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CRACKDOWN ON AI SOVIET GROUP MEMBERS FORMAL CHARGES LAID AGAINST TVERDOKHLEBOV, KOVALYOV RETURNED TO MOSCOW, AS PROTESTS MOUNT AGAINST ARRESTS

ANDREI TVERDOKHLEBOV, secretary of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S adoption group in Moscow, has now been detained formally by Soviet authorities, according to information received by the International Secretariat in London in May.

But the precise charges against Mr Tverdokhlebov, who was arrested on 18 April at the same time as another group member, Ukrainian writer MIKOLA RUDENKO, was detained in Kiev, are still not known (*May Newsletter*).

Mr Rudenko was freed two days later but was told that he would await further investigations and a trial for allegedly spreading material defamatory to the Soviet Union. Still detained, however, is a third member of the Moscow group, biologist SERGEI KOVALYOV, who was arrested on 28 December 1974 in connection with a KGB operation directed at the *samizdat* journal *A Chronicle of the Lithuanian Catholic Church*.

AI learned in May, however, that Mr Kovalyov has been moved back to Moscow from Vilnius in Lithuania, where he was taken after his arrest. The reason for the transfer is still not clear.

AI members throughout the world have sent protests to the Soviet government urging the release of Mr Tverdokhlebov and Mr Kovalyov.

Two major appeals for Mr Tverdokhlebov's release have also come from inside the USSR itself. On 21 April, 10 Soviet Jews, called on "all people of good will" to demand his release. The appeal was particularly striking because a number of the signatories had already obtained their long-awaited permission to emigrate and thus put their exit visas at risk by their open declaration.

On 30 April, in the biggest such public statement in the USSR in recent years, 60 "dissidents" signed an open appeal to world public opinion on behalf of Mr Tverdokhlebov. Last January 50 leading Soviet dissidents signed a public appeal on behalf of Mr Kovalyov.

AI Welcomes Women's Year Amnesty in USSR

In a letter to Soviet Communist Party leader LEONID BREZHNEV on 23 May, *AI* Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS welcomed the amnesty declared on 16 May for certain categories of women prisoners in the USSR. Mr Ennals urged Mr Brezhnev to extend the amnesty to all prisoners of conscience and asked for confirmation that a number of PoCs apparently covered by the amnesty had, in fact, been released.

The amnesty was declared in connection with International Women's Year and covered, among other categories of women prisoners, those who had received sentences of less than 5 years. It also halved the sentences of those serving more than 5 years. But it specifically excluded "those convicted of especially dangerous crimes against the state".

"Amnesty International was very pleased to learn of the partial amnesty granted to certain categories of women prisoners in the Soviet Union," Mr Ennals said in his letter.

"We are disappointed, however, to learn that such prisoners as Niöle Saduñaitė, Nadezhda Alekseyevna Svitlichnaya, Natalya Grunwald, Nina Karavanskaya, Maria Semyonova

NEW REGIME SAYS ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAVE BEEN RELEASED

The new government in South Vietnam announced in May that all political and common law prisoners held in prisons administered by the former Thieu regime have been freed, sometimes with the help of their own guards.

Scenes of jubilation were reported in Saigon in early May as political prisoners from the prison island camp of Con Son—notorious for its "tiger cages" which left many of its inmates permanently crippled—were led on a parade through the streets of the city.

In spite of some early fears, there were no substantiated reports of prisoners being executed before the takeover by forces of the National Liberation Front.

First indications of the release of the prisoners came late in April after contacts between *AI*'s International Secretariat and the representative in Paris of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG), Madame PHAN THI MINH.

On 2 May, DIRK BORNER, Chairman of *AI*'s International Executive Committee (IEC), cabled PRG President HUYNH TAN PHAT to welcome the return of peace to Vietnam and to request confirmation that all political prisoners throughout the south had been freed.

In April and May 1975, discussions took place in Algiers, Paris and London between Madame Minh and members of the IEC and the International Secretariat, including Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS. The talks centered on finding out more about the release of political prisoners and the treatment reserved to military and civilian personnel of the old regime.

A PRG representative in Paris confirmed to MARIE-JOSE PROTAIS of the IEC and Mr Ennals that none of the many tens of thousands of political prisoners held by the old regime were left behind bars and assured them that the PRG was opposed to capital punishment as a matter of policy. She also said that while soldiers and non-commissioned officers of the old regime were being allowed to return home, the officers were being held for "re-education".

