AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Media Advisory

Al Index: POL 30/031/2003 (Public)

News Service No: 266

25 November 2003

Press conference: Governments must tackle the "pain merchants"

Amnesty International will present its new 90-page report "The Pain Merchants" at a press conference in London on 2 December. The report reveals that governments' failure to control the expanding trade in and use of security equipment is contributing to torture and ill-treatment.

New security technologies are being developed, some of which are dubious; abuses are widespread; there is almost no control of the trade; and all regions of the world are affected. More than 40 countries, including the UK, Germany, USA, China and Afghanistan are mentioned in the report. The press conference will be held at:

Where: The Foreign Press Association, 11 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AJ

When: 2 December at 12:00 GMT

Who: Brian Wood, Amnesty International; Alastair Hay, Professor of Environmental

Toxicology, University of Leeds

RSVP to 0044 20 7413 5810, 0044 7810 638901 or AFlensburg@amnesty.org

For further information contact Annika Flensburg, General Press Officer, 0044 20 7413 5810, 0044 7810 638901 e-mail: AFlensburg@amnesty.org

Public Document

For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on +44 20 7413 5566 Amnesty International, 1 Easton St., London WC1X 0DW. web: http://www.amnesty.org

For latest human rights news view http://news.amnesty.org