were adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience.

Emperor's relatives

The only remaining prisoners known to have been held since 1974 are 10 close relatives of the late Emperor Haile Selassie: his 69-year-old daughter **Tenagneworq Haile Selassie**; four granddaughters (**Seble Desta**—*AI*'s prisoner of the month in August 1983—and her sisters **Aida**, **Hirut** and **Sofia Desta**); a daughter-in-law (**Sara Gizaw**); three grandsons—**Wossen Seged**, **Michael** and **Bede Mariam Mekonnen** (Sara Gizaw's children); and **Zuriashworq Gebre Igziabeher** (widow of **Ras Asrate Kassa**).

They are held in **Alem Bekagne** ("End of the World") prison in Addis Ababa and are among a number of prisoners in Ethiopia adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience.

The authorities have given no explanation for their continued detention without charge or trial—all former government officials arrested in 1974 were freed in an amnesty a year ago.

AI has sent a message to the Ethiopian Head of State, Mengistu Haile Mariam, welcoming the amnesty and appealing to him for the release of other prisoners of conscience □

Political executions in Iraq

Continued from previous page

Trials in the special courts are summary and often held *in camera*. There are stringent restrictions on the right to defence and there is no right of appeal to a higher court.

Death penalty

In a memorandum to the government of May 1983 *AI* expressed disquiet because "Iraq still provides the death penalty for a wide range of criminal and political offences" and because "hundreds of people are executed every year, mostly for political offences".

In its reply, the government questions *AI*'s allegations and says that there have been no executions in Iraq for political reasons—it says the imposition of the death penalty for political activities by

members of the Ba'ath Party is not a legitimate cause for *AI*'s concern.

On 12 June 1980 *AI* published a list of the names of 257 Iraqis reported to have been executed over a two-year period between 1978-1979. The names included those of individuals charged with high treason, political activity in the armed forces, political or military involvement in the Kurdish opposition, bribery and economic espionage, membership of, or association with, illegal political parties and other illegal political activities.

These people were reported to have been tried either by the Revolutionary Court in Baghdad, by a military court, by the Special Court of Kirkuk or by other special courts. There are other references to death sentences passed in Iraq before and after 1980 in *AI*'s annual reports □

More than 2,000 freed in Uganda

President Milton Obote ordered the release of 2,100 prisoners to mark the 21st anniversary of Uganda's independence on 9 October. They reportedly included political detainees held at Luzira Upper Prison, including some former members of ex-President Idi Amin's security forces who were captured in 1979, and convicted criminals.

AI has asked the authorities for further details about the releases. It had earlier appealed to President Obote for a major human rights initiative to mark the independence anniversary □

Summary executions in Chad

Government troops in Chad have summarily executed more than 160 civilians in the past 15 months, many of them in towns and villages far from battle zones.

Many of these non-combatants were killed in apparent government reprisals after attacks by anti-government forces. Other victims were local officials whose loyalty to President Hissène Habré came under suspicion.

After President Habré took control of the central government in Chad's civil war in June 1982, his troops tortured and killed civilians in a number of areas in the south of the country, according to detailed reports reaching *AI*.

Killings, torture and arbitrary arrests have continued this year, often in areas outside the military conflict.

In a news release on 10 October, *AI* said it had received unconfirmed reports that anti-government forces under ex-President Goukouni Oueddeï had also killed prisoners. Neither side has issued lists of prisoners.

Many people arrested by the govern-

ment en masse for suspected disloyalty are unaccounted for. *AI* has appealed to President Habré to say where prisoners are being held and has asked the authorities to allow international inspection of their treatment and conditions.

Eye-witness reports

AI has received reports by eye-witnesses who say they saw reprisal killings by government troops in the Doba region of southern Chad. After sporadic opposition attacks on cotton depots, troops moved into some 15 surrounding villages in April 1983, beating people and killing an estimated 40 victims apparently chosen at random.

