



# Amnesty International

newsletter

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## Soviet Court Exiles Secretary of AI Moscow Group

ANDREI TVERDOKHLEBOV, secretary of the only Amnesty International adoption group in the Soviet Union, was sentenced to 5 years' internal exile by a court in Moscow on 15 April after being found guilty of "dissemination of fabrications known to be false which defame the Soviet state and social system".

Mr Tverdokhlebov, a 36-year-old physician who was arrested in April 1975 (May 1975 *Newsletter*) and who, under Soviet law, should have been tried within nine months, was the second member of AI's Moscow group to be punished for allegedly breaking Soviet law.

Last December, AI member SERGEI KOVALYOV, a 43-year-old biologist, was sentenced by a court in Vilnius, Lithuania, to 7 years' in a strict regime corrective labour colony, to be followed by 3 years' internal exile, after being found guilty of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" (January *Newsletter*).

In another Soviet political trial in April, AI-adoptee MUSTAFA DZHEMILEV, a 32-year-old Crimean Tatar, was sentenced in Omsk to 2½ years' imprisonment in a strict regime labour colony. Mr Dzhemilev had been charged with circulating in his labour colony information that allegedly slandered official policy towards the Crimean Tatars—a charge brought against him in June 1975, three days before the expiry of a previous one-year sentence he had been serving for refusing to obey a military call-up.

Neither AI, which had requested permission to do so, nor non-Soviet journalists were allowed to attend Mr Tverdokhlebov's two-day trial and no full report is yet available on the proceedings. Police prevented unauthorized persons from entering the court building.

But the state news agency *Tass* reported that Mr Tverdokhlebov had allegedly distributed materials whose purpose was "to smear and distort in the eyes of the public the Soviet state's activities in various fields of life".

Unofficial reports said Mr Tverdokhlebov had been charged *inter alia* with circulating material asserting that LEONID PLYUSHCH (February *Newsletter*), VICTOR FAINBERG and Major General PYOTR GRIGORENKO (August 1974 *Newsletter*)—all former AI adoptees—had been wrongfully confined to psychiatric hospitals. He was further reportedly charged with distributing two works by

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## Two Apartheid Opponents Flee South Africa Ban

AI adoptee JERRY MODISANE and another well-known critic of *apartheid*, HORST KLEINSCHMIDT, reportedly fled from South Africa into Botswana on 15 and 14 April respectively.

Mr Modisane is a former president of the South African Students Organization. He was arbitrarily "banned" under the Suppression of

Communism Act for 5 years in March 1973 and was detained without charge under the Terrorism Act for nearly six months in 1975:

Mr Kleinschmidt, a member of the staff of the Christian Institute, was detained without charge for more than 70 days during 1975 and had his passport withdrawn by the South African government in 1973.

Meanwhile South African police have ordered a pathologist report on the body of AI adoptee TWALIMFENE GOBINAMBI JOYI. Mr Joyi disappeared after a shooting incident allegedly involving a traffic officer at the Bashee River near his home in the Transkei on 14 March, and his body was found in the river on 23 March.

Mr Joyi, a former Robben Island prisoner, was convicted under the Terrorism Act in 1969 and "banned" under the Suppression of Communism Act after his release in 1974.

Mr Joyi was buried after his body was found but it was exhumed by Transkei police on 30 March for a post-mortem by a district surgeon. Although the post-mortem revealed that the cause of death was not drowning and foul play was suspected, the body was buried again. In April the police ordered the body re-exhumed for the pathologist report.

In a public statement on 12 April, South African Justice Minister JAMES KRUGER denied that there had been a cover-up over the death of another political detainee,

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### SENEGAL PRESIDENT AMNESTIES POLITICAL PRISONERS

President LEOPOLD SEDAR SENGHOR of Senegal signed an amnesty law on 3 April 1976 covering all political crimes and freeing all political prisoners in Senegal. About 10 prisoners benefitted from the amnesty, including AI adoptee LANDING SAVANE, who was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment on 2 April 1975 for attempting to reconstitute a banned party, printing and distributing an unauthorized paper and incitement to violence against the constitution.

The charges related to the circulation in the capital Dakar and surrounding regions of an underground leftwing paper called *Xaré-bi* ("The Struggle"). Twelve other persons allegedly associated with *Xaré-bi* were sentenced at the same time as Mr Savané to terms of imprisonment. A further 12 persons were arrested in June 1975 and tried on 17 October 1975 for their alleged association with *Xaré-bi*. Nine received prison terms ranging from 6-18 months, while three were acquitted.

The 3 April amnesty applied to all persons convicted in connection with the *Xaré-bi* affair, and also covered two persons reportedly involved in intelligence collaboration with the Portuguese army during the period of colonial rule in neighbouring Guinea-Bissau. □

## AI Campaigns for Women Prisoners in Indonesia

AI launched a week-long international campaign 19-25 April on behalf of women in prison in Indonesia. The International Secretariat in London distributed a document on "Women and Political Detention in Indonesia" to all AI national sections and to the 110 adoption groups working on cases of Indonesian women prisoners. The aim was to publicize the plight of the women.