In Saigon there have recently been reports of execution of looters and street criminals being carried out without formal proceedings. These reports are being investigated.

Musiyenko, Oksana Popovych, Irina Senik, Stefania Shabatara, Irina Onufrivna Stasiv and Lyubov Nastusenko, all of whom have been arrested or convicted under article 70 of the RSFSR (Russian) Criminal Code or its Republican

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equivalents, would be excluded. Each of these women has been convicted of offenses relating to anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda which, surprisingly and regrettably, are categorized as 'especially dangerous crimes against the state'."

Urging Mr Brezhnev to give serious consideration to extending the amnesty to all these named prisoners of conscience, Mr Ennals also asked him for confirmation of the release of Lidia Alexandrovna Korzhanets, D. I. Kravchenko, Ella Valterovna Kasper, Tatyana Saprionovna Kozhemyakina, Yekaterina Ivanovna Gritsenko, Zinaida Petrovna Tarasova, Nadezhda Gerasimovna Lvova and Ida Danilovna Korotun—all of whom should have been covered by the amnesty. Most of the women are Baptists imprisoned for their religious activities.

Iranian Adoptees 'Shot Trying to Escape'

AI cabled the SHAH of IRAN on 22 April calling for an independent medical commission of inquiry into the deaths of seven *AI*-adopted prisoners of conscience in Iran who were among nine prisoners the Iranian press said had been "shot while trying to escape".

"We have serious doubts about the creditability of the official account of the death of these men," *AI* said in a statement. "All seven were reported to have been severely tortured before their trial six years ago, and there have been reports that several of them were tortured subsequently. We have reason to believe they may actually have died under torture and that the 'shot while trying to escape' story may be an attempt to disguise this."

The seven are AHMAD AFSAR, MOHAMMAD CHUPANZAD, BIDJAN JAZANI, MASHOUF KALANTARI, AZIZ SARMADI, ABASS SOORKY and HASSAN ZIA ZARIFI. They were sentenced in January 1969 to between 8 and 15 years' imprisonment for alleged membership in a group "with communist ideology which had conspired against the security of the state".

An American observer who attended the trial on behalf of *AI*, BETTY ASSHETON, reported that "the case presented by the military prosecutor was ludicrously inadequate...It relied predominantly on individual guilt by association, and on group guilt established largely on the basis of one man's statement, said by the defence to have been one of several 'confessions' extorted under torture."

Early in March *AI* learned that 114 prisoners, including the seven, were transferred to Evin prison in Teheran where they underwent further torture.

"The families of the dead men have not been allowed to have their bodies, and according to a report from a source we regard as reliable, the men were in fact killed some time ago, perhaps as a result of torture," *AI* said.

Chad Says 70 Died Under Ousted Regime

The new Chad government headed by General FELIX MALLOUM, which took power on 13 April after overthrowing President NGARTA TOMBALBAYE, who died in the fighting, (*May Newsletter*), has freed 172 political prisoners and announced that Chad's prisons no longer hold political detainees.

Among those freed in the amnesty at the end of April were a number of long-term *AI* adoptees, including MARC DOUNIA, AHMED KOULAMALA (a former Prime Minister) and ANTOINE BANGUI (former Chadian Ambassador to West Germany). At the same ceremony which saw the announcement of the release of the detainees, the Chadian authorities also produced a "black list" of over 70 individuals who had either died from torture or sickness while in prison, or had allegedly been summarily executed by the Tombalbaye regime. According to news reports, these deaths took place in 1974 and the first month of 1975.

Although the names of those who died were read out to a public rally in the Chadian capital of Ndjamena, they were not reported in the news media and *AI*'s Research Department is still attempting to obtain a full list of those released and those who have died, in order to discover the fate of the 33 *AI* adoption cases whose present circumstances are unknown.

AI APPEALS TO FRENCH PRESIDENT TO FREE THREE TAHITIAN PACIFISTS

On 15 May *AI* Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS sent a letter of appeal to President VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING of France asking him to grant an amnesty to three Tahitian pacifists, ROBERT CAHN, CHARLES CHING and FELIX TEHEIURA, imprisoned three years ago for their opposition to nuclear tests in French Polynesia. The three had stolen several cases of unuseable ammunition by way of protest to the Tahitian military authorities and continually maintained their pacifist intentions throughout the proceedings.

