



From the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proclaimed at the United Nations, 10th December, 1948

### Article 18

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in a community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

### Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.



Why Amnesty The first years after the Second World the Declaration, it will remain a symbol War were years of hope. Blueprint of our potentialities and an indictment followed blueprint for a grand new of our failures. design for universal peace and justice. The world never realised its dreams government to disregard human rights. but the quality of those early aspira. If there is to be justice, these pressures tions has not diminished. They remain must be countered by others just as valid, attainable.

There are many pressures on a powerful. This is the purpose of The Universal Declaration of Amnesty International. It remains the Human Rights was such a blueprint. only international movement dedicated It was three years in the making and to the protection of free political it represented a code of conduct of opinion and religious belief. It exists to which all governments are capable and guarantee just two Articles of the to which all can aspire. Some govern- Declaration—yet those who now suffer ments have tried to live up to the from their abuse are counted in spirit if not the letter of the Declara- millions. By constantly reminding tion. Some have paid lip-service to it. governments and peoples of the None have been able to ignore its pledges they made on 10 December existence. Until such time as every 1948, and by giving practical help to government observes every Article of the victims of persecution, Amnesty keeps alive the hope that, one day, the Declaration will be transformed from an ideal into a reality.

# **Amnesty Works**

jointly by the International Secretariat breadwinner.

yet already the movement flourishes in press and by sifting information 19 countries. This fact alone is proof received from many sources, the of the success of one aspect of our Central Library is able to detect and work: to rouse and mobilise world catalogue hundreds of arrests of public opinion. Through a programme prisoners of conscience. There are now of public action, the movement has nearly 2,000 such cases on record. ensured that infringements of human The Investigation Bureau then rerights do not go unnoticed. Through searches further into individual cases public meetings, through the press, and prepares carefully documented radio and television, through the dis- case sheets on the prisoner and the tribution of leaflets, through Reports political and social background of the and Bulletins, the spotlight is put on situation that led to the arrest. Finally, governments that victimise citizens for the case sheets are sent to the holding unpopular views or religious Amnesty Groups. Every Group adopts three prisoners, usually from each of However valuable publicity is, it the three power blocs, and proceeds to is nevertheless not enough in itself. apply pressure for their release through Action must be taken also to help the various forms of appeal to the governvictims in an immediate and practical ment concerned. At the same time, way. Amnesty does this through a Groups raise money locally to send to three-phase programme of detection, their prisoners' families who are all too investigation and adoption, undertaken often left destitute by the loss of the



of Amnesty's work cannot be judged year were listed by the Campaign. by the number of adopted prisoners released. Apart from any other con- not report is that of Koumandian Keita, sideration, it is not often possible to the Guinean schoolmaster who was attribute a release directly to Amnesty's adopted as Prisoner of the Year. Mr. intervention: there are other factors Keita remains in prison, in spite of involved, not the least being the chang- repeated efforts to secure his release. ing political situation in the country These efforts included a visit to Guinea concerned. Nevertheless, every release by Danish lawyer Neils Groth, who was represents a victory for humanity, if himself arrested during the course of not for Amnesty alone—and it is there- his mission and kept in prison for three fore worthy of record that 293 of months before being sentenced to 10 Amnesty's adopted prisoners of con- years hard labour for 'committing science have regained their freedom in espionage'. Niels Groth was released the year under review.

for Amnesty. It has been marked by a continuing increase in public support voluntary movements, the need for and the size and effectiveness of the money to finance our work has been a International Secretariat, by the move continuing source of concern. The conof our offices from Crane Court to tributions from members and Groups larger premises, and by the sad resig- that had previously met most of the nation of Peter Benenson as President. yearly expenditure, proved no longer It has been a year in which political sufficient. Money had to be found for detainees in Aden have been the sub- new premises, for relief work, for an ject of considerable humanitarian con- expanding investigation programme, for cern, hundreds of Rhodesians have publicity and education: additional been restricted and detained and costs that were leading to a serious thousands of Greeks banished to prison depletion of the reserves. It became islands. It has been a year of oppres- necessary to ask all members and sion in varying degree, in Spain and Groups to make an increased contribu-Portugal, in Turkey and Yugoslavia, in tion and this, together with a more Russia, Hungary, Rumania and Poland, intensive fund-raising programme, is in South Africa, Guinea, Kenya, Uganda hoped to lead to a considerable and Tanzania, in Chile, Cuba, Argentine, improvement in the financial position. Bolivia, Brazil . . . In all these countries The most tragic event of the and many more, Amnesty has worked year for all Amnesty workers was the

