

Amnesty International
Annual Report 1973-74



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL is a worldwide human rights movement which is independent of any government, political faction or religious creed. It acts on behalf of men and women who are imprisoned anywhere for their beliefs, colour, ethnic origin or religion, provided they have neither used nor advocated violence.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL opposes capital punishment and torture in all cases and without reservation. It is now conducting an international Campaign for the Abolition of Torture.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, in its work for prisoners of conscience, seeks observance throughout the world of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights and of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL has consultative status with the United Nations, UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States and is recognized by the Organization of African Unity.



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"Never a moment of peace"

Cartoon by F. Behrendt in *Aftenposten*, Oslo. Reproduced by kind permission of the artist

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Preface by Eric Baker, Vice-Chairman International Executive Committee

Amnesty International's year 1973-74 encompassed the *coup d'état* in Chile and the *coup d'état* in Portugal—two dramatic illustrations of the urgent need for the work it was set up to do.

The coup in Chile coincided with the International Council meeting in Vienna. The council's reaction was immediately to authorize a mission to Santiago. While the preparations for this were going on both in London and at the UN in New York, AI groups were already at work on behalf of political prisoners and refugees, writing to the new government and raising funds for relief.

The mission took place in November and its report illustrated yet again the ruthlessness with which too many governments maintain themselves in power. Against this naked exercise of force, however, Amnesty International has been able, over the last 13 years or so, to set the willingness of individual men and women in many different countries to devote time and energy to working for the victims of official brutality.

The Conference on the Abolition of Torture which was held in Paris in December 1973 was an outstanding example of willingness. Prepared for by a series of specialist seminars in 11 different countries, it might, nevertheless, have been wrecked by UNESCO's refusal at the last moment to let it meet in UNESCO headquarters. However, rapid action by the French Section and by the International Secretariat saved the situation and the conference opened on time. Never in the history of Amnesty International has there been a conference which so manifestly focussed the rising concern of the public on an issue fundamental to the life of everyone.

Some four months later, the *coup d'état* in Portugal provided an unforeseen commentary on what had been said in Paris, as reports came in of the seizure of the files of the DGS (secret police). Meanwhile, members of the DGS themselves tried to escape crowds anxious to lay hands on the

men from whom so often many had suffered in prison.

It is not often that two such international events light up so effectively the harsh facts with which Amnesty International is faced every day in the files of every prisoner of conscience—that governments which should be the first to defend the rights and liberties of their citizens are, in too many countries, the first to invade them and that the army, police and civil servants who claim that it is their responsibility to protect, too often use their power to persecute.

Amnesty International, therefore, along with others, must set itself to create the instruments of an international conscience. Having, in the year of the 25th anniversary of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights, been instrumental in the UN General Assembly's adoption of Resolution 3059 which expressed its abhorrence of torture, it must now ensure that the report for which that resolution called



"If you start granting amnesty to people for following their conscience, pretty soon everyone will be following his conscience"

Cartoon by Joseph Farris in *The New Yorker*, New York. Reproduced by kind permission of *The New Yorker* magazine

from the Secretary General of the UN is provided in full detail. Amnesty International must, on a wider front, continue to press for the ratification of the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by those countries (many of them countries in which Amnesty International has well established national sections) which signed the covenant in 1966 and have made excuses ever since. It must continue, too, to set its sights on the appointment of a UN commissioner of human rights with effective powers of investigation.

So far as torture is concerned, the campaign to abolish it did not come to an end in Paris: it began there. What follows is the long (but perhaps not too slow) haul to convince governments that brutality cannot be the basis of a stable society. Ever since it was established, Amnesty International has repeatedly reminded governments that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, often honoured and often ignored, is nevertheless the standard of a civilized behaviour of governments towards their citizens. A new element in its work is that it has now to remind armies—even those in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)—that torture is forbidden by the Geneva Conventions and there is no defence for either practising or perfecting its methods.

However, what no government welcomes, and what every army makes the greatest efforts to avoid, is unfavourable publicity. Publicity, therefore, is one of Amnesty International's most effective weapons. Impartial, detailed and up-to-date reports and press releases on the one hand, and courteous but insistent inquiries from official AI missions, groups and individuals on the other—these have proved their effectiveness over the years. Indeed, during the last 12 months the International Executive Committee has approved an increase in the staff of the Information and Publications Office, the installation of a telex machine and other printing equipment and authorized accredited missions to over 20 countries—including extensive missions to Latin America, Africa and the Indian sub-continent. At the same time, the number of AI groups has grown by nearly 300 and the number of adopted prisoners by 900.

Keeping pace with this rapid rate of

growth has meant a considerable effort on the part of the International Executive Committee, which bears the responsibility for the work of the movement in between International Council meetings, and on the part of the secretariat which carries it out. It is, therefore, occasionally necessary to stop and consider longer term as well as immediate issues. This the IEC was able to do when, in January 1974, it held a special meeting in Hamburg which was devoted less to routine business and more to taking stock and looking ahead. One group of major decisions concerned the planned development of the movement and it was agreed to set up a co-ordination unit to develop relations with national sections and groups. At the same time the IEC decided to engage a field secretary whose area of work would be South America and whose purpose would be to disseminate information about AI's objectives and the way in which it achieves them. A second group of decisions included the confirmation of Stephanie Grant as the Head of Research (in succession to Zbynek Zeman) and the recognition of the need for a deputy secretary general. One has now been appointed: he will take up his duties in October 1974.

Among a number of matters, mainly administrative, one other should be mentioned. At the Vienna council meeting, the IEC was asked to set up a committee to discuss the issue of violence. At Hamburg the membership of this committee was approved and, in fact, the committee itself has now produced its report.

Throughout the year, in addition to giving its attention to the proper development of AI's work for prisoners, the IEC has also spent a considerable amount of time in a careful scrutiny of the accounting procedures of the secretariat and in this, has been much indebted to the help which both the Financial Control Committee and the new auditors have given.

It would not be proper to close this preface without referring to Sean MacBride*, the Chairman of the IEC, whose

*In view of the post which he now holds in the United Nations, Sean MacBride felt it would be inappropriate for him to write the preface to this year's Annual Report.

term of office comes to an end this year. Over the years during which he has been associated with it, he has made a major contribution to Amnesty International's prestige in the world and thus to the effectiveness of its work for prisoners of conscience. His efforts to have a protocol adopted which would have gone a long way towards achieving the release of political prisoners in Vietnam, and his discussions with both the Spanish government and the authorities in the USSR on AI's behalf, are well known. What is not so well-known, perhaps, was his willingness to be consulted on AI's affairs at any time and the tireless attention which he gave to the detail of its administration. His appointment to the position of Commissioner for Namibia (with the rank of Assistant Secretary-General in the United Nations) is one which all who know him feel is particularly fitting—even though it may

make difficult or even impossible the continuation of any formal association with Amnesty International itself.

The success of Amnesty International (and the fact that over 1,000 of the prisoners for whom groups have worked during this last year have been released cannot be anything less than success) depends on the close cooperation of both those who are paid to devote the whole of their time and expertise to its work and those who can volunteer only a small part of both. One of the remarkable features of Amnesty International over the years has been the enthusiasm with which the two groups have worked together. There is every reason why this should continue and become even more effective.

After all, the prisoner can do nothing for himself; our freedom gives us both the opportunity and the duty to do what we can for him.

Introduction by Martin Ennals, Secretary General

The Campaign for the Abolition of Torture started, like Amnesty International itself, as a one year campaign. Like Amnesty International the campaign has proved that its existence is imperative until torture is abandoned—not merely condemned—as an instrument of government and a means of repression. The approval by the United Nations General Assembly of a resolution recognizing that torture is practised by governments and calling for its abolition is not enough to prevent one person from being tortured. It does, however, mark a new awareness and willingness by the United Nations to recognize that international responsibility extends to human rights as well as to war and peace.

The publication of the *Amnesty International Report on Torture* and the international conference in Paris in December 1973 provide background material and an action program which go beyond the borders of Amnesty International membership. The response to the lead given by AI has been inspiring, but while the direction of international cooperation is clear, the road is a long one.

An introduction to an annual report provides an opportunity to look forward to the programs and problems of the present and future based on the acquired experience of the past. The continued growth of the organization requires a constant process of adjustment on the part of the membership, the secretariat and the executive. An organization such as Amnesty International must respond to new situations, but it must also maintain the priorities and principles which justify its existence and cause its growth. Amnesty International is not a protest movement, reacting to world atrocities. Nor is it a crisis organization able to apply first aid to the victims of internal chaos. But as the organization becomes more widespread in its repute and impact, there are greater demands upon it to respond to crises which we are not equipped to deal with and for which other organizations exist.

The tragedy of Chile in September 1973 is one challenging example of a situation which can—and did—strain the resources of Amnesty International to the limit. The succession of death penalties, the prevalence of torture, the apparently limitless number of persons detained for supporting the legal government of the previous day, the countless refugees from all over Latin America affected by the coup, the need for and the abundance of information: all created in their own way a strain on the secretariat and the sections in financial, manpower and emotional terms. The tragedy of Chile, however, could and should not overwhelm the urgent long-term needs of those in other areas to which Amnesty International already has commitments.

This commitment to the unpublicized but continuing problem is a fundamental part of AI's philosophy. It is worth noting that despite the attention which has been paid to Chile, there have also been missions and other related activities on behalf of prisoners in Uruguay, Bolivia, Paraguay and Argentina during the year, in addition to the adoption program in other Latin American countries.

The structure envisaged in the statute drafted in 1968 was designed to provide for an organization with a research staff of four in a secretariat of 12, servicing at a very limited level some 500 AI adoption groups. The full- and part-time staff of the International Secretariat now numbers some 70 persons, including an information and publications department, a campaign staff for the abolition of torture, a special coordination unit to work closely with sections and groups, separate research units on Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Middle East, and volunteers. The calls on the secretariat are no longer limited to the production of case information but now include specialist reports and publications, a growing relief program, submissions and representations to the United Nations and other inter-governmental agencies, missions

of research and negotiation, field officers in Asia and shortly in Latin America, observers at trials, and a constant flow of demands for authoritative and accurate information on prisoners of conscience, death penalties, torture and human rights throughout the globe. The administrative problems of adjustment to this type of growth require little imagination. The finances to pay for such development create demands and pressures on the membership and sections which have to streamline and exploit not only the enthusiasm of new recruitment and public recognition but also to find the money to pay for the ever-increasing demands of the central secretariat.

Amnesty International has always been fortunate in its staff: young people, on the whole, who have acquired before joining the secretariat a degree of expertise in their field of work which has to be adapted to

the rather specialized needs of the organization. An international secretariat of some 16 nationalities, covering the problems of 100 countries, and unable to offer the advantages of international salary scales and allowances, is not easily recruited or maintained. AI work calls for a political and behavioural discipline not normally expected of either the age group or the salary level of the secretariat. Within any organization which depends on voluntary effort the role of the professional secretariat is never a routine. Within Amnesty International, the commitment to the prisoners for whom we are all working is as essential as the expert knowledge and experience which can be contributed. The atmosphere of the secretariat combines the enthusiasm of the membership with the professionalism of the specialist. The organization owes much to this combination.

The Membership

The extensive publicity surrounding the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture strengthened support for Amnesty International in the major national sections in 1973-74. It also focussed attention on the work of the smaller sections and attracted members in new areas.

The continuing growth of the movement and the necessary development of fresh AI techniques for helping prisoners of conscience led to the establishment of a co-ordination unit within the International Secretariat under the Executive Secretary, Martin Enthoven. The unit was set up to broaden channels of communication between the secretariat and sections, groups and members and to help those who wish to promote imaginative new kinds of campaigns for prisoners.

Recognizing the urgent need for AI to build and grow in the Third World, and in response to a proposal by the Indian Section, the International Executive Committee appointed Richard Reoch, who had been a member of the secretariat staff, to work as a regional field secretary in South Asia on an experimental basis. He took up his appointment in February 1974 and is based in New Delhi.

While keeping the individual prisoner very much in mind, special campaigns have been launched to attract attention to whole categories of detainees such as doctors and teachers, and to encourage other organizations to join AI in appealing on behalf of these prisoners. The co-ordination unit is also encouraging another new development in AI techniques: the formation of professionally-based AI groups, such as the doctors' group in the US Section and the journalists' group in the Austrian Section. These specialist groups and others like them provide expert knowledge for the movement and are uniquely equipped to bring pressure to bear through professional organizations to help colleagues who are in prison.

During 1973-74, national sections, in cooperation with the International Secre-

Amnesty International

World appeal for Amnesty in Brazil



Cover of Japanese Section's leaflet for 1974 Brazil campaign

tariat, mounted intensive campaigns directed at crisis areas. Among them were an emergency Vietnam action campaign which raised a considerable sum of money for the relief of prisoners there; a campaign on behalf of the increasing number of persons who have "disappeared" in Guatemala; drives on behalf of detained doctors in Uruguay and Chile, teachers in Guatemala and members of parliament in Indonesia; and a campaign for a general amnesty in Brazil to mark the 10th anniversary of the present regime.

Another development over the past year has been a series of meetings in London between the secretariat staff and representatives of national section groups working on particular countries. The object was to exchange information and ideas about these countries with a view to developing long-term policies and making AI's work more effective. Such meetings were held on Spain, Chile, the Soviet Union and Brazil.

A significant meeting of European national section representatives, held in Amsterdam in February 1974, discussed the whole direction of AI's work, examining our present priorities and terms of reference and discussing the effectiveness of our structure. The meeting was also attended by members of the International Secretariat and a representative of the IEC. All the meetings were aimed at establishing closer links and a better understanding between the secretariat and sections and groups.

Following a decision of the 1973 International Council meeting in Vienna, the IEC appointed a committee of eight AI members to study the non-violence provisions of AI's statute. This committee met in Amsterdam on 6 April 1974 under the chairmanship of Dr Herman van Geuns of the IEC. Its recommendations will be considered by the 1974 International Council meeting in Vejle, Denmark.

The movement itself again grew significantly in 1973-74, the total number of groups rising to 1,483, an increase of 280 groups over 1972-73. Established sections have made efforts to ensure that the increase in their groups has been more organized than in the past. They have concentrated on strengthening existing groups. New groups have been encouraged in areas where at present no groups exist.

West Germany and the Netherlands remain the two largest sections, the former with over 500 groups, the latter with over 14,000 members. The Swedish Section has formed over 70 new groups. A member of the staff of the Stockholm office spent a week at the International Secretariat to develop plans for closer cooperation.

The Danish and Norwegian Sections, after a period of consolidation, have increased the number of their groups. Members of parliament and local trade

unions have given their support to campaigns organized by the Faroe Islands Section on behalf of prisoners in Indonesia and Chile. The Finnish Section has recently appointed a new board and plans are underway for a fund-raising and publicity drive, one of the main aims being to encourage the establishment of groups outside Helsinki.