AI estimates that there are some 2,000 women political prisoners in Indonesia. This is the largest number of women in political detention in any country in the world. Only a handful of these women have been tried. Almost all have been held

without trial for over 10 years following an abortive coup against the army leadership in October 1965. In many cases their husbands are also in prison and the consequences on their children and families has been disastrous.

More than 55,000 people are detained without trial in Indonesia and knowledgeable observers maintain that a more accurate total is about 100,000.

AI's campaign was centered on Indonesian Women's Day, also known as Kartini Day, which is celebrated in Indonesia on 21 April to commemorate the national heroine IBU KARTINI, who lived at the turn of the century. □

## STUDENTS CLASH WITH SECURITY FORCES IN LIBYA

*AI* cabled Libyan Head of State MU'AMMAR AL GADDAFI on 23 April 1976 after receiving reports that 800 students had been arrested and 250 injured on 7 April during clashes at the university of Tripoli between students and members of the security forces. In the cable *AI* requested clarification of the reports and urged that any detained students be released as soon as possible.

In a speech delivered the day before the clashes, Colonel Gaddafi reportedly had called for the "cleansing" from the universities of "reactionary" students. Earlier, in January, students from Benghazi University had clashed with police while protesting against government-rigged student union elections in which numbers of students had reportedly been wounded, killed or arrested.

The Libyan government, in answer to a cable from *AI* expressing concern at the reports, denied the allegations of arrests and killings, but later reports maintained that 13 students had been killed. □

## AI LISTS 111 PARLIAMENTARIANS DETAINED FOR POLITICAL REASONS

*AI* published a list on 6 April of 111 parliamentarians who for political reasons are imprisoned or who have "disappeared" in 14 countries around the world. Some had been victims of torture, *AI* said.

*AI* said most of the parliamentarians were constitutionally elected members of either national or provincial legislative assemblies at the time of their arrest. *AI* emphasized that the list was confined only to those cases known to its research department as of March 1976 and was by no means complete as to numbers and countries.

"In publishing this list we are not judging the merits of any legislative system of government, *AI* said in a public statement. "We are publicizing the fact that many parliamentarians are included among prisoners of conscience detained throughout the world in violation of fundamental human rights and are appealing to parliamentarians in all countries to work for their release."

The 14 countries are Argentina, Bahrein, Brazil, Chile, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Pakistan, Philippines, Nepal, Singapore, Tanzania and Uruguay. Almost all the 23 Indonesian legislators named were first arrested in 1965, and have now been imprisoned for more than 10 years without charge, trial or even contact with a lawyer.

Of the cases on the list, more than half—59—are Indians. They are all members of the central or state parliaments who have been detained since the declaration of a state of emergency in June 1975.

*AI* said the list also highlights the cases of "disappearance" and torture in Latin America, particularly in Chile and Brazil. These cases were representative of many others in those countries, *AI* said. □

## AI OBSERVER REFUSED ENTRY TO TRIAL IN SPAIN

American lawyer HELEN TOLEDANO, sent a report to *AI* in April on her exclusion from the trial of nine military officers held 8-10 March in Hoyo de Manzanares, a military barracks 30 kilometers from Madrid.

She reported that she was refused entry to what should have been, a public trial, according to article 727 of the military code of justice, even though she presented credentials as an official *AI* observer. *AI* had also sent a telegram to the captain general of the first military region in Madrid and to the Spanish embassy in London, requesting that she be admitted.

The nine defendants were Major LUIS OTERO, Captain FERMIN IBARRA, Captain RESTITUTO VALERO, Captain MANUEL FERNANDEZ LAGO, Captain JESUS MARTIN CONSUEGRA, Captain JOSE FORTES, Captain JOSE REINLEIN, Captain ANTONIO GARCIA, and Captain JESUS RUIZ CILLERO. They were accused of conspiracy with intent to rebel through their membership of the *Unión Militar Democrática* (UMD—Democratic Military Union), a body of exclusively military personnel whose goals are the reform of state and military institutions.

All the defendants were found guilty and given prison sentences ranging from 2½ to 8 years. Captains García and Cillero, who received 3 and 2½ years respectively, will not have to serve their sentences since they will benefit from King JUAN CARLOS's decree of pardons for political prisoners sentenced to less than three years. All the offenders were deprived of the right to vote during the period of their imprisonment and were to be expelled from the armed forces.

The defendants had been arrested at home on the morning of 29 July 1975 and their houses searched by police personnel with proper arrest and search warrants. Books, periodicals, some of which are freely on sale in Spain, personal papers and documents were seized. After a period of detention incommunicado they were moved to separate detention centers and finally in December 1975 to Hoyo de Manzanares.

The right to a defence conducted by civilian lawyers was refused by the military judicial authorities despite a contrary opinion from five eminent professors of penal law presented by the Bar Association. As a result, the defendants permitted the court to appoint military advocates. □

## ZAMBIA FREES FOREIGN LECTURERS BUT CONTINUES TO HOLD STUDENTS

Four Zambia University lecturers—LIONEL CLIFFE, ROBERT MOLTENO, GEORGE SIEMENSMA and KLAUS VAN DEN BERG—were released from detention and deported from Zambia in the last week of March. They had all been detained following President KENNETH KAUNDA's declaration of a full state of emergency in Zambia on 28 January (March Newsletter).