brought to bear by Amnesty Groups. Irish Section. As we recorded at the There are now 550 of these in 19 time of her death, Karin O'Donovan countries, that is an increase of 140 combined to an extraordinary degree Groups since last year. Further pres- high ideals, a great capacity for hard sure has come from members of the work and a galety of spirit that made Postcards for Prisoners Campaign all who knew her feel enlivened and (formerly known as the Kit Scheme). inspirited. She was one of those who There are now 800 members of the feel for prisoners and the unfortunate Campaign in 21 countries. Every month, because they themselves make so each person sends a postcard on behalf much of their own freedom. Amnesty of three prisoners whose cases are will not forget her. As a permanent particularly critical. Thus, in any one remembrance, it was agreed that the month, a government will receive a Emergency Fund, that she had done so flood of cards from all over the world, much to create, will in future be called representing a concerted demonstra- the Karin O'Donovan Emergency Fund. tion of international public opinion.

We have always stressed that the value Many of the prisoners released last

One release we regretfully can-22 hours after sentence. Koumandian The year has been a crucial one Keita is still a prisoner of conscience.

As is so often the case with

for the restoration of human rights. death, on 8th April, 1967, of Karin The main pressure has been O'Donovan, Honorary Secretary of the

# Assembly 2nd/4th September,

Assembly at Copenhagen could doubt 2. Amnesty should work with other the international character of the organisations to establish machinery Amnesty movement. Delegates came for the issue of a United Nations passfrom 17 National Sections and there port. were observers from eight international organisations. The delegates met should continue their efforts to hasten together to review the past, to decide the appointment of a United Nations on a number of policy issues and to High Commissioner for Human Rights. Assembly were:

1. Amnesty should co-operate with gate alleged cases of torture. National torture special attention. The United Nations and other international organisations should be asked to include lish permanent committees to work for

3. National Sections of Amnesty

establish guide-lines for the future 4. Those who refused to take part in programme. The most significant long- particular wars, as well as those who term resolutions agreed at the refuse to fight in all wars, should be considered prisoners of conscience.

5. In countries where a change of the International Committee of the Red government has been brought about by Cross to establish the right to investi- force, no measures should be taken against members of the outgoing Sections should give the problem of government, without full judicial procedures being observed.

6. All National Sections should estabits elimination in their programmes for the release of the 'Prisoner of the Year'.

### International **Executive Meetings** Copenhagen - Elsinore

Christensen (Scandinavian).

12th March, 1967. Its main purpose was critically important time. to resolve difficulties that had arisen considerable publicity in the world's decisions: press. These difficulties arose when the the movement.

Bureau and Reader in International appointment was made; Relations at Sussex University, England. to the allegations. Allegations were received funds for Rhodesia from observers; covert sources and had misused them. ledge, it seemed that the Government

A meeting of the International Execu- had only suggested the names of postive was held in Copenhagen just prior sible donors. It found that there was no to the International Assembly. At the evidence to suggest that the individuals Assembly itself, a new Executive Com- who subsequently made donations for mittee was appointed to serve for the relief work in Rhodesia, had in fact following year. As in the past, the new received that money from the British appointments were based on the main Government. Nor was there any evidence language groups represented in the that money was misused by official movement: Sean MacBride (English), Amnesty representatives in Rhodesia. Dr. Gustavo Comba (Latin), Dr. Hajo The Committee concluded that, in spite Wandschneider (German), Drs. Cornelis of the extremely difficult conditions van der Vlies (Flemish/Dutch), Arne created by the illegal declaration of independence, Amnesty funds were The new Executive Committee used to provide valuable assistance for met at Elsinore, Denmark, on 11th and the dependents of detainees at a

In the light of the situation, the within the movement and had attracted Executive Committee made three major

to establish the post of Directorloyalty of some members of Amnesty General, the first holder of which is was publicly questioned and allegations hoped to be a Scandinavian. It is inmade, also publicly, that government in- tended that the Director-General will telligence services were at work within be the senior officer of the movement and will be principally responsible for These matters were fully and executive decisions. Eric Baker, Chairimpartially investigated by Mr. Peter man of the British Section, was asked Calvocoressi, Chairman of the Africa to take acting responsibility until the

to establish small committees to His findings, submitted to the Execu- advise on the re-organisation of the tive and unanimously accepted by it, administration and finances. One comindicated that there was no substance mittee will, in addition, consider the possibilty of drawing up a mode of conalso made publicly that Amnesty had duct for Amnesty's field personnel, and

to take the initiative in bringing The Executive Committee found that, together a number of men of experience whilst private approaches about funds in public affairs to consider the relafor Rhodesia had been made to the tions between voluntary organisations British Government without their know- such as Amnesty and government departments which might be tempted to try and influence them.