The French Section doubled in size, staff and budget in 1973-74. The expansion was largely the result of the publicity generated in France by the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture and by the siting of the international conference on torture in Paris. More than 200 articles appeared in the French press on the conference and campaign. AI statements and positions on other issues are now constantly referred to in newspapers, magazines and books and on radio and television and enjoy wide respect in political and academic circles.

The Belgian Section grew rapidly during the first five months of 1974, when 11 new groups were formed. The first Flemish-speaking groups are now being formed after a previous emphasis on individual membership. The Luxembourg Section has continued to grow steadily, and a group has recently been formed of members at the Court of Justice of the European Communities.

The Austrian Section, which organized the 1973 International Council meeting, has established a number of groups to work on behalf of prisoners in certain professional categories. Successful publicity campaigns organized by the Swiss Section have ensured its continued development.

Individual membership of the Irish Section has increased and efforts are being made to establish groups outside Dublin. The British Section has devoted attention to the establishment of co-ordination groups. In Italy considerable progress has been made towards the formation of a section. Many people there signed the appeal to the UN General Assembly to outlaw torture.

Members and groups in Canada have formed a single section with an office in Ottawa. There has been a rapid increase in the number of Canadian groups. The majority are still in the east but member-

ship has spread to central and western Canada. One of the francophone groups has undertaken to translate and distribute the *Amnesty International Newsletter*, news releases and other material in French.

The **United States** Section has quadrupled its number of groups, the greatest expansion being in California and Texas. A campaign has been launched on behalf of imprisoned members of the medical profession. The section has provided considerable help in relations with the United Nations Secretariat in New York and in finding observers for missions.

The **Mexican and Peruvian** Sections have received increased support. A week of films, plays and folk concerts was organized by the Mexican section to highlight Amnesty International's campaign against torture. Both sections played a major role in helping Chilean refugees following the coup.

Efforts to expand the existing sections in Africa and to form new sections there have not been successful so far. The **Gambian** Section was represented at the International Council meeting in Vienna.

The section in **Israel** has been reorganized and a new board elected. A member of the International Secretariat staff has met with AI supporters in **Lebanon**, and there are hopes of reviving the section there. A

proposal for the constitution of a section in **Egypt** has been drawn up.

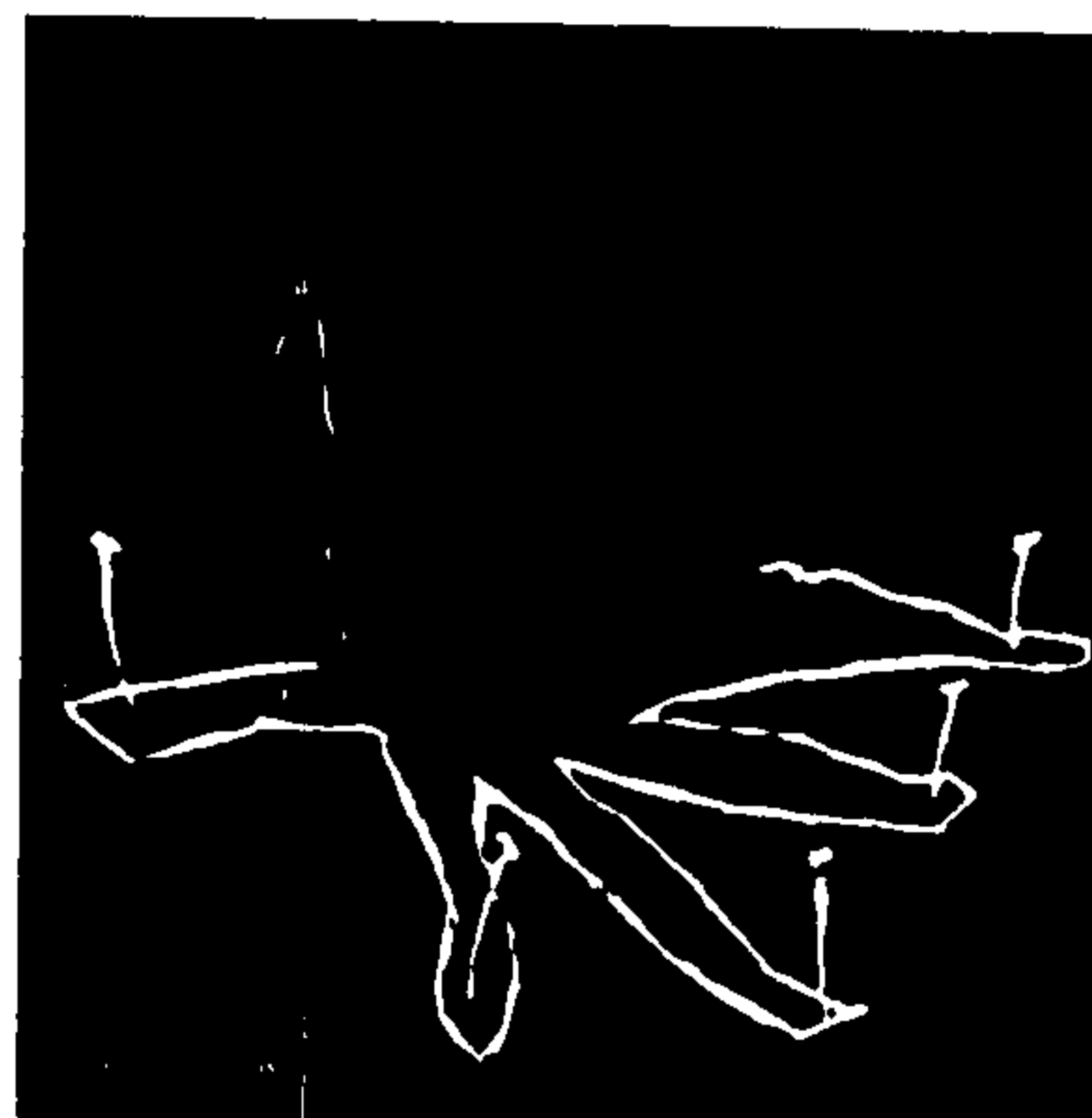
The **Indian and Bangladesh** Sections played an active part in the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture. One of the tasks of AI's new field secretary in the area will be to help organize an Asian regional conference which is planned for the autumn of 1974. Contact is being made with the sections in **Nepal and Sri Lanka**.

In addition to forming several new groups, the **Japanese** Section has organized campaigns on behalf of prisoners in Taiwan, South Korea and Brazil. It has also assisted the International Secretariat in finding observers to attend trials in South Korea. The **South Korean** Section has continued to publicize actively the work of Amnesty International in the Korean press. Both sections were represented at the International Council meeting.

All the branches of the **Australian** Section have continued to expand and initial steps have been taken to centralize some of their joint activities. A parliamentary group has been formed which has contacted similar groups in other countries in order to exchange ideas. The **New Zealand** Section received good publicity in the press and on television during its campaign against torture.

Opposite: Symbol of the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture, designed by Raymond Gid

Campaign for the Abolition of Torture



The Campaign for the Abolition of Torture, launched in December 1972, was transformed during 1973-74 from a drive to arouse public consciousness throughout the world to the epidemic of systematic torture by governments, into a concrete action program to eradicate it. In the process a score of governments and international organizations committed themselves to the campaign and more than one million individuals spread over some 90 countries signed AI's international appeal to the United Nations General Assembly to outlaw torture effectively.

The pivot of the campaign's new direction was Amnesty International's Conference for the Abolition of Torture, which was held in Paris on 10 and 11 December 1973. The conference was preceded by an intensive international publicity campaign mounted jointly by the secretariat in London and all national sections. Newspapers, magazines, radio and television everywhere responded almost immediately to the campaign, devoting considerable space and time to the serious problem of torture in the world. Many international and national organizations and individuals also responded, expressing their interest and

concern and offering assistance. The individuals included politicians, churchmen, trade unionists, professional people such as doctors and lawyers, and people in many other walks of life.

In preparation for the December conference, a number of regional study conferences and meetings were held. At Lysebu, near Oslo, Norway, physicians, psychiatrists and psychologists discussed the physical and mental consequences of torture. At Schilde, near Antwerp, Belgium, a Benelux conference took place on the socio-economic and political aspects of torture. Seminars in England dealt with legal, moral and medical aspects. Other meetings were held in West Germany, Ireland, Canada, Mexico, Switzerland, New Zealand, USA and Australia. Experts from many disciplines analyzed causes and made recommendations for prevention and treatment; their reports and findings provided background material for the Paris Conference.

At the same time, the International Secretariat prepared an extensive report on the historical, ethical, medical and legal dimensions of torture, as well as its use in more than 60 countries throughout the world. This *Amnesty International Report on Torture*, published on 3 December 1973, gives a devastating account of brutality and cruelty perpetrated by man on his fellows. Publication of the report led to a last-minute decision by UNESCO to deny the use of its Paris headquarters to AI for the conference. UNESCO claimed that the report was a conference document and that this constituted a breach of the contract that AI had signed in April 1973. The contract stated that member states could not be criticized inside UNESCO House or in documentation for any conferences held there. AI, on the other hand, claimed that the cancellation had been prompted by pressure from some governments whose practices were exposed in the report.

Within three days of the cancellation, the French Section found an alternative

conference site in Paris, and the preparations proceeded without interruption.

The Conference for the Abolition of Torture opened on 10 December 1973, the 25th anniversary of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It proved an enormous success, both in terms of international publicity for the issue and of a program for future action. The 300 participants included many internationally distinguished figures, representatives from governments and from a score of international non-governmental organizations, members of Amnesty International and other concerned individuals from all over the world. Messages were received from, among others, prime ministers and the UN Secretary General, Dr Kurt Waldheim. More than 150 international journalists and half a dozen television teams covered the conference.

The conference was opened by its Chairman, Sean MacBride, who reminded the participants that their task was to establish the strategy for a continuing campaign against torture and to draw up an effective program to eradicate it. After other renowned speakers had addressed the first plenary session, all those on the conference platform, as a symbolic act, signed the Appeal against Torture. A wire-photo of the signed appeal was then transmitted to New York, where it was presented the same day to the President of the UN General Assembly at the start of a special session commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The main work of the conference was done in the four conference commissions. They produced a vast amount of recommendations and proposals for future action, some of a very general and "utopian" nature, others practical and of immediate urgency.

Commission A, which dealt with the problems of identifying individuals and institutions responsible for torture, recommended the establishment of a central clearing house for information on torture. It also recommended continuation of the efforts to develop an international court of criminal justice, and, pending its establishment, the setting up of international

tribunals to hold public hearings on allegations of torture.

Commission B, dealing with the socio-economic and political factors affecting torture, formulated special recommendations for action against torture to be taken by police and military personnel, religious organizations, educators, artists, trade unions and business enterprises and employers.

Commission C discussed international, regional and national legal factors affecting torture practices and made recommendations concerning the strengthening of international law and its implementation on the one hand, and of national law and its implementation on the other. Commission C also emphasized the special responsibility of the legal profession, stressing the important role that could be played by professional organizations in expressing solidarity with persecuted colleagues, sending observers to trials, and making funds available for individuals in need of legal aid.

Commission D dealt with the physical and psychological effects on the victims of torture and the involvement of doctors before, during and after torture sessions. The commission, recognizing that medical personnel become involved in the practice of torture in a variety of ways, drew up guidelines for a code of conduct for medical personnel with regard to torture and made a number of specific proposals for action against torture in the medical field. Commission D established two international committees to ensure the implementation of these proposals. In addition, it recommended that an international register of medical consultants be initiated to record those willing to undertake research missions to investigate allegations of torture. The committee to investigate existing national and international medical codes of conduct will determine whether existing ethical codes should be modified or amended to reflect special medical obligations with respect to eradicating torture. It will also be responsible for promoting the inclusion of medical ethics relating to torture in medical training programs. The committee on research planning will be responsible

for the assembly of bibliographic material on torture and the development of relevant research projects.

Immediately after the conference, AI's International Executive Committee, in accordance with the recommendations made, decided to establish a new division within the International Secretariat to work exclusively for the continuation of the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture. One of the first tasks of the new campaign department, which assumed its three-man strength in May 1974, was the production and distribution of the *Final Report of the Paris Conference*. This report contains a concise account of the conclusions and recommendations of the four conference commissions, together with the final conference declaration, messages addressed to the conference, and a full list of participants and organizations represented. Another major initiative on the basis of the conference recommendations has been the setting up of a central information clearing house, which collects and disseminates information on torture.

On the diplomatic front, a major achievement of the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture was the unanimous adoption by the UN General Assembly on 2 November 1973 of a resolution on torture. This was largely the outcome of AI's efforts in promoting its proposed Draft for a UN Resolution on a Convention on Torture and the Treatment of Prisoners. More than 140 governments had been asked to back such a resolution, and during his visit to New York in October 1973, Secretary General Martin Ennals discussed this matter with representatives of some 15 governments. Eight countries agreed to sponsor the resolution: Austria, Costa Rica, Ireland, Lesotho, Nepal, the Netherlands, Trinidad and Tobago and Sweden. In the resolution that was passed on 2 November—General Assembly Resolution 3059 (XXVIII)—the assembly agreed that "torture is still being practised in various parts of the world" and rejected any form of torture. Moreover, it decided to examine the question of torture at a future session. The full resolution is printed at the end of this article.

AI has now begun a fresh drive for governmental support for including the question of torture on the agenda of the next session of the General Assembly. A new draft resolution has been prepared for adoption at that session. The resolution could prove important in creating international legal machinery for reporting to the UN Secretary General on the application of the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners by the member states. An ongoing effort to persuade governments that sponsored the 1973 resolution against torture and a number of others to propose this stronger resolution has provided tentative co-sponsors for the next session of the General Assembly.

Dr Irmgard Hutter, Chairwoman of the Austrian Section, represented AI when the question of torture was discussed at a meeting in Bucharest, Romania, 15-20 April 1974, of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization composed of parliamentarians from more than 70 countries. AI and the International Commission of Jurists had submitted material on the subject to the IPU. The IPU's Committee on Parliamentary, Juridical and Human Rights Questions unanimously passed a draft resolution on torture which will be presented at the IPU's annual conference in Tokyo in October 1974.

The CAT office is not only concerned with projects that look toward such long-range results as international legal machinery, but also with newly received allegations of torture that require urgent action. After receiving from Greece many allegations of torture (by electrical shock, beating, falanga, rape and enforced standing), the CAT office issued a news release and sent letters and cables to President Phaedon Gizikis and to the commanding officers of five named torturers. The office also asked several national sections to follow suit. The response from the US Section was particularly thorough: it solicited and received the help of several US senators and congressmen on behalf of Greek prisoners.

On 10 June 1974, a letter was sent to Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit of Turkey

after several reports had been received about brutal beatings in a military prison in Ankara. Mr Ecevit was urged to suspend three known torturers from their duties and to initiate an official investigation.

