# IRAQ

#### **Evidence of torture**

#### an amnesty international report



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First published 1981 by Amnesty International Publications 10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF, England © Copyright Amnesty International Publications ISBN: 0 86210 032 1
AI Index: MDE 14/07/81
Original language: English
Printed by Shadowdean Ltd. Telephone: 01-543 4550

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# Preface

Iraq, with an area of 435,000 square kilometres, is bordered by Iran, Turkey, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and has a small outlet to the Arabian Gulf. As the second largest oil producer in the Arab World (until the war with Iran), its income comes mainly from oil revenues, but it is working towards industrial diversification and agricultural self-sufficiency.

Modern Iraq became independent in 1932, with the end of the British mandate and military occupation. It became a republic in 1958, after the overthrow of the monarchy, and since 1968 it has been governed by the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party; Ahmad Hassan Al BAKR, the first President, was succeeded in July 1979 by Saddam HUSAIN. A 17-member Revolutionary Command Council constitutes the highest political authority in the country. Iraq has a one-party system, but a measure of power sharing was introduced in 1973, when the National Progressive Front (NPF) was formed, composed of the Ba'ath Party, the Iraqi Communist Party (ICP)—whose activities until then had been illegal—and several small Kurdish parties. The status of the NPF has been uncertain since 1978, when the ICP's activities were again declared illegal. In June 1980 the first general elections since the 1958 revolution were held for the 250-member National Assembly.

No opposition to the Ba'athist government is tolerated, and the death penalty can be imposed

on members or ex-members of the Ba'ath Party and the armed forces who join or associate with any illegal party—including the ICP, the Kurdish Democratic Party, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, Al Da'wa Al Islamiya, and the Syrian wing of the Ba'ath Party. Holding or attending unauthorized meetings, taking part in anti-government demonstrations, printing, distributing or reading banned political literature, or refusing to join the Ba'ath Party when asked to can all lead to arrest and imprisonment.

Iraq is composed of several different religious and ethnic groupings. Over half the estimated population of 13 million belong to the Shi'i sect of Islam and live mainly in the south, with most of the rest belonging to the Sunni sect. Shi'is have complained that Sunni Muslims dominate the government and higher ranks of the armed forces and over the past two years Shi'i opposition has become increasingly violent. Iraq has also a sizeable Christian community and a small, dwindling community of Jews.

The Kurds are the largest ethnic minority and live mostly in the north. They have fought successive governments for independence and in March 1974 three northern provinces of Iraq were granted autonomy, becoming the Autonomous Region (of Kurdistan) with its own legislative and executive councils. Much of the Kurdish opposition, however, considers this measure of autonomy to be insufficient, and Kurdish guerrilla warfare against the authorities is still going on.

# Torture in Iraq

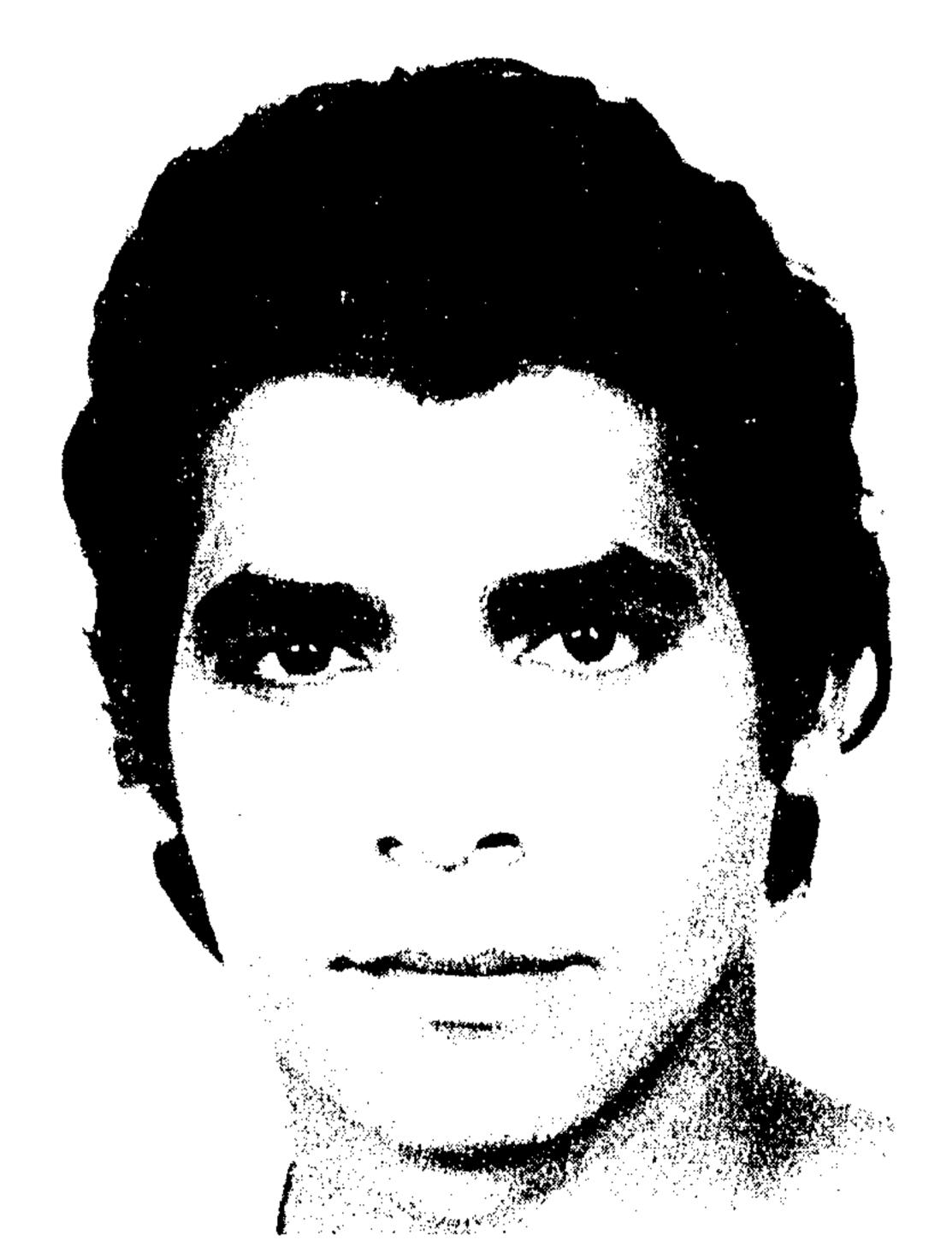
For many years, including the 12 years of the present government's rule, Amnesty International has regularly received allegations of the routine torture of political suspects in the custody of Iraq's security forces. In most cases the purpose of the torture was said to be to extract confessions for use as evidence in court or to force detainees to renounce their illegal political affiliations and join the ruling Ba'ath Party. The interrogation methods of the security forces have been described as brutal, often resulting in permanent physical or mental damage to the victims.

Amnesty International has also received numerous reports of people dying under torture: the bodies of political detainees have been returned to their families with evident signs of torture; badly mutilated bodies have also been dumped in the street outside the victims' homes; political detainees have "disappeared" while in prison and are reported to have died under torture. Some prisoners have been reported by the authorities to have been sentenced to death and executed for political offences—but unofficial sources say they died under torture before any alleged trial.

## First-hand testimonies

In spite of these repeated allegations of torture in Iraq, first-hand testimonies have until recently been rare. In October 1979, however, Amnesty International was able to interview at length and—for the first time—to examine medically an Iraqi exile, Burhan Al SHAWI, who said he had been severely tortured in 1978 while in the custody of the security forces; he was willing to have his case and his name widely publicized. The examination was carried out over two days in Copenhagen by members of Amnesty International's Danish Medical Group. The subsequent report was published in

Le Quotidien du médecin in France on 26 February 1980. This is Case No. 1 in the following report.



Burhan Al SHAWI

In March 1980 it was possible to interview and examine medically another 14 Iraqi exiles who said they had been tortured between September 1976 and August 1979—but they asked for their names and other identifying information to remain confidential for fear of reprisals against them and their families. They are Case Nos. 2 to 15 in this report.

The treatment the 15 Iraqis alleged they were subjected to ranged from crude physical assaults with fists, boots, truncheons and whips to sustained beating of the soles of the feet, systematic electric shock torture and mock executions. Torture of a sexual nature featured

again and again in the allegations; there were said to have been verbal and actual physical sexual humiliations of men and women detainees—threats to rape them were made, and to rape members of their families and close friends; one detainee stated that he was in fact raped after he had been bound hand and foot to a chair.

All those interviewed said they had suffered blows on the head, body and extremities from fists, feet or rubber truncheons (some rubber truncheons were described as having a metal rod inside, others as having bands of metal around them). A few of them said they had been beaten with rope, a wooden stick or a whip made of split electric flex. Three said they had been hit on the genitals, and one that he had received Karate-style blows with the edge of the hand on the lower spine. One man said that during the interrogation he had complained of pain in his lower back and that blows had then been directed in that region. Another man said pressure had been applied to his eyes through his blindfold and that his cheeks and lower lip were pressed on his teeth until the lip became swollen. Four people said they had been lifted up and thrown to the ground, or against a wall; four said their hair had been pulled hard.

All said they had been blindfolded during all or most of the interrogation, with their hands tied behind their backs.

One man said he had been completely anaesthetized—when he regained consciousness his symptoms had indicated physical ill-treatment.

Twelve people said they had been subjected to falaqa (called falanga in other countries). The description of this was similar in all cases: the victims were made to lie on their back on the floor with their feet in the air supported by wooden stocks or by a table; they were then beaten on the soles of the feet with a rubber truncheon. Almost all of those interviewed said they then were forced to walk or run up and down the room on hot salty water. One person described how his shoes were forced on to his swollen feet.

Thirteen people said they had been subjected to electrical torture. Three types were described.

• A truncheon-like instrument, usually referred to as an "electric stick", about 30 cm long and with a cable attached to one end, was

- applied to the sensitive parts of the body, such as the face, breasts and genitals, causing local pains.
- In four cases the current was turned on after separate electrodes had been placed on fingers, nostrils or the abdomen; this caused pain and shivering in the affected area.
- In one case electrodes were applied to the temples and, as the current was turned on, the victim had convulsions and lost consciousness.

Two people said they were burned with cigarettes. One said a small hard metal object the size of a pencil was used to burn him (see pictures on page 17).

Another man said a vice-like instrument had been placed over his toes and tightened. (This instrument is called *al mangana* in colloquial Arabic.)

A 52-year-old man said that on a number of occasions he had been placed in a heated closet full of steam while wearing only his underclothes. The temperature had then been drastically reduced until his clothes froze stiff on his body.

A woman of 31 told of how she had been taken into the prison garden in her nightclothes, blindfolded and with her hands tied behind her. There, in near freezing temperatures, she had been soaked with cold water and left suspended from a step-ladder for several hours.

Six people spoke of suffering extreme physical exhaustion, either through being deprived of sleep or by being suspended by their handcuffed wrists from a wall or a stepladder for several hours with their toes just touching or just off the ground. One man described how he was forced to stand on one leg for an hour outside the interrogation room; another how he had to raise his left leg and keep his hands on his head for several hours, being beaten when he failed to maintain this position.

In many cases the interrogators were said to have pretended to adopt a "kind" and "understanding" approach at some stage; for instance, they would engage in discussions about politics and pretend to support the victim's views, or they would promise them such things as good jobs, entrance to college, passports and "women" if they confessed or signed a declar-

ation that they would remain politically unaffiliated. One man described how he was "befriended" by a "kind man", ostensibly a fellow detainee, who would frequently ask for him to be brought to his cell, show concern and understanding about his predicament and offer to help him. The detainee believed him to be a security "plant" whose job was to break him down; he found this kind of psychological pressure difficult to resist.

Five people said they were held in solitary confinement for varying periods; two of them said they were in solitary confinement throughout their imprisonment (nine days and 270 days).

Six people said they had been threatened with death or execution and three that threats had been made to charge them with a capital offence. Four people said they had been subjected to mock executions: one said a pistol was pressed against his temples and the trigger pulled; two said that after being threatened with execution, shots were fired rapidly over their heads while they were blindfolded. A fourth man said he had been subjected to mock executions on three separate occasions. The first time wire was placed around his neck and tightened and he was told to recite his last prayer (in the Muslim tradition), which he did; he was then taken away and beaten. The second time he was told that he would be executed and thrown into the river; he was driven around in a car for three hours in silence. The third time he was threatened with being shot and buried; he was taken into the prison garden with a gun at his neck, but was not shot.

Three people stated that they had been denied hospital treatment despite the recommendations of the prison doctor.

Five people described torture involving tape recordings of animal noises, or of members of their family crying or being insulted; these were played into their cell or turned on during interrogation while they were blindfolded.

Four people said they had been made to stand outside the interrogation room listening to others being tortured. A woman said she had been forced to watch a fellow detainee being tortured over a period of three hours until he agreed to sign the declaration.

Almost all those interviewed said they had been deliberately humiliated, either by insults or verbal sexual abuse directed at them or at members of their family.

- Five said they had been totally or partially stripped: a woman said she had been made to stand naked for a long time in front of her interrogators without being blindfolded; three people said their genitals had been pawed.
- Eight people, including two women, said they had been threatened with rape, and two with having a bottle inserted into their rectum.
- One man said both of these physical abuses had actually been carried out on him.
- Eight people said their interrogators had threatened to arrest, torture or rape members of their family, including children.

Several people said their cells were small and dirty, or were so overcrowded that it was difficult to sleep; that access to the toilet and to washing facilities was severely restricted; that the prison guards had harassed them at will.

# Amnesty International's previous initiatives

Amnesty International has in the past frequently drawn the Iraqi Government's attention to allegations of torture it has received. In cases where it feared that a detainee might be tortured, Amnesty International has written asking the authorities to ensure that the person in question be given full legal safeguards while in detention, and to guarantee the detainee's physical well-being. Where deaths under torture have been reported, Amnesty International has asked the government of Iraq for an open and impartial inquiry, with the findings made public.