# **National Sections**

Australia

New South Wales

Lincoln Oppenheimer, 522 Old South Head Road,

Rose Bay, N.S.W.

Number of Groups 8

Queensland

Miss Kath Dickson. 42 Hunter Street, Toowoomba.

Number of Groups 1

South Australia

lan Brown.

71 Young Street, Parkside.

Number of Groups 6

Tasmania

Mrs. Bertha Rolls.

352 Davey Street, Hobart.

Number of Groups 1 Victoria

Mrs. Clare Wositzky,

Driffield Crescent, Sassafras. Number of Groups 14

Belgium

D. Herman Todts. Van Notenstr.18,

Deurne-Z-Antwerpen.

Number of Groups 1

Canada

Mrs. David Savan. 442 Heath Street East, Toronto 17.

Number of Groups 3

Denmark

Flemming de Lorenzi,

Amnesty International. Gyldenovesgade 12B, Copenhagen K

Number of Groups 55

Mrs. Maud Heinesen, P.O. Box 209, Torshavn.

Number of Groups 5

Finland

Miss Marta Salmelin, Lonnrotinkatu 29, Helsinki 18.

Number of Groups 7

France

Guy Perrais,

191 Avenue de Versailles, Paris16e.

Number of Groups 1

Germany

Frau Carola Stern.

5 Köln, Am Rinkenpfuhl 57. Number of Groups 43

**Great Britain** 

Mrs. Eileen Speller,

Amnesty International, Turnagain Lane, Farringdon Steet.

London, E.C.4.

Number of Groups 177 India

Sri Satyendra Nath Verma,

Janakpur Road, Dist Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

Number of Groups 1

Ireland Mrs. Brigid Wilkinson.

c/o 39 Dartry Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6.

Number of Groups 21

Israel

Haifa Mrs. Bella Ravdin,

P.O. Box 6116, Haifa.

Number of Groups 1

Mrs. Neta Eran,

Beth Hakerem, Hechaluzstreet 56.

Number of Groups 1

Italy

Mrs. Annina Armstrong, Vico Paraso 13, Bogliasco, Genova.

Number of Groups 7

Netherlands Drs. Cornelis van der Vlies,

Postbus 4076, Rotterdam.

Number of Groups 3

New Zealand

Stan Roberts, P.O. Box 3597, Wellington.

Number of Groups 14

Norway

Arne Christensen, Oscarsgt. 50, Oslo 2.

Number of Groups 51

Sweden

Mrs. Ingrid Lilja,

Kammakargatan 2, Stockholm C.

Number of Groups 103

Switzerland Lothar Belck,

19 Chemin des Palettes. 1212 Grand Lancy, Geneva.

Number of Groups 1

United States Paul J. Lyons,

7203 Forty-Fifth Street,

Number of Groups 25

Total number of Groups 550

Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015.

# New National Initiatives

life-blood. The constant pressure they exert, from all over the world, is a critical factor in determining a government's response to our appeals. National Sections are also the points as well as £50 for the Emergency Fund. from which the movement grows, in-

forms, influences. The two largest Sections are still those in Great Britain and Sweden, with the year with events in Aden and of money to help political prisoners and their families in Southern Africa, sent nearly £2,000 to help finance the Secrefees. It has also mounted special campaigns to help prisoners of conscience in Southern Africa, Greece and Czechoslovakia.

Potentially one of the biggest America. In the year it has increased its number of Groups from four to 25. Its monthly review, 'Amnesty Action', is swiftly increasing its circulation and becoming the spearhead for its campaigns. It has already mounted a powerful campaign for the release of Greek political prisoners.

Another new Section is in Finland. Between September 1966 and May 1967 it added five new Groups and there are now seven, five in Helsinki and two in Turku. Older-established

Amnesty, the National Sections are the membership: the Norwegian Section now has 50 Groups (an increase of 16), 360 active and 850 supporting members. The Norwegians have been able to send £1,250 to help finance the Secretariat,

Australia is now becoming an active centre of Amnesty with Sections not only in Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania but also in South 177 and 103 Groups respectively. The Australia and Queensland. The long-British Section, which remains also the established Victorian Section, comprismovement's main source of income, ing 14 Groups (three in Universities), has been particularly concerned during made a particularly valuable contribution to human rights in its own country Rhodesia. The Swedish Section, as well by publishing a report on the situation as contributing a considerable amount of Australian Aborigines. Concerned too about countries close to home, the Section has made representations to the Indonesian Government about the tariat, apart from normal subscription human rights of minority groups, following the recent mass slaughter of Communists there. Working closely with the Victorian and other inter-State Sections is the South Australian Section, which has added to its authority Sections is in the United States of by forming a Group among members of the State Parliament—the first such Group outside Europe and Scandinavia.