At the time of writing the CAT office was preparing material for release about public floggings in Namibia. It was also working on the aftermath of the coup in Portugal which has resulted in greater exposure of the torture methods and

torture chambers used by the security police. Dr Afonso de Albuquerque, a Portuguese psychiatrist who has treated torture victims and who attended AI's Paris conference in December, is leading a team of Portuguese doctors who are investigating the methodology of torture, the short- and long-term effects on the victims and the collaboration of medical personnel in torture.

Resolution 3059 Adopted unanimously by the 28th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations 2 November 1973

Observance of the 25th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Mindful of article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which affirms that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Gravely concerned that torture is still practised in various parts of the world,

Bearing in mind that this subject has been brought before various organs dealing with human rights, through various reports relating to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Bearing in mind also that the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities has asked the Commission on Human Rights to authorize it to include in its agenda for the next session an item on the human rights of persons subjected to any form of detention and imprisonment,

Rejects any form of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

Urges all Governments to become parties to existing international instruments which contain provisions relating to the prohibition of torture and other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

Requests the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly, under the "Report of the Economic and Social Council", of the consideration which may have been given to this question by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities or by the Commission on Human Rights and other bodies concerned;

Decides to examine the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in relation to detention and imprisonment as an item at a future session of the General Assembly.

Relief

Many aspects of Amnesty International's work attract public attention, and it is indeed one role of the organization to focus public indignation on the horrors of political imprisonment. But an important part of our task frequently escapes notice, except of course by the families and prisoners who benefit by it. This is the vast and growing program of relief—in the form of money and goods—which is co-ordinated between the International Secretariat, groups and national sections.

As the number of prisoners under adoption by AI groups grows, so does the opportunity for the groups to offer positive assistance to the prisoners and their families in the form of relief. When the breadwinner of a family is unjustly imprisoned, it often happens that the basic financial underpinning of the family collapses. Items such as school fees, money for shelter, clothing, food, and other basic necessities become impossible to obtain. In Third World countries, where the struggle for survival is often difficult even in normal circumstances, the imprisonment of a wage-earning member of the family can plunge large numbers of dependents into a crisis which may take them rapidly below subsistence level. Thus the imprisoning authorities, by detaining one person, punish many. And the prisoner, subjected to all the humiliation and pain of physical imprisonment and perhaps also torture, has to face the additional agony of knowing that his family is threatened with starvation.

It is here that Amnesty International can and does intervene. Where the necessity exists, adopting groups are instructed to raise and channel funds to the families of their prisoners. With more than 3,600 prisoners under adoption, many of them with destitute families, the amount of money raised and transmitted by groups is now considerable, and is growing as

adoption work expands. In addition to the funds raised voluntarily by groups for their own prisoners, AI has over the past year administered large-scale aid projects based on donations from the United Nations and other bodies: for instance, £10,000 was made available by the Swedish Radio Trust Fund for prisoners in one country, and more than twice this amount has been designated for southern Africa in a grant received by the Swedish Section from the Swedish Government. But even where the raising of funds is the responsibility of individual groups, the sums involved can be very impressive. Some £800 of group-raised money flows every month through the International Secretariat to Rhodesia, for instance.

The growing scope of AI's relief work presents a continuing challenge to the organization and its supporters. The misery inflicted on the relatives of prisoners of conscience throughout the world is an appalling affront to humanity which must be remedied. The ultimate remedy is of course the release of the prisoners and the eradication of political persecution. But this is a solution which can only be hoped for in the long term. In the meantime, AI groups must continue to bear the brunt of the problem. Their work is dedicated and vital. Just how vital is perhaps indicated by the following extract from the letter of a prisoner's wife to her husband's adopting group—one of hundreds of such letters which pass through the International Secretariat each year:

Very often, I wonder whether our lives will ever improve. At such moments I cry, and I try to figure out how to earn more money. Eleven hours work a day makes a woman worried, tired, and down-hearted. May God bless you for your help on behalf of my children.

Relations with other Organizations

United Nations

Amnesty International's most spectacular achievement at the UN was the passage by the 28th General Assembly on 2 November 1973 of Resolution 3059 (XXVIII) by which the assembly rejected any form of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in relation to detention and imprisonment. The details of this aspect of the campaign against torture are covered on pages 13-16.

Availing itself of its consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), AI directed a concerted effort before the Commission of Human Rights, a functional commission of ECOSOC, at its 30th session (4 February-8 March 1973). AI was represented by Professor Frank C. Newman of the University of California in Berkeley, Betty Richardson Nute, a former director of the US National Council of Churches' Latin America department, and Dr Amelia Augustus, Executive Director of the US Section. AI was particularly concerned that the commission exercise its powers to investigate, or make thorough studies of, situations which reveal a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights.

AI had communicated the situation in Indonesia as meriting such attention, and it was known that this communication, together with earlier reports on Brazil and Northern Ireland, had been referred by the commission's Sub-Committee on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to its parent body for possible action. Furthermore, Professor Newman, in an oral intervention before the commission, argued forcefully that the urgent situation in Chile required an immediate investigation.

In the event, the commission set up a working group of five of its members to study the referred communications and agreed to consider them as a matter of priority at its next session. Given the resistance of some states to this kind of action within the commission, the move

must be seen as a step forward, albeit a timid one. The commission also authorized its president to send a telegram to President Augusto Pinochet Ugarte of Chile expressing concern at the situation there. This move, too, may prove to be a valuable precedent. Meanwhile, AI has communicated supplementary materials on Brazil and Indonesia to the commission requesting that they be brought directly to the attention of the working group of five.

AI also joined several other non-governmental organizations in circulating to the commission a statement on the need for conscientious objection to military service to be recognized as a human right. The commission agreed to take up the matter as a priority item at its next session.

In another statement submitted by a group of non-governmental organizations, AI took positions on various aspects of reports and studies of the sub-commission dealing with equality in the administration of justice, discrimination in the matter of political rights and discrimination in respect of the rights of everyone to leave any country, including his own, and return to his country.

AI continued its policy of presenting evidence to various UN bodies concerned with violations of human rights in southern Africa. Of particular note was the exceptional opportunity granted on 11 October to the Secretary General to testify before the Special Political Committee of the General Assembly on the serious situation in South Africa and Namibia, with particular reference to torture practices in the latter country. Soon afterwards, Sean MacBride, Chairman of AI's International Executive Committee, was appointed by the General Assembly as UN Commissioner for Namibia.

Council of Europe

AI continued to take an active part in the work of the Council of Europe. The organization was represented by Roland Fischer,

a long-standing AI member in Strasbourg, and Nigel S. Rodley, AI's Legal Officer, at the 18th and 19th meetings of international organizations interested in questions relating to human rights, which were convened by the Council of Europe Secretariat's Directorate of Human Rights on 24 January and 8 May respectively. Arrangements have been made for AI and other concerned non-governmental organizations to participate actively in the development of Council of Europe policy with regard to a proposed European code of police ethics. (The connection of such a code with the prevention of torture was stressed at the Paris Conference for the Abolition of Torture.)

In accordance with a request from AI, and with the rules relating to consultative status, an AI statement on conscientious objection was circulated to the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Human Rights. AI has reason to believe that the committee has included the question on its proposed short- and medium-term program on human rights.

Organization of American States

AI, which has "cooperative relations" with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States, maintained close consultation with the commission regarding developments in the cases of certain individuals detained in Paraguay and in the case of a long list of deaths and disappearances in Guatemala (see Latin America).

On 23 May AI sent its Research Department document "Deaths in Custody in Brazil" to the commission alleging gross and widespread violations of the right to life, liberty and security of the person, the right to humane treatment during the time of custody and the right not to receive cruel, infamous or unusual punishment, all in contravention of the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man. AI requested the commission to investigate the allegations and take all the measures in its power to ensure that the practices thereby described be terminated.

Organization of African Unity

Amnesty International enjoys observer status on the Co-ordinating Committee of the Organization of African Unity's Bureau for the Placement and Education of African Refugees (OAU/BPEAR). A representative of the Research Department attended a refugee seminar organized by the BPEAR in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in early December 1973, where the question of refugees detained in their host countries was for the first time openly discussed, as a result of an AI initiative. A further OAU/BPEAR meeting in Addis Ababa during May 1974 was also attended by an AI delegate, and AI continues to value its relations with the Organization of African Unity, not only in its work for detained refugees, but also in regard to broader human rights problems on the African continent.

Non-Governmental Organizations

AI has continued its policy of cooperating with and seeking the cooperation of a wide range of other non-governmental organizations (NGOs), particularly those concerned with human rights. The Chairman of the IEC, the Secretary General and the Legal Officer represented AI at various meetings of the special committee of NGOs concerned with human rights which have consultative status with the UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in Geneva. Dr Amelia Augustus has represented AI at meetings of the NGOs' sister committee in New York. The Legal Officer and Roland Fischer represented AI at meetings of NGOs interested in human rights which have consultative status with the Council of Europe.

Following up on the draft resolutions on international humanitarian law and torture, support for which had been secured from most NGOs, AI is now seeking broad-based NGO support for new draft UN General Assembly resolutions on torture and capital punishment and has been working with a small group of NGOs to make the most of the current diplomatic conferences on the re-affirmation and development of international humanitarian law.

Meanwhile, 69 NGOs attended the

December 1973 Paris Conference for the Abolition of Torture, and their representatives made an important contribution to the conference's success. It is hoped that this type of cooperation with the anti-torture campaign will continue and that many NGOs will be represented at the meeting on torture to be held in Denmark in association with the 1974 International Council meeting. Already many NGOs with whom AI has cooperated have passed resolutions confirming their own commitment to secure the abolition of torture.

Perhaps the major NGO event of the past year was the World Congress of Peace Forces held in Moscow in October. The congress, convened by the World Peace Council, brought together a vast array of national and international NGOs as well as representatives of governments. AI's contribution was restricted to participation in the congress's Commission on Social Progress and Human Rights. Two months prior to the congress, the Chairman of the IEC and the Legal Officer attended a preparatory meeting in Moscow to formulate a working paper for the commission. At the commission itself, AI was represented by IEC member Thomas Hammarberg, the Information Officer, Mark Grantham, and the Legal Officer, Nigel S. Rodley, the latter participating in the drafting of the report of the commission. Sean MacBride was vice-president of the congress in his capacity as Chairman of the International Peace Bureau. AI members from many countries also participated in the commission as members of their national delegations. It should be noted that just before the opening of the congress the Soviet Union ratified the UN's International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and

the Covenant on Economic, Cultural and Social Rights.

In October 1974 Martin Ennals testified on behalf of Amnesty International before the Sub-Committee on International Organizations and Movements of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the United States House of Representatives. Under the chairmanship of Representative Donald M. Fraser, the sub-committee, after its hearings, produced a valuable report on "Human Rights in the World Community: A Call for US Leadership". Quoting Mr Ennals' statement that:

When torture is carried out within states, it is done, with very rare exceptions, with at least the acquiescence of the government concerned and in many cases as a deliberate part of government policy. The report recommends action to abolish torture by the UN Commission on Human Rights, the UN Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and the forthcoming Fifth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders, to be held in Toronto in 1975. The report considered the work of Amnesty International—"the largest international human rights organization both in terms of membership and staff"—to be "effective", describing the work of NGOs as "a vital contributor to the international protection of human rights". AI is cooperating with Congressman Fraser in seeking to develop an association of parliamentarians from all over the world to work for the better protection of human rights.

Capital Punishment

The campaign to eliminate capital punishment as a form of punishment was continued after the 1973 International Council meeting in Vienna called on all governments that retain the death penalty to cease to employ it. The council further called on the UN General Assembly to promulgate a declaration that would urge the total, worldwide abolition of capital punishment, and on all non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights

to work towards the same goal at the national and international level.

Following the mandate of this resolution, AI consulted several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with drafts of a resolution for the signature of all NGOs concerned with human rights and of a draft declaration that the UN General Assembly will be urged to adopt. AI's draft declaration reads:

The General Assembly

Recalling its Resolution 2393 (XXIII) of 26 November 1968 concerning the application of the most careful legal procedures and the greatest possible safeguards for the accused in capital cases as well as the attitude of Member States to possible further restriction of the use of capital punishment or to its total abolition;

Recalling further Economic and Social Council Resolutions 1574 (L) of 20 May 1971 and 1745 (LIV) of 16 May 1973;

Re-affirming General Assembly Resolution 2857 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 which affirmed that, in order fully to guarantee the right to life provided for in Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the main objective to be pursued is that of progressively restricting the number of offences for which capital punishment may be imposed, with a view to the desirability of abolishing this punishment in all countries;

Considering that capital punishment is irrevocable and that, given the fallibility of all human institutions, it may be inflicted on the innocent;

Concerned that the sentencing to and execution of capital punishment is brutalizing to all who participate in the process that leads to the infliction of such punishment;

Believing that retribution for its own sake has no legitimate place in penal systems;

Affirming that capital punishment must now be seen to be cruel, inhuman and degrading within the meaning of Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Solemnly Proclaims its unaltering commitment to the protection of the right to life of every human being and to the eradication of all cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

Declares that:

The death penalty is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, within the meaning of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The use of the death penalty must be totally and universally abolished.

Throughout the year letters and telegrams were sent to many countries in which there were cases of threatened or actual executions.

Information and Publications

A burgeoning awareness in the world media of the importance and depth of Amnesty International's research and activity in the field of human rights brought a marked increase during 1973-74 in requests from journalists, organizations, universities and private individuals for information about AI. The public impact of the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture was a major contributing factor. Orders for AI publications and background papers rose sharply.

To meet the demand, the International Executive Committee doubled the size of the full-time Information Office staff from two to four. Added were a publications assistant and a Latin American secretary, the latter to help with the growing volume of information material being produced in Spanish.

In November 1973 a Latin American journalist attached part-time to the Information Office helped launch a new AI initiative: a monthly bulletin in Spanish aimed largely at radio stations in Latin America. The bulletin has the dual purpose of increasing awareness of human rights and making Amnesty International known in areas with few newspapers and a high illiteracy rate. Copies of the bulletin and special articles in Spanish on AI and its concerns also were sent to newspapers in Latin America and Spain. A special leaflet in Spanish about AI was prepared.

Amnesty International Publications (AIP) issued three major reports in 1973-74:

Political Imprisonment in Spain
32 pages, published August 1973, 50 pence (US \$1.25) plus postage for illustrated English edition; 30 pence (US 75 cents) plus postage for Spanish edition without illustrations.

Amnesty International Report on Torture
224 pages, published December 1973 in association with Duckworth of London, paperback £1.50 (US \$3.75), cloth £3.95 (US \$10.00) plus postage. A Dutch translation was published in Holland in March 1974. A French edition will be published

by Editions Gallimard of Paris, an American edition by Farrar, Straus & Giroux of New York, and a German edition, all three in the autumn of 1974. Other translations are being made into Spanish and Japanese, and Italian and Turkish editions are being negotiated.