In cases where the Iraqi authorities have replied to such appeals, they have dismissed the allegations as untrue. For instance, on 18 January 1975, in reply to a letter in which Amnesty International expressed concern about five reported deaths under torture, the Iraqi authorities stated:

". . . we categorically deny the charges and allegations made against the national government. We believe you share with us the opinion that every state has the right to guarantee the security and safety of its

for their welfare and prosperity. It cannot therefore allow trouble-making and corrupt elements to disturb public order and expose to danger the security and stability of the state."

In 1978 the Iraqi authorities commented on The Amnesty International Report 1975-76, which included details of a first-hand account of torture and mentioned that the names had been received of 43 Kurds who had allegedly died under torture during the year in question. In their comments, the Iraqi authorities referred to the Iraqi constitution's prohibition of torture but made no specific reference to the allegations reported.

Amnesty International's Secretary General has twice raised the question of torture with

nationals and that it is duty bound to provide Iraqi officials during visits to Baghdad. The first time was in March 1977, when the President of the Iraqi Lawyers' Cooperative said he knew of no cases of torture in Iraq, but would investigate any that were brought to his attention. Although the Secretary General drew his attention to the reports of torture contained in The Amnesty International Report 1975-76, the government is not known to have conducted any investigation into the allegations. In May 1979 the Iraqi Minister of Justice assured the Secretary General that whenever allegations of torture were made in court by a defendant, the trial was stopped and the allegations investigated before the proceedings continued. He was, however, able to recall only one such investigation into allegations of torture; this was a case in which a number of policemen were disciplined in the 1960s.

# Torture and the law

# Iraq's international obligations

Torture is prohibited in Iraq, both by domestic legislation and by international law. On 25 January 1971 Iraq ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), Article 7 of which states: "no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment". On 9 December 1975 the United Nations Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment<sup>1</sup> was adopted by consensus by the UN General Assembly. According to Article 3 of this declaration, "No State may permit or tolerate torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Exceptional circumstances such as a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency may not be invoked as a justification of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Although the UN declaration is not a binding legal instrument, the Iraqi Government stated officially on 3 September 1979 that it intended to comply with the declaration and "to continue the implementation, through its national legislation and other effective measures, of the provisions of the said declaration".

Torture is also prohibited under Iraq's domestic legislation. Article 22(a) of its constitution<sup>2</sup> prohibits "any form of physical and mental torture". Article 127 of the Judicial Procedures Law of 1971 states that "no illegal methods may be used to extract confessions from the accused, including ill-treatment, threats to cause harm, enticement, psychological methods or the use of drugs and spirits".

Prohibition alone, however, is not enough:

effective mechanisms are needed to enforce that prohibition, as is made clear in Articles 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the UN declaration cited above. The point was made several times in Geneva in March 1980, when the 9th session of the Human Rights Committee discussed Iraq's report on its implementation of the ICCPR. Three members of the committee pointed out that despite the general prohibition of torture in Iraq's constitution, mentioned in the Iraqi report, there was no mention of safeguards designed to ensure respect for the prohibition by the security and police forces. The Iraqi authorities have consistently avoided answering specific questions about these mechanisms. Under UN Resolution 32/63 of 8 December 1977, all member states were asked to provide the Secretary-General of the UN General Assembly with information about the steps they had taken, including legislative and administrative measures, to put into practice the provisions of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The UN questionnaire included the following:

- What methods are used to ensure the systematic review of interrogation practices and of arrangements for the custody and treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, with a view to preventing torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment?
- Which authorities are competent to receive and examine complaints from alleged victims that torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment had been inflicted upon them by or at the instigation of public officials? Describe the conditions

under which such complaints are investigated, and the procedures applicable in such cases.

- Provide information whether, since the adoption of the Declaration, any investigations have been carried out or any proceeding instituted in connection with allegations of torture or other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- Does the law ensure redress and compensation to the victims of acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment?
- Describe the law or practice, if any, which excludes from evidence in any proceedings statements extracted under torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

Replying on 1 July 1980, the Iraqi authorities stated:

"The Government of Iraq emphasizes that it has always actively collaborated with the Division of Human Rights in connection with the Declaration on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and is always willing to do so if required. The Government of Iraq also declares its intention of acceding to the Convention on torture. The Government of Iraq therefore believes that it is unnecessary to reply to the questionnaire."

# Arrest, detention and trial procedures

The 15 Iraqis who are the subject of this report were all arrested independently of each other and at different times and places. Their descriptions of the arrest and detention procedures are markedly consistent. They show that there was little or no observance of the legal prohibition of torture contained in the Iraqi Judicial Procedures Law and in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; they also reveal the absence of the safeguarding mechanisms and procedures against torture which are outlined in the UN General Assembly declaration cited above and in Article 9 of the ICCPR.<sup>3</sup>

#### Arrest

Most of the 15 victims were arrested by plain-

clothes security officers, usually armed, sometimes accompanied by police officers; one was arrested by eight members of the popular army (the Ba'ath Party's militia) carrying automatic weapons. In no case was an arrest order produced and in only one case (No. 5) did the arresting authority identify itself. All of those interviewed said they were either taken to the security headquarters immediately after arrest or first to a local police station (to which the security forces have access) and then to the security headquarters the same day or the following day. Interrogation started on the first or second day of arrest in all cases.

In almost none of the cases was the accused told the reason for arrest at the time of arrest. In Case No. 7, a letter was sent to the office of the accused, requesting him to come to Military Intelligence headquarters for questioning. Most of the other accused were asked to accompany the security officers for about half an hour to answer a few questions either about their political affiliations or someone else's, or about some other problem. It was only when the accused were being transported to or had arrived at the police station or security headquarters that they were told that they were under arrest for their political activity.

#### Detention

Four of those interviewed said they had been brought before a judge or magistrate at some stage of their detention, which lasted from one to 270 days. Two said they were brought before a judge in the security headquarters. One (Case No. 2) said he was brought before a judge two weeks after his arrest, was asked a few questions and told he would have to become a member of the Ba'ath Party if he wished to be released. The other (Case No. 3) saw a judge after the amnesty of August 1979 was declared, to have his case closed.

Two of the 15 were tried; although a number were "threatened" with a trial, none of the 13 others was formally charged. Only two of the 13 were told by their interrogators what they were accused of: Case No. 2, with insulting the government because he tore up a picture of the President, with supporting those who had been

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix I

Interim Constitution and the Republic of Iraq (Resolution No. 792 of 1971).

<sup>3</sup> See Appendix II

executed for political reasons and with reading banned political literature; Case No: 11, with carrying out certain political activities within an illegal political party.

All the interrogations were carried out by members of the security forces. Although accusations were made against some of those arrested, the main purpose of the interrogations appears to have been to extract information about their political activities and to compel them either to join the Ba'ath Party or to sign a declaration committing them to remaining politically independent. The reason for bringing two of the detainees and not others to trial remains unclear.

None of the accused was allowed access to a lawyer during detention. In almost all cases families had no contact with the accused; in spite of persistent inquiries they were often unable to get confirmation of the arrest, or to discover the detainee's whereabouts, although one family was able to visit a detainee while he was in pre-trial detention in a police station in Basra.

# Trial

Of the two who said they were brought to trial, one (Case No. 4) was given a week's notice that

he was to be tried. When he asked permission to appoint a defence lawyer he was told it was unnecessary since one would be appointed for him by the court. He was summarily tried in camera by the Revolutionary Court in Baghdad. He was accused of insulting the government but one of the two alleged witnesses to this retracted his statement in court. The accused was not allowed to ask questions in court. He was acquitted after his defence lawyer asked for his release because of insufficient evidence. The other person to be tried (Case No. 9) was charged with insulting the government, stealing three dinars (worth about £6 at the time) from his office, selling a banned political paper in the street and calling on workers to strike. He was taken to the Revolutionary Court in Baghdad four times but the trial was postponed three times, either because of insufficient evidence or because the papers were not in order. His family had tried to engage a lawyer but could find none willing to take on a security case. When he was eventually brought to trial, he was acquitted because of insufficient evidence—although he was not released until nine days later. Before leaving prison he was again asked to sign the declaration committing himself to remain politically unaffiliated.

# Conclusions and recommendations

## Conclusions

1. The findings of the medical examinations of 15 Iraqis confirm that torture took place in Iraq between September 1976 and August 1979. The consistency between the torture described by the 15 former detainees cited in the report and the torture allegations received by Amnesty International since August 1979 suggest strongly that torture may be continuing and widespread in Iraq.

2. Political detainees are not protected by any effective legal safeguards against torture. The Iraqi authorities have introduced none of the legislative or administrative measures called for by the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment with which Iraq has officially stated it intends to comply.

#### Recommendations

1. Amnesty International's experience from its work against torture all over the world is that in countries where torture has become widespread or routine, police, security and military officials in charge of prisoners are likely to accept it as normal and permissible, endorsed by the government in power or even expected by it.

Amnesty International therefore respectfully RECOMMENDS that the President of Iraq issue and make widely and forcefully known a policy statement that the government condemns and will not permit torture in the State of Iraq. This would be in agreement with Article 22(a) of the Iraqi constitution, and with Article 127 of the Iraqi Judicial Procedures Law (1971).

Amnesty International also respectfully RECOMMENDS that the government have translated into Arabic and circulated widely

among police, security and military personnel in charge of prisoners the texts of:

- (i) the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- (ii) the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials (adopted by the UN General Assembly on 17 December 1979).<sup>4</sup>
- 2. Anmesty International RECOMMENDS that no person be arrested except on a warrant from the appropriate authorities under law and according to strictly determined judicial procedures. This would be in agreement with Article 92 of the Iraqi Judicial Procedures Law (1971) and with Article 9(1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- 3. All but one of the 15 former prisoners whose cases are described in this report said that they had been held completely incommunicado from the time of their arrest until they were either released or had appeared in court. In 11 cases incommunicado detention lasted between 21 and 270 days. Amnesty International's experience is that when prisoners are held incommunicado the risk of ill-treatment is greatly increased.

Amnesty International respectfully RECOM-MENDS that the government take effective measures to ensure that prisoners are not held in incommunicado detention, so as to avoid facilitating their ill-treatment, and specifically that:

- (i) all detainees should have regular access to a lawyer and their family as soon as possible after arrest, and certainly before interrogation begins;
- (ii) all detainees should be brought before a

<sup>4</sup> See Appendix III

court of law within 24 hours of arrest. This would fulfil Article 123 of the Iraqi Judicial Procedures Law which states that "the examining magistrate or investigator must question the accused within 24 hours from the time of his arrival, after being satisfied of his identity and advising him of the charge against him";

(iii) all detainees should have access to a doctor immediately upon arrest, at regular intervals afterwards, and before release from detention, and should be provided with appropriate medical treatment at all times. The doctors' examinations should be fully documented and should be available to the authorities responsible for the custody of prisoners and those responsible for investigating allegations of torture. This would fulfil Article 6 of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials.

4. All 15 of the former prisoners whose cases are described in this report said that they had been tortured in attempts to force them to sign statements.

Amnesty International respectfully RECOM-

MENDS that the government of Iraq instruct all prosecution authorities not to submit in evidence before any court confessions or other statements which have been obtained as a result of torture. This would fulfil Article 12 of the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which prohibits the admissibility in evidence of statements extracted by torture.

5. All available information makes clear that the Iraqi authorities have neither acknowledged the use of torture in Iraq in general or in specific cases, nor undertaken any administrative or legislative measures to prevent the use of torture. The UN General Assembly declaration puts a clear obligation on governments to take action against officials shown to have tortured people and to give appropriate compensation and redress to the victims.

Amnesty International respectfully RECOM-MENDS that the government take effective measures to implement Articles 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the declaration (see Appendix I).

# Medical report

# The people examined

Fifteen people, 12 men and three women, were interviewed and examined, including a hospital orderly, a factory worker, three journalists, a doctor, three university students, a writer, a telephone operator, a retired lawyer, a clerk and a young man doing his military service. Their mean age was 29 years (range 20-52 years).

Fourteen said they had been tortured while in the custody of the Iraqi security forces: nine in Baghdad, three in Basra, one in Al Musayyib and Al Hilla, and one in Ba'quba and Al Khalis. In Baghdad, the majority said they were interrogated in the General Directorate of Security, a huge complex of buildings situated in an area known as Sa'adoun Park, off Al Nidhal Street; or nearby in the Baghdad Security Headquarters, next to Alwiya Hospital. Two others said they were interrogated in the security headquarters for the areas of Kharkh and Rasafa (Baghdad is divided into these two areas). Others were held in smaller security offices in the districts of Batawiyya, Kadhimiya and Qarada Sharqia, possibly located in local police stations.

One person said he had been interrogated by the Military Intelligence, at their headquarters in the Ministry of Defence Buildings, Bab Al Mu'athim, Baghdad.

The mean time spent in detention was 38 days (range one-270 days). Five of the victims had been detained more than once, one on four occasions. The torture as described took place from September 1976 to August 1979 and the victims were examined from seven to 37 months (mean 13 months) after the torture took place. The periods of alleged torture lasted from one to 50 days—not always consecutive days (mean 11 days).

# Method of examination

A questionnaire was used in each interview; it was based on experience and information acquired from the examination of former prisoners from other countries. The aim was to gather information about the forms of alleged torture and the resulting physical and mental symptoms. The interviews also included questions about the victims' health before arrest and any injuries before the alleged torture. The examining doctors tried, as far as possible, to get the victims to describe the forms of torture and the nature of the subsequent symptoms in their own words. This information was supplemented by non-suggestive questioning. The interviews and examinations lasted from three to five hours, except those of Burhan Al Shawi (Case No. 1) which were conducted over two days (about 12 hours in all). A member of Amnesty International's International Secretariat was present at all the interviews.

Each interview was followed by a complete physical examination, which included a neurological examination, and a psychiatric evaluation. Burhan Al Shawi, who was examined at the University Hospital in Copenhagen, also had a neuropsychological and dental examination, a computer tomography of the brain, relevant X-rays and laboratory tests.