Dozens of similar arbitrary killings by government forces have occurred in the southern region of Moundou between September and December 1982.

In September 1982 **Karhyom Ningayo**, local administrator of Moundou, was reported to have been shot dead in front of his family by government soldiers after his car had been stopped at a road-block.

The corpse of **Yacoub Bawoyeu Langue**, Police Commissioner of Laï, was found at N'djamena on 15 August 1983 bearing marks of torture. He is believed to have been arrested by government forces on 30 July.

Many officials have been summarily executed apparently because of previous associations or family connections, according to consistent reports received by *AI*. Such killings are continuing, according to its latest information.

The whereabouts of more than 2,500 prisoners of war both sides say they have taken are unknown. *AI* has appealed to the leaders of both sides in the civil war to clarify their fate.

• Responding to *AI*'s news release, the Chad Government denied the allegations against its troops in a statement on 11 October. The Minister of Information, Mahamat Soumailia, said the reports were based on the testimony of people of "bad faith". He said *AI* was welcome to visit the country to carry out on-the-spot investigations □

UK: 'Diplock courts' concern

Continued from page 1

to independent defence counsel; trials are open to the public and are reported in the news media; and there are full rights of appeal to the Court of Criminal Appeal and to the House of Lords. There is a significant rate of acquittals.

Furthermore, allegations that confessions were obtained as a result of physical ill-treatment had virtually stopped since *AI*'s 1978 report on that subject and the subsequent confirmation of the organization's findings by a government-appointed committee of inquiry.

However, *AI* is concerned about various issues connected with the fact that throughout the history of these courts the great majority of those convicted were convicted solely on the basis of confessions.

The police and army have wide powers to arrest people and detain them on suspicion for up to seven days. During the first two days people who have been arrested are held incommunicado without access to lawyers or relatives. The laws and police regulations permit the use of strong psychological pressure on suspects to induce them to confess. Even confessions obtained in this way may be admitted into evidence by the Diplock courts, although they would be excluded as "oppressive" by established standards in other courts in the United Kingdom.

By comparison with trials in ordinary courts in the United Kingdom, the fact that there is no jury, but only a judge, reduces the safeguards against such confessions being given too much weight.

These factors lead to the risk that people may be convicted and sentenced

to imprisonment on the sole basis of confessions which, having been obtained by oppressive methods, are not reliable.

Appeal to higher courts does not overcome this deficiency since the appeal courts consider more the trial courts' application of the law than their assessment of the evidence.

In its submission to Sir George Baker, *AI* also raised the case of Michael Culbert, which it believes illustrates its concerns.

Michael Culbert, a social worker from Belfast, was arrested in 1978 and convicted in 1979 of murdering a policeman and membership of the Irish Republican Army. After his arrest he was interrogated for long periods but not physically ill-treated. He was alleged to have made a verbal (unsigned) confession, and this was the only evidence produced against him. He denied having made such a confession and maintained that at the time of the alleged confession he was completely disorientated as a result of continuous interrogation, lack of sleep and being made to stand for long periods during interrogation. (The police denied that he had been forced to stand.)

At his trial by a special court some 18 months later in October 1979, the only issue was the admissibility of his alleged verbal confession.

The court held that the confession was admissible, convicted him of murder and membership of the Irish Republican Army, and sentenced him to life imprisonment.

AI, believing the case to raise fundamental issues of principle, sent an observer to his appeal hearing in January 1982. His appeal was turned down □

Saudi executed — 17 years after conviction

A Saudi national has been beheaded in the western city of Ta'if—17 years after his 1966 conviction for murder.

Hussein bin Hassan al-Maleki's execution, on 19 August 1983, had been delayed until the heirs of the murdered man had reached the age of majority and had agreed on execution as the form of "retribution" for the crime.

Under Islamic law, the relatives of a murder victim may demand *qisas* (retribution) in the form of execution or financial settlement, or they may decide to waive their claims altogether.

