



Health concern over Polish prisoners

There is serious concern about the health of a number of Polish prisoners of conscience arrested after the declaration of martial law in Poland on 13 December 1981

One of them is said to have been in urgent need of proper medical treatment:

- Wieslaw Wika-Czarnowski, a former employee at the Gdansk Port Authority, was sentenced in March 1982 by the Naval Court in Gdynia to three years' imprisonment and one year's loss of civil rights on charges of continuing trade union activity after the imposition of martial law and of organizing a strike at Gdansk port.

Reports reaching *AI* say that he had two operations for cancer before his arrest and that a third was cancelled owing to his detention. According to information dated end-April 1982, he was not receiving adequate medical treatment and there were fears that his life was in danger as a result.

Another imprisoned trade unionist whose health is causing concern is Krzysztof Dowgiallo, aged 44, an architect and former member of the Gdansk Regional Board of the suspended unofficial trade union organization Solidarity. He was sentenced early in June to four years' imprisonment and four years' loss of civil rights for organizing a strike at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk.

He is reported to have been beaten on arrest and to have developed pleurisy and heart trouble. After a heart attack in prison in Gdansk he is reported to have been removed to a prison hospital in Bydgoszcz; he was later returned to the Gdansk prison for the trial. A recent request by his wife to speak to the prison doctors about her husband's health is reported to have been refused.

Three of those whose health is causing concern are awaiting trial for trade union activity after the imposition of martial law.

Tadeusz Wyganowski, a Solidarity official in Gdansk, was arrested on 11

January 1982 after participating in a strike. He was moved to a prison hospital in Bydgoszcz for treatment of a chronic skin disease. At the end of May he returned to prison in Gdansk where he is awaiting trial. He is reported to have been given the drug Enkorton, but is suffering psychological side effects and pain in the joints.

Szymon Pawlicki, aged 47, an actor and member of the Gdansk Regional Board of Solidarity, was arrested after having participated in a strike at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk. He is reported to have been struck in the back by a plastic shield used by the militia during their attack on the shipyard. This is reported to have resulted in partial paralysis. His health deteriorated seriously and in April 1982 he was sent to the Medical Academy in Gdansk. He reportedly cannot walk or move his legs and is thought to be suffering from a spinal injury leading to paralysis of the lower limbs. His trial has been postponed because of his continuing ill health.

Mirosław Krupinski, Solidarity's deputy head, is awaiting trial on charges of having attempted to organize a strike (see May 1982 *Newsletter*). He is reported to be held in a military hospital in Bydgoszcz suffering from a heart condition.

Early in June *AI* appealed for the release of Emil Morgiewicz, a journalist and lawyer from Warsaw who was interned in Bialoleka prison near the capital after 13 December. Reports received in April had said he was seriously ill and urgently in need of proper medical treatment in a civilian hospital.

Eight years ago he was declared unfit for work because of poor health and he has been receiving an invalid's pension.

He was a member of the disbanded unofficial human and civil rights movement KSS KOR, the Committee for Social Self-Defence, and was previously adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience.

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Israel Reports say prisoners ill-treated

AI has called on the Israeli Government to account for all the prisoners its forces have taken in Lebanon and to treat them in conformity with internationally accepted standards.

Citing press reports that most of the prisoners—both civilians and combatants—were being held incommunicado and that some were ill-treated, *AI* has urged the government to take effective and visible steps to protect them. They should be allowed access at least to a humanitarian organization such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, and where possible to families and lawyers.

In a letter sent by telex to the Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, on 1 July 1982, *AI* said the authorities should publish full details of those held, including the reasons for holding them.

"Any prisoners held solely on the grounds of their political opinions, allegiances or ethnic origins should be released immediately", the letter said.

Prisoners taken during the Israeli sweep into Lebanon have included not only combatants but many Palestinians, Lebanese and other civilians. The International Committee of the Red Cross has only been able to visit some of the prisoners in hospital, but none of those held in detention camps.

AI's letter called on the government to instruct Israeli troops "to respect international agreements including the right of every prisoner not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment". It asked for an immediate

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Spain

Basque woman says police beat her up in custody

A former mother superior of a Roman Catholic convent has accused the Spanish police of beating her up during interrogation while she was being held under the country's anti-terrorist laws in April 1982.

Fifty-four-year-old Ana Ereño Achirica, formerly of the *Madres Mercedarias Misioneras*, Missionary Mothers of Mercy, is now a well-known feminist in northern Spain and works for the Basque newspaper *Egin*.

On 17 May she filed an accusation in the court of Bilbao that she had suffered injuries as a result of ill-treatment in Indauchu police station, Bilbao.

She was arrested in San Sebastián when she left work on 28 April and held incommunicado without access to lawyers or her family for nine days: first for one day in Bilbao and afterwards in the *Dirección General de Seguridad* (DGS) in Madrid, the headquarters of Spain's police. The law permits the police to hold suspects incommunicado for a period of 72 hours, which may be extended by seven days with judicial permission.

On 7 May she appeared in court in Madrid and was committed to Yeserias prison; she was provisionally released on 12 June. She has been charged with belonging to an armed band.

In her written accusation of 17 May she states that on 28 April in the police station in Bilbao she received powerful punches on her breasts, and karate blows on her thighs and that she was punched and slapped on the head and neck while held by her interrogators (she gives a description of two of her alleged interrogators). She said that this treatment continued for several hours and that the next day she was trans-

ferred to Madrid where she was held for a further eight days (during which she was not ill-treated).