A description of the signs found during the physical examination is included in the individual case reports only on those aspects where abnormalities were found.

A report was written on each examination and these reports are summarized in the case histories. In each case the doctors compared the information about the alleged torture with the nature and duration of the symptoms described and any available medical documentation, as well as with any abnormalities found during the physical examinations. On the basis

of these comparisons and findings and of the experience acquired during examinations of torture victims in other countries, a conclusion was drawn in every case about the consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described, the available medical documentation and the signs found by the doctors.

# Description of symptoms

In this report "symptoms" denotes any change in the person's physical and/or mental state of health, as observed by him/herself. "Transient symptoms" denotes symptoms arising during the alleged torture and the few weeks following, which were not present at the time of examination. "Persistent symptoms" denotes symptoms present at the time of examination. "Signs" denotes objective findings, as recorded by the examining doctors.

# Transient symptoms described

All those examined described pain of varying intensity and duration after direct traumas as well as hematomas, and swelling at the injured sites. Three had burns, in two cases caused by cigarettes and in one case by an object the size of a pencil which the blindfolded victim could not see (see pictures on page 17).

Ten of the 12 who said they had been subjected to falaqa said they felt pain when walking. Ten lost consciousness during the alleged torture: in six cases after trauma to the head; in two cases because of electric shock; in one case after a mock execution; in one case after inhaling anaesthetics. Three suffered from hematuria. One reported symptoms from a left-sided pneumothorax after alleged torture. One suffered from rectal bleeding. Seven described loss of weight (mean 15 kg, range eight to 22 kg) during detention lasting from 23 to 270 days (mean 60 days).

# Persistent symptoms described

Twelve of the 15 people examined complained of all or most of the following persistent mental

symptoms: reduced power of concentration; loss of energy; nervousness; depression; fear; reduced self-control; desire for isolation; insomnia and nightmares.

Eight described a tendency to headaches and 11 to impaired memory. Four suffered from sexual dysfunction (impairment).

One had developed frequent spells of headaches and disturbances or vision or palpitations and precordial pains, both followed by a brief loss of consciousness.

One reported impaired hearing in one ear. Palpitations, abdominal pains and menstrual irregularities were also reported.

# Signs found by doctors

Ten of those interviewed showed signs of mental dysfunction at the examination.

Eight showed scars compatible with the alleged torture.

Otoscopy revealed a scar in the tympanic membrane of a man who had been subjected to a trauma to the side of the head.

Mild left-sided paresis of the peroneal nerve was found in one person; it affected the way he walked ("drop foot").

Computer tomography scanning of the brain revealed in one case a mild cortical atrophy.

# Available medical documentation

One man (Case No. 9) said he had developed a total left-sided pneumothorax after torture. X-rays of the chest taken during his stay in hospital immediately after the alleged torture and his release from prison were shown to the examining doctors, and these confirmed the diagnosis.

# Discussion and conclusion

Each of the 15 Iraqi exiles examined by the doctors alleged that he or she had been tortured during interrogation by the Iraqi authorities. In all cases the torture described was consistent with the subsequent symptoms and the signs

found during the physical examinations. The doctors found nothing inconsistent in their allegations of torture.

Considering that the 15 Iraqis were arrested independently of each other, at different times between September 1976 and August 1979 and in six different towns in Iraq, the descriptions

of torture were remarkably uniform.

The symptoms described correspond to accounts given by torture victims from other countries subjected to similar kinds of torture. Amnesty International therefore concludes that torture took place in Iraq during the period September 1976 to August 1979.

# Case histories

## Case No. 1

Burhan Al Shawi, a 24-year-old journalist and writer. He told the examining doctors that at about 5 pm on 3 November 1978 he was arrested in a Baghdad street by plainclothes security officers, who took him to a car parked nearby. He was blindfolded, tied up and kept on the floor of the vehicle during a short ride to the district security headquarters (he knew where he was taken to, being familiar with the neighbourhood). He was kept blindfolded throughout his detention, which lasted nine days.

Once inside the building he was tied to a chair. In the course of the first two days he was moved from room to room, spending an hour or two in each. He was questioned about his working conditions, what he did in his spare time and his future plans. He was offered something to drink and was also allowed to go to the toilet.

In each of the various rooms there were between two and 10 people who beat him alternately with the flat of the hand, the fist, a hard stick and a whip-like instrument. His face was beaten several times with rods and fists until his lips swelled and bled. In one room two people said how handsome he was, kissed him several times, caressed him, pawed over and licked his genitals; after an hour of this he was taken to another room, where he was beaten and kicked. Sometimes he dozed off while sitting in the chair, but never for long.

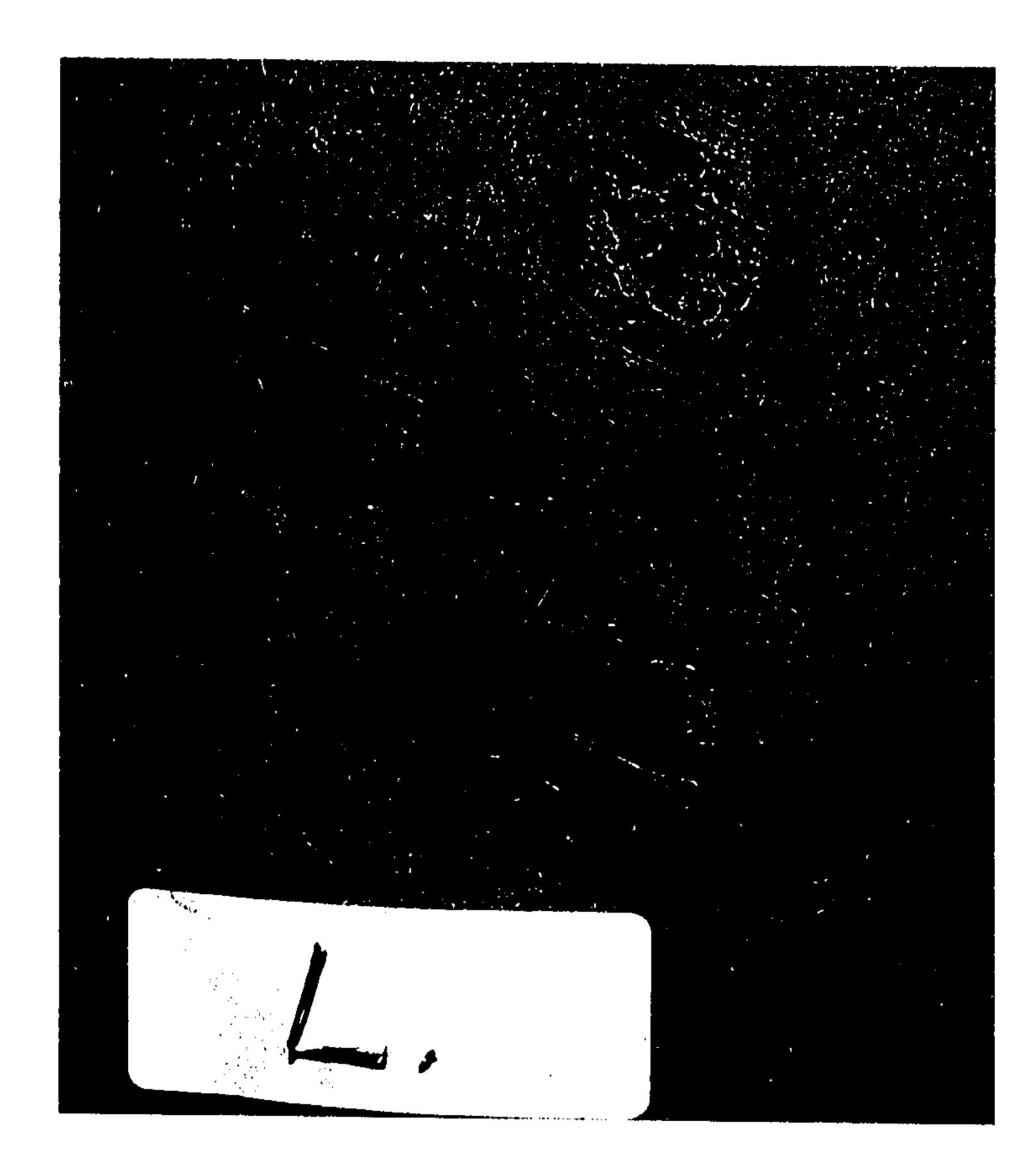
On the third day he was questioned about his political affiliations and asked to disclose the names of those holding similar views. He was promised a good job if he would disclose the names. Most of the time he lay face down on the floor with his hands tied behind his back. His interrogators trod hard on his body several times. He was beaten on his hands and

on the soles of his feet with a stick and a whip, probably made of split electric flex. In another room that same day they tried to induce an erection of his penis, both by hand and mouth.

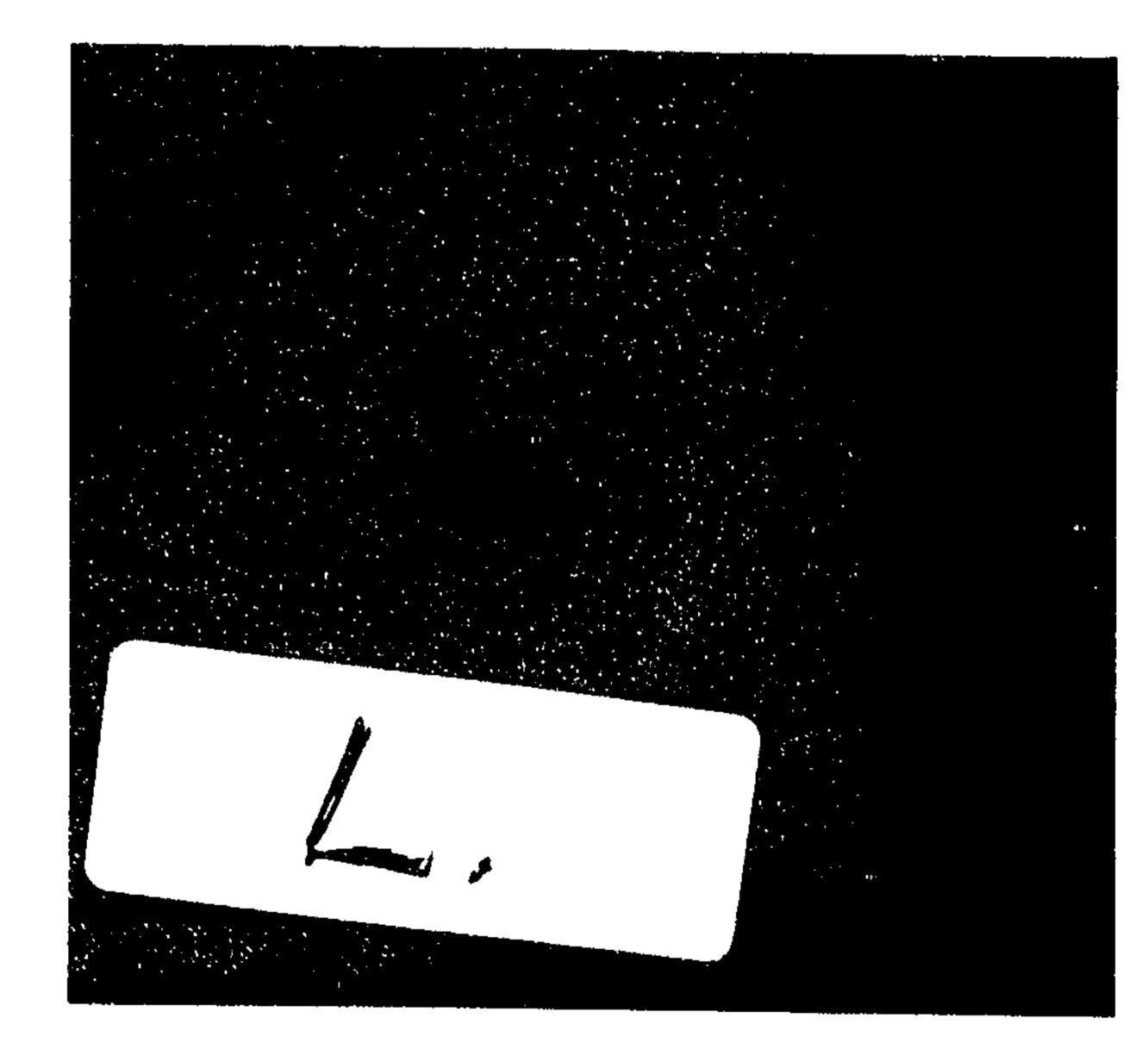
Then the torture became more systematic, taking place every one or two hours. His head was whipped and beaten so hard that he often lost consciousness. In the course or the third or fourth day he lost all sense of time. Once he was tied to a chair, his chest against the seat and his limbs bound to the legs of the chair. He was then punched and beaten with a stick. He fainted several times. After regaining consciousness on one occasion he was aware that his trousers had been removed and realized that he had been raped. He was then made to sit on a cold bottle-like object which was forced into his rectum, causing violent pain. He fainted and woke up when cold water was poured over him. For weeks after this he bled on defecation.