AI has sent a telex message to the Saudi Arabian Minister of the Interior, Prince Naif bin 'Abd al-'Aziz, expressing concern about the execution and reiterating its opposition to the death penalty in all cases.

AI has also learned that two other Saudis, Rad'an Ibn Muhammad Ibn Rad'an and Haza' Ibn Hamad al-Graini, were beheaded in the capital, Riyadh, on 26 August after being convicted of murder □

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amnesty

international supplement

The efforts of governments to manipulate public opinion by covering up torture and killings in their own countries while making political propaganda about such abuses elsewhere are attacked by AI in its latest annual report. In the preface to the *Amnesty International Report 1983*, the organization says governments have used "deception, distortion and disinformation on human rights questions". They have jailed human rights activists, stifled information and used different standards in reacting to violations in different countries, it says. It stresses the need for accurate unbiased information and "a single, universal standard for the protection of rights everywhere". This supplement summarizes the report, which was published on 26 October.

Amnesty International Report 1983

In a wide-ranging summary of human rights violations and the movement's efforts to mobilize international opinion against them, AI's latest annual report details political imprisonment, torture and executions in 117 countries and territories around the world.

The 351-page report, covering the calendar year 1982, documents thousands of cases of prisoners held only for their beliefs or origins, or detained without trial or after inadequate trials, or subjected to cruel or inhuman treatment.

It describes political killings by governments, the "disappearance" of suspected government opponents, and related violations of the human rights commitments which governments have pledged to uphold.

In keeping with AI's opposition to the death penalty in all cases, the report documents known executions, noting that 1,609 prisoners are known to have been put to death in 42 countries in 1982—but that the real total was certainly higher.

The report makes no comparisons of



The photograph shows relatives of "disappeared" Guatemalans queuing up to inquire about their whereabouts at the front gate of a military camp in Huehuetenango during 1982. Official security units were responsible for the vast majority of the thousands of extrajudicial killings and "disappearances" reported in Guatemala during the year.

countries' human rights records. Such comparisons would be meaningless, it emphasizes, because information is often difficult to unearth and because "forms of repression cannot be measured and

compared".

In addition, comparisons could be misused for political ends, and would distract attention from the basic principle that all people have the same rights and all violations must be challenged, wherever they occur.

The preface points out that the lack of an entry for any particular country cannot be interpreted to mean that there were no human rights violations there. The movement's information and resources were not sufficient to enable it to include entries on all countries.

The annual report's 117 entries are grouped by region. While most of the cases documented are of political prisoners, the figures on the death penalty refer to all kinds of prisoners, reflecting AI's campaign for total abolition.

The report reflects the growth of AI, a voluntary movement now numbering more than 500,000 members and supporters in over 160 countries. These people campaign for the release of prisoners of conscience—men and women imprisoned only for their beliefs or origins—as well as for an end to torture and the death penalty and for fair trials for all political prisoners.

At the beginning of 1983, a total of 5,557 people were adopted as prison-

ers of conscience or were being investigated for possible adoption. Much of the movement's work, however, was for many more people who were not necessarily prisoners of conscience but whose rights were violated or threatened. It issued over 300 "Urgent Action" appeals in efforts to protect people from torture, detention without trial or other abuses.

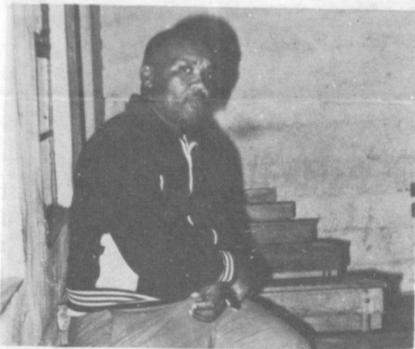
It is wholly financed by its members and the public, accepting no government money for its work.