Conference for the Abolition of Torture Final Report
32 pages, published February 1974, 50 pence (US \$1.25) plus postage. The French section will soon publish a French edition.

Demand led to the reprinting of the following AIP reports:

Political Prisoners in South Vietnam
36 pages, illustrated, first published July 1973, 35 pence (US \$1) plus postage.

Report on Allegations of Torture in Brazil
108 pages, first published September 1972, revised and re-set July 1974, £1.20 (US \$3) plus postage.

Report of an Inquiry into Ill-Treatment in Northern Ireland
46 pages, first published March 1972, 75 pence (US \$1.85) plus postage.

AIP also issued a 16-page stencilled document called **Amnesty International in Quotes**, a collection of often contradictory criticisms and comments about AI made by newspapers and government officials in Eastern, Western and Third World countries.

The Information Office also produced 63 news releases in 1973-74 and sent a number of specially-written features articles on the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture and on countries of AI concern to national sections for use in their media.

Greater emphasis has increasingly been placed on better presentation of AI reports and documentation and for printing more material in other languages besides English. With a view to this, the IEC in May 1974 authorized the purchase by the Information Office of typesetting, headline-making and paper-collation equipment. A telex machine was installed in the secretariat for the first time.

Prisoners and Human Rights Country by Country

Foreword

by Stephanie Grant, Head of Research

In the year covered by this report, June 1973-May 1974, Amnesty International took action directed towards the release of prisoners in over 100 countries: 26 missions were sent to observe trials, negotiate with governments and collect information in a total of 27 countries; 2,190 prisoners' cases were written up for groups, and 1,080 of those already under adoption or investigation were released. As this report is written, 1,483 AI groups are working for a total of 3,640 prisoners, a figure which represents a net increase of 900 since May 1973. The Research Department produced the report *Political Imprisonment in Spain*, published August 1973, and was largely responsible for the *Amnesty International Report on Torture*, published in December 1973.

These statistics illustrate some of the uses to which Amnesty International research is put. The section which follows reports the Research Department's work during the last year to identify and document cases of political imprisonment in all parts of the world and to assist prisoners of conscience. Except where a political situation has undergone radical change during this period, we do not describe the phenomenon of political imprisonment in each country, but rather report the action taken by AI to change it. So, in the case of Chile, where AI has faced an entirely new situation since September 1973, the political context of imprisonment is shown in more detail than, for example, in the USSR, where the form taken by political persecution remains constant. Figures for the total number of prisoners in a country have been given only where the Research Department can support the estimate with facts. This is often most difficult where repression is harshest. Iran is one example of a situation in which AI's files contain information on no more than a hundred or so prisoners, a figure which can be only a fraction of the real total, which is unknown.

This has been the first complete year in which a comprehensive Research Department, as planned by the previous Head of

Research, Dr Zbynek Zeman, and the International Executive Committee (IEC) in 1971, has been operating with qualified researchers working in each of the five geographical units. The department now consists of 35 researchers, executive assistants and secretaries. For the first time in its existence, Amnesty International can now claim systematic research on political imprisonment in eastern Europe and in the Arab-speaking Middle East. In April 1974, with the appointment of a researcher with first-hand experience of China since the Cultural Revolution, the department began the difficult task of applying AI's statutory interests to the Chinese communist framework, and in particular to the system of reform and re-education through labour.

In Asia, three countries have continued to be priority areas: Vietnam, Indonesia and Bangladesh. In Africa, intensive research and adoption have concentrated on Morocco, Malawi, southern Africa and the Ivory Coast. The Latin American department, although overshadowed by the Chile crisis and under-staffed, has organized missions and campaigns in response to the special human rights problems of Uruguay, Paraguay, Guatemala and Argentina; the scope and depth of its work on Chile is described in detail below. In Europe, an area in which AI research understandably has the firmest foundations, adoptions have concentrated, as before, on the USSR, Spain, Greece and Turkey. Special attention is being paid to the trans-national problem of imprisoned conscientious objectors.

The *Amnesty International Report on Torture* was the first attempt by AI to identify a single problem which is global. In it, allegations of torture from more than 65 countries were summarized and analyzed by researchers, using Research Department files covering a 10-year period. Action on torture is now taken in cooperation with the new department established to continue the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture. But, as is clear from this report, it remains a routine part of the Research Department's work to implement another of AI's statutory

interests, and make appeals whenever sentence of death is passed or threatened. In the last 12 months, special efforts to avert judicial executions have been made on behalf of prisoners in Tanzania (Zanzibar), Yemen Arab Republic, Iran, Indonesia, Chile, Spain and several other countries.

Certain other developments should be noted. This has been the first year in which the IEC has agreed to authorize research missions on a regular basis, and researchers have travelled to Africa, Latin America, South Asia and the Middle East. In each case the tangible results—contacts, new cases, research material—have been considerable. Another innovation has been the planning by researchers of special campaigns whereby appeals are made on behalf of individuals who are either ineligible, or unsuitable, for adoption. In Vietnam in 1973, some 2,300 cases were sent out of prisoners detained without trial, about whom little was known apart from

name and prison. Appeals were to be for a period of three months, but after this time it was assumed that the information might no longer be accurate. In Guatemala, a similar limited campaign was designed where the subjects were not prisoners, but individuals who had "disappeared" and might well be dead. The purpose of appeals was, at best, to help those still alive, and at worst to direct outside pressure on the Guatemalan authorities. This flexible application of case-work has enabled Amnesty International to respond to situations where the classic adoption technique was unsuitable. A third, and important, innovation has been the holding of meetings at the International Secretariat at which representatives of national sections discuss AI's work on a single country and, with the researchers, recommend future policy. (See chapter on The Membership.) This has provided a valuable means of involving experts from outside the secretariat in policy-making.

Africa*

The year 1973-74 was marked by a notable increase in the number of prisoners taken up by Amnesty International groups as adoption and investigation cases, with over a thousand cases being handled by May 1974. Following a pattern which has become evident in AI's work in Africa during the past four years, these cases, to a large extent, concerned persons held without trial for long periods of time under security regulations providing for indefinite detention.

In **Rhodesia**, the number of people so detained doubled. In **Malawi**, the autocratic rule of President Hastings Banda continues to entail the detention of over one thousand individuals; and francophone states such as **Chad**, **Mali**, and **Cameroun** continued to hold considerable numbers of prisoners who have not been given access to the courts. In some states, such as **Sudan**, provision for detention without trial was reintroduced, and others, such as **Swaziland**, experimented with this dangerous executive instrument for the first time.

While detention without trial continues to be the most widespread problem, AI has over the past year concerned itself with other aspects of human rights violations on the continent. In **Tanzania** and **Morocco**, AI has closely followed large political trials, and protested against the death sentences which have resulted. The use of torture in **Tunisia** and of flogging in **Namibia** have each elicited action and publicity from the organization. In **Lesotho** and **Uganda**, AI has condemned the murder of opposition personalities. In **South Africa**, the use of such expedients as house arrest and "banning" has led to the adoption of many individuals. In a number of states, from **Morocco** to **Rhodesia**, large-scale relief programs have been operated with the assistance of adoption groups and national sections.

Although the year saw amnesties in **Sudan**, **Niger**, **Tanzania**, **Ghana** and else-

*For **Angola**, **Guinea-Bissau** and **Mozambique** see under **Portugal**.

where in Africa, the problem of political imprisonment continues to be a vast and intractable one.

Algeria

Four AI groups continued to work on the multiple-adoption of former Algerian President **Ahmed Ben Bella**, who has been in prison and restriction since his government was overthrown by a *coup d'état* in June 1965.

Botswana

The predicament of Rhodesian refugees in **Botswana** continued to preoccupy Amnesty International throughout the year. Protests had been made to the Botswana authorities following an attempt by the latter to repatriate 42 Rhodesians during March 1973. In August a number of Rhodesian students fled to Botswana following disturbances at the University of Rhodesia. Early in 1974 the International Secretariat made representations to the Botswana High Commission in London about these refugees, seeking assurances that they would not be repatriated. These assurances were forthcoming, and AI subsequently made a donation of £200 to assist the Rhodesians during their stay in Botswana. **Godfrey Beck**, a South African refugee who was repatriated against his will by the Botswana government in April 1973 and subsequently detained by the South Africans, was adopted by AI. He was sentenced to six months imprisonment (all but 10 days suspended) in August 1973, and an adopting group continues to assist his family, who wish to leave South Africa for New Zealand.

Burundi

Following a partial amnesty in March 1973, adoption groups continued to handle the cases of five prisoners who had been taken up as investigation cases following their conviction for political offences in

July 1971. This group later increased to six as further information was received, which permitted them to be reclassified as adoption cases in August 1973. All six cases are still active. The Research Department received word in March 1974 that all the prisoners had been removed from **Bujumbura**, the capital, to a detention center at **Rumonge** further south.

During the course of 1973 AI also received detailed eye-witness torture allegations from **Burundi**.

Cameroun

Amnesty International groups are at present working on seven investigation cases and two adoption cases in **Cameroun**. These prisoners, who include a former cabinet minister, are held at prisons and internment centers in **Poli** and **Mantoum**. A research mission to **Cameroun** in May and June 1973 obtained data on the general situation in the country, and reported that the estimated number of political prisoners detained was close to 5,000, mostly from the **Dassa** and **Bamileke** tribes. This information was passed on to adopting groups in August 1973.

Chad

During the past year the number of adoption cases in **Chad** rose from 13 to 38. Almost all are persons who were arrested between July 1972 and March 1973, including several former colleagues of President **N'garta Tombalbaye**. None has yet been tried. A research mission to **Chad** in May and June 1973 brought back detailed information about prison conditions, which was distributed in August 1973 to all adopting groups with prisoners in **Chad**.

Congo

Although information on a number of Congolese political prisoners had reached the Research Department by July 1973, production of investigation case sheets was postponed when it was learned that President **Marlen Ngoubai** had suggested during August that an amnesty for political

prisoners be implemented later in the year. A general amnesty of this nature had been suggested by the Secretary General of AI in a letter to President **Ngoubai** in December 1972. The amnesty eventually took place in November 1973, liberating all the prisoners on whom AI had received information.

Ethiopia

The serious drought in **Ethiopia** during the summer of 1973 brought to a head the sporadic clashes between radical students and the government which have marked Ethiopian domestic politics during the past few years. Reports that demonstrating students had been shot dead by troops reached the Research Department in November 1973, and the following month brought the first names of students arrested and held illegally for protesting against governmental incompetence in the distribution of relief supplies.

In January 1974 details of eight arrested students were obtained, but in February mutinies in the Ethiopian armed forces led to the fall of the government and precipitated a long period of internal disturbances, strikes and unrest. One demand put forward by student and trade union groups at the time of the mutinies was for the release of political prisoners, but the Research Department in London had some trouble verifying whether releases had actually taken place, and, if so, whether the students whose details had been obtained were amongst those freed. By May 1974 it had become apparent that this was not, in fact, the case, and adoption case sheets were therefore prepared on the students.

Gabon

Adoption groups continued throughout the year to handle nine investigation cases, and received additional information from the Research Department following a successful research mission to the country in May 1973.

Ghana

An amnesty in **Ghana** in June 1973

resulted in the release of most of the adopted detainees in that country, the majority of whom had been held without trial since the government of Dr K. A. Busia was overthrown by a *coup d'état* in January 1972. However, during the autumn of 1973 there were a number of re-arrests and some adopted prisoners remained in detention without trial until December 1973. Reports from Ghana in April 1974 indicated that over one hundred persons were in custody without trial, but it is unclear whether these are political prisoners or persons awaiting trial on criminal charges.

Allegations of army brutality and torture of civilians reached the Research Department from several sources during 1973 and early 1974. Some of this data was published in the *Amnesty International Report on Torture* which appeared in December 1973. The Research Department has evidence that at least three persons died in custody under the military regime. On the request of the International Secretariat, AI's British Section undertook a special publicity action in March and April 1974 following the closure of all three universities in Ghana by the military authorities when students demonstrated against the brutal treatment of civilians.

Trials under the Subversion Decree (1972) continued during 1973 and 1974. In December 1973 three persons, including Kojo Botsio, a former minister in the government of the late Dr Kwame Nkrumah, were sentenced to death for subversion, and in January 1974 a former trade unionist received a similar sentence. On both occasions AI cabled the Ghanaian authorities asking for commutation. The sentences were commuted to life imprisonment in April 1974.

An updated background paper on Ghana was prepared by the Research Department during February 1974.

Guinea

Amnesty International continues to be concerned at the large number of political prisoners and detainees in Guinea, and has begun to produce case sheets on individual prisoners after direct approaches to the Guinean Government proved fruitless. The

latest of these was a letter from the Secretary General of AI to President Sekou Touré of Guinea in January 1974, which asked for the release of 22 Europeans who had been imprisoned on political grounds in Guinea since January 1971. No reply was received to this request, which was also made by AI's United States Section.

Ivory Coast

The principle concern of Amnesty International during the past year has been with the fate of over 300 persons—mostly illiterate peasant farmers—who were detained without trial in the Gagnoa district of the Ivory Coast in November 1970 following tribal disturbances. During a visit to the Ivory Coast in May 1973, the Secretary General of AI received assurances that the detainees would be either tried or released in the near future. When, by the autumn of 1973, no news of releases had been received, the Research Department produced 66 adoption case sheets on the prisoners whose names it had obtained. This was followed in December 1973 by a partial amnesty which freed 100 of the Gagnoa prisoners: only five of these, however, were AI adoptees. Adoption groups are continuing to work on the remaining cases.

Kenya

Throughout the year Amnesty International groups continued to press for the release of three former members of the banned opposition party, the Kenya People's Union (KPU), who had been detained without trial since 1969. Although all three of these cases have proven very difficult for the groups handling them, a notable success was achieved in March 1974 when Ochola Ogaye Mak'Anyengo, one of the three KPU detainees, was released following an AI postcard campaign on his behalf the previous month. The remaining two adoption groups continue to work on their cases.

Lesotho

During the summer of 1973 all adoption and investigation cases which had been

taken up by Amnesty International during 1972 were closed as a result of the "normalization" of Lesotho politics which took place at that time. There was no further AI activity in regard to this country until early 1974. Then, on 6 January, 20 members of the opposition Basutoland Congress Party (BCP), whose supporters had made up the bulk of the AI adoptees during the previous year, were arrested. The following day there were raids by armed gangs on three police sub-stations. The government blamed the BCP, and in reprisal further detentions took place. According to BCP sources, 80 people were killed by government action during the week after the attacks. Reports from South Africa stated that the trial of those in detention would take place during May 1974. In March the Research Department received the first list of detainees, and in May arrangements were underway for an AI delegate to visit Lesotho in order to discuss the plight of the detainees with government officials and attend any trial that might take place.