Growth of membership, increased co-operation, fresh initiatives . . . these are the characteristic developments of Amnesty National Sections in the past year. As they consolidate their positions in their countries, and as new National Sections are formed, Amnesty International ensures its continuing evolution into a world-wide movement of genuine and unique significance.

## **Amnesty at Work**

Amnesty International is working for hope and seeming disinterest. The successes and failures, glimmers of our concern.

Reports of the plight of political detainees in Aden were first received by the Secretariat in 1964, but it was issue assumed major proportions. It was visit to Aden of Dr. S. Rastgeldi, on behalf of the Swedish Section.

the allegations of brutality made against a small number of British interrogators were in all probability justified. The were, at that time, between 200 and 300 detainees and that specific tortures were inflicted on many of them.

send his own investigator to Aden, accepted.

nearly 2,000 prisoners of conscience in reports that follow record only some 63 countries. There have been of our efforts but reflect the range of

Mr. Roderic Bowen, Q.C. Though prevented by his terms of reference from examining in detail specific allegations not until the middle of 1966 that the of torture, Mr. Bowen's Report made it clear that the treatment of detainees finally brought to public attention by the disregarded necessary legal and humane safeguards. Mr. Bowen's Report showed his considerable con-Dr. Rastgeldi's dossier on the cern about the situation, quoting for treatment of detainees indicated that example, from a Memorandum from the Director of Health Services to the Deputy High Commissioner in Aden: "The injuries sustained by detainees Rastgeldi Report suggested that there brought from the Interrogation Centre indicates that their interrogation was assisted by physical violence". Mr. Bowen recommended to the Foreign On Dr. Rastgeldi's return, the Secretary that existing procedures British Foreign Secretary agreed to should be changed, and this was

GREECE The wave of arrests in Greece following of the Stephanopoulos government and, from Jail. There seemed, moreover, tion of the Ambassador in London. reasonable expectation that these six, and other adopted prisoners sentenced to the Greek Ambassador about the under Emergency Laws 375 and 509, position of conscientious objectors in might well be released before the Greece and Groups have been active expiry of their sentences.

> Greece in September 1966, was able ing prison sentences for their refusal to meet and talk with many of the to bear arms, are now known to us. released prisoners. She reported that Amnesty-adopted prisoners in remaining political prisoners. Unfortu- health. nately his visit coincided with the fall

HUNGARY Hungary is still one of the toughest them in prison in early summer 1967. countries in the field of Group work Most Groups have received no replies and there have been few releases. to their enquiries to government author-However there is a ray of hope for ties; a very few have had replies from religious prisoners of conscience since other quarters. a Bishop was allowed to visit some of

appointed tribunal recommended their release in March 1967.

been released after personal interviews with Kenyatta, and only six more sympathy with the guerillas it has been remain in detention. All of these are difficult to make adoptions and at the adopted by Amnesty and one has been moment only a handful have been taken put on the Postcards for Prisoners up as Investigation Cases. Amnesty

is Kenya's other main problem. Over sentence imposed on four Somalis 80 per cent of the population voted for arrested on "consorting" charges.

the military coup d'état of April 21st, as a result, he was not able personally 1967, meant that Amnesty's work for to interview the Minister of Justice. Greek prisoners of conscience suddenly However, he managed to arrange for a and dramatically increased. Just before detailed Memorandum, drawn up as a this, at the beginning of April, all but result of his investigations, to be presix of the remaining long-term adopted sented to the new Minister of Justice communist prisoners had been released and this was also drawn to the atten-

> Representations were also made on individual cases. For example, the Mrs. Eleanor Aitken, who visited names of 40 Jehovah's Witnesses serv-

many of them experienced difficulties Greece now include those of all poliof rehabilitation and this, together with tical beliefs. Following the coup a other similar reports, led to Amnesty number of former Ministers and Depucontinuing its relief programme to fami-ties were arrested, together with leadlies of released prisoners. In Decem- ing lawyers, writers and artists. It is ber, 1966, Mr. Keith Kyle visted Greece also clear that very many previously on our behalf, to observe the ASPIDA adopted prisoners were re-arrested, trial and to investigate the cases of regardless of their age or state of