Latest reports indicate that the Zambian authorities have not yet released 16 university students and one other lecturer, YOUNUS LULAT, who were detained at the same time as the freed lecturers. The students and Mr Lulat are all believed to be Zambian citizens. □

## AI APPEAL FOR CZECH PRISONERS

*AI* appealed on 7 April 1976 to President GUSTAV HUSAK of Czechoslovakia for the release of well known supporters of the 1968 Reform Movement—Dr MILAN HUBL, JIRI MULLER, ANTONIN RUSEK, Professor JAROSLAV SABATA and Dr JAN TESAR—all of whom are in a bad state of health and already serving their fifth year in prison.

*AI*'s letter was occasioned by a letter sent to President Husak in March by relatives of these five prisoners. The letter, described in considerable detail the very difficult conditions of compulsory work and daily life to which these prisoners are subjected. Referring to this document, *AI*'s letter urged that the treatment of prisoners of conscience in Czechoslovakia be brought into line with the humanitarian provisions of international agreements to which Czechoslovakia is a party. □

## EGYPT ARRESTS COMMUNISTS

*AI* learned in April of a number of arrests of suspected communists in Egypt. A group of about 20 were arrested in Alexandria in April, and a woman journalist, IGLAL ABDU IHSAN, was arrested at the end of March at Cairo airport on her return from Beirut. *AI* is trying to obtain further details of these detainees so that their cases may be taken up.

The arrests came after Egypt's abrogation of its treaty of friendship with the Soviet Union, and official Egyptian sources are claiming that there is a "Soviet plot" to stir up workers, peasants and students against the government.

The 20 Alexandrians have been charged with subversion. Iglal Abdu Ihsan was reported to have attempted to smuggle pamphlets into the country, published by the Egyptian Communist Party which announced its reconstituted existence from Beirut in August 1975. A court order for her release has yet to be confirmed or rejected by President ANWAR SADAT. □

## AI PROTESTS HANGINGS IN SECRET IN RHODESIA

*AI* urged the government of Prime Minister IAN SMITH on 22 April to end the use of the death penalty in Rhodesia. The call came exactly one year after the regime announced that details of further executions would no longer be publicized because the issue had become an "emotive one".

More than 60 persons have been hanged since the regime's unilateral declaration of independence in 1965 from Great Britain. Britain, however, theoretically still retains

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# Prisoners of the Month Campaign

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

## OEI Tju Tat, *Indonesia*

OEI TJU TAT was tried at the Central Jakarta Court in February-March 1976 after he had spent 10 years in untried detention. He was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment, less the time already detained, for allegedly committing acts of subversion (February *Newsletter*).

Oei Tju Tat was a leading member of the Partindo political party and a minister in the last cabinet of the late President Sukarno before the latter administration was dissolved in March 1966.

In October 1965 an abortive coup was staged against the army leadership. The army claimed that the Indonesian Communist Party was responsible for the coup attempt. Hundreds of thousands of people were arrested and detained without trial for alleged involvement in it. Oei Tju Tat was arrested in March 1966.

Oei Tju Tat's alleged crime was to have issued a statement from Partindo on 4 October 1965 which said that the attempted coup was an internal army affair. The prosecution claimed that the Partindo statement was in line with Indonesian Communist Party statements about the coup. The similarities of these two statements was considered adequate evidence of Oei Tju Tat's involvement in the abortive coup. The prosecution claimed that by issuing the 4 October 1965 statement, Oei Tju Tat had attempted to destroy or undermine the lawful government of Indonesia. In fact Oei Tju Tat was a member of that lawful government and remained so until March 1966.

The evidence of the witnesses at the trial suggests that Oei Tju Tat was not responsible for the Partindo statement and that he had insisted that the statement include a pledge of support for President Sukarno. There is no evidence that Oei Tju Tat committed the acts of subversion for which he was found guilty by the court.

Please send courteously worded appeals urging Oei Tju Tat's immediate release on the grounds that the evidence against him is insufficient justification for spending any further period in prison. After having already served 10 years in prison, Oei Tju Tat should be given an immediate pardon.

*Appeals should be directed to:* President Suharto, Istana Negara, Jalan Vetran, Jakarta, Indonesia; *and to:* Foreign Minister Adam Malik, Departemen Luar Negeri, Jalan Sisingamangaraja 73, Jakarta, Indonesia.

## Leopoldo LUNA Soto, *Chile*

LEOPOLDO LUNA is a 27-year-old professor of social science at the Catholic University in Valparaiso. He was arrested on 12 September 1973, the day after the coup that overthrew the government of the late President Salvador

Allende. Señor Luna is unmarried. At present he is being held in the public prison of Valparaiso and he is in very poor health, mainly due to the treatment he received during the first few months after arrest in 1973.