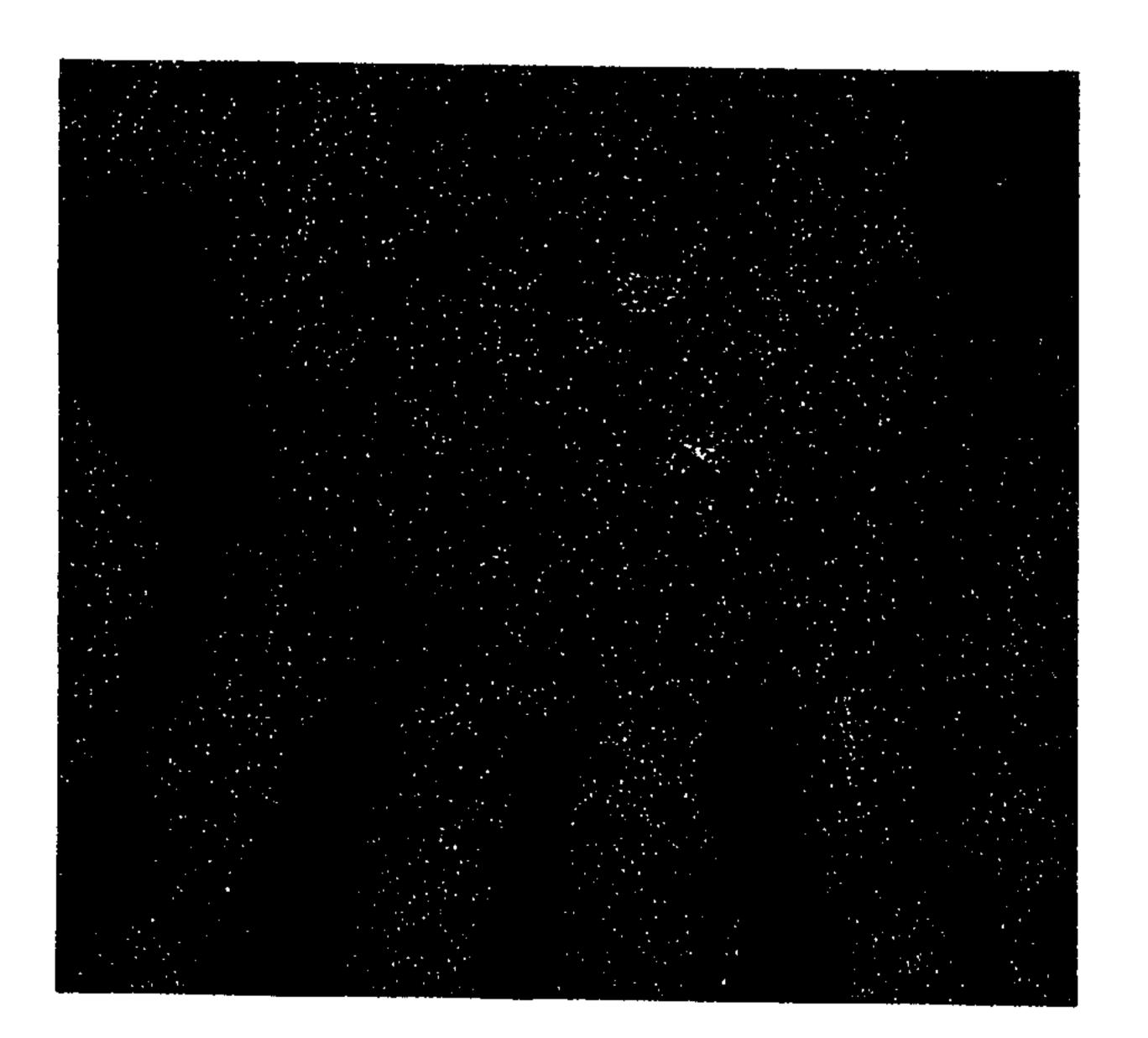
He also received hard karate-style edge-ofhand blows to the lower spine; after this he developed enuresis over a period of days.

His interrogation continued over the next few days, ofter under the supervision of an officer. The interrogators began systematically burning him with a hard object about the size of a pencil. At first he thought it was a cigarette, but the hot object was pressed against his skin for too long and he felt it could not be one. They started burning the knuckles of his left hand, threatening, if he still refused to disclose any names, to burn his right hand as well so that he could never write again. His left hand was burned in five places and then his legs were burned (see photographs on facing page). During this period he had no sense of time or place but was aware all the time of the smell of burned flesh and a constant and excruciating pain from the burns that sometimes caused him to lose consciousness. He was offered water and food, but could not eat or drink because of



Marks found by the examining doctors on Burhan Al Shawi's left hand, leg and foot. He told them that while he was being burned with what he described as a hard object about the size of a pencil, he was aware of the smell of burned flesh and constant and excruciating pain that sometimes caused him to lose consciousness. The top picture shows lesions on the left leg, with a similar lesion on the left foot (bottom left); the lesions present an atrophic centre of wrinkled and scaly skin and a hyperpigmented zone in the periphery. The third picture (bottom right) shows circular lesions on the dorsum of the left hand, presenting a thin, atrophic and wrinkled centre (thin arrow) and a narrow hyperpigmented zone in the periphery (thick arrow).





the pain, the smell of burned flesh and his swollen mouth and lips. He was unable to remember everything that happened to him during the nine days or so he spent in the district security headquarters.

When he awoke after his last spell of unconsciousness he found himself lying in a street close to his home. Passers-by helped him get home. A doctor treated him the first week, but then the doctor had to flee the country hurriedly. He received various medicines, both capsules and tablets. His burns-there were 35 of them-were cleaned and a red fluid applied. At this time he was too weak to stand. There are several gaps in his memory about the period. At first he slept a lot and could take only fluids. Two months passed before he could move with any ease, and it was three months before the burns had healed. On the night of 6 May 1979 he left Iraq illegally.

#### Personal details

Male, aged 24; a journalist and writer.

#### State of health before arrest

From the age of nine until puberty he had a tendency to anaemia, which was treated with tablets and injections. Between the ages of 12 and 14 he was admitted to hospital four times because of a suspected weak heart. The symptoms were severe fatigue, though of short duration, which he described as the kind of attack that might follow physical exertion; no syncopes, and no suspicion of liver or blood diseases. These periods of fatigue also occured during his military service and still recur, though not as severely as before. During the past three years he has periodically felt pain in the left palm, always starting at the root of the thumb. The pain persists for from 15 minutes to a few hours and as a result of these attacks he has restricted mobility of the thumb, although he has never observed any swelling or cutaneous changes. He has never worked with vibrating tools.

#### Detention

Nine days in the security headquarters in Kharkh, Baghdad.

Place of alleged torture
As above.

Duration and time of alleged torture

Nine days during the fourth quarter of 1978.

Medical aid during detention

None.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten all over the body, face, head and hands with fists, rubber truncheons and a whip made of split electric flex; he was also kicked. His interrogators trod hard on him several times as he lay face down on the floor with his hands tied behind his back. He was tied to a chair with his chest against the seat and his arms and legs around the legs of the chair. In this position he was beaten until he lost consciousness. He received edge-of-hand blows in the lumbar region of the spine.

He was forced to sit on a cold bottle-like object which was forced into his rectum, causing intense pain.

He was burned with a hard object, the size of a pencil—though he could not see it as he was blindfolded—on his knuckles, hands, legs and abdominal skin; subjected to falaqa; deprived of sleep; continuously blindfolded.

He was tortured in these different ways for periods of about one hour several times a day for nine days.

He was kept in solitary confinement throughout his detention.

Threats were made to burn his hands so that he would never be able to write again.

He was kissed and caressed by his interrogators and partially stripped. His genitals were fondled and licked to induce an erection. While tied to a chair he was raped.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness several times; swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on the body, face, head, hands and legs; bleeding on defecation; enuresis; weakness in his legs which prevented him from standing; headaches; 35 burns.

#### Persistent symptoms

Fear; depression; introversion; nightmares; impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; increased susceptibility to fatigue; spells of dizziness; loss of libido; lower back pains; pains in thighs when walking; involuntary shaking of the left hand; palpitations; feeling of

constriction of the throat; impaired hearing.

#### Physical examination

Skin: 35 circular or oval scars on dorsum of left hand, lateral aspect of the thighs, flexor and lateral aspects of both legs, on the medial and lateral aspects of the feet and on the abdominal skin. The size of the scars ranged from 5 mm by 5 mm to 27 mm by 18 mm. All the scars are compatible with lesions from burns, as alleged. (For full dermatological report see Appendix IV.)

Spine: movements free and normal, no direct or indirect tenderness; some swelling of the erector spinae, but no tenderness.

Neurological examination: in the finger-nose test, "past pointing" twice with the right index finger; patellar reflex and Achilles tendon reflex normal; negative Babinski reflex on both sides; no tremor; uncertain result from sensibility study.

Ear, nose and throat: normal acoustic/vestibular test; gait with eyes closed somewhat unsteady and swinging.

Teeth: the examination did not show pathological changes of the teeth that could be related to violence, but there was tenderness of the temporomandibular muscles—this is a sequel to clenching and grinding the teeth, which must be interpreted as a consequence of his mental stress.

Anogenital region: inspection of the anal region showed a reddish, rough area at the junction to the mucosa; no bleeding and no signs of fissures or haemorrhoids.

Chest X-rays: in both apices there were changes representing old tuberculous infiltrations, with retraction of the pleura on the left side.

X-rays of the thoracic and lumbar spine: a faint wedge shape of the TH 12, L 1 and L 2 revealed, corresponding to the appearances in Scheuermann's disease; otherwise normal curvatures in both views.

Computer tomography scanning of the brain: ventricular system normal without dilation or displacement; frontally somewhat widened surface grooves; no sign of intra-cerebral hematomas or infacts. Conclusion of the scanning: mild cortical atrophy.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency

between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

# Case No. 2

Personal details

Male, aged 27.

State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

He spent a total of 61 days in the General Directorate of Security, Baghdad; the Security Headquarters, Rasafa, Baghdad; Baghdad Security Headquarters.

#### Place of alleged torture

Security Headquarters, Rasafa, Baghdad.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

Between 20 and 30 days, during the third and fourth quarters of 1978.

#### Medical aid during detention

Once, after he had fainted, he was seen by a doctor who advised hospitalization. This advice was ignored by the security officers and he received no medical treatment. No medical documentation was available.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was punched and kicked, hit all over the body and head and also beaten with rope and rubber truncheons. He was thrown to the ground while they held his hair. His head was beaten against the wall. He was hung by his handcuffed wrists for long periods from a hook on the wall, unable to touch either the wall or the floor. In this position he was beaten all over into unconsciousness. Once, while sitting on the ground with his hands tied behind his back, his head was forced to the ground, making it difficult for him to breathe.

He was subjected to falaqa and to electrical torture: the electric stick was applied to his face, mouth, chest, abdomen, thighs and genitals over a period of about two hours, until he was unable to move; electrodes were applied to his fingers. He was burnt on both legs with cigarettes. He was blindfolded throughout the torture sessions. His torturers threatened to kill him. While his wife was present, threats were made to rape each of

them in front of the other. Part of his torture consisted of having a tape recorder play strange As above. noises outside the door of his cell. He was insulted and placed in a small, dirty cell for two days.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness on one occasion after blows to the head; hematomas all over the body, and bleeding from sores; swelling and wounds on his feet, and pain when walking; chest pains and difficulties in breathing; loss of appetite and loss of weight (20 kg); abdominal pains; periodically he forgot people he had known for a long time; contemplated committing suicide.

#### Persistent symptoms

Dyspepsia; headaches; impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; depression; abnormal tiredness; loss of initiative; nervousness; nightmares; reduced self-control.

#### Physical examination

He was emotionally labile and depressed. On the left wrist there was a scar 50 mm by 2 mm, compatible with marks from handcuffs. There were round scars on both legs: on the right leg, two scars, one 10 mm by 10 mm and one 10 mm by 20 mm; on the left leg, one 10 mm by 10 mm. All these marks are compatible with scars from burning with cigarettes, as alleged.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

#### Case No. 3

#### Personal details

Male, aged 23.

State of health before arrest Good.

## Detention

He was detained three times for a total of 23 days. The first time he was held in offices used by the security forces in the town of Ba'quba; the second and third times in the Security Headquarters for the district of Al Khalis.

#### Place of alleged torture

## Duration and time of alleged torture

Seven days during the second and third quarters of 1979.

#### Medical aid during detention

At the end of the first torture session he lost consciousness and was taken to a hospital, where he was kept for three days. No medical documentation was available.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was blindfolded throughout the periods of torture and was beaten on the head and body with fists, rubber truncheon and electric flex; hit on the genitals; kicked in the lower back. Pressure was applied to the eyes through his blindfold. His cheeks and lower lip were pressed on his teeth until the lip became swollen.

Over a period of 48 hours he was subjected to falaqa, and then had his head pressed against the floor by an interrogator's boot. Cigarettes were used to burn his genitals, left shoulder and right hip. He was tortured with an electric stick and electrodes were applied to his left hand.

His interrogators made him suspect that his food might be poisoned. They threatened him with rape and execution, and with having a bottle inserted into his rectum. They threatened to rape his girlfriend and sister.

He was not allowed to go to the toilet for 48 hours and was denied facilities for personal hygiene.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness more than four times during interrogation; swelling, hematomas and bleeding from sores on arms, hands, thigh, feet, genitals and inside mouth; pain when walking; loss of appetite and loss of weight (8 kg); hematuria and dysuria; contemplated committing suicide.

#### Persistent symptoms

Frequent attacks of lower back pains; syncopes with loss of consciousness started either by precordial pains and palpitations, or headache with blurring of vision and tinnitus-this happens at least once a week; loss of libido; reduced power of concentration; depression; sleep disturbances; nightmares; nervousness;

#### Physical examination

He was depressed and introspective. On the left shoulder there was a 10 mm by 10 mm scar; on the right hip another scar measuring 10 mm by 10 mm. Both are compatible with scars from burning with cigarettes, as alleged. On the left hand, on the dorsal side of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th fingers, there were three scars, each 10 mm by 1 mm, compatible with scars from electrical torture, as alleged. On the dorsal side of the penis three round scars were found, each measuring 1 mm by 1 mm. These scars were said to have resulted from burning with cigarettes. The size of the scars does not support this, and the doctors are unable to account for these particular three scars.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

#### Case No. 4

#### Personal details

Male, aged 29.

# State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

He was detained four times for a total of 104 days. For the first two weeks after his first arrest he was held in the police station in the town of Al Musayyib, and thereafter in offices used by security forces in the town of Al Hilla.

#### Place of alleged torture

The police station in Al Musayyib and the security forces' offices in Al Hilla.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

About 23 days during the first quarters of 1978 and 1979.