President Kenyatta's Government Union with Somalia in the referendum has used the Public Security legislation arranged, but not acted upon, by Britain passed in June 1966, to intimidate the before granting Kenya independence. K.P.U., the newly formed left-wing Trouble in this area has intensified and opposition party led by Odinga Oginga. the whole North Eastern part of Kenya Within a month of the bill passing is virtually in a state of war. The Kenya virtually all the opposition leaders. Government has passed savage emerexcept those in the Legislature, were gency legislation in the area and is arrested, including a number of trade combating the Somali guerillas with union leaders. For the first nine months brutal army measures. The nomadic of imprisonment they were detained in Somali population has been confined to places undisclosed to the public or "concentration" camps and all known their families even after a Government Somali leaders who are not prepared publicly to support the Government line have been arrested. The numbers in During May 1967 a number have prison are believed to be in thousands.

Since so many Somalis are in International did, however, appeal in The tragic Somali border dispute February 1967, against the death

LATIN AMERICA The extent of Amnesty's work in Latin that there are active guerilla movements in many parts of the continent, and we have had to exercise great care in determining whether those in detention ought to be regarded as prisoners of conscience and adopted by Amnesty Groups. During the year, we have been gradually building up contacts in Venezuela, Bolivia and Peru who are able to advise us on borderline cases.

Brazil continued to be the country in Latin America where Amnesty is most active and nearly 100 prisoners have been adopted. Hundreds of people including trade union leaders and members of the Communist Party have been sentenced by military courts since the coup d'état of April 1964. Some have been able to go into hiding or exile, but many more are serving March 1967, and on April 23 we heavy sentences or have been effectively deprived of their livelihood by that he had been released after 95 days the loss of their civil rights. A number due to the efforts of Amnesty Interof Amnesty Groups have heard from national. Dr. Serrate's release is the adopted prisoners who are in this pre- most dramatic success we have had in dicament.

PORTUGAL While the work of Amnesty met with Amnesty mounted an extensive camreleased after the trial.

> political prisoners in the two political rigour. prisons of Peniche and Caxias. By May 200. Many of the releases were

The Report on Prison Conditions America has been governed by the fact in Paraguay was published in October 1966. The Report revealed that while the number of political prisoners in Paraguay is relatively small (probably about 150) the conditions under which they are detained are extremely bad. Some of the prisoners have been detained for as long as five years without trial, and a number of prisoners believed to be suitable Amnesty cases have been adopted.

In January 1967, 23 political opponents of the Bolivian Government were deported from La Paz to prison camps in the Amazon jungle. One of them was Dr. Carlos Serrate Reich, Minister of Education before the military coup in 1964, and an advocate in La Paz. Dr. Serrate was placed on the Postcards for Prisoners campaign in received a cable from him informing us Latin America.

a certain amount of success this year paign for him, both through adoption in that a number of prisoners were and the Postcard Campaign. He was released, governmental measures of held for about six months, and then repression took some new forms. released without trial, for having Amnesty began the year well. On the written a play in which he satirised 12th and 14th July 1966, Lord Gifford armies, although not mentioning the attended a trial for us in Lisbon. Two Portuguese army in particular. Prior to men, Rogerio Rodrigues de Carvalho his release an order went out to all and Pedro Vieira de Almeida stood trial publishing houses that all copies of accused of being members of the books were to be submitted to the Portuguese Communist Party. Amnesty competent authorities before any disran a campaign for Almeida and he was tribution could take place. This is, in fact, allowed for by Decree Law 34134 At the beginning of this Report of the 24th November, 1944, but had year, there were some 300 to 350 not been taken up before with such

New measures have also been 1967 there appeared to be less than initiated against political prisoners. Decree Law 47216 promulgated on the Amnesty adopted cases, and would 24th September, 1966, has established seem to result from the Portuguese the principle of deportation for political Government's reluctance to renew or prisoners by a simple decision of the in some cases actually enforce security Minister of Justice for Portugal and the measures. By contrast, new legal Colonies. This may mean deportation measures have been taken by the to the notorious concentration camps Portuguese Government to further limit which Portugal has in her colonies. human rights. Luis Sttau Monteiro, While the figure for political prisoners Portugal's leading playwright, was in Metropolitan Portugal is quite low, arrested on the 24th November, 1966. the figure in the colonies runs into thousands.

RHODESIA The past year has seen a most effective World Council of Churches in Geneva. sons restricted, detained or imprisoned over 500 families. for political reasons. What began as a potential for the future.