Señor Luna is one of two civilians among 60 defendants—all *AI* cases—in a trial arising from an alleged mutiny attempt in the Chilean navy just before the coup. He is specifically charged with instigating the rebellion of naval cadets against their senior officers. The prosecution has requested a 15-year sentence in his case.

Although the trial began in 1973, none of the 60 has yet been sentenced, nor have Chilean naval authorities decided when the next stage of the trial is to take place.

When a prisoner in Chile has been sentenced, the prisoner is entitled to apply for the sentence to be exchanged for exile. Señor Luna has a visa for another country which would support any application he might make under the existing provisions in Chilean law for his sentence to be exchanged for exile. But normally he would not be released or permitted to leave Chile until his sentence had been passed.

The principal reason for including Señor Luna in this *Prisoners of the Month Campaign*, however, is because he is very seriously ill indeed and will be requiring an operation of some delicacy in the near future. Moreover, *AI* has received reports that there is an epidemic of tuberculosis in the public prison of Valparaiso where he is being held which would further endanger his health.

*Please send courteously worded letters appealing for the release of Leopoldo Luna Soto on the grounds of his very poor health to:* Vice Almirante Patricio Carvajal Bravo, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores y Miembro de la Honorable Junta de Gobierno, Edificio Diego Portales, Santiago, Chile; *and to:* Vice Almirante Jorge Paredes, Jefe de la Primera Zona en Estado de Sitio, Academia de Guerra Naval Valparaíso, Chile; *and to:* General Fernando Mattei, Ministro de Salud Pública, Monjitas 689, Santiago, Chile.

## Dr Hubert STEIN, *Czechoslovakia*

Dr HUBERT STEIN, aged 72, comes from a Czech-Jewish family. He practised law in Prague in the 1930s and after the German occupation in 1939 left Czechoslovakia and went to England. During World War II he served with the allied forces. After the war he returned to Prague and was appointed commercial counsellor in Ankara, Turkey.

He was recalled in early 1950 and faced trial, which linked him with the "sabotage and espionage center" of Rudolf Slansky. In 1952 he was sentenced to 8 years in prison.

After his release in 1960, he worked as a labourer and warehouseman. Rehabilitated in 1963, he joined, with the agreement of the Czechoslovak authorities, the Netherlands embassy in Prague as a translator.

In July 1970 he was suddenly arrested, and in July 1971 sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment on charges of subversion, spying and endangering state and official secrets during 1968, 1969 and 1970.

Dr Stein's task at the Netherlands embassy was to produce reports on the political, economic and cultural situation in Czechoslovakia, based on press reports and other legal sources of information. It was these reports, of the sort produced by embassies all over the world, which constituted Dr Stein's "crime".

Dr Stein is being held in Ostrov nad Ohri prison. He is seriously ill and since he has no family he cannot receive either visits or parcels.

*Please send courteously worded appeals for the release of Dr Hubert Stein to:* Dr Gustav Husak, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Praha, Hrad; *and to:* Dr Jan Nemeč, Minister of Justice of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Praha, Nove Mesto, Vysehradská 16.

## News of Past Campaigns

The trial of South Korean poet and writer KIM CHI HA (April *Prisoners of the Month Campaign*) finally resumed on 23 March after a postponement of almost one year, but proceedings were then again put off until 20 April. On 19 April, the trial was postponed once more. No explanation for this was given, but his trial is now due to take place on 18 May. □

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legal responsibility for Rhodesia.

*AI's* statement in April also urged that Britain's QUEEN ELIZABETH II grant reprieves to all prisoners under sentence of death in Rhodesia. *AI* noted that the death penalty has been imposed with increasing frequency since the intensification of guerrilla warfare against the regime in 1972. In March 1968, the Queen, acting on the advice of the British government, reprieved three condemned men, but the Rhodesian regime repudiated the reprieves and the men were executed.

Details of Rhodesia's use of the death penalty and its other violations of human rights were published by *AI* in a 16-page briefing paper in March (April *Newsletter*).

\* \* \*

Former *AI* adoptees MOTON MALIANGA and ENOS NKALA were re-detained in Rhodesia early in April. Mr Malianga was released shortly afterwards but reports say Mr Nkala is still being held.

The two men, both high-ranking officials in the section of the African National Council (ANC) led by Bishop ABEL MUZOREWA, were previously in detention from 1964 to 1974 when they were freed following an agreement signed between the ANC and Premier Smith in Lusaka, Zambia. □

### Moscow Group Secretary Exiled

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dissident Soviet physicist ANDREI SAKHAROV and Nobel Prize winning author ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN.

Another reported charge was that Mr Tverdokhlebov had compiled and circulated a small collection of appeals and critical statements by prisoners on Soviet penal conditions. The prosecution reportedly argued that this material contained slanderous falsehoods and called as witnesses several present inmates of corrective labour colonies. According to the unofficial reports, these inmates testified that prisoners who work as required and obey official rules do not suffer the hardships described in Mr Tverdokhlebov's collection.