On arrival in Madrid on 29 April she was examined by police doctors. Their report shows that they found facial swelling, including on her eyelids; her left eye was bloodshot and her jaw, stomach and abdomen were bruised. Her neck was also bruised and swollen.

Later that day she was examined by an ophthalmologist and a traumatologist who confirmed the findings relating to the eyes and head. A further examination of her eyes on 3 May noted a marked improvement in her condition. However, an examination on 7 May ordered by the court recorded "haemorrhage in both eyeballs. Haematoma of approximately 3 cms on both cheeks. Haematoma on the neck and right shoulder approximately 6 cms long; another 2 cms long in the peri-umbilical region and another longitudinal one of 5 cms in the middle of the external region of the left thigh. All the haematoma are in the process of healing."

A further medical report on the same day by the Head of Medical Services, Dr Manuel Castresana García, substantially confirmed the previous report and requested that she be kept under observation.

• On 10 May *AI* appealed to the Spanish authorities to begin an immediate judicial investigation into Ana Ereño's allegations and to state whether she had been seen by medical or judicial officials while in custody. At the time of going to press *AI* had not been informed about any court action on the allegations nor had it received a reply to questions raised in its appeal to the government □

Zaire

New party bid ends in 15-year jail sentences

Twelve former elected members of Zaire's parliament and another former politician have been sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for trying to form a new political party. Five other defendants at the same trial received sentences of up to five years.

All were accused of trying to form the *Union pour la démocratie et le progrès social*. They were convicted at the beginning of July 1982 by Zaire's Court of State Security on charges of trying to overthrow the constitution: Zaire is a one-party state and the ruling *Mouvement populaire de la révolution* is the only legal party.

The 12 former elected members of parliament—People's Commissioners—had been stripped of their posts and sent into internal banishment between January and December 1981 for having signed a critical "open letter" to President Mobutu. They and another former politician also in internal banishment during 1981, Kibassa Maliba, held a series of meetings in February and March 1982 with the Deputy Prime Minister to discuss forming an alternative political party. Five out of this group were arrested in March 1982 and the other eight in May. The 13 refused to appear in court when their trial opened on 28 June 1982 on the grounds that the courtroom had been packed with government supporters and security agents. On the same grounds they also instructed their defence lawyers to take no active part in the trial proceedings.

One of the five others convicted, a close associate of one of the former People's Commissioners, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment; another received two years and a third one year; the remaining two were given one-year suspended sentences. One other defendant was acquitted. All the defendants had been adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience.

AI had repeatedly asked the Zairian authorities for permission to send an observer to the trial, which was considered to be the most important trial of prisoners of conscience for more than four years. It received no reply to its requests. Many other people have been arrested in recent years as suspected members of illegal political parties but most have been detained without charge or trial □

ISRAEL

Continued from page 1
inquiry into any allegations of torture and full publication of the result.

Calling the Israeli Government's attention to press reports of ill-treatment of prisoners immediately after capture, *AI* said its fears of continuing ill-treatment "are reinforced by the fact that many of the prisoners are being held incommunicado".

Among details which the authorities should publish, the letter said, were names of prisoners, place of capture

and where they were being held, grounds for detention, state of health, "and any other information necessary to assure families of the prisoners' well-being".

The letter cited persistent reports that many prisoners "are not being treated in accordance with internationally accepted standards reflected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights". It said *AI* was still studying such reports but meanwhile urged the government to act urgently to ensure that these standards were upheld □

Campaign for Prisoners of the Month



Each of the people whose story is told below is a prisoner of conscience. Each has been arrested because of his or her religious or political beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin or language. None has used or advocated violence. Their continuing detention is a violation of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International appeals can help to secure the release of these prisoners or to improve their detention conditions. In the interest of the prisoners, letters to the authorities should be worded carefully and courteously. You should stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. In *no* circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner.

Michalis KATSOULAKOS, Greece

A Jehovah's Witness aged 32, he is serving a three-year prison term for conscientious objection to military service.

Michalis Katsoulakos is one of about 100 Jehovah's Witnesses imprisoned at any given time in Greece for refusing to perform military service because of their religious convictions. All Greek men between 18 and 40 are liable for military service; those objecting on religious grounds are offered the alternative of unarmed military service. Jehovah's Witnesses refuse this and are then tried and sentenced to imprisonment and, usually, loss of civil rights. *AI* regards only civilian service performed outside the military system as a satisfactory alternative to military service.

Michalis Katsoulakos was tried on 8 December 1981 by the Navy Permanent Court Martial in Piraeus and sentenced to three years' imprisonment. He is being detained in the civilian agricultural prison at Kassandra, Chalkidiki, where each day spent doing farm work counts as two days of the sentence served, thus reducing the term.

An electrical engineer, he is married with a baby son. He is reported to be suffering from a stomach complaint.

Please write courteous letters appealing for his immediate release to: His Excellency Mr Constantine Karamanlis/President of the Hellenic Republic/Athens/Greece.

Phak SAVANH, Laos

A senior official in the previous administration, he has been held without charge or trial in a "re-education" camp for seven years, after being summoned to a "political seminar" in August 1975.

Phak Savanh is one of many officials, civil servants and army officers under the former government of Laos who were sent to "re-education" camps after the new authorities, the Pathet Lao, took control in May 1975. Most of them were first summoned to

attend supposedly brief "political seminars"—and were then, between May and December, sent to the camps. The majority of high-ranking officials and civil servants from Vientiane (including Phak Savanh) were sent to camps in the north and northeast, particularly to Houa Phan province, bordering Viet Nam.

Few camp inmates are reported to have been released until November 1980; between then and mid-1981 more than 300 releases were reported. Since then the number of those freed has been much smaller and the number of people still detained remains high.