Malawi

Following a research mission to Malawi in August and September 1973 Amnesty International groups working on cases in Malawi received detailed additional information concerning prison locations and conditions, as well as more data about individual prisoners. Most of the active cases in this area continue to be persons held for long periods without trial under the Public Security Regulations. An amnesty in May 1973 released a number of long-term adoptees, but a large number of new detentions have taken place since that time, the majority of the new prisoners being held in the recently-opened detention center at Mikuyu, near Zomba. Amongst the detainees presently under adoption are members of the banned Jehovah's Witnesses sect, lawyers, former civil servants, teachers, trade unionists and journalists. Adoption work on these cases is being intensified, and a co-ordination group on Malawi has been established in AI's German Section. In April 1974 the Secretary General of AI wrote to President Hastings Banda of Malawi on the anniversary of his

release from detention in 1960 (he was detained for a year for his nationalist view when Malawi was still a colony), asking for a general amnesty on 14 May, the President's official birthday. Adopting groups were also provided with background material for a press campaign centered on 14 May. Reports reaching the International Secretariat late in May spoke of some political detainees being released on that date, but nonetheless further plans were made for an appeal for a general amnesty on 6 July, the 10th anniversary of Malawi's independence.

Reports that 26 persons had been sentenced to death for violent political crimes reached the International Secretariat in November 1973, but remained unconfirmed until May 1974. Also during the year, the Research Department received allegations of torture in Dzeleka Detention Camp which, previous to its almost complete closure in May 1973, had been the main prison housing long-term detainees.

Mali

Amnesty International groups continued throughout the year to work on approximately 40 adoption cases in this country. Most of the prisoners had been detained without trial at Kidal in the northern region of Mali since the military government came to power in November 1968. Concern about prison conditions and the health of the detainees was increased in August 1973 when the Malian authorities announced the death of Captain Yoro Diakité, who had been in prison since 1971. This concern was strengthened in April 1974 when Dr Seydou Badian Kouyaté, who had been held at Kidal, was reported to be near to death. AI appealed in vain to the Malian government in November 1973—the fifth anniversary of the coup which brought it to power—for a general amnesty for all political prisoners.

Mauritania

In mid-1973 Amnesty International took up as investigation cases 20 Mauritanian

students and professors who had been arrested in January and February of that year. Most of these prisoners were being held in the civil prison in the capital, Nouakchott. Groups worked intensely on the cases throughout the year, and British groups in particular were effective in co-ordinating their work for Mauritanian prisoners. In March 1974 it was learned that the detainees had been released on "provisional liberty", which still places considerable restrictions on their freedom. Groups have been asked to maintain contact with their prisoners in order to assist them during the period following their release.

Morocco

During the early summer of 1973, Amnesty International found itself largely concerned with two distinct groups of prisoners in Morocco. The first, consisting mainly of members and supporters of the left-wing opposition party Union Nationale des Forces Populaires (UNFP), had been arrested during April 1973 following an outbreak of rural and urban guerrilla activity in March. The second, consisting largely of left-wing intellectuals and students in Casablanca, had been detained in the spring of 1972. Most had been taken up as AI investigation cases by May 1973. Attention focused on the two major political trials of these different groups during the summer of 1973.

Dr Horst Woesner, a judge of the West German Federal Court, visited Morocco in June 1973 to attend the trial of 157 persons arrested during April. Defendants alleged that they had been tortured and Dr Woesner reported that there had been restrictions on the rights of the defence. His report indicated that the majority of the prisoners on trial were in court because they were considered to have ideas which were dangerous. Professor Werner Sarstedt, a second observer who went to this trial, which took place at Kenitra, was not allowed to reach the court and was expelled 24 hours after his arrival. AI protested to the United Nations and to the Organization of African Unity about this treatment of one of its observers.

In August the Casablanca group were brought to trial, and the judicial procedure showed defects similar to those observed in the Kenitra trial. When sentences were passed in September 1973, they included six 15-year sentences, and 13 10-year terms. AI immediately reclassified all the sentenced investigation cases to adoption cases, and groups throughout the world continue to press the authorities for the release of the Casablanca prisoners.

The Kenitra trial, which finished at the end of August, resulted in death sentences and severe prison terms. The most disturbing thing about this trial, however, was the fact that 72 persons who were acquitted were not released by the authorities but were held incommunicado. These persons were taken up as AI adoption cases.

During January 1974 there were indications that some persons arrested in 1973 and held without trial were to be released, and in March news reached London that some of those who had been acquitted at Kenitra had been freed. But 15 men sentenced to death at the Kenitra trial were executed in November 1973, in spite of protests from AI, and in January a further 13 people already tried at Kenitra were retried and six of them were sentenced to death. In the same month 62 persons who were accused at the Kenitra trial but "in hiding" were sentenced to death in their absence.

Morocco continues to be the francophone African state in which AI has the largest number of adoption and investigation case prisoners: 180 as of May 1974. This number includes persons tried at Kenitra and Casablanca during 1973, men convicted at an earlier political trial at Marrakesh, and a number of individuals who have been held for months without trial. Group action on Morocco has been widespread and effective. Co-ordination groups have assisted substantially in this work, especially in Germany.

Morocco was one of the countries mentioned in the *Amnesty International Report on Torture* as using torture of political opponents as an administrative practice. A new background paper on Morocco was prepared by the Research Department in March 1974.

Namibia

Amnesty International took up the cases of about 30 members of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) Youth League who were arrested for campaigning against the election of the tribal authorities in the reserve of Ovamboland. The detainees were later charged under the Pass Laws and either sentenced to short-term imprisonment or fined. Action against them did not end here, however: on release many were re-arrested by the security police and handed over to the tribal authorities for flogging. AI protested to South African Prime Minister Dr John Vorster about this development and maintained the adoptions until the Supreme Court ruled—following an application by one of the detainees—that flogging should not be used for political purposes. When this ruling was quashed in March 1974, public floggings resumed once more in April. AI protested against this, believing such punishment to be torture in public. AI also requested the World Health Organization (WHO) to send a medical mission to Namibia to inquire into torture reports.

AI also protested the detention without trial in February 1974 of David Merero, SWAPO's chairman, and nine of his colleagues under the Terrorism Act. All have been taken up as investigation cases.

Investigation case sheets have also been made out for three young men who allegedly made inflammatory speeches against the South African administration, were convicted under the General Laws Amendment Act, and have each been sentenced to eight years' imprisonment. A research mission visited Namibia briefly during July 1973.

Niger

During February 1974 Amnesty International took up as adopted cases nine students and teachers who had been arrested in the period October to November 1973 and who were tried in secret at Tillaberi in February 1974 on charges of "non-violent subversion". Group work on these cases was just beginning in earnest,

and the Secretary General of AI had written a protest letter to Niger President Hamani Diori about their imprisonment, when the Diori government was overthrown by a *coup d'état* in March 1974. The same month the new military government carried out its announcement that it was freeing all political prisoners, and therefore the adoption cases were closed.

Nigeria

Amnesty International's principal concern in Nigeria continues to be the detention without trial of 30 prisoners, including some former Biafran officers and a number of military personnel allegedly involved in the coup of January 1966 which overthrew Nigeria's last civilian regime. During the summer of 1973 the Research Department investigated each of these cases individually. In November and December the department produced investigation case sheets on 13 of the prisoners. In January 1974 there were demonstrations in Nigeria calling for the release of the prisoners, and group work is presently continuing on the cases. In May 1974, the Nigerian government announced that it was prepared to review the cases.

Rhodesia

The International Secretariat, acting jointly with the British Section, sent telegrams to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, held in Ottawa in 1973, asking heads of state to take urgent action in respect of persons who have been held in preventive detention. Earlier in April 1973 Amnesty International published a list of prisoners of conscience who are held in preventive detention. This was accompanied by an appeal to the British Government to make representations to the Rhodesian Government for their release.

The number of detentions nevertheless continued to rise and towards the end of 1973 the number of persons held without trial had increased from 120 to over 300. AI was also concerned about the increase in the number of death penalties imposed for association with liberation movements. Several representations were made to the

Rhodesian authorities in this regard. Recently, AI has been concerned about increasing reports of the use of torture during interrogation and is gathering information on this.

Three prisoners of conscience were helped by their adopting groups to have their detention orders suspended in order that they should be admitted into universities in Britain. They have now been released. A research mission visited Rhodesia during the summer of 1973.

Senegal

Amnesty International was gravely concerned at the death in prison during May 1973 of the student Omar Blondin Diop, who had been sentenced to three years' imprisonment for subversion in March 1972. Early in 1974 the Research Department began to produce investigation case sheets on persons convicted of political crimes at various times during the 1960s. The majority of these prisoners had been sentenced after trial by a special tribunal, whose procedures had been condemned in the report of an AI representative who visited Senegal in March 1973. In April 1974, however, the Senegalese authorities announced a general amnesty for political prisoners, including some who had been held since 1963. All the cases taken up by groups are believed to be free.

Somalia

Following the amnesty in April 1973 which released former cabinet ministers and members of parliament who had been held without trial since the last civilian government was overthrown in October 1969, Amnesty International group work on Somalia diminished considerably. At present, one group continues to handle, as an investigation case, a former minister whom the Somali authorities have stated that they intend to try for corruption before the National Security Court. In addition, there are two adopted prisoners who are serving sentences of three and 10 years respectively on such charges as "indulging in political activities against the principles of scientific socialism".

South Africa

Amnesty International followed the progress of the trials under the Terrorism Act in South Africa during 1973. In one, AI adoptees Amina Desai, Mohammed Essop, Hassan Essak and Indhrasen Moodley were each given five-year sentences. The first two were refused leave to appeal, while the latter two were granted permission and later successfully applied to the court for the quashing of their sentences. A former university student, Musibudi Mangena, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment under the Terrorism Act at the end of 1973. AI is investigating his case.

Student activities came under close South African government scrutiny at the beginning of 1973, chiefly as a result of the investigations of the Schlebusch Commission, a parliamentary commission appointed to look into the activities of four organizations concerned with race relations: the Christian Institute, the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS), the South African Institute of Race Relations and the University Christian Movement (which disbanded voluntarily). Eight NUSAS leaders were issued with banning orders after the publication of an interim report of the commission, and so were eight members of a second student movement, the South African Students Organization, and an African political organization, the Black People's Convention. About 50 more members of the latter two organizations were banned after March 1973. All were adopted as prisoners of conscience.

During September 1973 a clash occurred at the Carletonville gold mine, in the Transvaal province, during which a group of miners, who were striking over inadequate pay, were fired on by the police. Eleven were shot dead. The International Secretariat issued a joint statement with the British Section protesting the shootings and asked national sections to protest to the South African government.

Reports that prison conditions were deteriorating have reached AI during the year. Two prisoners of conscience on Robben Island, Kader Hassim and Sonny Venkatrathnam, brought a partially successful action against the prison authorities for

wrongful detention in solitary confinement and for removal of study and recreational privileges. The International Secretariat has made representations to the authorities with regard to restrictions on study privileges and to new regulations providing for a stricter dietary regime.

The relief program was boosted by a sizeable donation from the Swedish Section, which has made it possible for AI to give legal assistance to prisoners of conscience who were being harassed by the police, and who would otherwise not have had such help available to them. Adoption groups continue to help over 150 South African prisoners, ex-prisoners and banned persons. A research mission to South Africa during July 1973 obtained further data on prisoners.

Sudan

The endorsement of a new permanent constitution for Sudan in May 1973 led to the release of all political detainees, some of whom had been held since shortly after the abortive communist coup of July 1971. In June 1973, however, a new State Security Law was introduced by President Jaafer al-Numeiry, which includes provision for search without warrant and detention without trial. In September the first arrests took place under this law when student demonstrations occurred at the University of Khartoum. Around 400 people were detained, including student leaders, workers, trade unionists, lawyers and academics. Among those held were leading figures in the Communist Party, the Umma Party, the Moslem Brothers (Islamic Charter Front) and the National Unionist Party, political organizations which cover the whole ideological spectrum and all of which are now banned in Sudan, where the sole recognized party is the government-supported Sudanese Socialist Union. The Research Department received details of 40 of the detainees in February, and investigation case sheets were produced. However, an amnesty in March freed most of the prisoners who had been taken up by AI groups. Latest reports from Sudan state that up to 120 persons, largely students, may still be in custody. Efforts are being

made to obtain data on these prisoners with a view to producing case sheets.

Swaziland

In April 1973 King Sobhuza II repealed the Swaziland constitution and assumed full judicial, legislative and executive powers. All political parties were banned, and a law providing for detention without trial for up to 60 days was introduced. Shortly thereafter Dr Ambrose Zwane, leader of the main opposition party, was arrested, along with three of his colleagues. He was adopted by Amnesty International following his re-detention for a further period of 60 days in July 1973. In August Dr Barend van Niekerk, a South African lawyer, visited Swaziland on behalf of AI and spoke to the authorities about Dr Zwane's case. Dr Zwane was released in mid-September and remained free until March 1974, when he was once more detained briefly. AI continues to observe the situation in Swaziland closely.

Tanzania

During the past year attention has been focussed primarily on the trial in Zanzibar of 81 persons accused of plotting the assassination of Zanzibari President Sheikh Abeid Karume, who was gunned down at the headquarters of the ruling Afro-Shirazi Party (ASP) in April 1972. Widespread arrests had taken place both on Zanzibar and on the mainland of Tanzania immediately after the assassination, and 18 of the accused were in fact tried *in absentia*, being held in mainland prisons after the Tanzanian authorities had refused to return them to Zanzibar because of the lack of a guarantee that they would receive a fair trial on the island.

During the trial, which began in May 1973 and continued sporadically for a year, many of the accused alleged that they had been tortured during the pre-trial investigations, and one of them died in detention during the trial. None of the accused were allowed defence lawyers, and all faced the death sentence by public firing-squad execution if found guilty. The trial concluded in May 1974 with 34 death sen-

tences and a number of prison terms of 10 and 15 years. Amnesty International appealed to the Tanzanian and Zanzibari authorities in November 1973 and again in May 1974 in the hope of preventing the executions. There were no reports of the death sentences being carried out at this writing. All of the defendants had been taken up as investigation cases shortly after the start of the trial, and in May, when the verdicts and sentences were pronounced, the Research Department began the task of considering which cases should be reclassified for adoption.

Other developments during the year were widespread arrests in Zanzibar and its sister island Pemba during January and February 1974—possibly connected with the operation of a clandestine anti-government radio station. There was also the continued detention on the mainland of a number of persons held without trial under the Preventive Detention Act. They include two brothers of former cabinet minister Oscar Kambona who have now been held since 1967, apart from a brief four months of freedom in 1972.

However, the year also saw a series of amnesties on both Zanzibar and the mainland. In January 1974, an amnesty to mark the 10th anniversary of the advent of the ASP to power in Zanzibar released 545 prisoners, among them three former cabinet ministers who had been held since 1964. On the mainland, amnesties in December 1973 and May 1974 released a number of long-term detainees, including three more former Zanzibari cabinet ministers who had been held without trial since 1964 and all of whom had been adopted. The Secretary General wrote a letter of congratulations to President Julius Nyerere on the occasion of the latter amnesty.