Under Soviet law, Mr Tverdokhlebov should only have to spend two years in internal exile since each day spent in pre-trial detention counts as three days in any sentence of exile. When found guilty, Mr Tverdokhlebov had already spent a year in detention.

Mustafa Dzhemilev's trial arose from his long championship of the cause of Tatars who were deported from their homeland in the Crimea to central Asia during World War II and who have been petitioning since the late 1950s to be allowed to return home. Mr Dzhemilev has been imprisoned on a number of political charges since 1966.

When the new charge was brought against him just before his last sentence expired in June 1975, he immediately began a hunger strike which he reportedly was still maintaining at the time of his trial. Reports said he was being kept alive by forced feeding.

Unofficial reports of his latest trial said that one witness, a fellow-inmate named VLADIMIR DVORYANSKY, refused to testify for the prosecution and claimed that investigative officials had tried to extort false evidence from him. The trial prosecutor then reportedly demanded that criminal charges be brought against Mr Dvoryansky.

The Dzhemilev trial in April received international publicity when Academician Sakharov and his wife Yelena were involved in a scuffle with police after being refused admission to the courtroom. The Sakharovs were later warned that they could face prosecution for "hooliganism".

Both Mr Tverdokhlebov and Mr Dzhemilev have appealed against their sentences and both remain adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience. □

### Apartheid Critics Flee South Africa

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JOSEPH MDLULI. Mr Mdluli, a former member of the banned African National Congress (ANC), was reportedly in good health when detained by Durban security police on 18 March.

Less than 24 hours later he was dead and according to his wife, was cut and bruised about the face when she called to identify his body on 20 March. Mrs Mdluli's lawyer, GRIFFITHS MXENGE, who accompanied

her to the mortuary, was himself detained under section 6 of the Terrorism Act on 24 March and is being held incommunicado.

The findings of a post-mortem examination on Mr Mdluli have not yet been made public, but the South African Justice Minister promised that there would be a "full inquest" as soon as possible and promised that it would be public.

On 2 April, five leaders of the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) went on trial in Johannesburg, charged under the Suppression of Communism Act and the Unlawful Organizations Act.

The five, who pleaded not guilty, are KAREL TIP, EDDIE WEBSTER, CHARLES NUPEN, GLEN MOSS and CEDRIC DE BEER. In a 16-page indictment detailing 10 acts allegedly committed between October 1973 and August 1974, they were accused of associating with, and conspiring to promote the policies of, the ANC and the South African Communist Party (SACP), which is also banned. □

### Prisoner Releases and Cases

The International Secretariat learned in March of the release of 87 *AI*-adopted prisoners and took up 275 new cases.

### International Promotion Campaign Launched

*AI*'s International Executive Committee (IEC), meeting in London 2-4 April, launched an ambitious international promotion campaign for the year 1977, naming it "Prisoners of Conscience Year". The IEC also approved a special symbol for the campaign (see insert).

The campaign officially opens on Human Rights Day, 10 December 1976, and aims at increasing worldwide public awareness of *AI*. Public fundraising efforts will be directed to further the development of the organization.

A concentrated series of activities and events will be coordinated by the new Promotion Department, located in Luxembourg (March *Newsletter*). At the IEC meeting, GUY BINSFELD, Director of the Promotion Department, introduced a preparatory program to lay the groundwork for the campaign. This will draw on the existing work of national sections for the benefit of the organization internationally. The department will produce a variety of materials, including visual media, for introducing *AI* to new areas and people.

As one of the activities planned by the Promotion Department, a benefit concert will be given by the American conductor LEONARD BERNSTEIN in Munich this October. All proceeds of the concert, plus a record being made of it, will go to Amnesty International.

At the request of the International Council and in keeping with *AI*'s anticipated growth through this campaign the IEC also voted to revise and up-date the present council guidelines regarding financing. □

### SEVEN EXECUTED IN NIGER

Seven of nine persons sentenced to death in Niger for alleged involvement in an attempted coup were executed by firing squad on 21 April. On 13 April *AI* had cabled President SEYNI KOUNTCHE of the West African state expressing concern at the imposition of the death penalty and urging commutation of the sentences.

Those executed were the alleged leaders of the 15 March coup attempt, Major

BAYERE MOUSSA, Captain SIDI MOHAMED and AHMED MOUDDOUR, former secretary general of the Union of Niger Workers, two other soldiers and two other civilians.

Another 22 persons were sentenced to life imprisonment for their alleged involvement in the coup—the second attempt to overthrow President Kountche's government within eight months—and eight received sentences ranging from 1-5 years. □

### IEC RELEASES SRI LANKA REPORT

*AI*'s International Executive Committee agreed in April to release publicly the report of an *AI* mission to Sri Lanka in January 1975. The report was sent to the Sri Lanka government.

The mission by British lawyer LOUIS BLOM COOPER and YVONNE TERLINGEN, the International Secretariat's Dutch researcher on the area, examined the position of prisoners detained under emergency regulations, reported on the working of the Criminal Justice Commission and noted the increased use of the death penalty for both criminal and political offences.