#### Medical aid during detention

None.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten and kicked all over his body and on the head, receiving blows from the fist and a

rubber truncheon. His head was beaten against the wall, his hair was pulled hard and he was subjected to falaga. He suffered electrical torture: electrodes were applied to his forehead on two occasions. During his interrogation he was blindfolded most of the time. He was given false information about his family: that his mother had died and that his brother had been shot and was ill in hospital.

His wife was brought into the prison and he heard her being insulted and threatened with rape. A tape recorder outside his cell played the screams of torture victims. He was taken to a room from where he could hear his friends being tortured and confessing. Once a friend who had just been tortured was brought to his cell. Threats were made to charge him with a capital offence.

He was held in solitary confinement for about 75 days.

He was kept in a small, dark and dirty cell and his sleep was disturbed every night. He had restricted access to the toilet and none to washing facilities.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness twice after electric shocks; swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on face, arms, legs and chest; pain when walking; diarrhoea, loss of appetite and loss of weight (20 kg); nightmares.

#### Persistent symptoms

Unprovoked palpitations; abnormal tiredness; decrease of libido; impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; reduced self-control; sleep disturbances; desire for isolation.

#### Physical examination

He was introverted and depressed.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture and the symptoms described.

#### Case No. 5

## Personal details

Male, aged 30.

#### State of health before arrest

Good, except for mild ulcer-like dyspepsia.

#### Detention

He spent 73 days in the General Directorate of Security, Baghdad.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

Eleven days during the second and third quarters of 1979.

#### Medical aid during detention

He was seen by a doctor as he had a fever and was expectorating and coughing; he was treated with ampicilline. His foot was put in plaster for three weeks after he suffered a fracture of his fifth middle phalanx on the left foot. No medical documentation was available.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten and kicked all over his body and on the head, receiving blows from the fist and rubber truncheons; hit on the genitals; thrown against the wall; subjected to falaqa. An electric stick was applied to his body, extremities, lips and genitals. He was blindfolded throughout his period of imprisonment; threatened with execution; stripped naked three times; threatened with rape; threatened with having a bottle inserted into his rectum; forced to listen to others being tortured.

He was seemingly befriended by a "kind man", a fellow detainee who would frequently call for him to be brought to his cell. This man would pretend to be sympathetic and understanding about his predicament and try to persuade him to confess and give information to improve his situation. The torture victim believed this man to be a security "plant" who was trying to break him down; he found this kind of psychological pressure difficult to resist.

He was subjected to verbal sexual humiliations. His sleep was disturbed every night and he was beaten at will by the prison guards. Access to washing and toilet facilities was restricted. He was not permitted to talk to his fellow prisoners.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness three times during interrogation; nausea and vomiting after every interrogation session; pains all over the body; swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from

sores on hands, feet, extremities, genitals, lips and chest; fracture of the fifth middle phalanx on the left foot resulting from falaqa; after blows to his head, he had the symptoms of a rupture of the left tympanic membrane; loss of appetite and weight (10 kg); sleep disturbances; depression; contemplated committing suicide while he was in prison.

#### Persistent symptoms

None

#### Physical examination

Over the lateral left malleol there was a scar measuring 10 mm by 20 mm, compatible with a scar from blows of a blunt instrument, such as a truncheon, as alleged.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors found no persistent symptoms and only slight signs of torture. There is, however, consistency between the alleged torture, the transient symptoms described and the signs found.

## Case No. 6

#### Personal details

Male, aged 20.

#### State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

He spent 36 days in the General Directorate of Security, Baghdad.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

Twelve days during the third quarter of 1979.

#### Medical aid during detention

None, although it was requested.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten all over the body and on the head and extremities, receiving blows from the fist and rubber truncheons; thrown to the ground and against the wall; subjected to falaqa. An electric stick was applied to his neck, palms, face and lips. Attempts were made to put a rubber truncheon into his rectum. His genitals were squeezed. He was blindfolded

almost all the time and had his hands tied behind his back.

He was threatened with execution: a pistol was pressed against his temples and the trigger pulled. Threats to rape his sister were made and he was the subject of verbal sexual humiliations.

#### Transient symptoms

Swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on body, extremities and feet; pain when walking; nausea and vomiting during and after interrogation; loss of appetite and weight (9 kg); headaches, sleep disturbances and nightmares.

#### Persistent symptoms

Intermittent pain from left knee and ankle; abnormal tiredness; reduced self-control; emotional lability; nervousness; desire for isolation.

#### Physical examination

A scar under the right tuberositas tibia measured 15 mm by 15 mm and under the right lateral malleol there was one measuring 10 mm by 10 mm, both compatible with scars from blows by a blunt instrument, such as a truncheon, as alleged.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

#### Case No. 7

#### Personal details

Male, aged 20.

## State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

He was detained four times for a total of four days in the Fourth Department of the Military Intelligence, the Ministry of Defence Building, Baghdad.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

Four days during the third quarter of 1979.

# Medical aid during interrogation

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten on the face, the head and all over the body, including the abdomen, receiving blows from the fist and rubber truncheons. A vice-like instrument called *al mangana* was placed across the toes of his right foot and tightened, causing extreme pain. He was forced to inhale anaesthetics and believes he was beaten up while unconscious.

He was shown blood oozing out under a door and led to believe that it came from a friend of his.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness from anaesthesia (when he woke up he was bleeding from the gums, had ecchymosis in the right upper abdominal quadrant, hematemesis and melena for a week); swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on the body, extremities and nose; abdominal pains and dysuria; headaches.

#### Persistent symptoms

Loss of appetite; pain when putting his weight on his right foot; reduced power of concentration; fear; reduced self-control; sleep disturbances and nightmares.

#### Physical examination

Normal.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture and the symptoms described.

#### Case No. 8

#### Personal details

Male, aged 26.

#### State of health before arrest

He had a tendency to mild loin pains; in 1970 he had jaundice, of unknown origin, and bilharziosis.

#### Detention

He spent 28 days in Baghdad Security Head-quarters.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

Nineteen days during the fourth quarter of 1978.

#### Medical aid during detention

Because of severe pains after torture, particularly in the lumbar region, he was seen by a doctor who advised hospitalization; this advice was ignored by his captors. A few days later he was seen by another doctor as he still complained of severe loin pains. He was given an injection and the next day was taken to a hospital, kept there for five days and treated with antibiotics. No medical documentation is available.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was blindfolded during most of his interrogation and was beaten with fists or rubber truncheons and kicked on the head and body; after complaining of a loin pain he was beaten in that region particularly. His hair was pulled hard and his head was hit against the wall. He was subjected to falaqa and electrical torture: an electric stick was applied to his face, mouth and genitals; electrodes were applied to his abdomen.

His torturers told him that he would become sterile from the electrical torture. They threatened to rape him, his mother and sister. He was forced to listen to others being tortured.

He was put through a mock execution three times. The first time, wire was placed around his neck and he was told he would be strangled if he did not sign the declaration. He was left for half an hour. Then the wire was tightened and he was told to recite his last prayer, which he did. He was then taken away and beaten. The second time, he was told he would be executed and thrown into the river. He was driven around in a car for three hours in silence before being taken back to the security head-quarters. Finally, he was told he was to be shot and buried and was taken into the prison garden with a gun at his neck.

He suffered sleep deprivation because he was kept in an overcrowded cell. He was forced to stand on one leg for an hour outside the interrogation room. His access to the toilet was restricted. He was stripped naked.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness once during interrogation; swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on body, face and extremities; pain when walking; loss of appetite and weight (15 kg); dysuria and severe loin pain; headaches; nightmares; several times after his release he became fearful when he saw a policeman.

#### Persistent symptoms

Impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; sleep disturbance; fear; nervousness; reduced self-control; desire for isolation.

#### Physical examination

He was emotionally labile and depressed. On the left medial malleol there was an irregular scar, measuring 5 mm by 5 mm, and another of the same size on the right lateral malleol, with a third scar on the left leg, measuring 5 mm by 10 mm, all compatible with scars from blows by a blunt instrument, such as a truncheon, as alleged.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

#### Case No. 9

#### Personal details

Male, aged 28.

#### State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

He was detained twice for a total of about 200 days in the Security Headquarters, Basra, and in a police station in Basra.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

Between 10 and 15 days during the third quarter of 1976 and the first quarter of 1977, and one day during the third quarter of 1977.

#### Medical aid during detention

None.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten on the head, face, body and

extremities, receiving blows from fists and rubber truncheons; hit in the abdomen with a hard glass object; lifted up by the hair and dropped to the ground; kicked against the wall; subjected to falaqa.

His torturers told him he would be held until he died. They insulted him and tortured him by playing strange tape-recorded noises into his cell.

#### Transient symptoms

Swollen skin, hematomas, bleeding sores on body, feet, extremities, mouth and nose; pains when walking; headaches. During his second spell in detention, which lasted for one day, he was beaten and kicked all over the body and head by about 10 men. He lost consciousness. He was released and left alone in the street, suffering from increasing dyspnoea and left-sided thoracic pains due to a total left-sided pneumothorax, which was diagnosed and treated in hospital later that day.

#### Persistent symptoms

Pains from feet and legs when walking; loss of appetite; frontal headaches with vision disturbances; impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; reduced self-control; depression; sleep disturbances and nightmares; desire for isolation.

#### Medical documentation

He brought a series of X-rays of his chest, all bearing his name but no date; they showed a total left-sided pneumothorax; apically placed drain and regress of pneumothorax; normal X-ray of the chest. There were no signs of a fracture of the ribs.

The X-rays were said to have been taken at the hospital shortly after he had been tortured and released.

#### Physical examination

He was fearful, introverted and depressed. His state of nutrition was below average. He had a scar on the left side of the thorax compatible with drainage treatment.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors have noted that the X-rays were not dated. It is not unusual for a spontaneous pneumothorax to develop in connection with physical exertions and, as the doctors find consistency between the alleged

torture and the other symptoms described, they see no reason to doubt the man's statement.

# Case No. 10

Personal details

Male, aged 31.

State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

He spent about 90 days in Batawiyya police station, Baghdad, and in the General Directorate of Security, Baghdad.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

About 10 days during the second quarter of 1978.

#### Medical aid during detention

None.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten and kicked on the body, head and face, receiving blows from fists and rubber truncheons. On several occasions he was hung for three to four hours by his handcuffed wrists from a step-ladder or hook on a wall, with his toes just touching the ground.

A cigarette was stubbed out on his teeth. He was subjected to *falaqa* and electrical torture: an electric stick was applied to his genitals, neck, head, chest and lips. He was sometimes blindfolded and had his hands tied behind his back.

While waiting outside the interrogation room, he was forced to keep his hands on his head and his left leg raised for long periods, being beaten if he failed to maintain this position.

He was forced to listen to others being tortured and threats were made that he would be charged with a capital offence. In a mock execution he was taken, blindfolded, by car to a field and asked if he was ready to die. Four shots were fired over his head.

He was kept in solitary confinement for various periods. He was insulted and was once forced to take his trousers off.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness once during interrogation; swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on face, extremities and body; pain when walking; nausea and vomiting during and following interrogation; loss of weight; for a month he suffered from partial deafness.

#### Persistent symptoms

Unprovoked palpitations and a mild dyspnoea. frontal headaches; impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; spells of sweating; loss of initiative; tiredness; sleep disturbances and nightmares; fear; distrustfulness; depression; reduced self-control; desire for isolation.

#### Physical examination

He was emotionally labile, depressed, nervous and fearful.

On the right deltoid region there was an irregular scar, measuring 10 mm by 20 mm, compatible with a scar from blows by a blunt instrument, such as a truncheon, as alleged.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

#### Case No. 11

Personal details
Male, aged 52.

State of health before arrest Good.

#### Detention

He spent 270 days in the General Directorate of Security, Baghdad.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

About 50 days in the fourth quarter of 1978 and the first and second quarters of 1979.

#### Medical aid during detention

No medical treatment.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was kicked and beaten with fists, a rubber

on the body, head, face and temples. He was subjected to falaqa, being given between 30 and 100 blows in one session; his shoes were forced on to his swollen feet on one occasion. An electric stick was applied to his body.

On a number of occasions, dressed in his underwear, he was placed in a heated closet full of steam which made him sweat. The temperature was then turned down so low that his clothes froze stiff.

Sometimes, after a period of interrogation late at night, he would be made to sit in a chair with his hands tied to the wall above him. He would be left in that position from around midnight to 10 am, being beaten by a guard every five minutes or so to prevent him sleeping

He spent all the 270 days of his detention in solitary confinement. He was in contact with nobody but his guards and interrogators and during the entire period saw nobody: he said he was always blindfolded during interrogation and had to face the wall of his cell when being collected from or returned to his cell; food was passed through a flap in the door.

He was subjected to a mock execution: he was threatened with death and told to stand up; shots were fired rapidly over his blindfolded head.

While being held in the steam closet he would hear his name being called for a few minutes, before the sound grew fainter and fainter. Sometimes in his cell when he closed his eyes he would hear his daughter crying as if being tortured; when he opened his eyes again the noise would stop. Threats were made to rape his daughter. He was insulted.

He was held in a small, dirty and windowless cell, with the light kept burning day and night. There was no reading material or recreational facilities. He had no change of clothing for three months. He was allowed no contact with his family.

#### Transient symptoms

Swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on face, head, body and extremities; difficulties and pain when walking; chest pain; loss of appetite and weight (22 kg); partial deafness in the right ear; desire for death.

#### Persistent symptoms

Reduced hearing in the right ear; mild loss of memory; on rare occasions, difficulties in swallowing.

#### Physical examination

He was introverted and suffered from tics and mild left-sided paresis of the peroneal nerve, resulting in a slight "drop foot".

The examining doctors had several opportunities to observe this man when he was with other people. On these occasions he isolated himself and made stereotyped movements, such as walking up and down for an hour without paying attention to his surroundings.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the transient symptoms described and the signs found. In view of the severity of the torture this man alleged he had been subjected to and the signs found, it is highly likely that more lasting mental symptoms are present than he is willing to admit to.