A new background paper on Tanzania was prepared in March 1974.

Tunisia

Following the escape of Ahmed Ben Salah, an Amnesty International adoptee, from prison in Tunis in February 1973, his brother, Dr Mohamed Ben Salah, was arrested and tried for complicity in the escape. The trial took place during June

1973 and was attended by Dr Wolfgang Aigner, then Chairman of AI's Austrian Section, who acted as an observer. Dr Ben Salah was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment and a fine, and was subsequently adopted by AI. Dr Aigner, on leaving Tunisia, was searched at the airport and expelled. The Chairman of AI's International Executive Committee, Sean MacBride, cabled Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba asking for an investigation into this incident and for assurances that it would not be repeated.

In November 1973 a wave of arrests began in Tunisia, involving students, academics, and workers. The Research Department received well-substantiated reports of the torture of these detainees, and in January 1974, AI protested to President Bourguiba about these violations of human rights. Over 20 new case sheets on Tunisian prisoners were produced during April and May 1974, and in July negotiations began with the Tunisian authorities for a medical mission to go to Tunisia on behalf of the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture to examine prison conditions and torture allegations.

Uganda

The "disappearance" of opponents of the government of President Idi Amin continued throughout 1973 and the first half of 1974. An ominous new aspect developed in December 1973 when three Ugandans who had fled to Kenya to escape persecution were handed over to the Ugandan military police by the Kenyan authorities. Sources inside Uganda subsequently reported that the three had been murdered. Amnesty International is continuing to compile a dossier on persons who have "disappeared" since President Amin seized power in January 1971 and who are presumed killed. The Research Department also cooperated with the International Commission of Jurists regarding a report on the breakdown of the rule of law in Uganda which the ICJ was preparing. In April 1974, the department wrote and circulated to national sections a brief study of political murder in Uganda.

Zambia

January 1973 saw the release of most of the members of the banned United Progressive Party (UPP) who had been arrested during 1972. But in November 1973 the *Zambian Government Gazette* stated that a total of 72 people were being held without trial under the Public Security Regulations. Apart from their names, no further details are known about these detainees, but it appears that many of them may be from the Western Province, a one-time stronghold of the banned African National Congress. In addition, Amnesty International has been concerned with the cases of 40 Rhodesian refugees who have been detained without trial in Zambia since they were arrested early in 1971. This issue was raised by AI at meetings of the Organi-

zation of African Unity in December 1973 and March 1974. Twenty-one of these cases were sent to groups with a view to facilitating the release of these men. Representations are also being made to the British government on their behalf by the International Secretariat. In May 1974 AI made a grant of £500 for airfares for these detainees to come to Britain.

Zambia was one of the countries named as having practised torture in the *Amnesty International Report on Torture* which was published in December 1973. The report recorded that five former UPP detainees had won damages worth £20,000 from the Zambian government for torture inflicted on them while they were in custody. An updated background paper on Zambia was prepared by the Research Department during February 1974.

The Americas

The past year saw the long awaited expansion of Amnesty International's work in Latin America. Several high level missions were arranged during the past year: Chile (November 1973), Bolivia (April 1974) and Uruguay-Paraguay (April/May 1974). The delegates were eminent jurists briefed and accompanied by research staff of the Latin America department. They discussed legal proceedings, torture and prisoners of conscience with government officials and members of the judiciary. In Chile, international observers also attended various trials on behalf of AI.

A research and adoption program was initiated on nearly all Latin American countries. Contacts were made and strengthened throughout the continent. Direct contacts with governments were established through their embassies in London.

Great importance was attached to AI's relations with the Latin American press. The Latin America department and the Information Office worked jointly on the production of AI material for Latin American consumption and on translation of news releases into Spanish. This considerably increased the coverage of AI news in the Latin American press.

Another important initiative was carried out by a Latin American journalist attached to the Information Office who helped produce a monthly Spanish language radio bulletin. This has the double purpose of increasing the awareness of human rights throughout the world and making Amnesty International known in areas with few newspapers and high illiteracy.

It has become increasingly clear to the Research Department that AI must work in Latin America not only for the release of prisoners of conscience, but also for each individual's right to due process of law. As AI's concern at the frequency and seriousness of violations of the rule of law has grown, we have been developing new techniques to enable AI members and groups to take part in this aspect of our work. These have included special action

campaigns in Guatemala, Uruguay and Brazil. AI also contributed material and proposals to a one-day international seminar on human rights which was held in Costa Rica by the World Assembly of Youth in September 1973.

Since the military *coup d'état* in Chile in September 1973, the Latin America department has had to devote a major part of its resources to work there.

Elsewhere in the Americas, political, economic and racial tensions in the English-speaking Caribbean portend the need for increased attention to be paid to that area.

Argentina

On taking office in May 1973, President Hector Campora proclaimed a general amnesty for all political prisoners. Soon afterwards the Argentine Parliament outlawed torture. The Secretary General wrote to express Amnesty International's appreciation for the amnesty.

After the *coup d'état* in Chile many refugees went to Argentina, either crossing the borders or after asking for asylum in the Argentinian Embassy in Santiago. After reports that some refugees would have to leave Argentina, AI sent telegrams on several occasions to the new President, Juan Peron, urging that they be allowed to remain in Argentina.

In May 1974 the head of the Latin America Department met in Buenos Aires with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and discussed the situation of Chilean and other Latin American refugees in Argentina.

Political tension has increased over the past six months and violence from both the left and right has erupted again.

Bolivia

There were few changes in the overall human rights situation in Bolivia during the year. Although three separate amnesties

were granted, arbitrary arrests continued. Allegations of torture also continued, although with less frequency than in the previous year. According to the Bolivian Commission for Justice and Peace, the number of political prisoners remained at between 300 and 400. Amnesties were granted in December 1973 (71 political prisoners), March 1974 (51 prisoners) and April 1974 (73 prisoners). Nevertheless, reliable sources within the Bolivian Roman Catholic Church announced that almost none of the long-standing political prisoners were released. The Bolivian Government had twice arrested large numbers of civilians, only to release them shortly afterwards and give the false impression of a *bona fide* amnesty for political dissidents. The largest wave of arrests occurred in October 1973, when approximately 80 trade unionists were arrested after an alleged left-wing conspiracy against the government. No reliable evidence for the existence of such a conspiracy was ever produced, and the Federation of Bolivian Textile Workers published a long document denying the existence of such a plot.

Amnesty International continued an adoption program over the year, and approximately half our adopted prisoners were eventually released. AI's major concern was the total lack of juridical protection for political prisoners. Since August 1971, the date of the military coup that brought General Hugo Banzer Suarez to power, no political prisoner has been brought to trial, although many have allegedly been passed over to "ordinary justice".

In March 1974, Lennart Aspegren, Judge of the Superior Court of Stockholm, undertook a one-week mission to La Paz on behalf of AI. He met Bolivian officials, including the Minister of the Interior, leading members of the Roman Catholic Church, lawyers, trade unionists, leaders of political parties, families of prisoners, prisoners themselves, journalists and others. His visit was widely covered in the Bolivian press and reported on radio and television. In a visit to the Panoptico prison outside La Paz, where large numbers of political prisoners are detained, Mr Aspegren talked at length to several

prisoners who alleged that they had been tortured.

Mr Aspegren submitted a memorandum to the Interior Minister, Colonel Juan Pereda Asbun, posing questions concerning the number of political detainees, treatment of prisoners, legal guarantees, and the right to the recourse of *habeas corpus*. Colonel Asbun, in a written reply, asserted that prisoners were not maltreated during interrogation, that there was only one case of death under torture, that there were no "security houses" in Bolivia where political prisoners were detained, and that the right to *habeas corpus* was fully respected. All these statements were in marked contradiction to other information that AI had received from reliable sources. AI had previously submitted to the Bolivian government in 1973, the names of a number of persons who were known to have died after maltreatment in Bolivian prisons. AI had also interviewed persons who had been detained in security houses, including in cells in the very basement of the Ministry of the Interior.

In May 1974, AI groups were working on a total of 41 cases.

Brazil

In conjunction with national sections and co-ordination groups, the International Secretariat worked to draw world attention to the fact that the military dictatorship would celebrate its 10th anniversary on 1 April 1974. The inauguration of General Ernesto Geisel as new President of Brazil on 15 March 1974 provided an occasion to stress that torture and repression continued unabated.

All national sections were invited to send representatives to a campaign-planning meeting held in London in November 1973. Based on the decisions made at the meeting, a variety of information material was sent to national sections, covering such topics as the human rights situation in Brazil, censorship, the role of the church in protecting human rights, and on the problems faced by labour and the educational sector. Lists of prisoners adopted or investigated by AI, as well as lists divided by occupation, were also prepared. Finally,

two news releases were issued. One launched the campaign on 15 January, the occasion of the meeting of the Brazilian electoral college. The second marked the 10th anniversary of the coup which brought the present regime to power and announced the submission to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights of a list of 210 persons who have died in mysterious circumstances in recent years while in custody.

Work on individual cases continued throughout the year. A total of 102 cases are now under adoption and investigation. Groups were pleased to learn of the release in October 1973 of the three Dominican priests, Brothers Brito, Christo and Lesbaupin, whose cases we had been following for some time. Professor Luis Rossi whose case AI has also been watching closely was also released in October 1973 but is expected to come to trial soon. No word is yet available on Paulo Wright, another AI prisoner. It is feared that he died in custody following his arrest last September.

Urgent action campaigns to draw immediate attention to new arrests or suspected cases of maltreatment have also continued. We have been particularly active on the cases of Father François Jentel, a French priest, now released, who was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment when peasants in his parish attempted to regain lands which had been taken over by a development company; Manuel da Conceicao, a peasant leader who has allegedly been very badly tortured; Cesar de Queiroz Benjamin, a minor at the time of his arrest, who nonetheless has been tried and convicted in a regular court; and Norma Sa Pereira, a young student, arrested in Sao Paulo in April 1974, and allegedly tortured.

Campaigns were initiated to call attention to the arrest of more than 50 Catholic labour activists in Sao Paulo in January and of students, faculty and research workers at the University of Sao Paulo in April. The latter wave of arrests has led observers to fear that the new President is either unwilling or unable to carry out the liberalization pledges which he made during his electoral campaign. The restoration of political rights to some 100 persons following his inauguration was of limited effect,

both in terms of numbers involved—thousands are still detained—and in the nature of the "rights" returned: persons involved still cannot be elected to any official office. Meanwhile Francisco Pinto, a federal deputy, is facing proceedings which may lead to revocation of his political rights. This follows a speech to the Brazilian Congress in which he expressed his displeasure at methods adopted by the new Chilean junta.

AI groups and sections were also actively engaged in aiding Brazilian refugees driven abroad by the September coup in Chile and in making contact with large new exile communities in Europe. Particular concern has been shown for Joaquin Perez Cerveira and Joao Batista Rita Pereira, who fled to Argentina shortly before the coup and who reportedly were abducted from Buenos Aires by Uruguayan-Brazilian "death squads" and returned to Brazil for torture.

The year also saw the revision of background material. A new foreword and commentary for the 1972 *Report on Allegations of Torture in Brazil* has been prepared: the new edition stresses that we have continued to receive reports of torture since the report was issued in September 1972, and that despite a number of indictments against many accused of torture (notably the notorious Sergeant Sergio Fleury of Sao Paulo), few convictions have been returned.

Liaison work continued throughout the year. Material was provided for a variety of groups including the Brussels 73 Committee, the Bertrand Russell Tribunal on Brazil, and the Organization of American States, which, disturbed by continued lack of cooperation from the Brazilian government, has recently moved its hearings on reports of violations of human rights in Brazil into open session.

Chile

All other events in Latin America were overshadowed by the military coup that overthrew the constitutional government of President Salvador Allende on 11 September 1973. Estimates of the number of those killed in the coup or in the months following the coup ranged from 10,000 to 20,000. Widespread torture of political dissidents

has been reported by every international organization that has recently visited Chile, by leading members of the church and by defence lawyers within Chile. The almost total lack of legal protection for political prisoners before and during trial has been strongly criticized by eminent Chilean lawyers and by visiting foreign jurists.

The gross violations of human rights immediately following the coup have been amply documented. In recent months it has proved more difficult to obtain information. Censorship of the press has been particularly severe. All newspapers and radio stations that supported the Allende government were closed in September 1973, and more recently, even newspapers and radio stations owned by the Christian Democratic Party (which initially supported the coup) have been closed. A number of foreign journalists have been expelled from Chile after criticizing the policies of the military junta, while a smaller number have been imprisoned.

In May 1974, seven months after the coup, there were still an estimated 6,000 or 7,000 political prisoners in Chile, the majority of them detained without trial. When trials have taken place they have been conducted by military tribunals, with defence lawyers often excluded from the actual trial proceedings. Sentences have been passed in accordance with the legislation of the *Estado de Sitio en Tiempo de Guerra* (state of siege in time of war) which provides for penalties far greater than under the normal penal code, and severely restricts the right of the prisoners to an adequate legal defence.

AI responded immediately to the news of the coup. On 16 September 1973, the International Council meeting in Vienna called on the new military regime to stop the killings and arrests of civilians and to reverse its announced decision to expel those who had taken asylum in the country. The meeting decided to send a mission to Chile. It also unanimously passed resolutions which called on the Secretary General of the UN, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, to "make all possible efforts to stop the killings and arrests and secure respect for the universal protection of human rights in Chile", and on the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to "make

all the facilities of his office available for the emergency situation in Chile". AI national sections were urged to put pressure on their own governments to open the doors of their Santiago embassies to those in need of asylum, and to provide political asylum for all those in danger.

At the October meeting of the UN General Assembly in New York, Secretary General Martin Ennals met with the Chilean Foreign Minister, Admiral Ismael Huerta Diaz, and protested strongly about the lack of judicial protection for Chilean citizens and about summary executions and torture during interrogation. He was assured that torture was "against the principles of the Chilean Government", and that all prisoners would have a fair trial before an open court and the right to appeal. Admiral Huerta Diaz extended an invitation to AI to visit Chile and assured Mr. Ennals that a mission would have full freedom to carry out its investigations.

On 1 November an AI delegation arrived in Santiago for a one-week mission. The members of the delegation were Professor Frank Newman, Professor of Law at the University of California; Judge Bruce Sumner, Presiding Judge of the Supreme Court of Orange County, California; and Roger Plant, from the International Secretariat. The delegation had been instructed to: make representations to the Chilean government concerning executions; report upon procedures of interrogation, detention, charge and trial; inquire into allegations of torture; meet with defence lawyers; and arrange for the provision of aid to prisoners and their families. They met with government officials, including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Interior and Justice; lawyers, including the President of the Supreme Court and the President and General Council of the Chilean College of Lawyers; members of the church, foreign ambassadors, representatives of international organizations, political prisoners and their families, and many others. The mission also visited the National Stadium of Santiago (where over a thousand political prisoners were still detained). They talked to many of the prisoners, including some who could still show the marks of torture.