The report acknowledges the government's program of large scale releases over the previous four years. Of the 18,000 persons arrested in the months following the 1971 insurrection, only 2,000 remained in prison at the time of the mission.

The report deals in detail with the government's decision to replace normal court procedures for political prisoners by the specially-constituted Criminal Justice Commission and argues this had compromised Sri Lanka's high judicial tradition. The report recommends that in future all political prisoners be tried by the ordinary courts of law.

Specific recommendations urge the ending of detention without trial and the release of all those detainees against whom no criminal charges can be brought. In a separate section, the report notes the sharp increase in the use of capital punishment since 1970 and appeals for the total abolition of the death penalty. Among those still under sentence of death are 12 political prisoners convicted of offences committed during the 1971 insurgency.

Copies of the report will be available from the International Secretariat in May, price 50 pence (US \$1.00). □

### Pacific Conference Plans Finalized

Plans were finalized in April for *AI*'s Pacific Regional Conference which will be held at the International Center in Tozanso, Japan, 2-5 June.

The conference, being organized jointly by the Japanese Section and the International Secretariat, has a two-fold purpose:

- to analyze and discuss a variety of basic problems involved in the international protection of human rights;
- to explore ways and means for people in the region to participate more fully in work for the release and protection of prisoners of conscience throughout the world.

Participants from 15 countries in the region have been invited to the conference, which will be a small, private working meeting closed to the press and general public. □

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amnesty international

# campaign for the abolition of torture

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MONTHLY BULLETIN

## US Navy Trains Personnel in 'Torture Resistance'

A United States navy school for "resisting torture" came to light in March when a naval officer sued the US government for assault and battery in connection with injuries he allegedly sustained while a participant in the program.

The school, in Warner Springs, California, is known as Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape (SERE) and supposedly teaches naval personnel how to resist torture if taken prisoner of war.

Lieutenant WENDELL R. YOUNG, a naval pilot, alleged that he suffered severe physical injuries, including a broken back, during his SERE course.

The school was established along with about five others like it in the aftermath of the Korean war and during the Vietnam war. Two are said to remain: one in the state of Maine and the other in Warner Springs.

The "training" includes starvation, beatings, water torture and the use of the so-called tiger cages of the type that were employed in Vietnam. Navy spokesman Commander WILLIAM COLLINS acknowledged the use of water torture—tying a man to a board, placing a cloth tightly over his face and pouring buckets of water on him—and the frequency of physical abuse at the school. He justified the program as one of "conditioning" of military personnel who might be treated similarly if they were captured.

In a letter of 26 March to Secretary of Defence DONALD RUMSFELD, *AI* Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS said:

"Although such training may increase the resistance of the volunteer to torture, it also increases the expertise of the trainers in the application of torture. The very existence of such a body of men is . . . a threat to basic human rights. Moreover, if it is true that torture can be resisted—and this is doubtful—then such a resistance can stem only from a will to resist. It is not Amnesty International's experience that torture victims learn to resist torture by being submitted to torture."

A year ago *AI*'s British Section brought a similar program to light in the United Kingdom (April 1975 *CAT Bulletin*), where military personnel are "trained to resist" the methods of torture that British armed forces used in Northern Ireland in 1971. □

### Portuguese Constitution Prohibits Torture

The new constitution of Portugal, which came into force on 25 April, the second anniversary of the 1974 coup, explicitly forbids the use of torture. □

## Turkey Faces New Charges

*AI* has started to receive numerous allegations of widespread torture in Turkish police stations, especially in Ankara and Istanbul. This follows an apparent lull in the use of torture in Turkey since 1973.

Some of the allegations have appeared in the Turkish press, and torture has been publicly admitted in a military trial of four students whose death sentences were overturned by the military court of appeal. The court stated in its decision that CANER GUCAL, HAKAN TEKINALP, SELCUK ERALP and TIMUR ERTEKIN had been convicted on the basis of statements that had "clearly been made under torture".

According to the allegations, dozens of Turkish citizens have been subjected to various kinds of torture and ill-treatment, including blindfolding during interrogations, beatings all over the body, including the head and sexual organs, *falanga* (beating on the soles of the feet), forced drinking of salty liquid, the threat and the use of electricity, pulling out of fingernails and toenails, cigarette burns, threats to family, hanging upside down, forced hopping and jumping after beatings, and strapping to boards for hanging or beatings.

In a letter to Prime Minister SULEYMAN DEMIREL in April, *AI* requested an immediate and thorough independent inquiry into the conduct of interrogations by Turkish police forces. □

## Venezuela Torture Allegations Persist

*AI* has received allegations that both police and military security agencies in Venezuela are still using torture, despite concrete measures by the Venezuelan authorities to curb the practice. Reports refer specifically to members of DISIP (*División de Inteligencia Policial*—Police Intelligence Division), PTJ (*Policia Técnica Judicial*—Technical Judicial Police) and DIM (*División de Inteligencia Militar*—Division of Military Intelligence).