Argentines Who 'Disappeared' Found

Two people who vanished in the current wave of violence, abductions, disappearance and assassinations in Argentina and who were the subject of urgent *AI* interventions have been found. They are the trade unionist HUGO CORES and journalist ANA GUZETTI.

Mr Cores, who was active in the Uruguayan trade union movement before returning to his native Argentina for political reasons a couple of years ago, disappeared on 14 April in what appeared to be one of the numerous abductions by the right-wing death squad *Alianza Anticomunista Argentina* (AAA). After various telegrams were sent on his behalf and a French lawyer visited the country, Mr Cores was located in a prison 300 kilometers from Buenos Aires and was visited by his mother.

Ana Guzetti, who during a news conference a year ago asked the then President JUAN PERON what steps the government was taking to investigate the activities of the rightwing death squads, was abducted at the end of April after the AAA publicly warned 16 intellectuals to leave the country quickly or be killed. *AI* alerted journalists' associations and several national sections also sent telegrams to the Argentinian authorities requesting appropriate steps for her protection.

On 8 May Ana Guzetti was reported to be in a private clinic recovering from ill-treatment.

SOUTH KOREA TRIES POET AGAIN

Internationally-known Korean poet KIM CHI-HA and HAN SEUNG-HON, a member of the *AI* South Korean Committee board—both *AI* adoptees—went separately on trial in Seoul on 19 May. Each was charged under the country's anti-communist law which forbids "instigation and praise of anti-government groups".

If found guilty, Kim Chi-Ha could be sentenced a second time to death. He was sentenced to death in July 1974, but the sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment and he was conditionally released in mid-February this year (*March Newsletter*). He was re-arrested by the Korean Central Intelligence Agency on 14 March.

According to the prosecution's indictment, Kim Chi-Ha published an article stating that "the so-called People's Revolutionary Party [PRP] case was fabricated by means of torture". The article was published in *Dong-A-Ilbo*, a newspaper which has been outspoken on issues of civil rights and which because of this, has been put under extreme pressure by the South Korean government.

The indictment also stated that Kim Chi-ha had said in a press conference on 1 March that the government should release those allegedly involved in the PRP, and grant an

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.

Michele CAMASSA, Italy

MICHELE CAMASSA is a member of the Italian League of Conscientious Objectors and an anarchist. Conscientious objector status is rarely recognized under Italian law on any political grounds. Mr Camassa was arrested in June 1973 for refusing to obey his call-up papers.

He was tried more than one year later, in September 1974 and sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment. In giving his reasons for objecting to military service during the trial, Mr Camassa condemned both the army and his military judges. For this he had to face a second trial in December for "insubordination and outrage". He received a further sentence of 2 years and one day. It is not uncommon for sentences passed by a military court to be augmented in this way.

From his arrest in June until January 1975 Michele Camassa was held in the military prison of Peschiera del Garda, Verona, reported to be the worst of its kind in Italy, notorious for its cold, damp cells, poor food and high suicide rate. He last year was said to be suffering from increasingly bad health due to the food and the treatment he has received.

Early this year, Mr Camassa was transferred away from his fellow conscientious objectors to another military prison, Gaeta, also notorious for its bad conditions. He was officially transferred for reasons of "military discipline" but *AI* has been told that the real reason was because he announced to the press that he was about to commence a hunger strike in protest against conditions in Peschiera del Garda and all military prisons where conscientious objectors are held.

Please address courteously worded letters appealing for his release to: The Prime Minister, Aldo Moro, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Roma; *and to:* The Minister of the Army, Signor Arnaldo Forlani, Ministero difesa Escercito Roma.

Said ZAHARI, Singapore

SAID ZAHARI, journalist and poet, entered his 12th year of detention without trial in February of this year (February *Newsletter*) and he continues to be held under the provisions of Singapore's Internal Security Act.

In 1961, as editor of the *Utusan Melayu* in Malaya, Said Zahari led a prolonged strike by journalists and staff in protest against what they saw as an attempt to bring the newspaper under the control of the ruling party. The strike was eventually broken and Said Zahari was barred from returning to Malaya after a visit he had made to Singapore, on the technical grounds that he was born in Singapore;

In Singapore, Said Zahari associated himself with left-wing opposition to the proposed creation of the Federation of Malaysia, and early in February 1963 he was arrested with over 100 politicians, trade unionists,

journalists, students and others in "Operation Cold Store", a massive security operation designed to emasculate the leftwing forces in the island. Operation Cold Store was ordered by the Internal Security Council established under the terms of the 1959 constitution, on which sat three British representatives, one of them the High Commissioner.