Phak Savanh is being held in camp 05, in Houa Phan province. As he has not been charged or tried there is no indication of when he may be released. The authorities have given no reasons for his continued detention—but *AI* believes he is being held because of his position under the previous government.

Please send courteous letters, preferably in French, appealing for his release to: Son Excellence Kaysonne Phommvihane/Premier Ministre/Vientiane/People's Democratic Republic of Laos.

Riad al-TURK, Syria

Leader of a prohibited wing of Syria's Communist Party, he has been held incommunicado since October 1980 and is reported to have been tortured.

Riad al-Turk was arrested on 28 October 1980 after the authorities had seized his wife, Asmah al-Feisal, and held her hostage until they could find him.

He is First Secretary of the Communist Party Political Bureau (CPPB), a prohibited wing of the Communist Party in Syria—the other wing, Soviet-oriented, is represented in the ruling National Progressive Front. The CPPB was founded in 1973 under Riad al-Turk and has faced periodic suppression and arrests of its members because of its opposition to the policies of the present Syrian Government and especially to Syria's intervention in Lebanon in 1976. Leading party members were arrested in October 1980 after Syria's Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation

with the Soviet Union and attempts at the formation of an internal opposition coalition in Syria.

Riad al-Turk is reported to have been severely tortured after his arrest. In February 1981 he was admitted for urgent treatment in an intensive care unit at Damascus Hospital. *AI* appealed on humanitarian grounds that he be allowed proper medical attention and access to his family and lawyer. It appealed again on his behalf in January 1982 after learning that he had been admitted for intensive care to al-Mezze military prison hospital in Damascus. He was reported to have been unconscious and suffering from inflammation of the kidneys and renal failure. *AI* has no information on his present condition.

Riad al-Turk is in his mid-fifties and married with two children. He joined the Communist Party in his home town of Homs and was arrested as a communist in 1959 during the period of the United Arab Republic (the 1958-1961 union between Syria and Egypt). He was held in al-Mezze prison until 1961 and is reported to have lost his hearing as a result of torture.

Please send courteous letters appealing for his immediate release to: President Hafez al-Assad/Presidential Palace/Damascus/Syrian Arab Republic; and to: Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm/Prime Minister/Prime Minister's Office/Damascus/Syrian Arab Republic.

Prisoner Releases and Cases

The International Secretariat learned in June of the release of 116 prisoners under adoption or investigation; it took up 189 cases.

YUGOSLAV PRISONER FREED

AI has learned that Manda Paric, a Yugoslav nurse who was prisoner of the month in October 1981, was conditionally released from prison at Christmas 1981. Her six-year sentence for "participation in hostile activity", imposed in 1976, was due to expire in July 1982. She was reported to have been in poor health during her imprisonment and reportedly had an operation on her right breast in 1979 □

Freedom of religion has again been under attack in Czechoslovakia. Earlier this year the unofficial Czechoslovak human rights movement known as Charter 77 protested against the "persecution" of priests and religious believers and described 1981 as "a veritable year of religious trials". The Roman Catholic Church—already under tight control—has been a particular target of repressive action by the authorities and AI has details of at least 10 Roman Catholics sentenced during 1981 and 1982 to terms of imprisonment for non-violent activities connected with their religion.

Freedom of religion under fire in Czechoslovakia

Father Josef Barta, an ailing 60-year-old Franciscan priest from North Bohemia, was sentenced by Liberec District Court in April 1982 to 18 months' imprisonment for "obstructing [state] supervision of churches and religious societies".

He was arrested after state security police had searched the homes of Franciscans in Liberec on 18 November 1980. The police confiscated 70 religious items from Father Barta. They later questioned a number of people who had been in contact with him—including a 77-year-old nun, who was interrogated for five and a half hours.

Father Barta, who had been receiving a full disability pension, suffers from angina pectoris and has had two heart attacks.

Although in poor health, he was held in custody for three months after his arrest. He was released from pre-trial detention in February 1981 and eventually brought to trial in April this year, when he was sentenced under Article 178 of the Czechoslovak Penal Code. He is appealing against his sentence, which has not yet come into force.

Father Barta's state licence to work as a priest was revoked in 1976. (Since 1949 members of the clergy have required state licences in order to carry out their ministry; when ordained they have been obliged to take an oath of loyalty to the state.) In 1952 he was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment for "high treason" and he served 14 years before release in 1966.

His trial for "high treason" came during a period in the 1950s when most of the Roman Catholic hierarchy was interned and large numbers of priests and the laity were sent to labour camps and given long prison sentences, some for life. Most were released under an amnesty in 1960 but some were held until 1968, being freed during the period of liberalization that preceded



Father Josef Barta

the Soviet-led occupation of Czechoslovakia in August that year.

Article 178—"Obstructing [state] supervision of churches and religious societies"—under which Father Barta was sentenced, is often applied against priests who say mass after their state licences have been revoked; it carries a penalty of up to two years' imprisonment. It is one of three articles of the penal code frequently invoked to convict people for their religious beliefs.

Article 101—"Abuse of religious office"—carries a penalty of up to two years' imprisonment for those who, out of "hostility" to the state, abuse their religious office "with the intent to affect negatively matters of common interest". It has been applied against priests meeting young people for worship or meditation in private places and against the laity for arranging such meetings.

Article 118—"Unauthorized business enterprise"—has been used against religious believers and the clergy for producing and distributing unauthorized religious literature—even when they have acted for conscientious and not commercial reasons. Religious literature

in Czechoslovakia is scarce and not easily available through established outlets: both production and distribution of such literature is controlled by the state.