The report of the mission concluded that

torture of political prisoners had taken place on a large scale since the coup, and was still continuing; that Brazilian experts had been present in the National Stadium, and had participated in the torture of political prisoners; that, although summary executions had officially terminated at the end of October, killings had in fact continued after that date (often disguised as the "killing of fleeing prisoners"); that, where trials had taken place, lawyers had very inadequate facilities for the preparation of the defence or consultation with their clients; that very many political prisoners had not even been formally charged and, according to statements by the Interior Minister himself, could expect to be detained without trial for as long as the state of siege lasted. The report also asserted that international law had been violated by the arrests, detentions, interrogations and killings that had taken place since 11 September.

Before publication—but with an embargo date on it for its release to the press—the report was submitted to the Chilean Government for comment. Without waiting for the embargo date, as is customary, and without replying to any of the points or recommendations mentioned, the Chilean Government issued a public statement rejecting the report in its entirety. The report also was publicly criticized by the President of the Supreme Court.

Since January 1974, when the report was published, AI's worst fears have been confirmed. All the points made in the report have been corroborated by other missions of inquiry that have subsequently visited Chile. A three-man team from the International Commission of Jurists, which visited Chile in April 1974, reported that "ill-treatment, sometimes amounting to severe torture, is carried out systematically by some of those responsible for interrogation". The team also reported that procedures in political trials were found to be very summary, with the role of the defence lawyer severely restricted. More recently, Chilean bishops have documented over 100 known cases of severe torture, including 12 cases where political prisoners died as a result of torture received during interrogation.

AI has continued to send observers to

Chile, to meet with defence lawyers and the families of political prisoners, and to arrange for the channelling of aid to the families of prisoners. In April 1974 an AI observer was asked to represent the organization at the trial of 57 air force officers and 10 civilians tried by an air force military tribunal on charges of high treason. But the trial was suddenly postponed soon after the observer arrived. A second observer, Judge Horst Woesner of the West German Federal Court, undertook a two-week mission in May 1974. He was instructed to observe the air force and other trials in Santiago and to carry out an investigation into judicial procedures in the provinces.

AI has continued to press for judicial guarantees, for an end to torture, and for an end to the death penalty for political offences. A cable was sent to the President of the ruling junta, General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, before the commencement of the major political trials, again urging that all trials should be open, with adequate guarantees for legal defence. A further cable was sent to General Pinochet and to the military commander of the San Fernando region, after five members of the Socialist Party were condemned to death by a military tribunal in the town of San Fernando. After widespread expressions of international concern, the death penalties were commuted. AI has also begun a large adoption program, and 130 cases have already been taken up. In addition, a special campaign has started for the large number of prisoners who have disappeared without trace since detention. The campaign supports the writ of *habeas corpus* issued by Chilean church leaders on behalf of 131 comparatively unknown Chilean citizens who have disappeared since their arrest. AI's campaign for many detained doctors in Chile has also been supported by doctors and medical associations throughout the world.

Special mention must be made of the great efforts by AI national sections to assist the thousands of refugees who have had to leave Chile since the coup.

Though AI has never been a "refugee organization", in many countries the absence of other organizations able to assist refugees meant that AI sections had to

devote much time to providing financial and legal assistance for Chilean and other Latin American refugees. National sections also paid the fare of many refugees from Latin American countries to Europe.

By May 1974 the problem of foreign refugees in Chile had been largely solved. Almost all non-Chileans who received asylum during the Allende Government had been able to leave the country. Two foreigners had been sentenced by military tribunals and approximately 20 others were awaiting trial. The problem of Chileans was far more complex. Many had still been unable to secure safe-conducts to leave the country, a full seven months after receiving asylum in foreign embassies.

The problem in other Latin American countries was far more complex. In Peru and Argentina alone, there were estimated to be over 10,000 refugees from Chile. While Chilean nationals had been granted permanent asylum in Argentina and Mexico, in Peru a large proportion had been granted only temporary asylum: they feared that they might be deported if they could not find an alternative country of asylum within a short period of time. AI has frequently been requested to assist such people, although this work falls strictly outside our mandate. Nevertheless, concerted international pressure is needed to ensure that countries of asylum are available for so many victims of a military coup.

AI is currently preparing a detailed report on violations of human rights in Chile since the coup.

Colombia

Until December 1973, AI groups continued to work for the release of a number of political prisoners who had been charged with "rebellion" and "association to commit a criminal offence" and for having alleged links with the extreme left-wing National Liberation Army (ELN). At the end of December, when the state of siege was finally lifted throughout the country, the Colombian Supreme Court decreed that military tribunals should no longer have the competence to try these prisoners. All were subsequently released, and there are now no adopted prisoners in Colombia.

AI had previously issued strong criticisms of the manner in which the arrest, interrogation and trial of these prisoners had been conducted. In a document circulated in May 1973, AI denounced the torture to which the prisoners had been subjected, and the extreme secrecy with which the opening stages of their trial in Socorro in April 1973 had been conducted. Defence lawyers had been excluded from the proceedings, while some of them had been threatened.

After widespread protests, including letters from Secretary General Martin Ennals and AI groups, the Colombian Supreme Court ruled that the trial proceedings in Socorro should be declared null and void, and the trial should recommence in Bogota. AI and the International Commission of Jurists arranged to send a joint observer to the public session of the new trial. In the event, the prisoners were released before the commencement of the public session.

Cuba

AI groups continued their work for long-term prisoners of conscience in Cuba. Concern was also expressed for the French journalist Pierre Golendorf who was finally released after remaining in detention for almost three years. Although it has proved extremely difficult to obtain information about the human rights situation in Cuba, Amnesty International has now compiled a dossier of over 100 cases of persons who appear to have been detained solely for their political beliefs.

Cuban exile groups in the United States and elsewhere have asserted that a number of political prisoners remain in detention, even after fulfilling the full term of their sentence. In the light of recent information suggesting that the total figure of political prisoners in Cuba may still number many thousands, it was decided by the International Executive Committee that increased work on Cuba should be a priority for the coming year. At present, AI has taken up only 15 cases.

Dominican Republic

AI groups continued to press for the release of prisoners adopted during the pre-

vious year, particularly the five members of the Dominican Popular Movement (MPD) who had been sentenced on scanty evidence for the illegal possession of arms, after previously being acquitted by the Court of the First Instance. After the Supreme Court annulled the sentence passed on these prisoners by the Appeal Court at Santo Domingo, it was decreed that the Appeal Court of San Cristobal should restudy the case. When the National Police failed to present the prisoners before the court in November 1973, the Appeal Court decided to suspend the proceedings.

When AI groups protested at the failure to reconsider these cases, their activities were given considerable coverage in the Dominican press. One newspaper, *El Caribe*, reported in its editorial that "these proceedings must be conducted with absolute scrupulousness, because the image of the country cannot suffer the detrimental effects of a condemnation from Amnesty International". Meanwhile, defence lawyers for these prisoners asserted that, according to the sentence passed by the Supreme Court, they should be freed in January 1974, provided that they paid a fine of 2,000 Dominican pesos. Lawyers, AI groups and the prisoners' families together collected sufficient money to pay the fines.

When the prisoners had still not been freed by March 1974, AI arranged to send a mission from the US Section to introduce Amnesty International to the Dominican authorities, and to negotiate specifically for the release of this group of prisoners. Meanwhile, the political climate declined sharply before the presidential elections scheduled for 16 May. Several political arrests were made, and all political prisoners in La Victoria penitentiary undertook a hunger strike to support the demands for a general amnesty. Opposition political parties stated that they would only participate in the forthcoming electoral campaign if there were guarantees of free elections, including a general amnesty for political prisoners.

On 13 May, AI cabled President Joaquín Balaguer, supporting the petitions for a general amnesty and expressing grave concern at the plight of prisoners on hunger strike. Shortly afterwards it was announced that the group of MPD prisoners had been released following a Supreme Court order.

Ecuador

The only case taken up during the previous year was that of the Ecuadorian writer and journalist Jaime Galarza Zabala. He had been accused of participating in plans to rob a bank, but there is ample evidence that the legal ground for his conviction was a confession extracted by torture. The real reason for Señor Galarza's arrest appears to have been his writings—in which he criticized the corruption of Ecuadorian politicians—and his support for the Socialist Party of Ecuador. Señor Galarza was sentenced by one of the first *Tribunales Especiales* (special tribunals) which were established by the new military government of Ecuador in July 1972. It is AI's belief that these special tribunals place severe restrictions on the right of the prisoners to an adequate legal defence.

AI has submitted documentation concerning these special tribunals to the International Commission of Jurists in the hope that it will conduct an inquiry into their functioning and juridical basis. AI's major concern is that two of the three presiding judges of these tribunals are military officers, without legal training. Under such circumstances there can be little hope that the judiciary can maintain its independence of the executive.

AI recently heard that Jaime Galarza Zabala is to receive a second hearing, in the *Audiencia de Estrados*.

El Salvador

There was a happy ending to the expulsion to Guatemala in February 1973 of 21 Salvadorean citizens (mentioned in last year's Annual Report). They decided after several months in exile to return to El Salvador, offering to stand trial and face any charges that could be brought against them. Having made representations to the President on their behalf, AI was pleased to learn that they have not been molested since their return.

Grenada

Both before and since independence in February 1974, members of the opposition New Jewel Movement have been harassed,

intimidated and on occasions arrested. Allegations of brutality have been made concerning "the Mongoose Gang", an armed police force under the personal direction of Prime Minister Eric Gairy. Amnesty International has followed this situation closely, and in April made a first approach to the Prime Minister in a letter urging his government to sign and ratify United Nations human rights covenants. AI also intends to send a lawyer to observe the trial of Maurice Bishop, leader of the New Jewel Movement, who is charged with illegal possession of arms.

Guatemala

In Guatemala, Amnesty International's main concern has been the constant violation of Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person".

There are regular reports of persons who disappear without trace. The authorities have claimed that these persons have left the country of their own accord and that investigations into their whereabouts continue. In view of the unsatisfactory results of these investigations, the Secretary General has, on various occasions, recommended to the Guatemalan government that it set up an impartial commission of inquiry. This suggestion has so far not been accepted.

AI groups have, over the past year, been working on well over a hundred cases of "missing persons"; in all these cases there are allegations that elements of the police or military forces have taken part in the abduction. The groups are aware of the fact that their "prisoner" may not be alive, although the families of the person who has disappeared remain uncertain of his fate.

The nature of the victims—varying from people suspected of left-wing sympathies to petty criminals—and the fact that the bodies found show evident signs of torture would rule out common law crime and point to the existence of "death squads". Sometimes a "death squad" card is left on the body. Although more information is available from the capital, Guatemala City, it seems that it is in fact the rural peasant population that is most defenceless.

Among AI's recent cases are a peasant

leader and a journalist. The latter was the Christian Democrat candidate for mayor in a provincial town, until his disappearance in December 1972. Among the most recent discoveries were a reported 15 bodies hidden in two disused wells.

In view of this alarming situation, AI sent telegrams calling for due process of law on two occasions when a large number of persons were reported arrested. The first concerned striking teachers in August 1973, and the second concerned students and others who took part in demonstrations following reports of fraudulent elections in March 1974. AI has also kept relevant professional bodies informed about these events which has enabled them to make their own representations to the Guatemalan authorities.

Based on continuous AI submissions, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) of the Organization of American States has requested the Guatemalan Government to answer the grave questions that arise from the material submitted. The IACHR considered the explanations given by the Guatemala authorities to be unsatisfactory and resolved in April 1974 to recommend that Guatemala carry out an investigation "to determine and punish those responsible". The IACHR's request in October 1973 to send its own impartial team of inquiry was rejected by Guatemala.

Haiti

An Amnesty International letter to President Jean Claude Duvalier in February 1973 outlined the basic human rights problems: total lack of legal proceedings after arrest, and no subsequent contact with either lawyers, family or priest. Families are not even informed when a prisoner has died in detention.

Since then, AI has received more detailed information on individual prisoners and some 40 prisoners are currently under adoption. They were arrested between 1962 and 1971. Due to the lack of legal proceedings it is not possible in all cases to establish with certainty their status as prisoners of conscience, and appeals for release are based on long detention without charges or trial.

Groups have received courteous replies from the Foreign Minister referring to the new instructions for humane treatment that President Duvalier has given to his military commanders, and to the amnesties pronounced at the end of 1972. His letters, however, fail to give information about currently adopted prisoners, nor about the lawyer Hubert Legros, the only prisoner included in the amnesty who was seen subsequently in public. Two weeks later he was re-arrested and has not been heard of since. His case was on the Postcards for Prisoners Campaign in October 1973.

Mexico

All six prisoners taken up by Amnesty International groups were released in June 1973 on the order of the Mexican Supreme Court. Shortly before the hearing, the Secretary General wrote to President Luis Echevarría Alvarez and to the President of the Supreme Court, urging their immediate release on the grounds that they had been detained since 1967 on comparatively minor charges, while many AI cases arrested on far more serious charges after the student unrest in 1968 had been released in the general amnesty at the commencement of President Echevarría's term of office.

No new cases had been taken up in Mexico by May 1974. Nevertheless, AI has been gravely concerned by recent allegations of the torture of political prisoners, particularly in the southern province of Guerrero. An AI member who visited the women's prison in Mexico City asserted that many of them had had confessions extracted by torture.

Nicaragua

The cases of four trade unionists arrested for organizing a strike in their factory for better wages and working conditions were allocated to Amnesty International groups. The trade unionists were released after four months' detention.

Panama

Leopoldo Aragon, a Panamanian journalist who was taken up as an investigation

case after being sentenced in 1972 to five years' imprisonment was released in October 1973 and went into exile in Sweden.

Prison conditions in Panama continue to be poor, according to reports received by Amnesty International.

Paraguay

In August 1973, when General Alfredo Stroessner was re-inaugurated as President for another five-year term, Amnesty International called for an amnesty for all those detained without trial and for three prisoners whose sentences expired in 1960-1961 but who were never released. The Secretary General also referred in a letter to the deficient conditions of detention in police stations where prisoners are held. He asked that a list be published of all the prisoners and the charges against them. The letter was released to the international press.

When President Stroessner visited Germany in July 1973, AI groups there took the opportunity of drawing attention to the plight of the political prisoners in Paraguay. A small number of prisoners were released during the months preceding the Stroessner visit to Europe—on grounds, it would seem, as arbitrary as their arrest.

In February 1974 several arrests were made of students in the capital, Asuncion, in connection with slogans painted on street walls protesting against the rising cost of living, and against the government's economic policies. An AI news release expressed concern about these arrests and about the growing repression of peasant members of the Agrarian Leagues who are being arrested and subjected to brutal treatment.