The grounds for Said Zahari's original detention order were that he had been actively engaged in Communist United Front activities and had thereby endangered the security of Malaya and Singapore. It was further alleged that he had been involved in a plot to stage an uprising in Singapore to coincide with a rebellion in Brunei, but neither of these allegations has ever been tested in open court.

In common with other political detainees in Singapore, Said Zahari has several times been subjected to periods of solitary confinement and interrogation—some lasting up to six months—in the Internal Security Department headquarters, apparently with the aim of securing a statement of political recantation. At present he is detained in the Moon Crescent Center, a special wing of Changi Prison. He is allowed one family visit of half an hour per week conducted by telephone across thick soundproof glass. A prison officer monitors all conversations, which are terminated if prison conditions are mentioned.

Please send courteously worded cards, in English, appealing for his immediate release to: Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister's Office, City Hall, Singapore 6; *and to:* Mr Chua Sian Chin, Ministry of Home Affairs, Pearl's Hill, Singapore 2.

Dr Werner SCHAEELICKE, German Democratic Republic

Dr WERNER SCHAEELICKE, who was born on 21 December 1927, was working as a surgeon at a Leipzig hospital until his arrest on 21 June 1974. He has been held without trial at the State Security prison in Leipzig on charges of "incitement against the State" which are usually applied when persons have criticized the regime or its representatives.

Because of his outspoken opinions, Dr Schaelicke had been experiencing difficulties at the hospital where he was working and was due to be transferred to another hospital.

Dr Schaelicke's state of health is said to be bad. He has in the past undergone four operations and wished to undergo another operation in West Germany, but he was refused permission to leave the country. Dr Schaelicke and his wife, who is a teacher, are both members of the SED (Socialist Unity Party), the official party of the GDR.

Dr Schaelicke has now been detained for 11 months for exercising his right to freedom of expression without persecution as is guaranteed by article 19 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights. He was adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience in October 1974.

Please send courteously worded appeals for his release to: Dr Josef Streit, Generalstaatsanwalt der DDR, 104 Berlin, Scharnhorststrasse 37, Deutsche Demokratische Republik.

amnesty to all those released. Despite the poet's appeal, and despite widespread international concern, eight of the defendants in the PRP case were preemptorily executed on 9 April, less than 24 hours after their sentences were confirmed by the Supreme Court, which gave its decision in the absence of the defendants and their lawyers (*May Newsletter*). The defendants were denied their constitutional right to appeal for clemency or for re-trial.

The details of the indictment against Han Seung-Hon are not known. A distinguished lawyer and writer, he is in addition to his *AI* position, a founder member of the National Council for the Restoration of Democracy and an advisory lawyer to the Journalists' Association of Korea. He was arrested on 25 March (*May Newsletter*), two days before the re-opening of the trial of President PARK CHUNG-HEE's leading opponent KIM DAE-JUNG. Mr Han is Kim Dae-Jung's ex-defence lawyer.

AI News in Brief

AI Adoptee Faces Death Penalty in Rhodesia AI adoptee MAURICE NYAGUMBO, one of six Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) leaders freed from detention in Rhodesia during December 1974, was re-arrested on 2 April and charged with recruiting or assisting in the recruitment of ZANU guerillas. He, and a number of other men charged with the same offence, are to be tried *in camera*. Under a recently gazetted amendment to Rhodesia's Law and Order (Maintenance) Regulations, they face a mandatory death sentence if convicted.

The re-arrest of Mr Nyagumbo, just four months after his release from 15 years in preventative detention, means that only two of the six ZANU leaders freed last December remain at liberty in Rhodesia. Two others, ROBERT MUGABE and EDGAR TEKERE, have apparently sought assylum in Mozambique, while the Reverend NDABANINGI SITHOLE, the ZANU President, who was briefly re-detained, "tried" and then released during March (see *May Newsletter*), has decided not to return to Rhodesia under present circumstances.

AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS sent cables on 30 April to Commonwealth Secretary General ARNOLD SMITH and Jamaican Prime Minister MICHAEL MANLEY, commending the invitation to Bishop ABEL MUZOREWA and other Rhodesian African Nationalist leaders to attend the Commonwealth Conference held in Kingston, Jamaica. AI urged that Commonwealth leaders use all possible influence to secure the release of all political detainees in Rhodesia, who are still believed to number over 300.