Africa

Political imprisonment was widespread in Africa in 1982, used under varying political systems.

Suspected government opponents were held without trial in many countries. Torture or other ill-treatment of prisoners were reported. Other violations of human rights in the region included "disappearances", extrajudicial executions, and the use of the death penalty.

Prisoners of conscience were held in many countries. In **Benin**, they included students and teachers held without trial since 1979, and in **Kenya**, university lecturers alleged by the government to be subversive. In the **Central African Republic**, relatives of suspected government opponents, including young children, were detained for several months. Black journalists and other non-violent critics of *apartheid* were among prisoners of conscience detained or restricted under banning orders in **South Africa**. The **Ethiopian** Government released a number of long-term political prisoners but relatives of the late Emperor Haile Selassie remained in prison. They have been held since 1974.



Zamide Mjuza, South Africa . . . a trade unionist and official of the MACWUSA (Motor Assemblers and Component Workers Union of South Africa) branch at a factory in Port Elizabeth, he was served with a two-year banning order in late March 1982, together with other MACWUSA officials. He lost his job as a result. His banning was lifted in 1983. He had been detained in early June 1981 and held without charge or trial and in solitary confinement under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act until his unconditional release on 19 February 1982. He was reportedly ill-treated while in detention.

Long-term detention without trial was also reported from **Angola, Madagascar, Somalia and Sudan**. In **Namibia**, more than 100 people abducted from Angola in 1978 continued to be held by South African authorities.

Torture was reported from several countries, including **Angola, Cameroon and Congo**. In **Namibia, Niger, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe**, political prisoners were reported to have died in custody as a result of torture or harsh treatment.



Immaculée Mukamugema, Rwanda . . . who spent much of 1982 in a completely unlit cell (*cachot noir*) at Ruhengeri prison in the northwest of the country; as a result she became seriously ill. Arrested in about April 1980, she was convicted by Rwanda's State Security Court in November 1981 on charges of distributing seditious documents and has been adopted by AI as a prisoner of conscience.

Prison conditions amounting to cruel and degrading treatment persisted in many of the 40 sub-Saharan countries covered in the report, although in **Rwanda** some improvements were made following AI appeals, and in **The Gambia**, the use of leg-irons was banned after complaints from the organization.

Court-imposed death penalties were carried out in at least 19 African countries during the year. There were at least 101 such executions in **South Africa**. Three public executions took place in **Gabon**. The first executions since independence were carried out in **Zimbabwe**. Political opponents of the government were executed by firing squad in **Angola and Mozambique**.

Extrajudicial executions by governments or their agents were reported in a number of countries, although information on individual killings was often hard to verify, particularly in countries where anti-government forces were also suspected of political killings.

From **Uganda** came reports of the "disappearance" of civilians arrested by the army. Several were feared killed. "Disappearances" were also reported from **Kenya and Namibia**. The Governments of **Ethiopia and Guinea** again failed to account adequately for political prisoners who "disappeared" in custody in earlier years.

In several countries, there were political trials which failed to meet internationally accepted standards of fairness. Examples were in **Gabon and Zaire**, where people were imprisoned for trying to form political organizations opposed to the ruling parties. In **Malawi**, a former justice minister and his wife were put on trial for treason before a traditional court which denied them the right to legal representation.

The Americas

Kidnapping and "disappearances" of suspected government opponents, torture, political killings by governments, arbitrary arrest, and prolonged detention without trial were among the chief abuses of human rights reported in the Americas.

Thousands of people were tortured and killed in **El Salvador and Guatemala**, against a background of internal political and military conflict. Many other people remained unaccounted for after "disappearing".

In **El Salvador**, government forces and paramilitary "death squads" continued to carry out political killings with impunity. AI reported on human rights violations in March 1982, on the basis of information from civilians in refugee camps outside the country. This information accorded with data from a wide variety of other sources, indicating that all branches of the security forces were involved in systematic and widespread torture, abduction and killings of men, women and children, and that these abuses were an established government program.