AI has adopted as prisoners of conscience five Roman Catholics arrested in 1979 and imprisoned under Article 118 because of their non-violent religious activities. All were arrested on 10 September 1979 when state security police searched the homes of and interrogated a great number of Roman Catholics, including priests, in many parts of the country; the police action concerned the clandestine printing and distribution of unofficial religious literature, allegedly for personal gain.

The five prisoners of conscience were held for five months before being released in early January 1980. Judicial proceedings against them continued, however, and they were brought to trial more than 20 months later. On 28 and 29 September 1981 the District Court of Olomouc sentenced them to between 20 months' and three years' imprisonment; four of the sentences were upheld and one reduced on appeal in November 1981. The five prisoners of conscience are:

- **Josef Adamek:** a 67-year-old retired printer from Brno and a signatory of Charter 77, he was sentenced to 20 months' imprisonment, reduced on appeal to 14 months. He is married with 12 children. His health is poor and his hearing is severely impaired.
- **Jan Krumpholtz:** aged 54, from Radikov in Moravia, he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment. He is married with three children. He took part in the resistance movement against the Germans in the second World War. After the war he became an official in local government and industry. In 1949 he was arrested and sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for "treason". His wife was arrested in 1952 and sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment for writing a letter allegedly insulting the Czechoslovak and the USSR authorities. Both were released in the 1960

amnesty. Since then he has had various jobs as a manual worker.

- **Frantisek Lizna:** a 41-year-old Jesuit priest, working as a medical orderly at the time of his arrest he was sentenced to 20 months' imprisonment. As a young man he was refused admission to university, being regarded officially as a "reactionary". He was twice imprisoned for tearing up the Soviet flag and for attempting to cross the border into Austria without permission: he wanted to study theology there, not being allowed to do so in his own country. In 1969 he was admitted to the theological seminary in Litomerice but, although consecrated as a priest in 1974, has never been given a permit to work as a priest. In 1978 he protested against the death penalty and the prohibition of religious literature in prisons and signed Charter 77.

In a separate case he was arrested and remanded in custody on 27 July 1981 after a private letter from him to his sister in England describing restrictions on religious freedom in Czechoslovakia and some copies of an unlicensed religious journal were found on two priests from the Federal Republic of Germany who had visited him. On 21 January 1982 the District Court for Prague 6 sentenced him to a further seven months' imprisonment for "damaging the interests of the Republic abroad" (Article 112 of the penal code). The Prague City Court upheld the sentence on appeal on 2 April 1982.

- **Rudolf Smahel:** a 31-year-old priest, he was also convicted of "contravening foreign currency regulations" (Article 146 of the penal code). He admitted in court that he had accepted DM 5,000 from a priest from the Federal Republic of Germany as a gift for repair work to a local church. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

Rudolf Smahel studied at the theological faculty in Olomouc and was often interrogated by the state security police about his contacts with religious believers. He was consecrated as a priest in 1974, but had to earn his living as a manual worker for three years before being given permission in 1977 to work as a chaplain in Uhersky Brod.

- **Josef Vlcek:** aged 61, from Olomouc in Moravia, he was sentenced to 20 months' imprisonment. He is married with three children and studied theology before the second World War. In 1950 he was arrested on charges of high treason and espionage for the Vatican and sentenced to death (commuted to 21 years' imprisonment on appeal). He served his sentence in

Ruzyne and Leopoldov prisons, and in uranium mines in Pribram and Jachymov. He was released under the 1960 amnesty and he was employed in gas-works until 1968, when he became secretary of the theological faculty in Olomouc. He was dismissed in 1970 and became a manual worker. He suffers from extoses of the cervical spine, cardiac insufficiency and impaired hearing, and received a disability pension.

Another Roman Catholic priest adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience was imprisoned after he had been accused of building a presbytery with the help of his parishioners and celebrating mass during harvest time without state approval. Father Anton Zlatohlavy, aged 31, of Radoma in the district of Svidnik in Slovakia, was charged under Articles 101 ("Abuse of religious functions" and 178 ("Obstructing [state] supervision of the churches and religious societies").

The charges followed an instruction by the Secretary for State Affairs in Svidnik that religious services were to be held only in the early morning or in the evening during harvest time so as not to interrupt harvesting. Father Zlatohlavy informed the authorities that he would be celebrating mass at 11.30 am on 17 August 1980 and did so—although on his initiative neighbouring villagers arranged for the harvesting to continue.

On 1 December 1980 his state license to work as a priest was revoked. He appealed against this and continued working as a priest. He applied for permission to build a presbytery in Radoma and, receiving no reply, went ahead with the project with the help of his parishioners.

He was arrested on 23 December and sentenced on 23 April 1981 by Kosice City Court to two years' imprisonment; the sentence was later upheld on appeal □

Jamaica Five facing imminent execution

Five men who have been under sentence of death for more than six years risk imminent execution in Jamaica after a decision by the British Privy Council rejecting appeals against their sentences.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, which serves as a final appeal court for some Commonwealth countries, delivered its judgment on 28 June 1982.

On 2 July *AI* sent a telex message to Jamaica's Governor-General, Florizel Glasspole, appealing to him to grant clemency to the five. On the same day it urged the Prime Minister, Edward Seaga, to use his influence for clemency.