AI Appeals to Jamaica to Reprive Two Under Death Sentences AI appealed urgently to the government of Jamaica on 25 May to reprieve two young men sentenced to death for a murder that occurred when both were 17 years old. An appeal by the two men, EATON BAKER and PAUL TYRELL, on the grounds that they were under age when the offence was committed was rejected on 19 May. The men were convicted in May 1971 of the murder in November 1969 of a warder during a riot at Hill Top Prison, Bamboo, St Anne, Jamaica.

AI Lists 71 Imprisoned Journalists in 17 Countries AI published a list in May of 71 journalists—and those who have written regularly for newspapers and journals—in 17 countries who are imprisoned or who have "disappeared". Publication coincided with the General Assembly of the International Press Institute (IPI) in Zurich on 12-13 May. AI's Head of Information and Publications, MARK GRANTHAM, attended the IPI assembly as an observer.

Tanzanian Amnesty Frees 157 Detainees An amnesty decreed by President JULIUS NYERERE on 26 April to mark the anniversary of the union between Zanzibar and mainland Tanzania released 157 detainees who had been held in prison on mainland Tanzania under the Preventive Detention Act. A number of AI adoption and investigation cases benefitted by the amnesty, including ALEX NYIRENDA, whose name was on the December 1974 greetings card list.

3 Adoptees in Brazil Sentenced, Then Released Three AI adoptees in Brazil were sentenced to 7 months' imprisonment after a mass trial of 39 persons in Sao Paulo in March. The three, who were released because they already had been in prison awaiting trial for that length of time, are MARIA AMELIA TELLES, HORACIO MARTINS de CARVALHO and ARLINO MOREIRA SALES.

Another AI adoptee, LUIS BASILIO ROSSI was among the original defendants, who were all accused of activities related to the banned pro-Chinese Communist Party. But he had managed to leave the country before the trial began. However a new decree of preventative detention has been issued against him.

Aged Adoptee in Yugoslavia Ill AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS sent letters on 24 April to the Yugoslav authorities requesting the immediate improvement of prison conditions of DJURA DJUROVIC, an AI adoptee whose trial was observed in October last by the Dutch lawyer Professor FRITS RUTER (November 1974 *Newsletter*). Mr Ennals also asked that Dr Djurovic's appeal hearing should take place before the Serbian Supreme Court as soon as possible. Dr Djurovic, aged 75, is ill and has been kept in detention since November 1973 in a cell without proper blankets and in semi-darkness.

AI Sends Mission to Taiwan An AI delegate, Dr JAMES SEYMOUR, professor of political science at New York University, arrived in Taipei, Taiwan, on 15 May to inquire into a nation-wide reduction of prison sentences ordered by Prime Minister CHIANG CHING-KUO in April. This is only the second time that prisoners' sentences have been reduced in Taiwan since the late President CHIANG KAI-SHEK went to the island in 1949 and it is the first time it will apply to political prisoners as well as common criminals. Sources close to the government estimate the number of political prisoners in Taiwan at 300, but outside observers believe that there are several thousands held for non-violent political dissent. Dr Seymour was to convey to the Taiwanese government AI's request for details on particular cases and on the implementation of the proposed measure.

Sierra Leone Rejects Appeal of 14 Under Death Sentence The Sierra Leone Court of Appeal has rejected the appeals of 14 persons who were sentenced to death in November 1974 having been convicted of plotting to overthrow the government of President SIAKA STEVENS (December *Newsletter*). The 14 include former AI adoptees MOHAMED FORNA and ABU KANU. One person won his appeal, and was freed. The remaining 14 are carrying their cases to the Supreme Court of Sierra Leone. AI International Secretariat has been following the cases closely, and has urged President Stevens not to allow the sentences to be carried out.

PRISONER RELEASES AND CASES

The International Secretariat learned in April of the release of 84 AI-adopted prisoners and took up 190 new cases.

AI Resumes Publication of Soviet Human Rights Journal AI published in May an English translation of numbers 28-31 of *A Chronicle of Current Events*, the *samizdat* journal of the movement for the defence of human rights in the Soviet Union.

The 168-page book records the arrests, searches, detentions, trials, deaths and confinement in labour camps and sometimes psychiatric hospitals of intellectual, religious and national dissenters in the USSR. It covers the period from October 1972—when the KGB succeeded temporarily in suppressing the *Chronicle*—to May 1974.