In **Guatemala**, official security units were responsible for the vast majority of the thousands of extrajudicial killings and "disappearances" reported in 1982. In addition, the first judicial executions since 1975 were carried out in September 1982 under new legislation which failed to meet international standards for fair trial.

In **Honduras**, reports of "disappearances", arbitrary arrest, torture and extrajudicial executions increased.

AI was concerned about the sending back of political refugees to **El Salvador and Guatemala** from **Mexico and the USA**.

Emergency legislation was widely used to ban or repress the exercise of fundamental human rights. In **Paraguay**, a state of siege has been in operation almost continuously since 1954. In **Nicaragua**, far-reaching public order laws were applied under a state of emergency declared on 15 March 1982.

Unfair trials, detention without trial, torture and political killings by government agencies were again reported from **Argentina**. Questions about the fate of thousands who "disappeared" in previous years remained unsolved.

In **Cuba**, AI's concerns about political imprisonment included prisoners who were still held despite having completed sentences of up to 20 years.

In **Bolivia**, an amnesty for political exiles was announced after the military government resigned in September 1982. The new government took action to investigate killings and "disappearances" under previous governments.

An amnesty for political prisoners and the lifting of a state of siege were announced in **Colombia** in November 1982. However, there was evidence of military and police involvement in

apparent extrajudicial executions of dozens of Colombians in 1982.

Torture was reported from a large number of countries, including **Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Haiti, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.**

In **Peru**, anti-terrorist legislation was used to jail non-violent political, labour and peasant leaders as well as people who might have been involved in violence.

Detention without trial or judicial procedures which failed to meet international standards of fairness took place in **Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.**

Executions were carried out in **Barbados, Chile, Guatemala, Jamaica and the United States**, and reported from **Cuba**. In the **USA**, more than 1,100 prisoners were under sentence of death at the end of 1982.

Asia

The arrest and long-term imprisonment of prisoners of conscience remained major concerns in Asian countries in 1982. Other violations of fundamental human rights included unfair trials, torture and the use of the death penalty. Increasingly, *AI* was concerned by extrajudicial executions—political killings by governments—in the region.

Detention without charge or trial continued to take place in many



Edwin Tulalian, the Philippines . . . he was one of eight people arrested on 26 February 1982, when they were reportedly discussing a forthcoming trade union election. He is reported to have been tortured after arrest by members of the Naval Intelligence Service Force. In October 1982 he and 18 others were charged with subversion; his trial is continuing. He is currently being detained at the Philippines Constabulary/Integrated National Police Jail at Camp Bagong Diwa, Bicutan. *AI* took up his case for investigation in November 1982 as it believes that he may have been arrested because of his work in organizing trade union and industrial activity at his workplace.

countries, including **Bangladesh, Brunei, China, India, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore and Viet Nam.** In Viet Nam and Laos, thousands of people remained imprisoned without trial in re-education camps more than seven years after first being detained. In **Brunei**, eight prisoners of conscience have been held without charge or trial since the early 1960s.

In January 1982 *AI* published a report on **Pakistan** which said thousands of people had been arrested solely for expressing their opinions and several hundred people, including some political prisoners, had been executed. The government had effectively annulled the 1973 Constitution and its guarantees of fundamental rights and ended the independence of the judiciary. The report also documented widespread use of torture.

In September 1982 *AI* published a report of its mission to the **Philippines**, documenting political imprisonment and torture. It also highlighted "disappearances" carried out by intelligence and security units of the armed forces as well as by paramilitary groups operating with official sanction. Many of the victims were peasants or others living in rural areas.

Prisoners of conscience were held in many countries, including **Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Pakistan, South Korea, Viet Nam and Taiwan.** In **Taiwan** several prisoners of conscience have been held for more than 30 years.