# Case No. 12

#### Personal details

Female, aged 31.

#### State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

She spent 21 days in the Security Headquarters, Kadhimiya, Baghdad; in Baghdad Security Headquarters; in the General Directorate of Security, Baghdad.

#### Place of alleged torture

Baghdad Security Headquarters and the General Directorate of Security, Baghdad.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

About nine days during the first quarter of 1979.

#### Medical aid during detention

After eight days' imprisonment she was seen by two doctors: she was suffering from exhaustion resulting from her interrogation and a hunger-strike. She was sent to a hospital for half a day but received no treatment. After 18 days'

imprisonment she was admitted to hospital, remaining there for almost three days. Again, she received no treatment but she did end her hunger-strike. No medical documentation was available.

#### Types of torture alleged

She was kicked and beaten with fists or a rubber truncheon on the head, face and body, including the abdomen. An electric stick was applied to her lips, breast, thighs, hands and feet. She was subjected to falaqa. She was kept blindfolded for most of her detention and her hands were tied tightly behind her back.

Early one morning she was taken into the prison garden in her nightclothes; she was blindfolded and her hands were tied behind her back. First, she had cold water poured over her mouth and nose, causing near suffocation and exhaustion. Then, soaking wet, she was left outside for several hours in near freezing conditions, hanging from a step-ladder.

During her detention she was frequently hung by her hands from a step-ladder, with her feet just touching the ground.

She was threatened with rape and told that this would be photographed. Threats were also made to bring her two-year-old child to the prison.

With her blindfold removed, she was taken to a room with a dim red light; the interrogators wore animal masks and tape recorded wild animal noises were played.

She spent periods in solitary confinement. She was insulted and subjected to verbal sexual humilitations. Her blindfold was removed and she was forced to stand naked in front of her interrogators while her body was pawed all over.

#### Transient symptoms

Swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on head, body and extremities; pain when walking; pain in her chest; loss of appetite; abnormal tiredness.

#### Persistent symptoms

Menstrual irregularities; lower abdominal pains and vaginal discharge; headaches; impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; loss of libido; sleep disturbances and nightmares; nervousness; depression; desire for isolation.

#### Physical examination

She was depressed, emotionally labile and introverted. There was tenderness in the lower part of the abdomen. A scar on the ulna side of the left wrist measured 50 mm by 1 mm and on the right thigh there were three scars, measuring 70 mm by 1 mm, 50 mm by 5 mm and 10 mm by 10 mm—all compatible with marks from handcuffs and scars from blows by a blunt instrument, such as a truncheon, as alleged.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

# Case No. 13

#### Personal details

Female, aged 30.

State of health before arrest Good.

#### Detention

None.

She spent 38 days in the Security Headquarters, Basra, and in the Women's Prison, Basra.

#### Place of alleged torture

Security Headquarters, Basra.

# Duration and time of alleged torture Two days during the first quarter of 1977.

Medical aid during detention

#### Types of torture alleged

She was beaten with hands and fists on her head and face and over her right ear.

She was threatened, particularly with rape. One night, at about 2 am, she was driven off in a car by two security men who said they were going to a deserted place to rape her.

#### Transient symptoms

Swollen skin and hematomas on the head and face.

#### Persistent symptoms

Menstrual irregularities; headaches; partial deafness on the right side and occasional secretion from the right ear; impaired

memory; reduced power of concentration; nervousness; fear; depression; desire for isolation.

#### Physical examination

She had a scar in the right tympanic membrane.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

# Case No. 14

#### Personal details

Female, aged 23.

#### State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

She was arrested twice and held for one day on each occasion at the Security Headquarters, Basra.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture.

One day during the fourth quarter of 1978.

#### Medical aid during detention

She was taken to hospital because she was on the point of fainting, and was found to be suffering from hypertension. The doctor advised hospitalization but this was refused by the security police, and she was taken back to the Security Headquarters. No medical documentation was available.

#### Types of torture alleged

During her arrest she was dragged along the ground for almost 100 metres. While being taken by car to the Security Headquarters, she was beaten on the head with hands and had her hair pulled. At Security Headquarters she was blindfolded and her hands and legs were bound. She was then beaten with a rubber truncheon on the body and legs and slapped on the face.

Threats of rape were made and her breasts were pawed. She was forced to be present while a friend was subjected to falaqa for three hours, at the end of which he broke down and signed the declaration.

#### Transient symptoms

Headaches; sleep disturbances.

#### Persistent symptoms

None.

#### Physical examination

The result of the physical examination, including blood pressure, was normal.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture and the symptoms described.

# Case No 15

## Personal details

Male, aged 32.

# State of health before arrest

Good.

#### Detention

He spent 60 days in the Security Headquarters, Qarada Sharqia, Baghdad.

#### Place of alleged torture

As above.

#### Duration and time of alleged torture

Fourteen days during the second and third quarters of 1979.

#### Medical aid during detention

None.

#### Types of torture alleged

He was beaten with a rubber truncheon on the back, head, neck and genitals and was subjected to falaqa. He suffered electrical torture: electrodes were applied to his nostrils causing immense pain all over the body and shivering. He was sometimes blindfolded and had his hands tied behind his back.

He was threatened with rape and told that his sister would be raped in front of him. He was also threatened with execution and warned that he would be charged with a capital offence.

#### Transient symptoms

Loss of consciousness once while under interrogation; swollen skin, hematomas and bleeding from sores on the head, body, extremities and genitals; pain when walking; dysuria; loss of appetite and weight (15 kg); hypersensitive to noise.

#### Persistent symptoms

Headaches; impaired memory; reduced power of concentration; distrustfulness; fear; abnormal tiredness; desire for isolation; reduced self-control; depression; sleep disturbances; nightmares.

#### Physical examination

He was introspective, depressed and emotionally labile, breaking down and crying during the interview.

#### Conclusion

The examining doctors find consistency between the alleged torture, the symptoms described and the signs found.

# Appendix I

# Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The United Nations General Assembly adopted on 9 December 1975 a Declaration condemning any act of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment as "an offence to human dignity". Under its terms, no State may permit or tolerate torture or other inhuman or degrading treatment, and each State is requested to take effective measures to prevent such treatment from being practised within its jurisdiction.

The Declaration was first adopted and referred to the Assembly by the Fifth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, held in Geneva in September 1975. In adopting the Declaration without a vote, the Assembly noted that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights provide that no one may be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

The Assembly has recommended that the Declaration serve as a guideline for all States and other entities exercising effective power.

# The text of the Declaration follows: Article 1

- 1. For the purpose of this Declaration, torture means any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted by or at the instigation of a public official on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or confession, punishing him for an act he has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating him or other persons. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to, lawful sanctions to the extent consistent with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.
- 2. Torture constitutes an aggravated and deliberate form of cruel, inhuman or degrading

treatment or punishment.

#### Article 2

Any act of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is an offence to human dignity and shall be condemned as a denial of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and as a violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

#### Article 3

No State may permit or tolerate torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Exceptional circumstances such as a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency may not be invoked as a justification of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

#### Article 4

Each State shall, in accordance with the provisions of this Declaration, take effective measures to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment from being practised within its jurisdiction.

### Article 5

The training of law enforcement personnel and of other public officials who may be responsible for persons deprived of their liberty shall ensure that full account is taken of the prohibition against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. This prohibition shall also, where appropriate, be included in such general rules or instructions as are issued in regard to the duties and functions of anyone who may be involved in the custody or treatment of such persons.

#### Article 6

Each State shall keep under systematic review

interrogation methods and practices as well as arrangements for the custody and treatment of persons deprived of their liberty in its territory, with a view to preventing any cases of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

#### Article 7

Each State shall ensure that all acts of torture as defined in Article 1 are offences under its criminal law. The same shall apply in regard to acts which constitute participation in, complicity in, incitement to or an attempt to commit torture.

#### Article 8

Any person who alleges that he has been subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by or at the instigation of a public official shall have the right to complain to, and to have his case impartially examined by, the competent authorities of the State concerned.

#### Article 9

Wherever there is reasonable ground to believe that an act of torture as defined in Article 1 has been committed, the competent authorities of the State concerned shall promptly proceed to an impartial investigation even if there has been no formal complaint.

#### Article 10

If an investigation under Article 8 or Article 9 establishes that an act of torture as defined in Article 1 appears to have been committed, criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the alleged offender or offenders in accordance with national law. If an allegation of other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is considered to be well founded, the alleged offender or offenders shall be subject to criminal, disciplinary or other appropriate proceedings.

#### Article 11

Where it is proved that an act of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment has been committed by or at the instigation of a public official, the victim shall be afforded redress and compensation in accordance with national law.

#### Article 12

Any statement which is established to have been made as a result of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment may not be invoked as evidence against the person concerned or against any other person in any proceedings.

# Apendix II

# International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

#### Article 9

- 1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law.
- 2. Anyone who is arrested shall be informed, at the time of arrest, of the reasons for his arrest and shall be promptly informed of any charges against him.
- 3. Anyone arrested or detained on a criminal charge shall be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorized by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to
- release. It shall not be the general rule that persons awaiting trial shall be detained in custody, but release may be subject to guarantees to appear for trial, at any other stage of the judicial proceedings, and, should occasion arise, for execution of the judgement.
- 4. Anyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings before a court, in order that that court may decide without delay on the lawfulness of his detention and order his release if the detention is not lawful.
- 5. Anyone who has been the victim of unlawful arrest or detention shall have an enforceable right to compensation.

# Appendix III

## Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials

#### Introduction

A Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials stating that all those who exercise police powers shall respect and protect human dignity and uphold the human rights of all persons was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 17 December 1979.

The Assembly recommended to Governments that they consider using the Code of Conduct in the framework of national legislation or practice as a body of principles to be observed by law enforcement officials.

A resolution setting forth the Code of Conduct (No. 34/169) stated that the nature of the functions of law enforcement in the defence of public order and the manner in which those functions were exercised had a direct impact on the quality of life of individuals as well as of society as a whole. The Assembly said it was conscious of the important task that law enforcement officials were performing diligently and with dignity; but it was aware, nevertheless, of the potential for abuse that the exercise of such duties entailed.

In addition to exhorting all officers of the law to uphold human rights, the Code of Conduct, among other things, prohibits torture, states that force may be used only when strictly necessary, and calls for full protection of the health of persons in custody.

Each of the eight articles of the Code of Conduct is accompanied by a commentary providing information to facilitate use of the Code within the framework of national legislation or practice.

The text of the Code of Conduct is set out below.

# Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials

Article 1

Law enforcement officials shall at all times

fulfil the duty imposed upon them by law, by serving the community and by protecting all persons against illegal acts, consistent with the high degree of responsibility required by their profession.

#### Commentary:\*

- (a) The term "law enforcement officials" includes all officers of the law, whether appointed or elected, who exercise police powers, especially the powers of arrest or detention.
- (b) In countries where police powers are exercised by military authorities, whether uniformed or not, or by state security forces, the definition of law enforcement officials shall be regarded as including officers of such services.
- (c) Service to the community is intended to include particularly the rendition of services of assistance to those members of the community who by reason of personal, economic, social or other emergencies are in need of immediate aid.
- (d) This provision is intended to cover not only all violent, predatory and harmful acts, but extends to the full range of prohibitions under penal statutes. It extends to conduct by persons not capable of incurring criminal liability.

#### Article 2

In the performance of their duty, law enforcement officials shall respect and protect human dignity and maintain and uphold the human rights of all persons.

<sup>\*</sup> The commentaries provide information to facilitate the use of the Code within the framework of national legislation or practice. In addition, national or regional commentaries could identify specific features of the legal systems and practices of different States or regional intergovernmental organizations which would promote the application of the Code.

#### Commentary:

(a) The human rights in question are identified and protected by national and international law. Among the relevant international instruments are the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations.

(b) National commentaries to this provision should indicate regional or national provisions identifying and protecting these rights.

#### Article 3

Law enforcement officials may use force only when strictly necessary and to the extent required for the performance of their duty.

#### Commentary:

- (a) This provision emphasizes that the use of force by law enforcement officials should be exceptional; while it implies that law enforcement officials may be authorized to use force as is reasonably necessary under the circumstances for the prevention of crime or in effecting or assisting in the lawful arrest of offenders or suspected offenders, no force going beyond that may be used.
- (b) National law ordinarily restricts the use of force by law enforcement officials in accordance with a principle of proportionality. It is to be understood that such national principles of proportionality are to be respected in the interpretation of this provision. In no case should this provision be interpreted to authorize the use of force which is disproportionate to the legitimate objective to be achieved.

(c) The use of firearms is considered an extreme measure. Every effort should be made to exclude the use of firearms, especially against children. In general, firearms should not be used except when a suspected offender offers armed resistance or otherwise jeopardizes the lives of others and less extreme measures are not sufficient to restrain or apprehend the suspected offender. In every instance in which a firearm is discharged, a report should be made promptly to the competent authorities.

#### Article 4

Matters of a confidential nature in the possession of law enforcement officials shall be kept confidential, unless the performance of duty or the needs of justice strictly require otherwise.

#### Commentary:

By nature of their duties, law enforcement officials obtain information which may relate to private lives or be potentially harmful to the interests, and especially the reputation, of others. Great care should be exercised in safeguarding and using such information, which should be disclosed only in the performance of duty or to serve the needs of justice. Any disclosure of such information for other purposes is wholly improper.

#### Article 5

No law enforcement official may inflict, instigate or tolerate any act of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, nor may any law enforcement official invoke superior orders or exceptional circumstances such as a state of war or a threat of war, a threat to national security, internal political instability or any other public emergency as a justification of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

#### Commentary.

(a) This prohibition derives from the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, adopted by the General Assembly, according to which:

"[Such an act is] an offense to human dignity and shall be condemned as a denial of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and as a violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [and other international human rights instruments]."