A Chronicle of Current Events, numbers 28-31 is illustrated with photographs and a map showing the locations of camps and other places mentioned. Copies are available at 95 pence (US \$2.50) from national sections or from Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England. Please add 15 per cent for postage and packing.

AI Founder Peter Benenson Visits International Secretariat PETER BENENSON, the founder of Amnesty International, paid a brief visit to the International Secretariat in London on 14 May to have lunch and to meet the staff. It was his first visit to the Secretariat in a number of years and the first opportunity many members of the staff had of meeting the man whose name constantly figures in AI documents and AI thinking.

Peter Benenson has recently received a gold medal from the German Criminological Society as founder of AI and he was delighted to confirm that, despite some press reports to the contrary, he was still very much alive and interested in the work of the organization. A lawyer by profession, Mr Benenson is now a farmer in Oxfordshire, England.

AI Presents Mission Report to Sri Lanka Following a mission to Sri Lanka in January this year by British lawyer LOUIS BLOM-COOPER and YVONNE TERLINGEN of AI's Asia Department (March *Newsletter*), AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS sent the mission report to Mrs SIRIMAVO BANDARANAIKE, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka on 8 May.

The report will not be published until AI receives the government's response. It contains a number of detailed recommendations relating to trial facilities and detention conditions of political prisoners in Sri Lanka. The report was also sent to Minister of Justice FELIX DIAS BANDARANAIKE, whom the AI delegates met in Colombo, and who cooperated with the mission by arranging a number of official meetings.

Czechoslovakia Announces Amnesty Czechoslovakia announced an amnesty on 8 May for sentences up to 3 years, but this does not include prisoners of conscience. On 15 April, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS had appealed to President LUDVIG SVOBODA and Communist Party General Secretary GUSTAV HUSAK for the release of all political prisoners to mark the 30th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia from German occupation.

Michael de Freitas (Michael X) Hanged MICHAEL DE FREITAS, also known as Michael Abdul Malik and Michael X, was hanged in Trinidad on 16 May in spite of a series of AI attempts to have his life spared. Mr de Freitas was sentenced to death in August 1972 for the alleged murder of a fellow Trinidadian. AI first appealed for his life in November 1973. Appeals also were sent just before the execution to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference meeting in Jamaica and to Prime Minister ERIC WILLIAMS of Trinidad.

Changes of Address The Austrian Section's new address is Amnesty International Austrian Section, 1020 Wien [Vienna], Franz Hochedlingerg 8/5, Austria. Telephone 33 48 973.

The new address of the German Section is: Amnesty International German Section, 2 Hamburg 76, Stuckenstrasse 70.

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**PAPER PREPARED FOR TORONTO MEETING
AI SUBMITS PROPOSALS ON TORTURE AND SMR TO UN CONGRESS**

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL has submitted proposals to the Fifth United Nations Congress for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, which will be held in Toronto, Canada, on 1-15 September 1975. The anticipated 2,000 participants will come from all over the world and will include government authorities as well as hundreds of police officers, penologists and criminologists.

The congress represents an important step in AI's continuing efforts to keep the issue of torture constantly before inter-governmental organizations. For the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture in particular, the congress will be the most important international meeting since the December 1973 AI Paris Conference for the Abolition of Torture.

Although the congress, which meets every five years, is not an international legislative body, it does have the status within the United Nations to recommend important measures to the UN and its agencies, and more important, to have its recommendations adopted. The first congress (Geneva, Switzerland, 1955) recommended the adoption of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (SMR) by the UN as a guideline for all member states and for incorporation into national laws. The fourth congress (Kyoto, Japan, 1970), where Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS represented AI, brought the SMR once again into the center of international discussion among governmental officials who are directly and indirectly responsible for their adoption and enforcement in national legislation. Torture will be as central an issue at the fifth congress as the SMR were at the first.

AI will send six representatives to the congress and will hold two seminars, which will focus on the proposals set forth in AI's 16-page submission to the congress. The document contains a series of eight proposals categorized under two main headings: first, matters arising from UN Resolution 3218 (XXIX) of 6 November 1974, which was initiated by AI in an effort to bring torture and such matters as codes of ethics for the police, for lawyers and for medical personnel before the congress; and second, a review and strengthening of the SMR.