In **China** several prisoners of conscience were put on trial, including young workers who had edited unofficial journals and elderly Roman Catholic priests who were previously imprisoned for over 20 years for their beliefs. No official information was disclosed about their trials.

The authorities in the **Republic of Korea (South Korea)** continued to imprison people for the peaceful expression of their beliefs. *AI* was also concerned about reports of torture.

Elsewhere in the region, in **Malaysia** and to a lesser extent in **Singapore**, considerable numbers of prisoners of conscience were released from detention. *AI* urged the release of all prisoners of conscience remaining in detention.

The death penalty continued to be widely used in Asia. Death sentences were known to have been handed down in **Afghanistan, China, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka** (although there have been no executions there since 1977), **South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Viet Nam.**

Europe

Human rights violations in Europe included the imprisonment of people for the non-violent expression of their beliefs, torture, and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of prisoners.

Executions were reported from **Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Turkey, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.**

AI was concerned about the imprisonment of conscientious objectors to military service in the **Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), the German Democratic Republic (GDR), France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Switzerland and the Soviet Union.**



Recep Marasli, Turkey . . . a publisher and editor aged 27, he is serving three separate sentences totalling 19 years' imprisonment for publishing works on the Kurds. The first of the sentences was imposed in July 1982—four years for publishing a book on Kurdish issues in the form of an open letter to Kemal Ataturk.



To Huy Co, Viet Nam . . . arrested in Hanoi in October 1982 and held since then without charge or trial. His arrest came after he had founded a "free literature" movement and had been circulating uncensored and unauthorized manuscripts of banned foreign works. He had previously been detained for more than six years in a series of re-education camps for alleged counter-revolutionary activity, after he had urged an end to the Viet Nam war and had openly criticized the policies of the then North Vietnamese Government.

In the GDR the organization worked for the release of imprisoned would-be emigrants, Marxist dissenters, conscientious objectors and people arrested for expressing sympathy with the Polish trade union Solidarity.

In Poland, *AI* welcomed the end of internment with the suspension of martial law on 30 December 1982, but called for the release of a large number of prisoners of conscience charged or sentenced for the non-violent exercise of their human rights during the year.

Throughout the year *AI* continued to receive reports that prisoners charged with political offences had been tortured in Turkey, and that some had died as a result.

There was a marked increase in allegations of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners in Italy during the first half of 1982. Reports of torture were also received from Spain.

Disturbing reports of harsh prison conditions amounting to cruel, inhuman



Rolf-Dieter Schiller, 34, a lorry driver, and his wife, Heiderose, 31, a typist, were arrested in the German Democratic Republic on 6 December 1982 and each sentenced to four years six months' imprisonment for "treasonable passing on of information" (Article 99 of the penal code). *AI* does not know the precise reason for the bringing of this charge against them—but they are known to have been applying for permission to emigrate since December 1980 and it is supposed that they were accused of contacting a foreign organization in connection with their wish to leave the country. Both are reported to suffer from kidney disorders. They have two daughters now living with grandparents.

or degrading treatment of prisoners were received from Albania, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

AI expressed concern to the authorities in the United Kingdom about aspects of trials by the non-jury "Diplock Courts" in Northern Ireland which jeopardized defendants' right to a fair trial.

The organization worked on behalf of approximately 450 prisoners in the Soviet Union known or thought likely to be prisoners of conscience. More than half of the new cases taken up by the organization in 1982 were of religious believers. *AI* received further information on the internment of dissenters held in psychiatric hospitals for political rather than authentic medical reasons.

Middle East and North Africa

Violations of human rights in the Middle East and North Africa included large numbers of executions in some countries, political killings by governments, the "disappearance" of prisoners seized or arrested by government forces, trials in which standards fell short of internationally accepted norms, the hold-of prisoners of conscience, and detention without trial.

Prisoners of conscience—men and women imprisoned only for the non-violent expression of their beliefs or for their origins—were known to be held in Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Libya, Morocco and the Western Sahara, Oman, Syria, Tunisia and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY).