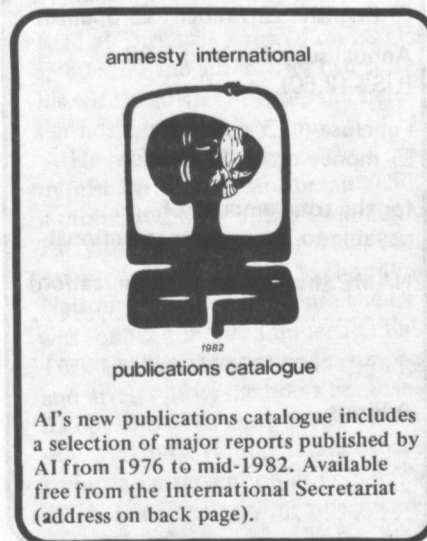
In a news release on 9 July, *AI* said that with more than 100 other condemned people awaiting the outcome of appeals in Jamaica, there were fears that the Privy Council's decision could lead to more executions. Seven people have already been put to death since executions resumed in 1980. The most recent was Rudolph Smith, hanged on 15 June.

Convicted of murder

The five condemned men were convicted of murder and sentenced to death between March 1975 and March 1976. All executions were suspended however from 1976 to 1979 while Parliament considered whether to abolish the death penalty before voting to retain it in January 1979.

The five argued in their appeals that execution after such a long delay would violate protection offered by the Jamaican Constitution against "inhuman or degrading punishment"; the appeals were dismissed by the Jamaican Court of Appeal in 1980. The Privy Council in London, letting that judgment stand, acted on the basis of Jamaican law: the death penalty is outlawed in the United Kingdom for crimes such as those for which the five were condemned.

AI, which opposes the death penalty in all cases, maintains that the experience of living under a death sentence is cruel, inhuman and degrading, and it referred in its telex appeals to the long period spent under the threat of execution by the five—Noel Riley, Clifton Irving, Errol Miller, Anthony Forbes and Elijah Beckford □



China

Long prison sentences for two dissidents

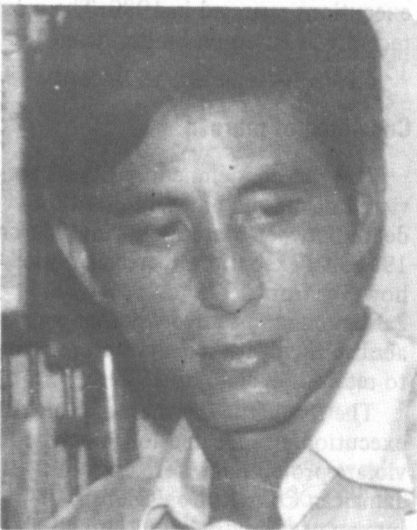
Two dissidents have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for "counter-revolutionary activities" after the first trial of dissidents in the People's Republic of China since late-1979.

Wang Xizhe, aged 32, a well-known activist in the Chinese "democracy movement" was sentenced to 14 years' and He Qiu, aged 33, former editor of the unofficial Guangzhou (Canton) magazine *Road of the People*, was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment.

Both were arrested in Guangzhou in April 1981 during a major crackdown on dissidents in several Chinese cities.

No details of the trial have so far been published officially but a Chinese official in Peking is reported to have confirmed that the two had been "publicly tried by the Intermediate People's Court of Guangzhou for their counter-revolutionary crimes".

Sources in Hong Kong say Wang Xizhe was charged with "spreading



Wang Xizhe

anti-socialist propaganda, sabotaging law and order and organizing counter-revolutionary groups". In addition to his prison sentence, he was deprived of his political rights for four and a half years after the completion of his sentence. According to the Hong Kong sources, he pleaded not guilty at his trial and will appeal against the sentence to a higher court.

He Qiu is reported to have been sentenced on similar charges.

AI believes the charges against both men refer to the peaceful exercise of their fundamental rights to freedom of opinion, association and publication;



He Qiu

it has adopted them as prisoners of conscience.

Both men have been arrested previously: Wang Xizhe twice before and He Qiu several times for short periods in 1980. Wang Xizhe is well-known in China as one of the authors of a long wall poster signed "Li Yizhe" which appeared in Guangzhou late in 1974. He and two others were detained until January 1979 for writing the poster. After his release he became a factory worker and edited an unofficial magazine in Guangzhou called *Learners' Bulletin* □

Mexico

Student teacher 'disappears' after abduction

A 19-year-old student is reported to have "disappeared" on 13 May 1982 after being abducted in Mexico City by three men in plain clothes who claimed to be police officers.

Fernando Javier Chong Santiago is believed to be the 12th student at the *Escuela Normal Superior* (teacher's training college) in Mexico City to have "disappeared" since 1980.

Two of his friends say they saw the three men force him into a car at gunpoint near the college at about 8 pm. The car did not carry number plates.

Fernando Chong was previously detained in November 1981, together with another college student, Rubén Hernández, aged 22. Fernando Chong was released after three hours—but his companion is still missing.

According to the Chong family, the student's abduction on 13 May was preceded by constant threats against him and his friends. His abduction is believed to be connected with his student activities and his efforts on behalf of "disappeared" fellow students.

Checks by family

His family have checked all regular places of detention in the area without success. On 21 May a petition of *amparo* (similar to *habeas corpus*) was presented in court on his behalf: it is not known whether the court issued a writ. On 22 June the family filed a suit on Fernando Chong's behalf (including sworn statements by the eye-witnesses to his abduction) with the *Procurador de Justicia* (district attorney) for the Mexico City area.

• Human rights groups in Mexico and relatives of missing people estimate that some 400 people have "disappeared" in the country in recent years and remain unaccounted for. The victims include members of political parties, teachers, students, peasants and community activists.