> were various organisations and groups wife, or recommended by another engaged in relief activities. By general agency such as the churches, social agreement the Christian Council then welfare workers or trade unions. In undertook to act as the central agency this way cases can be checked and for the major distribution of aid con- endorsed by a recognised authority or tributed from within and outside the person. country. In the early months of 1966. with the establishment of two relief long-term restrictees were recomoffices, in Salisbury and in Bulawayo, mended for adoption by Amnesty the Christian Council made a concen- Groups by the two relief offices: 264 trated effort to track down all cases Rhodesians are adopted by Groups. The eligible for aid, and made a firm alloca- payments from Groups to their adopted tion of areas. This ensured against families are collected at Head Office wasteful duplication of aid to any and sent in block contributions through single family.

principal contributor in 1966 was the during the year.

### SOUTH AFRICA

Despite the apparent relaxation in hitherto willing to accept political some aspects of foreign and domestic cases. policy under the new Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, restrictions on individual trials have continued and it is disturbliberty increased in the last year.

Amnesty has been legal representation nesses undergoing '180-day' detention; for political offenders. The ban on the during questioning, detainees are held \*Defence and Aid Fund early in 1966 put in isolation without access to lawyers, an end to their work of arranging and and reports suggest the use of paying for defence lawyers in political physical, as well as psychological, prescases. As a result, few Africans charged sure by the police. under the security legislation are defended—however harsh the sentences numbers in prison, and the restriction they face. Subsequently, the Suppres- under banning orders of many who are sion of Communism Further Amend- released, the problem of supporting ment Bill enabled the Minister of dependants assumed great urgency. In Justice to forbid any lawyer to practise response to this need, many Amnesty whom he considers is a 'communist'; Groups adopted the families as well as this is expected to affect many lawyers the prisoners.

SPAIN At the present time there are about 50 who have been adopted in the last two adopted prisoners in Spain. These con- years by Groups all over the world. sist of all groups of the Opposition: students, Communists of both Chinese in the past year, some 20 have been and Russian factions, Socialists, Basque released, according to our information. Nationalists and workers of the new Of necessity this information is not "Workers Commission" who advocated boycotting of the State Union election and the December Referendum or cluded in this figure. merely carry prohibited literature. Apart from these "political prisoners", adoptions were made during the year of conscientious objectors, mostly Jehovah's Witnesses. There are now 40 against this prisoner was dropped and \*in South Africa.

consolidation of the work of the A total of £26,000 was distributed in Christian Council of Rhodesia in the various kinds of aid: the major part distribution of relief to families of per- constituting basic monthly grants to

Methods for assessing need and somewhat informal operation, specific- investigating cases evolved gradually ally to meet the problems created by and are now operated on a formalised U.D.I., developed a more stable struc- and professional basis. Application for ture with an organisation and excellent aid can be made in the following ways: via the Welfare Committee in the hus-At the beginning of 1966 there band's camp or prison, direct, or by the

Special cases of hardship or the central funds of the Christian Coun-Funds for relief activities came cil. Money collected in this way mostly from outside Rhodesia. The amounted to over £300 each month

Over the past year, political ing to learn that much State evidence One area of particular concern to in these has been obtained from wit-

With the constant increase in the

Of the political prisoners adopted

complete and therefore releases of "non-adopted" prisoners are not in-

During the year an observer was sent by a Swedish Group to the courtmartial and appeal of their adopted prisoner. The military court charge

the credit for this may well to some stant endeavours.

an observer to a series of trials of was possibly due to international contact work through their prisoners. concern.

TANZANIA The situation remains unchanged from Nyerere's Government has, as a result, that in previous years. The only political found itself unable to agree to this prisoners are members of the Zanzibari arrangement. Cabinet who escaped from the island and are detained in good conditions on been released over the last few years the mainland, and the unknown number (24 in December, 1966), new arrests

imprisoned on Zanzibar and Pemba. United Nations High Commission for ditions on Zanzibar, always notorious, Refugees, have been negotiating with have not improved and arbitrary arrest the Tanzanian Government for the and imprisonment without trial continue release of the Cabinet Ministers as a very much as in the early days of the group, on condition that they leave Revolution. Tanzania for good and find asylum in a variety of countries abroad. The Zanzi- most as investigation Cases because bari authorities have renewed their of the lack of information. Appeals demands for the Ministers to be have so far met with little success. returned to Zanzibar and President