*AI* has received many allegations of severe torture from Venezuela in past years. In 1975, however, signs of a positive change were given by judicial authorities. They intervened in several cases, ordering investigations and, in some instances, the arrest of the responsible security agents. Such measures have caused a serious confrontation between the judiciary and the police security agencies, which in various cases have refused to observe orders to arrest DISIP and PTJ agents or have refused to collaborate with the judicial investigations.

In at least one case, in September 1975, suspects were tried and sentenced for murdering a leftwing lawyer after his arrest and interrogation under torture. The three convicted torturers, RAFAEL EMIGDIO PACHECO, JESUS R. GARCIA and ANTONIO GUEDEZ PEREZ were named in many torture testimonies (October 1975 *CAT Bulletin*).

*AI* recently received the testimonies of several prisoners currently held at La Pica prison in the state of Monagas. According to their statements, at least four of the prisoners were tortured in late 1975. TOMAS MANUEL PEREZ MARCANO, EFRAIN ANTONIO MEDINA ROMERO, LUIS JAVIER RODRIGUEZ and EVARISTO FIGUEROA were arrested by DISIP in

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## Reports Say Detainees Tortured in Ghana

*AI* approached the Ghanaian High Commission in London during April to request information concerning the situation of about 50 Ghanaians who have been held without charge or trial since the end of 1975.

The *AI* initiative followed reports in the British press that some of the detainees had been subjected to brutality during interrogation by military personnel. One prisoner managed to smuggle a letter out of the prison in which he is held, describing in detail the torture to which he had been subjected. This included stripping, severe beating and sexual abuse. Most of the

prisoners had been similarly mistreated, the letter said.

Under Ghana's Preventive Custody Decree, arrested persons may be detained indefinitely without trial. In the light of this, and of the torture allegations, *AI* is preparing investigation case sheets on these prisoners. They include Captain KOJO TSİKATA, one of Ghana's best-known soldiers, JOHNNY HANSEN, a lawyer and politician who was head of the Ghana Peace and Solidarity Council, and Dr KOFI AWOONOR, a prominent author and poet. Dr Awoonor's case has already been taken up by *AI* (March *Newsletter*). □

# appeals

## MARIE THERESE FEVAL, Haiti

MARIE THERESE FEVAL worked as a broadcaster for the governmental radio station Radio Commerce in Port-au-Prince and for the Haitian government's Service d'Information et de Documentation. In 1967 the police discovered that she was a member of the central committee of the banned Unified Party of Haitian Communists. She went into hiding, but her father and sister were arrested, presumably as hostages.

Her father, BAJON FEVAL, was subsequently released but died shortly afterwards, reportedly as a result of the torture to which he had been subjected. According to reports from former political detainees, the sister, MARIE-JOSE FEVAL, was eventually shot.

Marie Thérèse Féval was arrested around the end of March 1976, and nothing has been heard of her since. It is feared that she may suffer a similar fate to that of her father and sister, since the treatment of political prisoners in Haiti has remained unaltered over the past years: lack of judicial control over arrests, inhuman prison conditions, torture and death are still known to be common.

*Please send courteously worded letters, appealing for proper treatment and a speedy trial, to: Son Excellence le Président à Vie de la République, M. Jean-Claude Duvalier, Palais National, Port-au-Prince, Haiti. □*

## RAMADAN HAJULAH, Syria

RAMADAN HAJULAH was arrested by Syrian security forces in May or June 1975, presumably on suspicion of pro-Iraqi activities. For the first three months he was held at Al Kassa a prison in

Damascus, during which time he was reportedly subjected to severe torture. Allegations received by *AI* state that he underwent electric shocks, near-strangulation, insertion of a broken bottle in the rectum and beatings. The object of this treatment was apparently to make him sign a statement, which he consistently refused.

As a result of his torture, Mr Hajulah was temporarily paralyzed and could not walk for two months. After three months he was transferred to Qalaa prison in Damascus, which holds mainly common law offenders. Here he was not subjected to further torture, and relatives were allowed to visit him.

It is not known whether or not he has been tried. It is feared that he is still in weak health—medical care for prisoners in Syria is known to be inadequate for the most part. *AI* has taken Mr Hajulah up as an investigation case.

Reports received by *AI* during the past year indicate that torture is common in Syria during the first months after arrest. In September 1975, *AI* wrote to President HAFEZ ASSAD of Syria expressing extreme concern at the alleged deaths under torture of ABDEL WAKED ISMAIL KHALIF, a 27-year-old teacher, and ZUHEIR SHUKEIR, a 21-year-old student. No reply was received. More recently, *AI* learned of the alleged death under torture in February 1976 of SOBHAY SALEH OTHMAN, a student at the University of Damascus. A letter concerning this case to the Syrian authorities is also awaiting response.

*Please send courteously worded letters, requesting that Ramadan Hajulah receive adequate medical treatment and that his legal situation be clarified, to: His Excellency Lieutenant-General Hafez Assad, President, Syrian Arab Republic; and to: His Excellency Mr Ahmoud Ayoubi, Prime Minister, Syrian Arab Republic; and to: His Excellency Mr Adib Nahawi, Minister of Justice, Syrian Arab Republic. □*

## PERUVIAN TORTURERS GO ON TRIAL

Four police agents accused of torturing a common-law suspect to death have been brought to trial before the war council of Peru's second judiciary region. The regional acting prosecutor, JULIO CESAR ISASI, asked the war council to decide upon exemplary punishment for the agents.