AI has received reports implicating in abductions and torture both regular security forces—such as the *Policía Federal de Seguridad* (PFS), Federal Security Police—and paramilitary groups, such as the 9th Army Brigade, *Brigada Blanca*, White Brigade, based in Campo Militar Número 1. The authorities deny the existence of such paramilitary groups □

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Uruguay Two more die in Libertad

Two more inmates of Libertad political prison in Uruguay are reported to have died between April and June 1982—the military authorities say both of them “committed suicide”.

This brings the number of reported deaths of Libertad inmates since 1980 to 11. Libertad—run by the army—is Uruguay's prison for male political prisoners. Former inmates have alleged that the conditions there are deliberately designed to undermine prisoners' psychological stability. A number of prisoners are reported to have been removed from the main prison building and tortured (see July and February 1982 *Newsletters*.)

In April and June 1982 the military authorities reported that Edgar Sosa Cabrera and Juan Alfredo Pino Garín had committed suicide. Both men—who were being detained after they had completed their sentences (the courts had confirmed their date of release)—had been transferred from the main prison block to another place of detention before their death.

Edgar Sosa had been moved to a *barraca* (outbuilding) where he was held in solitary confinement. Aged about 40, he was arrested in 1973 and sentenced to eight year's imprisonment, which he completed in June 1981. He is thought to have died during the last

week of April.

Juan Pino is reported to have died on or around 16 June, a week after being moved to a military barracks in the provincial town of Florida. He is reported to have been well and in good spirits three days before his death. Also aged about 40, he is thought to have completed his 10-year sentence in April this year. Both he and Edgar Sosa are believed to have been imprisoned in connection with the urban guerrilla movement known as the *Movimiento de Liberación Nacional—Tupamaros*, active in Uruguay during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

AI is currently concerned about the fate of another Libertad prisoner reported to have been moved to the same *barraca* as Edgar Sosa and then taken to the Florida barracks where Juan Pino died. He is Jorge Selves Lawler, who completed a seven-and-a-half-year sentence in February 1981. He is thought to be still detained in the barracks, where it is feared he may be tortured or ill-treated.

• In a letter to the President of Uruguay, General (Rtd.) Gregorio C. Alvarez, *AI* has asked for a thorough investigation into the circumstances of these deaths and has appealed for assurances on the safety of Jorge Selves Lawler □

Angola Death sentences for armed group suspects

Eight suspected members of two armed opposition organizations in Angola have been sentenced to death and other suspected members given sentences to up to 20 years' imprisonment on charges in connection with bomb explosions.

Five suspected members of the *União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola* (UNITA) were sentenced to death at the end of April 1982 after being convicted on charges of causing bomb explosions.

The People's Revolutionary Tribunal in Luanda convicted 13 other people on similar charges at the same trial and sentenced them to between four and 20 years' imprisonment.

At the end of May the Appeals Tribunal confirmed the death sentences. Although the condemned men could still appeal for clemency from the Head of State, José Eduardo Dos Santos, this is not known ever to have been granted. *AI* does not know whether the executions have taken place yet.

Bomb explosions

In mid-May 1982 three suspected members of the *Frente de Libertação do Enclave de Cabinda* (FLEC), which is fighting for the independence of Angola's oil-rich Cabinda enclave, were also sentenced to death by the People's Revolutionary Tribunal sitting in Cabinda. They were found guilty of responsibility for a number of bomb explosions which damaged oil installations in the province. Twenty-one other people were also convicted and given sentences of between one and four years for taking part in FLEC activities.

AI has repeatedly appealed to the Angolan authorities to commute death sentences passed on both alleged FLEC and UNITA members and on criminal prisoners □

Pakistan Amputation for clock thief

A sentence of amputation of the right hand imposed on a 25-year-old Pakistani for stealing a clock from a mosque has been confirmed by the Federal Shari'a Court, the highest Islamic court in Pakistan. It is the first time this court has confirmed a sentence of amputation.

Ghulam Ali, from Okara, Punjab, was sentenced to amputation by the Okara Shari'a Court—the local Islamic court—in late 1979. This was set aside on 2 February 1980 by the Additional District and Session Court in Sahiwal.

The sentence was under the Offences against Property (Imposition of *Hadood* [Islamic punishment]) Ordinance 1979, part of Islamic legislation introduced that year by President Zia-ul-Haq.

The Federal Shari'a Court's confirmation of Ghulam Ali's sentence

came after its reversal in June 1982 of its previous ruling that death by stoning for rape, adultery and fornication was not an acceptable Islamic punishment. This reversal followed a change in the composition of the court by the martial law authorities—three religious scholars were appointed to the court, which now includes only one of its former judges.

Under Pakistan law Ghulam Ali is allowed to appeal to the Supreme Court against the Federal Shari'a Court's ruling in his case; *AI* does not know if he has done so.

Since 1977, 22 people are reported to have been sentenced to amputation. However, there are no known cases of the sentence having been carried out, and on many occasions the punishment has been commuted to imprisonment □

DEATH PENALTY

AI has learned of 31 people being sentenced to death in 12 countries and of 10 executions in 6 countries during June 1982.

Nicaragua: Call for review of more than 3,000 Special Tribunal convictions

In a new report on Nicaragua, *AI* has called on the government to review the cases of over 3,000 people convicted after the 1979 revolution of criminal offences committed under the previous government.

It has also called for the overhaul of a sweeping Public Order Law now in use which permits imprisonment for non-violent dissent, and has led to convictions of prisoners of conscience.

The recommendations are published in the *Report of the Amnesty International Missions to the Republic of Nicaragua: August 1979, January 1980 and August 1980*. The report, published on 23 June 1982, includes a memorandum to the government from *AI* and a response from the government, which has acted on some of the problems raised by granting pardons and taking other steps.