Under these categories AI will ask the congress to recommend that the UN declare torture to be a crime under international law, thus excluding torture from all national claims of jurisdiction. AI will also urge the congress to recommend that the UN authorize the elaboration of a convention for the suppression of torture and the protection of all prisoners. The congress will also be asked to stipulate that the SMR apply to all detainees, whether or not they have been charged with a crime, thus bringing prisoners from their first moment of detention and throughout all interrogation under the protection offered by the SMR.

South Koreans Tortured into Confessing

Since 1972, when a new constitution was passed in the Republic of Korea giving the President the power to rule by emergency decree, there have been many allegations that large numbers of people have been detained there without trial, that lawyers have been officially harassed in their attempts to defend persons accused of political crimes, and that torture has been systematically used in the extraction of confessions.

In March AI dispatched a mission to Seoul to investigate these allegations (April *CAT Bulletin*), and on 22 May one

**TORTURE OF DETAINED ZANU LEADERS
IN ZAMBIA SUSPECTED**

AI has received reports of the use of torture by members of the Zambian police and security services against both Zambians and other nationals. The most recent information concerns exiled Zimbabweans (Rhodesians) and leaders of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) who were detained following the assassination in Lusaka in March of HERBERT CHITEPO, the exiled Chairman of ZANU. Those now detained and reportedly tortured include close associates of Mr Chitepo.

In a letter to President KENNETH KAUNDA, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS welcomed reports of Dr Kaunda's decision to set up an international inquiry to examine the circumstances of Mr Chitepo's death. Mr Ennals also urged Dr Kaunda, who gave personal support to the AI Conference for the Abolition of Torture in 1973, to intervene personally to investigate these allegations and to prevent any further torture. Previous torture allegations in Zambia have been handled through the courts.

member of the mission, English lawyer BRIAN WROBEL, testified before a subcommittee on international relations of the United States House of Representatives. Mr Wrobel testified about the frequent detention without charge of journalists, lawyers, churchmen and academics as well as the systematic surveillance of South Korean citizens and harassment of formerly free institutions by law-enforcement agencies.

Regarding torture, Mr Wrobel said:

"It is frequently used by law-enforcement agencies both in an attempt to extract false confessions and as a tactic of intimidation. The methods of torture comprise, among others, water torture (cold water forced up the nostrils through a tube), electrical shock (often in conjunction with water torture, to sensitive parts of the body such as the toes and genitals), the beating of persons tied hand and foot and suspended from the ceiling, and deprivation of sleep for prolonged periods (in one case, 15 days)."

Mr Wrobel said that the AI mission found that this treatment had resulted in ruptured ear-drums, abscessed lungs, prolapsed anus, one heart attack and bruising of bones and tissue.

In an attempt to counter the seriousness of torture allegations, South Korean Foreign Minister KIM DONG-JO admitted on 1 May in an interview with *The New York Times* that there had been "unauthorized torture of dissidents", but he went on to say that it had been no worse than in the United States, West Germany or Great Britain.

Demonstrating that the allegations are indeed serious, Mr

Wrobel testified that eight men who were peremptorily executed on 8 April (*May Newsletter*), while the *AI* mission was in Seoul, had confessed under torture. Mr Wrobel concluded: "This mission has further found that these confessions do not represent the truth."

APPEALS

A report prepared in May by Basque lawyers details the repressive effects of the state of emergency declared in the Basque region on 25 April. According to the report, more than 2,000 people have been arrested, and torture is alleged to be frequent. The state of emergency follows recent killings of policemen, allegedly carried out by the Basque Liberation Movement ETA V, and a series of anti-ETA demonstrations during which suspected ETA sympathizers were assaulted and their property damaged.

Churchmen sympathetic to the Basque Liberation movement have for the first time become the victims of attacks and torture by the police and by para-police gangs. On 12 May a 72-year-old Roman Catholic priest was assaulted in his parish library in the suburbs of Bilbao by unidentified, heavily armed young men.

On 8 May Father EUSTASIO ERQUICIA, another priest from Bilbao, was arrested and interrogated by the police, apparently in connection with a crackdown on Basque nationalists. Father Erquicia, aged 30, was held for interrogation, but no charges were brought against him. Doctors at the hospital said initially that they did not expect him to survive, and the latest reports say that he continues in grave condition.