- (b) The Declaration defines torture as follows:
- pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted by or at the instigation of a public official on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or confession, punishing him for an act he has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating him or other persons. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to, lawful sanctions to the extent consistent with the Standard Minimum Rules for the
- Treatment of Prisoners."

  (c) The term "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" has not been defined by the General Assembly but should be interpreted so as to extend the widest possible protection against abuses, whether physical or mental.

#### Article 6

Law enforcement officials shall ensure the full protection of the health of persons in their custody and, in particular, shall take immediate action to secure medical attention whenever required.

#### Commentary:

- (a) "Medical attention", which refers to services rendered by any medical personnel, including certified medical practitioners and paramedics, shall be secured when needed or requested.
- (b) While the medical personnel are likely to be attached to the law enforcement operation, law enforcement officials must take into account the judgement of such personnel when they recommend providing the person in custody with appropriate treatment through, or in consultation with, medical personnel from outside the law enforcement operation.

(c) It is understood that law enforcement officials shall also secure medical attention for victims of violations of law or of accidents occurring in the course of violations of law.

#### Article 7

Law enforcement officials shall not commit any act of corruption. They shall also rigorously oppose and combat all such acts.

#### Commentary:

- (a) Any act of corruption, in the same way as any other abuse of authority, is incompatible with the profession of law enforcement officials. The law must be enforced fully with respect to any law enforcement official who commits an act of corruption, as Governments cannot expect to enforce the law among their citizens if they cannot, or will not, enforce the law against their own agents and within their own agencies.
- (b) While the definition of corruption must be subject to national law, it should be understood to encompass the commission or omission of an act in the performance of or in connexion with one's duties, in response to gifts, promises or incentives demanded or accepted, or the wrongful receipt of these once the act has been committed or omitted.
- (c) The expression "act of corruption" referred to above should be understood to encompass attempted corruption.

#### Article 8

Law enforcement officials shall respect the law and the present Code. They shall also, to the best of their capability, prevent and rigorously oppose any violations of them.

Law enforcement officials who have reason to believe that a violation of the present Code has occurred or is about to occur shall report the matter to their superior authorities and, where necessary, to other appropriate authorities or organs vested with reviewing or remedial power.

#### Commentary:

(a) This Code shall be observed whenever it has been incorporated into national legislation or practice. If legislation or practice contains stricter provisions than those of the

present Code, those stricter provisions shall be observed.

- (b) The article seeks to preserve the balance between the need for internal discipline of the agency on which public safety is largely dependent, on the one hand, and the need for dealing with violations of basic human rights, on the other. Law enforcement officials shall report violations within the chain of command and take other lawful action outside the chain of command only when no other remedies are available or effective. It is understood that law enforcement officials shall not suffer administrative or other penalties because they have reported that a violation of this Code has occurred or is about to occur.
- (c) The term "appropriate authorities or organs vested with reviewing or remedial power" refers to any authority or organ existing under national law, whether internal

- to the law enforcement agency or independent thereof, with statutory, customary or other power to review grievances and complaints arising out of violations within the purview of this Code.
- (d) In some countries, the mass media may be regarded as performing complaint review functions similar to those described in subparagraph (c) above. Law enforcement officials may, therefore, be justified if, as a last resort and in accordance with the laws and customs of their own countries and with the provisions of Article 4 of the present Code, they bring violations to the attention of public opinion through the mass media.
- (e) Law enforcement officials who comply with the provisions of this Code deserve the respect, the full support and the co-operation of the community and of the law enforcement agency in which they serve, as well as the law enforcement profession.

# Appendix IV

# Dermatological Report

# Burhan Al Shawi

#### Previous diseases

Some years ago the dorsum of his left hand was accidentally burned by a hot plate.

#### Present diseases

During the first days of his detention he was given hard blows and beaten with sticks and rubber tubes on various parts of his body. He was also severely kicked. As a result of this punishment several areas of his skin became erythematous, and others became blue and tender. The lesions disappeared after two weeks.

During the last days of his detention he was burned on several areas of the skin-on the dorsum of the left hand, on the lower extremities and on the abdominal skin. As the patient was blindfolded, he did not see the instrument used, but suggests that it may have been solid and the size of a cigarette. He also suggests that the same instrument was used in all the areas mentioned. The instrument was pressed on one area of the skin at a time, for periods ranging from about 30 to 60 seconds; each area was burned only once. The pain was most intense for the first few seconds; it then decreased and towards the end of the burning the damaged area, as well as the surrounding skin, became numb for a few minutes. The pain was often so intense that the patient would lose consciousness while he was being burned.

The damaged areas of skin appeared as black holes, some of which became greenish after a few days. A whitish or yellow liquid was secreted from some of the ulcers and others resulted in inflammation of the surrounding skin. The deepest ulcers were those on the lower extremities.

After his release the patient consulted a doctor, and he was given capsules to take orally (probably tetracycline<sup>R</sup>), one every

six hours for seven days; he was also given local treatment with ointments. The ulcers healed over periods ranging from two to four months; all of them left scars.

At present the patient feels embarrassed by pains related to the scars on the lower extremities, following any slight physical effort, such as working for three quarters of an hour.

#### Physical examination

Five circular, sharply demarcated lesions with a diameter ranging from 8 mm to 12 mm were seen on the dorsum of the left hand, four of them just above the knuckles. Two oval, less sharply demarcated lesions, with a diameter of 5 mm were seen on the dorsum of the left hand. The sharply demarcated lesions were slightly erythematous with a narrow hyperpigmented zone in the periphery. The skin of the lesions was thin, atrophic and wrinkled and there was a moderate atrophy of the subcutaneous tissue. The two remaining lesions showed a slightly lighter colour than the surrounding skin but no atrophy.

Several sharply demarcated lesions were present on the lower extremities; on the extensor and lateral aspects of the thighs, the flexor and lateral aspects of the legs and the medial and lateral aspects of the feet. Some of the lesions were arranged in groups but most were random, with no pattern or symmetry. The size of the lesions ranged from 5 mm by 5 mm to 27 mm by 18 mm. They were circular, oval or had a more or less wavy outline. Many had a regular round or oval centre, which was bluish-red and atrophic, and two zones in the periphery, an inner slightly infiltrated zone of normal or whitish colour, and an outer pigmented zone. Other lesions were subdivided into such confluent circular areas with a diameter ranging from 5 mm to 10 mm. One lesion lacked the atrophic central area. Still others had an atrophic centre of thin,

wrinkled and scaly skin, slightly lighter than the surrounding skin or slightly erythematous, patient might not have been aware of such and often a narrow hyperpigmented zone in the periphery. Many of the lesions on the thighs and legs showed considerable atrophy of the subcutaneous tissue.

One circular, sharply demarcated lesion with a diameter of 13 mm was present on the abdominal skin. The lesion had a white, hypertrophic centre and a hyperpigmented zone in the periphery.

#### Discussion

The sharply demarcated lesions are most probably scars caused by deep necrotizing processes in the skin and subcutaneous tissue. Such scars may result from the destruction of connective tissue by trauma or by inflammatory processes, such as abscesses, granulomata and necrotizing vasculitis. However, the sharp demarcation of the scars, as well as their distribution, make spontaneously occurring inflammatory processes unlikely. Thus it is most likely that the scars were caused by trauma.

Taking into account an inflamed zone around the damaged areas, the size and shape of some of the scars are compatible with trauma caused by a burning instrument of the size described by the patient. A central necrotic area and a narrow inflamed zone in the periphery are characteristic findings in third-degree burns, and some of the scars showed obvious sequelae to such an inflamed zone. Reflex actions of the patient might have caused small movements of the instrument during the burning, explaining the size and shape of the large scars. The movements because of the severe pain, the development of numbness or because of loss of consciousness. The small scars with a diameter of 5 mm might be the result of a poor contact between the skin and the instrument, which might have been slightly convex.

The scars could, therefore, be the sequelae to third-degree burns. Both alternating current of high frequency and direct current (cathode area) cause macroscopical alterations similar to third-degree burns, but often with a subdivision into small, circular, confluent areas. However, the patient was not aware of contact with another electrode, which does not exclude such a contact, but makes it less likely. Two electrodes placed within an area of the diameter of a cigarette would probably not produce a regular circular scar with a diameter of 12 mm.

The less demarcated lesions on the dorsum of the left hand might be scars resulting from accidental burning, as mentioned by the patient.

#### Conclusion

The sharply demarcated lesions on the skin have an appearance and localization which are compatible with the history of trauma to the areas described. Most probably they represent scars resulting from a third-degree burn involving all layers of the skin and the subcutaneous tissue. The possibility that the scars are sequelae to an electrical current passing through the tissue is not likely, but cannot be ruled out entirely.

# Appendix V

# Glossary

Abdominal	pertaining to the abdomen (the part of the body lying between the chest and the pelvis)	Lateral Lesion Libido	pertaining to the side tissue damage sexual desire
Achilles tendon	the tendon at the heel	Lumbar	pertaining to the loin
Anterior	the forward part	Malleolus	either of the two rounded pro-
Apical	pertaining to the apex; that is, the top		minences on either side of the ankle joint
Atrophy	state of wasting	Medial	pertaining to the middle
Babinski's reflex	abnormal reflex on stimulating the sole of the foot	Melena	black faeces, usually resulting from gastro-intestinal bleeding
Cortical	pertaining to the cortex, or outer layer	Necrosis	death of a cell as a result of disease or injury (adjective, "necrotic")
	the region overlying the deltoid muscle; a part of the shoulder	Neurology	the branch of medicine devoted to study of the nervous system,
Dermatology	the branch of medicine dealing		its functions and its disorders
<b>T</b>	with diseases of the skin	Otology	the branch of medicine dealing
Dorsal	pertaining to the back	<b></b>	with the ear and its diseases
Dyspepsia	digestion difficulty	Otoscopy	visual examination of the ear
Dyspnoea	shortness of breath	Paresis	slight or incomplete paralysis;
Dysuria Eachymaeic	pain on voiding		(loss of the power of voluntary motion or of sensation as a
Ecchymosis	discoloration resulting from lesions in the blood vessels		result of a lesion of nerve substance)
Enuresis	incontinence of urine during sleep	Patellar	pertaining to the patella, the
Erector spinae	referring to the small muscles of the spine	Peroneal	bone at the front of the knee pertaining to the outer side of
Erythematous	of the nature of erythema, redness of the skin	Phalanx	the leg any bone in a finger or toe
Extensor	any muscle that extends a joint	Pleura	the membrane covering the
Flexor	any muscle that flexes a joint		lungs and lining the thorax
Granuloma	a tumor-like mass of tissue resulting from inflammation	Pneumothorax	the presence of gas or air in the pleural cavity
Hematemesis	the vomiting of blood	Precordia	pertaining to the precordium,
Hematoma	a massive clot of blood in any part of the body		the region over the heart and lower part of the thorax
Hematuria	the discharge of bloody urine	Psychology	the scientific study of mental
Hypertrophy	increase in volume of a tissue	Scheuermann's	processes and behaviour a disease in the bones of the
	or organ produced entirely by	disease	spinal column
	enlargement of existing cells	Tomography	a technique making it possible
Labile	subject to free and rapid emotional change		to photograph structures in one particular plane

# Amnesty International—a worldwide campaign

In recent years, people throughout the world have become more and more aware of the urgent need to protect human rights effectively in every part of the world.

- Countless men and women are in prison for their beliefs. They are being held as prisoners of conscience in scores of countries—in crowded jails, in labour camps and in remote prisons.
- Thousands of political prisoners are being held under administrative detention orders and denied any possibility of a trial or an appeal.
- Others are forcibly confined in psychiatric hospitals or secret detention camps.
- Many are forced to endure relentless, systematic torture.
- More than a hundred countries retain the death penalty.
- Increasingly, political leaders and ordinary citizens are becoming the victims of abductions, "disappearances" and killings, carried out both by government forces and opposition groups.

# An international effort

To end secret arrests, torture and killing requires organized and worldwide effort. Amnesty International is part of that effort.

Launched as an independent organization 20 years ago, Amnesty International is open to anyone prepared to work universally for the release of prisoners of conscience, for fair trials for political prisoners and for an end to torture and executions.

The movement now has members and supporters in more than 130 countries. It is independent of any government, political group, ideology, economic interest or religious creed.

It began with a newspaper article, "The Forgotten Prisoners", published on 28 May 1961 in *The Observer* (London) and reported in *Le Monde* (Paris).

Announcing an impartial campaign to help victims of political persecution, the British lawyer Peter Benenson wrote:

Open your newspapers any day of the week and you will find a report from somewhere in the world of someone being imprisoned, tortured or executed because his opinions or religion are unacceptable to his government... The newspaper reader feels a sickening sense of impotence. Yet if these feelings of disgust all over the world could be united into common action, something effective could be done.

Within a week he had received more than a thousand offers of support—to collect information, publicize it and approach governments. The groundwork was laid for a permanent human rights organization that eventually became known as Amnesty International. The first chairperson of its International Executive Committee (from 1963 to 1974) was Sean MacBride, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1974 and the Lenin Prize in 1975.

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## The mandate

Amnesty International is playing a specific role in the international protection of human rights.

It seeks the *release* of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed *prisoners of conscience*.

It works for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial.

It opposes the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of all prisoners without reservation.

This mandate is based on the civil and political rights set down in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and it reflects the belief that these rights transcend the boundaries of nation, race and belief.

Through its practical work for prisoners, Amnesty International participates in the wider promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

Amnesty International does not oppose or support any government or political system. Its members around the world include supporters of differing systems who agree on the defence of all people in all countries against imprisonment for their beliefs, and against torture and execution.

# Amnesty International at work

The working methods of Amnesty International are based on the principle of international responsibility for the protection of human rights. The movement tries to take action wherever and whenever there are violations of those human rights falling within its mandate. Since it was founded, Amnesty International groups have intervened on behalf of more than 20,000 prisoners in over a hundred countries with widely differing ideologies.