Much of the report focuses on 4,331 people convicted by Special Tribunals set up after the overthrow of General Anastasio Somoza Debayle in July 1979. Most were former members of General Somoza's National Guard or alleged collaborators with it. A total of 3,174 were still in prison this year. *AI* has not identified any of these people as prisoners of conscience but it urged a systematic review of their cases.

The report points to a series of irregularities in their trials, conducted under different rules of evidence and judgment than normal criminal trials. It cites cases in which no evidence was offered that the accused were guilty of specific crimes, but only that they had held positions in the Somoza security forces.

Under the special procedures used,

Polish prisoners

Continued from page 1

AI has learned that he was released in late June. It has no information on his present health.

- *AI* has continued to appeal to the Polish authorities for the release of all prisoners of conscience, both those imprisoned under martial law decrees and those who have been interned without charge or court protection. It has also expressed concern at reports that a number of those held are in poor health and has appealed for them to be given proper medical treatment □

None of the 15 people adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience since the 1979 change of government is still in prison. Of the hundreds imprisoned under the Public Order Law, *AI* is concerned that a number may in fact be prisoners of conscience and it is investigating on a case-by-case basis. Some of the people convicted under this law, however, were captured in the course of armed conflict and others were detained while bearing arms.

judges—often not trained in the law—were called on to decide on the basis of "personal conviction" (*intima convicción*) rather than normal legal evidence. Sentences of up to 30 years were handed down.

These tribunals were dismantled early in 1981, but ordinary courts now apply exceptional procedures laid down in Nicaragua's new Public Order Law to people accused only of political dissent as well as to those involved in armed opposition.

In addition to the cases described in the report, hundreds of other alleged opponents have been tried under the Public Order Law since the missions took place. They include some 290 people, most of them Miskito Indians, arrested after fighting between government troops and armed opposition forces in eastern Nicaragua.

AI has adopted several people convicted under the law as prisoners of conscience. They include business leaders and left-wing trade union and party leaders, all since released.

AI's report also urges the government to try to account for people presumed to have been victims of revenge killings in the first few months after the 1979 revolution.

In its response the Nicaraguan Government emphasized that it had inherited a chaotic situation at the end of a bitter civil war. Faced with the need to bring thousands to trial and to cope with widespread demands for revenge, it had quickly outlawed the death penalty and created a new legal system. Setting up the Special Tribunals, it said, "went some way towards reducing the popular wrath as well as the danger of confrontation". It also pointed to later pardons and procedural changes.

While it welcomes some of the changes, *AI* notes that pardons are still decided by a political rather than judicial authority, that the Public Order Law still permits imprisonment for dissent, and that procedures under it are still different from those for ordinary criminal cases.

AI's report was prepared before major outbreaks of armed conflict took place in the Honduran border area affecting Miskito Indian settlements on the Coco River, and before allegations were publicized of "genocide" and other gross human rights violations against the Miskitos.

These charges are mainly based on reports which followed several armed clashes along the Coco River during the week of 23 to 30 December 1981. Information available to *AI* does not provide convincing evidence to substantiate allegations of arbitrary killings.

After the armed clashes, in which several river towns were temporarily captured by opposition forces, up to 10,000 Miskitos were forcibly removed by the Nicaraguan authorities from their villages near the Coco River in January 1982. They were forcibly relocated in new settlements some 120 kms away in the interior.

There have been widespread arrests of leaders in communities where there was support for armed opposition. Those arrested appear to include both people who took part in armed insurgency and others who may have had no part in violent action. Some prisoners were held incommunicado for up to 27 days before trial. All received summary trials under the Public Order Law, with limited rights to defence.

AI has expressed its concern about procedures in these trials to the Nicaraguan authorities, and has urged strict adherence to international human rights standards, including due process of law. It has closely monitored the situation in the area, particularly the cases of Miskito Indians held under the Public Order Law, and has been in regular communication with community and church leaders and with the Nicaraguan authorities □

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August 1982

Dear Members:

We are sending you for the second and final time a copy of the International Newsletter so that the dialogue between the British Section and the NUJ, which prevented us from producing British Amnesty during the past few months, would not impede your letter-writing work for POCs. Today an agreement with the NUJ has been reached and we plan to have an edition of British Amnesty to all members around the middle of September.

LETTER-WRITING GUIDE. The Section has published a 38 page guide to letter-writing for use by AI groups and individuals. The illustrated guide gives advice on wording letters, how to address government authorities, sample phrases and letters, etc. It is available from the British Section office for £2 (including postage and packing).

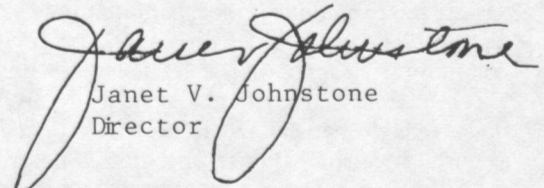
SPECIAL APPEAL. The result to-date of our appeal is £28,631.50. This good news means that we have already raised almost one-third of the amount set by the AGM! A very special and sincere thanks to all our benefactors!

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. The AGM also decided to raise subscription rates for membership. The new rates (£15 for families, £10 for individuals, and £5 for senior citizens, claimants and students) take effect on 1 September 1982.