The charges brought against the four members of the PIP (*Policía de Investigaciones del Perú*—Peruvian Investigative Police) are connected with events which took place in October and November 1971, when the PIP branch of the town of Huaral was investigating a case of robbery.

PIP local chief MANUEL LAGOS assigned the investigation to Commissioner JOAQUIN ROSALES CARREÑO. However, another PIP Commissioner, BENJAMIN ESPINOZA SILVA from Lima, arrived in Huaral on holiday and took over the case in spite of being off-duty. He was the brother-in-law of the claimant in the robbery case.

Señor JUSTO SANCHEZ DOLORES was arrested and held incommunicado by order of Señor Espinoza Silva. With the assistance of PIP agent VICTOR SANCHEZ JARA, Señor Espinoza Silva interrogated the suspect under torture every night. The victim, who never admitted the charges, was repeatedly suspended by the wrists and severely beaten and after many days of this treatment, Señor Sanchez Dolores died.

A medical examination corroborated that his death had been caused by severe beatings, which ruptured his liver. The trial

of the four PIP agents responsible for Señor Sanchez Dolores' death started in February 1976, and is expected to result in the severe sentences requested by the prosecutor.

The case is another indication of apparent efforts by the Peruvian authorities to investigate denunciations of abuse of authority. *AI* received numerous allegations of torture by PIP agents during the early 1970s, but the number of such allegations has considerably decreased during the past year. □

## SPAIN PROMISES TO PROBE MALTREATMENT OF WOMAN

The Spanish government on 24 April promised an investigation into the alleged maltreatment of a woman trade union leader who ended up in hospital in Pamplona with serious facial and kidney injuries after 24 hours of interrogation by police.

MARIA AMPARO ARANGOYA SATRUSTEGUI, vice-president of a government-controlled trade union, was arrested on 21 April outside the paper factory in Leiza, Navarre, where she worked and taken to Tolosa. The following night members of the *Guardia Civil* (civil police) brought her to a hospital where her condition was later described as serious.

Señora Arangoa is known for her leftwing views and is believed to be a member of the outlawed *Comisiones Obreras* (Workers' Commissions). The government spokesman who announced the investigation into her treatment said she had been interrogated in order to "verify her participation in subversive preparatory activities" for the annual celebrations of Basque freedom known as *Aberri Eguna*. □

## Venezuela Torture Allegations Persist

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September and October 1975 and subjected to severe beatings and electric shocks. Other testimonies refer to tortures which allegedly occurred before 1975.

The torturers named in these earlier instances include the three DIM agents convicted in September 1975 and others said to operate in police and military detention centers, particularly in the notorious "theatres of operations" (*teatros operacionales*), military anti-guerilla camps, as well as the army camps La Vaquera (State of Monagas), El Pinto (State of Sucre) and Casigua El Cubo (State of Zulia). Few of these prisoners have been formally charged or sentenced. They include some who have been held for more than four years under military justice without formal charges.

On 21 April 1976, *AI* wrote to Attorney General JOSE RAMON MEDINA, drawing his attention to these cases and providing the names of the alleged torturers. In the letter, *AI* congratulated Venezuelan authorities on their efforts to combat maltreatment and torture. The Venezuelan delegation played an outstanding role in supporting United Nations Resolution 3452 (XXX) concerning the declaration on the protection of all persons against torture and other forms of ill-treatment, adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1975.

The Venezuelan authorities are also playing a leading role in Latin America in the actual implementation of international norms against torture at a national level. Dr Medina personally intervened in the recent case of 22-year-old student JESUS EMILIO VALDERRAMA, allegedly kidnapped and tortured by DIM agents on 23 January 1976. Although local authorities have denied the allegations, Dr Medina has ordered a full investigation into the case. □

## URUGUAY CAMPAIGN ENDS BUT PRESSURE CONTINUES

*AI*'s first stage of the international campaign against torture in Uruguay came to an end in the middle of April. The public campaign clearly succeeded in drawing international attention to torture and other gross violations of human rights in Uruguay, and there were indications that this had created a considerable impact on the government.

Following the period of intense publicity and public action, *AI*'s International Secretariat began an extensive evaluation of the campaign aimed at ensuring that international pressure is maintained as long as the human rights violations in Uruguay continue and, more generally, using the experiences gained from it for future projects.

*AI* has now renewed its efforts to persuade the Uruguayan authorities to discuss their policies with impartial outside experts.

The Uruguayan government and news media have continued to denounce *AI* and the campaign but have still failed to respond to the serious allegations of torture. □

PRISONERS OF THE MONTH CAMPAIGN

C O R R E C T I O N

Since this Newsletter went to press, Amnesty International has received information that Hubert STEIN of Czechoslovakia may already have been released.

We therefore ask participants in the Prisoners of the Month Campaign to delete his name and not write cards or letters to the Czechoslovak authorities about his case.