UGANDA By far the largest number of political prisoners in East Africa are held in Uganda, where President Obote is still experiencing difficulties in enlisting the prominent political prisoners which support of Buganda, the most important began in December 1966 (before that Kingdom, which until recently enjoyed

a federal status within the Republic. of several political prisoners in Uganda been moved to "punishment" cells and including the five Ministers arrested in have now been in solitary confinement February, 1966, when President Obote for nearly eight months. Several are suspended the Constitution, and a reported to be deteriorating in health number of well known Baganda. We and as a result, one has gone mad. also intervened on behalf of a number Hitherto the Government has failed to of Southern Sudanese exiles imprisoned bring these men to trial because of the in Kampala. The Sudanese have now all absence of any evidence against them. been released as have five prisoners It is believed that this ill-treatment is adopted early last year. Arrests and designed by the Government to bring releases have followed each other in the these prisoners to the point where they months since President Obote's as- will be willing to "confess" to "plots" sumption of direct political power, against the state. These have not always been announced in the official Gazette so it is difficult with the Uganda Government, the to establish the exact numbers imprisoned at any one time. Almost everyone of these are detained under the Buganda Emergency Regulations and are being held untried and uncharged.

Many Groups are in touch with extent be taken by the Group's con- their prisoners or with the families of prisoners, and a German Group Member The International Secretariat sent was even able to visit a prisoner in jail. Contacts within Spain have been Socialists. As those charged were steadily developed throughout the year imprisoned for only a few weeks and by the Investigation Bureau. Although were then on bail until tried, they were contacts must remain anonymous the not adopted by Amnesty. The resulting information gained is always passed on. (suspended) sentence of six months Groups have also taken on some of this

Although several prisoners have are continually reported, over 70 in the Amnesty, together with the first few months of 1967. Prison con-

Several prisoners are adopted,

One of the most disturbing features of the situation has been the apparently deliberate ill-treatment of the treatment was reported to be good). A number of prisoners, many of Amnesty has taken up the cases whom are adopted by Amnesty, have

Amnesty is taking up this issue Organisation for African Unity, the International Red Cross, and other related international bodies. The report was received only in May 1967.

Amnesty International has been watchimposed on conscientious objectors in who have had their application for C.O. increase is undoubtedly opposition to usually refuse to register at the momentum over the last year. Draft eighteenth birthday. There are those resistance groups have mushroomed who refuse to co-operate with the draft around the country, especially on the because, on grounds of conscience, college campuses where young men of they are opposed to American policy in strations.

The Act which governs the com-Training and Service Act and any violation under the Act carries the maximum sentence of five years imprisonment and/or 10,000 dollar fine. To achieve conscientious objector status a person national health, safety or interest".

some 200 cases currently listed, ing to his conscience.

U.S.S.R. Last year we heard for the first time and their gatherings are therefore unof a split in the Russian Baptist Church authorized. and the imprisonment of many of its dissident members. Although much of the underground literary movements in the material available was dated back—the big cities, notably Moscow, whose to 1962 and too old to be used, some members have occasionally organised adoptions were made, and increased public poetry readings. These have interest in the western press subse- usually been accompanied by some quently provided material for more kind of anti-regime demonstration, case sheets. In the autumn of 1966 although the K.G.B. (secret police) are new legislation was introduced provid- always quick to intervene and break it ing for prison or labour camp sentences for anyone who organised or participated in unauthorised meetings or awaiting trial, some detained in mental demonstrations "disturbing public institutions and two banished to the order". This new legislation is clearly aimed at the dissident Baptist sects as, unlike the official Baptist Church, they Premier's visit to England in February are not registered with the authorities

Amnesty Groups have now adopted 16 ing with considerable concern the in- prisoners in the U.S. They fall into creasing number of heavy sentences several categories. There are those the U.S. The Federal Bureau of Investi- status rejected by their draft and gation reported that 450 persons were appeal boards. Some are in prison beconvicted of violating military draft cause they will accept neither military laws in 1966. This is double the number service of any kind nor any alternative for 1965. The reason for this dramatic service under conscription. These men the Vietnam war which has gathered required time—within five days of their draft age have banded together to Vietnam. There is no provision in the refuse induction, to offer advice about law for selective conscientious objecthe draft and to disrupt the local tion and many chose to express dissent Selective Service boards with demon- by civil disobedience. This may take the form of burning draft cards, refusing to report for the army physical pulsory draft is the Universal Military examination, or refusing to take the necessary step forward at the army induction ceremony.