PREMISES. The Section is obliged to move premises by August 1983. We need between 4,500 and 6,000 square feet (part of this may be workshop rather than office space) in central London with access to reasonable transport for our visitors and volunteers. Our present rent of £12,000 could easily and all too quickly escalate as high as £50,000 (or more!) given current market values. This is clearly a staggering possibility for us as a non-profit organisation attempting to keep costs down and devote as much income as possible to programme rather than overhead. A good deal of canvassing has been done, but nothing yet glimmers on the horizon. We encourage contact from any one dealing with or knowledgeable about commercial property.

COMPUTER. We are keen to explore possibilities of computerising information to provide more efficient and effective service to members, the press, and the public. We will first do a feasibility study during August, September, and possibly October, and only then explore the variety of equipment available. We would appreciate hearing from any member with experience of implementation of computer techniques who could advise and possibly work with our London-based committee.

Yours sincerely,



Janet V. Johnstone
Director

Campaign for Prisoners of the Month



Each of the people whose story is told below is a prisoner of conscience. Each has been arrested because of his or her religious or political beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin or language. None has used or advocated violence. Their continuing detention is a violation of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International appeals can help to secure the release of these prisoners or to improve their detention conditions. In the interest of the prisoners, letters to the authorities should be worded carefully and courteously. You should stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. In no circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner.

Pastor Anaya Cuadros, Peru

A teacher and leader of a peasant community near Lima, he has been detained since 10 February 1982, charged with "terrorism".

Pastor Anaya and nine others were detained after about 300 Civil Guards raided the Jicamarca *comunidad campesina* (peasant community) on 10 February. According to community members, house-to-house searches were carried out and residents beaten.

A primary target of the raid was the community development institute, the *Instituto de Investigación y Promoción Agraria-Lima* (INPAL), which has helped develop the area. Pastor Anaya is the institute's director.

The raid followed a court case in which a local landowner had unsuccessfully claimed title to community lands. Before the raid landowners claiming rights to community lands had put paid advertisements in Peruvian newspapers accusing it of terrorism.

Under Peruvian law, if a community loses its status as a *comunidad campesina* its land may be sold off.

In a statement to a press conference the day after the raid, a Civil Guard representative said Jicamarca should not have its *comunidad campesina* status, suggesting that it was a "facade" for subversive activities. He said Pastor Anaya was the head of a terrorist organization and was responsible for "inciting land takeovers". The evidence presented to the conference included a slide projector from INPAL and reels of film from a Dutch documentary on the building of Jicamarca's reservoir by community women.

Despite the gravity of the charges against the community, a local court had by 22 February ordered the unconditional release of all the detainees except Pastor Anaya. He is being held under Decreto 046 (known as the "Law against Terrorism")—but no specific act has been cited in the charges against him. He remains in detention in El Frontón island prison awaiting a judicial hearing. AI believes he is being held

solely for the non-violent leadership of his community.

Please send courteous letters appealing for the release of Pastor Anaya to: President Fernando Belaúnde Terry/ Palacio Nacional/Lima/Peru.

Jean-Marie Aubame, Gabon

A civil servant in his late fifties, and formerly a diplomat at the United Nations; he has been detained without trial since November 1981.

Jean-Marie Aubame and at least 10 others were arrested by security police in Libreville on 27 November 1981, on suspicion of forming an opposition political party, the *Mouvement de redressement national* (MORENA), Movement for National Recovery. (Gabon is a one-party state and no opposition parties are permitted.) Jean-Marie Aubame and several others were accused also of writing an 18-page document criticizing the political situation in Gabon. They are said to have intended sending this to President Mitterrand of France in the hope that the French Government might intervene with Gabon's President Bongo in order to introduce a multi-party system in the country.

Jean-Marie Aubame was initially questioned by the security police and then held at the headquarters of military intelligence. In December 1981 he was transferred to Libreville's central Gros-Bouquet prison, where he was held for several days naked in a damp cell. He is believed to be detained now in a special section of the prison for political detainees.

Throughout his detention he has been kept incommunicado and not allowed to communicate with his family or with a lawyer; he was, however, eventually allowed to receive food from his family.

Please send courteous letters appealing for his release to: Son Excellence El-Hadj Omar Bongo/Président de la République/B.P. 546/Libreville/Gabon.

Henrikas Jashkunas, USSR

A 55-year-old Lithuanian, he is serving a 15-year sentence of imprisonment and internal exile for preparing samizdat, privately published, unofficial and uncensored material.

Henrikas Jashkunas was arrested after about 1,000 unofficial documents were discovered in his cellar in December 1976. Written by a group calling itself the "United Front for Peace and National Liberation of the Peoples of the USSR" (of which he was a member), the documents called for a referendum on peaceful secession of minority nationalities from the USSR. The right of Union Republics to secede from the USSR is guaranteed by the Soviet constitution.

Henrikas Jashkunas was convicted of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" in 1977 and is now confined in the special regime section of a Corrective Labour Colony No. 36 in the Perm region. This regime is the harshest form of corrective labour camp under Soviet law and is intended for "especially dangerous recidivists". Henrikas Jashkunas is reported to have had at least one heart attack during his imprisonment and also to have lost many of his teeth.

He previously served 18 years' imprisonment and internal exile after being arrested in 1947 for his part in an unofficial youth group which posted leaflets protesting against Lithuania's accession to the USSR in 1939. He was sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment. The sentence was doubled in 1953 after he had organized a successful labour strike among his fellow prisoners. He was released ahead of term in 1965.

He was adopted by AI as a prisoner of conscience in January 1978, and is married with two children.

Please send courteous letters appealing for the release of Henrikas Jashkunas to: Mr A. Rekunkov/The Procurator General of the USSR/ul. Pushkinskaya 15a/Moskva/USSR.