Please send courteously worded letters, requesting an official inquiry into the beating of Father Erquicia and into the allegations of widespread torture in the Basque country, to: Don Carlos Arias Navarro, Presidente del Gobierno, Presidencia del Gobierno, Castellana 3, Madrid; and to: Don Jose Garcia Hernandez, Ministro de la Gobernacion, Ministerio de la Gobernacion, Madrid.

N. Ireland Torture Victim Re-Detained

Joseph Clarke, who served 35 months without trial at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland and was awarded more than £12,000 in damages from the British government in 1974 because he had been tortured in 1971, is now once again interned without charge at the Maze.

Mr Clarke was interrogated in 1971 and suffered physical beatings and 40 hours of enforced wall-standing, according to the British government's official inquiry known as the Compton Report (1971). Mr Clarke further alleges that he had been subjected to techniques of sensory deprivation for six days during his 1971 interrogation.

Since his release in July 1974 he has been re-arrested six times on unsubstantiated charges and was allegedly physically assaulted during interrogation on one occasion. One day after the Northern Ireland High Court had awarded him damages November he was served with an interim custody order and has been held without charge since then.

Detention without charge or trial is especially serious in the poor prison conditions that persist in the Maze Prison—a fact that was re-confirmed late last year when Professor ALFRED HEIJDER, a Dutch penologist and member of the *AI* International Executive Committee, visited the prison. Mr Clarke is the only internee tortured in 1971 who is still in detention. *AI* is concerned that the previous psychological torture that he sustained makes him particularly vulnerable to the harsh prison conditions to which he is now subjected.

Please send courteously worded letters, asking for his

immediate release, to: Mr Merlyn Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland Office, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AJ, England.

Senegal Charged with Using Torture

For the first time *AI* has received allegations of torture of political detainees in Senegal, reportedly during a recent attempt to stifle political opposition to the government.

Since 29 December 1974, 20 persons, most of them teachers and students, have been arrested in various towns by the police on suspicion of distributing propaganda against the government of President LEOPOLD SENGHOR or of having connections with his political opponents. During pre-trial detention some of the 20 detainees were allegedly subjected to severe physical torture, including suspension, kicking, beating, electric shocks and burning with cigarettes.

At their trial in April, charges against seven of them were dismissed, but the remaining 13 received sentences ranging from a nominal 15 days up to five years.

TORTURE ALLEGED IN COLOMBIA

An article published in an April issue of *Alternativa* (Colombia) entitled "What the interrogation of political prisoners is like", reports on a document allegedly produced by the army. It includes a report by interrogators to their superior officer concerning the interrogation of a peasant, ELIAS CAMPO RIVERA, who was arrested in connection with the kidnapping of members of a wealthy family, allegedly by guerillas of the outlawed National Liberation Army (ELN).

The army-report is quoted as follows:

"At the beginning of the interrogation, the subject, Elias Campo Rivera, used lies to deny his guilt. Under these circumstances, he was subjected to a drastic method (sic) confessing immediately the reality of certain actions that were confirmed, and that typified the crime of kidnapping. As one can observe that the subject is quite nervous and susceptible under the pressure (*forzamiento*) applied to him, it is thought that 90% of what he says should be considered credible..."

Incidents of torture and assassination of peasants are common in the southern provinces of Colombia, where the indigenous population has traditionally been in conflict with the large landowners over the possession of the land. The Cauca Regional Council of Indigenous Peoples (CRIC) has repeatedly denounced the illegal arrests, torture and assassinations of peasant leaders. It has claimed that at least 10 leaders were assassinated from August to December 1974 and that the rural areas are "under the rule of terror".

Two other leaders, GUILLERMO MUSICUE and RAMON JULICUE, currently detained in Santander Prison, have allegedly been brutally tortured with beatings, near drowning in mud, hanging by the arms and threats of death to extract confessions. In the Coloso district, which is under military control, 18 peasants were arrested on 21 March 1975. The National Association of Peasants (ANUC) protested in a public demonstration claiming that at least two of the detainees—IGNACIO SALCEDO and ANTONIO PEREZ—had been savagely tortured, humiliated and abused.

AI wrote to President ALFONSO LOPEZ MICHELSEN on 18 March 1975 about allegations of torture, assassination and detention of peasants and the absence of legal guarantees. *AI* offered to provide information for an official inquiry.

STOP PRESS

The report from the December CAT Workshop on Human Rights is now available, free of charge, from Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England. Please send the cost of postage. Copies are being distributed to *AI* groups and national sections.