Reports of torture or ill-treatment of prisoners came from many countries in the region including Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria and Tunisia. Reports of executions were also received from Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and the PDRY.

In Iran, 624 executions were recorded in 1982 but this reflected only officially announced executions, and *AI* regards it as a minimum figure. Information obtained during the year confirmed that torture had become routine practice in at least some Iranian prisons. Whipping and amputations of limbs continued to be officially sanctioned punishments for certain crimes.

In Libya, allegations of torture and

death under torture increased. *AI* was also concerned about political trials and the renewal of official calls for the "physical liquidation of enemies of the revolution".

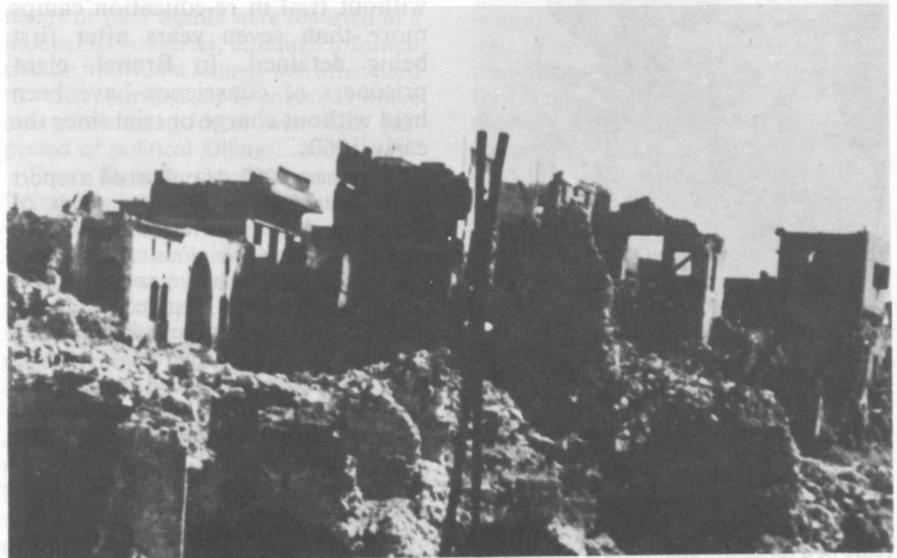
Abuses in Iraq included the arrest of prisoners of conscience, "disappearances", torture and deaths in custody. A large number of executions were reported, including executions for political offences after trials lacking basic legal safeguards.

In Israel and the Occupied Territories, *AI* was concerned about the detention with no legal rights of thousands of people captured after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon on 6 June 1982, and allegations that detainees had been ill-treated.

After the killing of hundreds of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians in the Sabra and Chatila refugee camps in West Beirut in 1982, *AI* urged the United Nations to establish an impartial, independent and international inquiry into the atrocity. It called on the Israeli Government to act rapidly to clarify the circumstances of the killings and to cooperate in any international investigation. In a letter sent to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel in December 1982, *AI* welcomed the Lebanese Government's initiative in ordering an inquiry and stressed that for the inquiry to be effective it should be open to public scrutiny.

In Syria, after violent clashes between security forces and Muslim Brotherhood fighters in the town of Hama, thousands of inhabitants were reported to have been killed by government forces as they regained control of the town in February and March 1982. Unofficial estimates put the number of dead at over 10,000 but *AI* was unable to confirm those estimates or to investigate the precise circumstances of these killings.

The Syrian authorities did not respond to repeated requests for a full investigation of reported massacres by Syrian security forces in recent years.



Smashed buildings in the Syrian town of Hama . . . the photograph, showing part of the suburb of Kilaniyya, was taken after the authorities had announced that their forces had crushed an uprising in Hama in February 1982. *AI* has received reports that security force troops summarily executed a number of Kilaniyya residents during the fighting.