Heavy sentences of up to five years with hard labour have been given by army courts-martial to soldiers who is required to prove that "by reason of have refused to fight or train for the religious training and belief he is con- Vietnam war because they are conscientiously opposed to participation in scientiously opposed to it. Amnesty war in any form". Once classified as a Groups have adopted two such cases: conscientious objector he must either Captain Howard Levy and Private David perform non-combatant duty in the Samas, one of the "Fort Hood Three". army or be assigned to civilian work Their legal representatives have raised "contributing to the maintenance of the in defence such issues as the soldier's right to freedom of speech, the Nurem-In a resolution passed by the burg judgements, the illegality of the Amnesty International Assembly in war and the violation of the Kellog-December 1966, it was decided that a Briand treaty, U.N. Charter, etc. As a "prisoner of conscience" should in- humanitarian and non-political moveclude any person who refuses, on ment, Amnesty makes no judgment on grounds of conscience, to fight in or the Vietnam war by adopting these train for all wars or any particular war. cases. But it does believe that every On the basis of that resolution, out of individual has the right to act accord-

Also affected by the new law are up. About a dozen young people have been adopted, most being in prison provinces.

On the occasion of the Soviet 1967, a special effort was made on behalf of the imprisoned writers Sinyav- on individuals in the Soviet press. We sky and Daniel. Articles about them therefore decided to adopt a number of appeared in the press and two Members of Parliament presented an appeal to the Soviet Embassy.

Considerable help was obtained from academic circles in London in finding information about the large number of people in the Ukraine sentenced to labour camps last year for their support of the Ukrainian language and culture. About 15 adoptions were made and further information, including news of the release of at least two of the people involved, was passed to Groups.

The question of anti-semitism in the U.S.S.R. is one which has received considerable publicity over the last few years. Amnesty had been unable to adopt more than a handful of cases because, even where details of imprisonment and sentence were known, the charges were usually for "economic offences", often an alleged infringement of the strict laws against capitalism. It became obvious, however, that Amnesty could not ignore reports of a high incidence of Jews in Soviet labour camps really effective in a few cases. and the widespread, scurrilous attacks

prosecuted and imprisoned. It is hard to say what Groups with Soviet prisoners were able to achieve in the year. Letters to authorities rarely produced a reply but this does not mean that they went unheeded. Sometimes replies have come from quite different sources-the Southampton Group in England received quite an informative letter about their Soviet prisoner from a man who had gone to some trouble investigating the case but to whom they had not written directly. Some Groups have succeeded

cases for investigation only, in the

hope that Amnesty Groups might be

able to find out whether the people

concerned were at liberty or had been

in discussing their prisoner with officials of the Soviet Embassy in their country and although the latter may not be very sympathetic this kind of initiative is certainly not wasted. It is generally agreed among experts in the field that publicity and interest can do only good even though it may only be

### WEST GERMANY

In September 1966, Mr. Arne Christensen of the Norwegian Section attended the trial of Emil Bechtle, a West German Communist charged with working for prison. the illegal German Communist Party. Mr. Christensen was given every of Communists known actually to be in assistance by the federal German authorities and spoke with the prosecution and the accused. Although he was

sentenced to one year's imprisonment Mr. Bechtle was released on health grounds after only a short period in

We continued to adopt all cases prison but it is still hard to get reliable information.

YUGOSLAVIA For some years, Amnesty has been concerned with the position of Nazarene conscientious objectors imprisoned for their refusal to handle lethal weapons during their military service. Until the early 1960s it was a regular practice for individual Nazarenes to be given be re-conscripted, re-charged and re-In 1966, the authorities went even further and reduced the sentences of those in prison to a maximum of five years; at the same time, considerable improvements were made in the conditions in which they live on the island of Goli Otok. This may have been due

work of Amnesty groups in co-operation with War Resisters International and other pacifist organisations.

In July 1966, President Tito announced the reform and liberalisation of the security forces and the dismissal of its chief, Rankovic. This was a far-10 year sentences for this offence, with reaching move and, if genuinely implea risk that, on release, they would mented, it should affect all types of political and conscience cases dealt sentenced for a second and even third with by the security police. President 10-year period. More recently, this Tito also admitted certain past abuses re-conscription has stopped and of police powers, and in one specific Nazarenes have gone free after release. area—the Kosmet—official good faith was demonstrated by the appointment of a committee to investigate reported instances of police misconduct towards members of the Albanian community there. Its findings confirmed that wrongful arrests had been made and even that several Albanians had died in -at least in part-to the sustained the course of police interrogation.

Amnesty asked the Yugoslav authorities to confirm that the cases of several adopted Albanians have been re-opened in the light of the committee's findings. But, by the end of the year, neither the groups nor the International Secretariat received a reply.

The best news of the year was the release on New Year's Eve of Milovan Djilas, the eminent Yugoslav writer. In marked contrast to this, the young lecturer, Mihajlo Mihajlov, who was adopted by Amnesty, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment in November 1966, and to a further four years in March 1967 four years in March, 1967



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