A unique aspect of the work of Amnesty International groups—placing the emphasis on the need for *international* human rights work—is the fact that each group works on behalf of prisoners held in countries other than its own. At least two prisoner cases are assigned to each group; the cases are balanced geographically and politically to ensure impartiality.

There are now some 2,500 local Amnesty International groups throughout the world. There are national sections in 40 countries (in Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East) and individual members, subscribers and supporters in a further 94 countries. Members do not work on cases in their own country. No section, group or member is expected to provide information on their own country and no section, group or member has any responsibility for action taken or statements issued by the international organization concerning their own country.

# Continuous Research

The movement attaches the highest importance to balanced and accurate reporting of facts. All its activities depend on meticulous research into allegations of human rights violations. The International Secretariat in London (with a staff of 150, representing nearly 30 nationalities) has a research department which collects and analyses information from a wide variety of sources. These include hundreds of newspapers and journals, government bulletins, transcriptions of radio broadcasts, reports from lawyers and humanitarian organizations, as well as letters from prisoners and their families. Amnesty International also sends fact-finding missions for on-the-spot investigations and to observe trials, meet prisoners and interview government officials. Amnesty International takes full responsibility for its published reports and if proved wrong on any point is prepared to issue a correction.

Once the relevant facts are established, information is sent to national sections and groups for

action. The members then start the work of trying to protect the individuals whose human rights are reported to have been violated. They send letters to government ministers and embassies. They organize public meetings, arrange special publicity events, such as vigils at appropriate government offices or embassies, and try to interest newspapers in the cases they have taken up. They ask their friends and colleagues to help in the effort. They collect signatures for international petitions and raise money to send relief, such as medicine, food and clothing, to the prisoners and their families.

# A permanent campaign

In addition to casework on behalf of individual prisoners, Amnesty International members campaign for the abolition of torture and the death penalty. This includes trying to prevent torture and executions when people have been taken to known torture centres or sentenced to death. Volunteers in dozens of countries can be alerted in such cases, and within hours hundreds of telegrams and other appeals can be on their way to the government, prison or detention centre.

In its efforts to mobilize world public opinion, Amnesty International neither supports nor opposes economic or cultural boycotts. It *does* take a stand against the international transfer of military, police or security equipment and expertise likely to be used by recipient governments to detain prisoners of conscience and to inflict torture and carry out executions.



Symbol of nesty International

Amnesty International does not grade governments or countries according to their record on human rights. Not only does repression in various countries prevent the free flow of information about human rights abuses, but the techniques of repression and their impact vary widely. Instead of attempting comparisons, Amnesty International concentrates on trying to end the specific violations of human rights in each case.

Human rights have been violated not only by governments, but also by political groups. People have been taken prisoner and held hostage; torture has been inflicted and executions carried out in the name of different political causes. Amnesty International opposes these acts in all cases, whether they are perpetrated by government forces or opposition groups. It believes that international standards for the protection of human rights and the humane treatment of prisoners should be universally respected.

# Policy and funds

Amnesty International is a democratically run movement. Each year major policy decisions are taken by an International Council comprising representatives from all the national sections. They elect an International Executive Committee to carry out their decisions and supervise the day-to-day running of the International Secretariat.

The organization is financed by its members throughout the world, by individual subscriptions and donations. Members pay fees and conduct fund-raising campaigns—they organize concerts and art auctions and are often to be seen on fund-raising drives at street corners in their neighbourhoods.

Its rules about accepting donations are strict and ensure that any funds received by any part of the organization do not compromise it in any way, affect its integrity, make it dependent on any donor, or limit its freedom of activity.

The organization's accounts are audited annually and are published in its annual report.

Amnesty International has consultative status with the United Nations (ECOSOC), UNESCO and the Council of Europe. It has cooperative relations with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States and is a member of the coordinating committee of the Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees of the Organization of African Unity.

# Other Amnesty International reports

The following list includes a selection of reports issued since 1976. For a complete list, write to Amnesty International Publications, London.

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT

This annual report provides a complete country-by-country survey of Amnesty International's work to combat political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty throughout the world. The report is organized into regional sections and normally covers developments in at least 100 countries.

This is probably the most widely read—and most influential—of the many reports published by Amnesty International each year.

Now available: the Amnesty International Report 1980. This 416-page report, illustrated with regional maps for easy reference, covers the period 1 May 1979-30 April 1980. First published 10 December 1980. £5.00. English, French, Spanish.

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

This monthly bulletin provides a regular account of Amnesty International's work: the latest reports of fact-finding missions, details of the arrest and release of political prisoners, reliable reports of torture and executions. It also gives practical information for Amnesty International supporters: each issue includes appeals on behalf of prisoners of conscience and victims of torture around the world.

The newsletter is written—without political bias—for human rights activists throughout the world. It is widely used by journalists, students, political leaders, doctors, lawyers and other professionals.

Individual subscriptions: £5.00 (US\$10) a year.

# HOW TO ORDER THESE REPORTS

If you live in a country where a national section of Amnesty International has been formed, you can obtain all these reports from the section. Section addresses are available from the International Secretariat.

If there is no national section in your country, you can order these reports direct from the International Secretariat of Amnesty International:

- select the publications you wish to order
- note the listed price
- make out a money order or bank draft payable to AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL for the total price of all the publications
- send your order and payment to

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL 10 SOUTHAMPTON STREET LONDON WC2E 7HF UNITED KINGDOM

#### THE DEATH PENALTY

This unique study of the ultimate punishment examines the laws and methods by which people can be put to death in 134 countries. The 206-page report draws on more than a decade of research, using official and unofficial sources. Devoted mainly to a countryby-country survey of legislation and practice, the report also covers the phenomena of "disappearances" and summary executions through which suspected political opponents have been eliminated in large numbers by repressive regimes. First published 1979; illustrated. £2.00. English, French, Spanish.

#### AFRICA

#### GUINEA

A 12-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1978. £0.40. English, French, Spanish.

# HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN ETHIOPIA

An account of political killings, the destruction of the rule of law, political imprisonment, prison conditions, the use of torture and the death penalty. First issued 1977. 26 pages. £0.50. English, French.

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA**

An examination of human rights violations during the presidency of Idi Amin, including the overthrow of the rule of law, murder of judges, public executions, killings and torture. First issued 1978. 25 pages. £0.50. English, Erench

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS IN ZAIRE**

Details on political prisoners and their conditions, torture, extrajudicial executions and the use of the death penalty, together with the political and legal background. First issued 1980. 22 pages. £1.00. English, French.

#### NAMIBIA

A 16-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1977. £0.40. English, French.

# POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

A detailed report, including photographs and case histories, on the political and legal background to human rights violations, the treatment of prisoners, killings, use of torture and the death penalty. First issued 1978. 108 pages. £1.00. English, French.

#### THE AMERICAS

#### DISAPPEARED PRISONERS IN CHILE

A dossier on political prisoners held in secret detention camps. It comprises background information on "disappeared" prisoners, appeals from their relatives, a selection of case histories and numerous photographs. First issued 1977. £1.45. English; French, Spanish.

#### GUATEMALA: A GOVERNMENT **PROGRAM OF POLITICAL MURDER**

Eye-witness testimony, on political abductions and killings directed from secret offices in an annex of the presidential palace. First issued 1981. 32 pages, illustrated. £2.00. English, French, Spanish.

#### MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

Findings and recommendations of a mission that visited Havana in 1977 to examine questions of long-term political prisoners, prison regimes, the situation of released prisoners and the application of the death penalty. First issued 1978. Eight pages. £0.50. English, Spanish.

#### PARAGUAY

A 16-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1978. £0.40. English, French, Spanish.

#### PERU

A 12-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1979. £0.40. English, French, Spanish.

#### POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT IN URUGUAY

A dossier of documents on political imprisonment, law and justice for political prisoners, detention conditions, ill-treatment and torture, with 14 case histories. First issued 1979. £0.40. English, French, Spanish.

#### PROPOSAL FOR A PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE DEATH PENALTY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The 1980 appeal to President Carter, urging the creation of a body to examine the social and legal impact of

on all executions. First issued 1980. Four pages. £0.25. English.

#### TESTIMONY ON SECRET DETEN-TION CAMPS IN ARGENTINA

Testimony of two detention camp victims, including detailed information about their fellow prisoners; list of prisoners and correspondence to and from government officials about missing people. First issued 1980. 60 pages. £1.00. English, Spanish.

#### THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA

Includes the findings of a mission in 1976. An examination of judicial procedures, political imprisonment, torture and "disappearances"; plus recommendations, case studies, lists of prisoners and an account of a trial in a military court. First issued 1977. 75 pages. £0.75. English (out of print), French, Spanish.

#### ALI LAMEDA: A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE EXPERIENCE OF A PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The personal story of a Venezuelan poet and Communist Party member subjected to six years' political imprisonment in North Korea. First issued 1979. 39 pages. £0.50. English, French.

#### INDONESIA

A detailed account of political imprisonment between 1965 and 1976, including description of trials, prison conditions and forced labour, permanent post-release "resettlement" and case histories. First issued 1977, 146 pages. £2.00. English, French,

# POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

A major report on the constitutional, legal and penal systems under which political dissenters have been detained, interrogated, tried and punished. First issued 1978. 171 pages, illustrated. £2.00. English, French, Spanish.

#### AN AMNESTY REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL MISSION TO BANGLADESH

Representations to the Bangladesh

the death penalty, and a moratorium Government reflecting Amnesty International's concern about trials of civilians by martial law courts and the execution of military personnel. First issued 1978. 20 pages. £0.50. English.

#### REPORT OF AN AMNESTY INTER-NATIONAL MISSION TO THE FEDERATION OF MALAYSIA

An examination in 1978 of Malaysia's Internal Security Act, under which political prisoners, including members of political parties and trade unions, have been held without charge or trial and tortured. First issued 1979. 67 pages. £0.50. English.

## REPORT OF AN AMNESTY INTER-

NATIONAL MISSION TO INDIA The findings and recommendations of an investigation following the 1975-1977 Indian Emergency. First issued 1979. 84 pages. £1.00. English.

#### REPORT OF AN AMNESTY INTER-NATIONAL MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The conclusions and recommendations of a mission that visited South Korea at a time when Emergency Regulations resulted in the suppression of dissent throughout the country. First issued 1976; revised 1977. 45 pages £2.00.

#### REPORT OF AN AMNESTY INTER-NATIONAL MISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Second edition of the conclusions of a mission in 1975 together with the government's reply and Amnesty International's comments. Includes interviews with prisoners and an examination of the incidence of torture and other violations of human rights. First issued 1977. 95 pages. £2.00. English, Spanish.

#### REPORT OF AN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL MISSION TO SINGAPORE

Report of a mission in 1978 plus recommendations to the government. An examination of preventive detention, trials, arrest and interrogation, prison conditions, torture and the use of the death penalty. First issued 1978, 60 pages, £2,00. English.

#### SHORT REPORT OF AN AMNESTY issued 1977. £0.85. English, French, penalty. First issued 1976. £0.40. INTERNATIONAL MISSION THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

Findings of a mission in 1978 that documented martial law provisions curtailing fundamental freedoms and the infliction of harsh punishments by military courts on civilians for exercising the right of free speech. First issued 1978. 24 pages. £0.50. English, French.

#### TAIWAN (REPUBLIC OF CHINA)

A 14-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1976; second edition 1980, £0.40. English, French,

#### VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

A report, released in September 1979, on consistent violations: widespread arrests, torture, "disappearances" and deaths in detention between April 1978 and May 1979, 34 pages, £0.50. English.

#### **EUROPE**

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A 16-page briefing on political imprisonment and the death penalty. First issued 1977. £0.40. English, French, Spanish.

#### GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

A 12-page briefing on political imprisonment and the death penalty. First issued 1977; second edition English, £0.60. French, Spanish.

#### TORTURE IN GREECE: THE FIRST TORTURERS' TRIAL 1975

A rare insight into the inner clockwork of a torture state, this 98-page report analyses a contemporary example of the possibility of submitting accused torturers to due process of law. First

#### ROMANIA

A 19-page briefing on political imprisonment and the death penalty. First issued 1980. £0.60. English, French, Spanish.

#### REPORT OF AN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL MISSION TO NORTHERN IRELAND

The findings and recommendations of a mission in 1977 that investigated allegations of ill-treatment of detainees and called for a public inquiry. First issued 1978, 72 pages, £1.00. English.

#### REPORT OF AN AMNESTY INTER-NATIONAL MISSION TO SPAIN

First published in November 1980, the findings of a mission that examined the treatment of security detainees, plus Amnesty International's recommendations to prevent torture. 68 pages. £3.00. English, Spanish.

#### TURKEY

A 12-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1977. £0.40. English, French.

#### PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE IN THE USSR: THEIR TREATMENT AND CONDITIONS

This 200-page report, containing photographs of prisoners of conscience and camps in which they are held, examines Soviet laws and their application to dissenters and includes new material on the treatment of dissenters in psychiatric institutions. First issued 1975; second edition 1980. £5.00. English, French, Spanish.

#### MIDDLE EAST

A 12-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death English, Farsi.

## LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF

An examination of legal procedures, revolutionary tribunals, offences and post-revolutionary executions during the first seven months after the 1979 revolution. First issued 1980. 216 pages. £10.00. English.

#### MOROCCO

A 16-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1977, £0.40. English, French.

#### PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

A 12-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1976. £0.40. English, French, Arabic.

#### REPORT AND RECOMMENDA-TIONS OF AN AMNESTY INTER-NATIONAL MISSION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF

Report of a mission in 1979 that examined allegations of ill-treatment in the Occupied Territories and legal procedures used. Includes Amnesty International's recommendations, the government's reply and Amnesty International's comments on it. First issued 1980. 71 pages. £2.00. English, French.

A 16-page briefing on political imprisonment, torture and the death penalty. First issued 1979. £0.40. English, French, Spanish, Arabic.

#### TUNISIA: IMPRISONMENT OF TRADE UNIONISTS IN 1978

An account of the arrests and trials of trade unionists plus a description of prison conditions and torture allegations. First issued 1979. 24 pages. £0.75. English, French.