AI currently has some 50 prisoners under adoption, all detained in Asuncion or its outskirts. Groups make constant appeals for their release—in some cases on the grounds of their long detention without trial—and provide relief for their families.

In May 1974, Federal Supreme Court Judge Horst Woensner of West Germany visited Paraguay on AI's behalf, accompanied by a member of the International Secretariat staff. They discussed the lack of due process of law with Interior Minister Sabino Montanaro and with the President of

the Supreme Court. As the prisoners are detained by order of the executive, i.e. the President himself, Judge Woensner made strong appeals for their release in his meeting with President Stroessner.

AI has also submitted information to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), which, at its meeting in April 1973, considered the submission and resolved to ask the Paraguayan Government to release Professor Antonio Maidana, a long-term detainee who remains in prison although a judge ordered his release in 1961 after expiry of a 2½ year sentence. In October 1973 the IACHR further resolved to request the release of prisoners who had been detained over three years without trial. Three other AI-adopted prisoners who exemplify this situation are Julio Rojas, a school teacher who has been detained without trial since 1958, and Ignacio Chamorro, a peasant, and Alfredo Alcorta, an accountant, both detained since 1959. Señor Alcorta was sentenced to one year's imprisonment on minor charges, but was never released.

Peru

In May 1973, Amnesty International adopted a number of intellectuals and trade unionists. AI also protested strongly at their treatment during interrogation. Prisoners alleged that they had been hooded, beaten for several hours, plunged repeatedly into cold water, and kept without sleep for over 30 hours. These prisoners were released within a few weeks of their arrest.

In October 1973 there was a new wave of political arrests. The *Sindicato Unico de Trabajadores de Educacion* (SUTEP) organized a one-day strike on 24 October protesting against the government's educational policies, demanding official recognition for their union and increased salaries for Peruvian teachers. The strike came at the end of several months of increased opposition by trade unions to the general policies of the military government. There had been several violent clashes in southern Peruvian towns. After the SUTEP strike, approximately 500 teachers were detained and held for several months without formal charges against them. Ninety-one teachers

were detained in almost sub-human conditions in the SEPA detention center, in the midst of the Peruvian Selva, which had previously been disused for some time. These prisoners had no access to lawyers or to their families. Other teachers were detained in Lurigancho jail in Lima and in provincial prisons throughout the country. AI groups adopted 64 of these teachers, and many groups collaborated in circulating a multi-lingual petition calling for their immediate release. By May 1974 at least half of the adopted teachers had been released.

AI was also seriously concerned by the renewed application of the death penalty in Peru and by deteriorating prison conditions. There were two known cases of prisoners receiving a death sentence for killing policemen. Two political prisoners under investigation wrote to the International Secretariat, denouncing inhumane treatment to which they had been subjected, alleging that they were stripped naked and beaten by prison officers.

AI groups are currently working for a total of 71 prisoners in Peru.

Uruguay

The deepening confrontation between opposition and government led in June 1973 to the dissolution of Parliament. Some of its functions have been taken over by a council of state appointed by the executive. But all effective power is now in the hands of the armed forces, who also have jurisdiction over civilians in all matters considered to concern national security.

The Uruguayan Senate constantly protested when cases of torture were drawn to its attention. Its own commission of inquiry into allegations of torture was planning to begin hearings just when Parliament was dissolved last year.

Continuous allegations of torture have been a major concern to Amnesty International. In June 1973 the Secretary General wrote to President Juan Maria Bordaberry expressing his grave concern at the fate of a farmworker, Oscar Fernandez Mendieta, who died shortly after being detained by the combined forces (armed forces and police). Reference was also made to a prisoner who was tortured until he

reportedly tried to commit suicide, and to the case of a student who died while in the custody of the armed forces.

The Secretary General also raised with the Uruguayan authorities the infringements of legal safeguards at the time of arrest and the long period of detention before the prisoners are allowed contact with family and lawyer, referring in particular to two prominent intellectuals whose whereabouts were unknown after their arrest. A copy of the letter was released to the press and given good coverage in Latin America.

In November 1973 it was reported that nine members of the urban guerrilla movement MLN (Tupamaros) had been transferred from their prison in Libertad to different military barracks where they were subjected to ill-treatment and, allegedly, were kept as hostages to prevent any action by their organization. AI sent a telegram urging an inquiry into these reports and stressing that taking hostages is a breach of the Geneva Convention to which Uruguay is a signatory. The reports were denied by the government but later confirmed by other sources.

The emphasis of AI's group work on Uruguay has been more on the rule of law than on adoption of prisoners of conscience. Those prisoners who, despite the civilian or military judge's order for release have not been freed, have been taken up as investigation cases in an attempt to find out the reasons for this continued preventive detention.

Through national sections and groups the Research Department supplied information to professional groups for action on behalf of their imprisoned colleagues in Uruguay. Particular action was taken on behalf of imprisoned doctors and medical students, teachers and trade unionists.

Since Parliament was dissolved in June 1973 the government has become less and less tolerant of opposition, and freedom of expression has been gradually restricted. The main trade union movement, the *Convención Nacional de Trabajadores* (CNT), was banned in July 1973 and more bans followed in December on left-wing parties and groups and a number of newspapers of similar character. Accordingly the number of prisoners of conscience has grown.

In Montevideo, the capital, there was a massive civic demonstration protesting against the closure of Parliament and the CNT called for a general strike that lasted for about two weeks. This led to the arrest or exile of several leaders of the left-wing coalition *Frente Amplio*, among them its presidential candidate, General Liber Seregni, and to the arrest of many leading members of the CNT. Many of those arrested were subsequently adopted by AI.

Following the death in October 1973 of a student at Montevideo University while handling an explode device, the rector, deans of faculties and other staff and students were arrested for alleged responsibility for Marxist infiltration of the university and for the student's death. AI supplied information to international academic organizations and some national sections expressed their concern at the government's handling of this incident. Most of those arrested were released after one or two months' detention, while 25 of them were committed for trial in the spring of 1974.

Following the publication in the renowned weekly newspaper *Marcha* of a prize-winning short story which the authorities called "pornographic and subversive", the author of the story was charged under military justice and the 71-year-old chief editor and founder of *Marcha*, Carlos Quijano, and three other journalists were detained for 3½ months.

The daily newspaper *Ahora* which represents largely Christian Democrat views and which had been closed several times in the past, started anew as a weekly in March 1974. After four issues it was closed again and both its editors and the Christian Democrat Senator Juan Pablo Terra were arrested. All were released on 5 June.

After previous agreement with the Uruguayan authorities a joint mission was sent by Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) in May 1974 to study the legal procedures under military justice with regard to political suspects. The Secretary General of the ICJ, Niall McDermot, and Inger Fahlander from the Research Department had talks with government officials, senior members of the judiciary, and military officers. They also met with lawyers, rep-

resentatives of the unions, relatives of prisoners and released prisoners. They concluded in their final report that "the laxity of the legal procedures is serious from the point of view of legal protection against ill-treatment of suspects". They expressed the hope that Uruguay would soon return to a system of ordinary justice for civilian offenders and, among other things, recommended establishment of a central bureau of information to help lawyers and families to find out by whom a person has been arrested and where he is being held; that a prior written authority should be issued for all arrests (except *in flagrante delicto*); and that confessions extracted under torture should never be admitted as a basis for conviction.

United States

With indictments continuing to be handed down to conscientious objectors to the Vietnam war, war resisters still dominate the list of adopted prisoners in the United States. Accordingly, in July, Amnesty International issued a statement of support for the campaign currently being waged in the United States for a general unconditional amnesty for all war resisters. This statement, which was widely disseminated in the United States, was also submitted in February to a sub-committee of the House of Representatives' Committee on the Judiciary which was holding hearings on the amnesty question. In an accompanying letter to Representative Robert W. Kastenmeier, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Secretary General Martin Ennals stated:

Now that the direct involvement in the Indochina conflict of uniformed United States military personnel has ended it seems particularly urgent that the wound caused by the war, especially among American youth, be healed. The provision by Congress for a universal, unconditional amnesty, that is, total exoneration, would be an indispensable component of the healing process.

A growing number of the US adoptees are political activists, particularly blacks, who find themselves the victims of miscarriages of justice on trumped-up criminal charges. Thus, the "Charlotte Three" have

been adopted: Dr James Earl Grant, T. J. Reddy and Charles Parker, all of whom were involved in black community organizing in North Carolina. (Dr Grant was adopted last year.) They were convicted of burning the "Lazy B" riding stables on the evidence of two persons with long records of criminal violence, who had admitted guilt of the crime. Their sentences—25, 20 and 10 years respectively—are among the highest in recent North Carolina history, exceeded only by the 35 to 38 years' sentence passed on a policeman convicted of seven instances of arson.

Juries continue to treat sceptically political conspiracy trials brought against anti-war activists by the Department of Justice at the time when it was headed by persons themselves now under indictment on Watergate-related charges. Thus, the "Gainesville Eight", members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, were acquitted of spurious charges of conspiracy to disrupt the Republican National Convention in Florida in 1972. In a letter to US Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson, AI's Legal Officer, Nigel S. Rodley, had called for the dropping of charges against the eight. Finding it "difficult not to conclude that the only purpose to be served by the trial is either to justify the earlier immobilization of the defendants prior to the convention or to continue diverting citizens from exercising their rights by tying them up in the legal process", Mr Rodley argued that to "respond to non-violence with violence—and injustice is violence—is to provide a situation in which those engaged in the political process lose faith in the value of eschewing violence"

Venezuela

Owing to lack of staff, Amnesty International has been unable to develop its work in Venezuela. Five cases were taken up during the year: all were peasants who had been detained for several years without trial on ambiguous charges of having links with guerrilla organizations.

Information received over the course of the year has shown that very many civilians in prison for political offences have been

detained for up to five years and more without trial. Though the majority have been charged with offences involving acts of terrorism or complicity with terrorism, the prisoners have been given no chance to prove their innocence. Prison conditions are extremely poor in many places of detention. Prisoners have been subjected to threats and maltreatment. There are also known cases of the torture of political prisoners,

particularly in the anti-guerrilla camps TO-4 and TO-5.

AI was also concerned by reports that Venezuelan citizens have disappeared after arrest by Venezuelan security police. Although an amnesty was announced by President Rafael Caldera at the end of his presidential term of office, only a small percentage of those who benefited were political offenders.

In Asia, Amnesty International is confronted by imprisonment on a larger scale than in any other part of the world. While continuing to take up individual cases, an important part of the International Secretariat's work has been to exert pressure on governments to grant amnesties to large groups of prisoners. Thus, although welcoming the release of many thousands of civilian prisoners detained in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan as a result of the 1971 war, AI has continued to seek the release of the tens of thousands of political prisoners detained in Indonesia since 1965. It is a matter of regret that in Vietnam hopes raised by the 1973 Paris agreement have not been realized and that most of the 100,000 civilian prisoners whose detention was reported and documented last year in AI's *Political Prisoners in South Vietnam*, remain in prison.

Most of AI's 870 adopted cases in Asia are detained without charge or trial, either under formal preventive detention legislation, as in Singapore and Malaysia, or by military decision, as in Indonesia. In its use of the courts to sentence political prisoners, South Korea has been an exception to this general trend, and AI observers have attended trials in Seoul and pleaded for reduction in the sentences.

Elsewhere, even in countries with strong and independent judiciaries, increasing numbers of prisoners are held under detention orders and denied the right to defend themselves in open court. In all cases, AI argues for civilian trial or release. In Bangladesh, the introduction of the Special Powers Act has now placed preventive detention on the statute book. In the Philippines, AI groups have appealed for the release of adopted prisoners held under martial law and emergency regulations. The Secretary General has protested to the Indian Government at the lengthy untried detention of 18,000 Naxalites in West Bengal, and at the arrest of 30,000 trade unionists under preventive detention laws which

Asia

were re-introduced at the time of the 1971 war.

Bangladesh

Amnesty International's efforts for the release of over 30,000 political prisoners, held under the Collaborators Order for alleged cooperation with the Pakistan Army during the 1971 war, appeared to meet with success when the Prime Minister, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, announced a general amnesty for all prisoners held under this order at the second anniversary of independence on 16 December 1973. He announced that 33,000 out of a total of 37,000 would be released, but this was only implemented partially.

Earlier, in May 1973, the Bangladesh Government had announced a partial clemency for "collaborators". In order to study the impact of this measure, a research mission—also visiting Pakistan, India and Nepal—was sent to Bangladesh in June-July 1973.

The Bangladesh Government deserves credit for the openness with which the mission was received. Discussions were held with officials and ministers in the Foreign, Home and Law Departments. But the subsequent mission report, presented to the government, concluded that "the wide powers of arrest and detention given under the Collaborators Order now leave, more than one a half years after the ending of the war, between 20,000 and 30,000 alleged collaborators still in jail, of whom only some 1,500 have been tried so far".

On the basis of the report, AI submitted its recommendations to the government in September 1973, urging Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to "initiate a policy of reconciliation, enabling the Bangladesh government to harness the potential of those now in prison who at the time believed or acquiesced in the continuance of the status quo". AI recommended specifically that only those against whom charges under the Bangladesh Penal Code could be

brought should be prosecuted, and that the remainder be released as soon as possible under a general amnesty. After being presented to the various ministers, these recommendations were further discussed with the Bangladesh Minister of Commerce, A. H. M. Qamaruzzaman, during his visit to London in November. The December amnesty for prisoners held under the Collaborators Order followed the general lines suggested by AI. A telegram was sent to the Prime Minister, congratulating him warmly on his decision.

But the releases fell far short of the promise made in the announcement of the general amnesty. While important political prisoners like the former civil governor of East Pakistan, Dr Abdul Motaleb Malik, and his cabinet ministers, sentenced to life imprisonment in 1972, were immediately freed, reports reached AI that many political prisoners, whose release was scheduled for 16 December, and who included 30 individual cases adopted by AI, remained in custody. AI requested and received a report from the Home Secretary on 28 February 1974, stating that by 31 December 1973 only 11,710—out of an estimated 33,000—prisoners had been released. In a letter dated 14 March—the contents of which were later publicized—the Secretary General urged the Prime Minister "to take all possible steps to speed up the release of the remaining 21,000 prisoners". AI is still closely following the process of release under the Collaborators Order, and has recently noted with concern that some well-known prisoners who were released under the December amnesty, such as Khan Abdus Sabur, Shafiqur Rahman and Khawja Khairuddin, were re-arrested in May this year. They had issued a statement to the press urging the repeal of the Collaborators Orders and the release forthwith of all prisoners still held under the order. AI immediately adopted all three as prisoners of conscience.

Political prisoners are not, however, only detained under the Collaborators Order. A progressively deteriorating law and order situation has led to the enactment of President's Order Number 50, originally devised to deal with offences

like hoarding and black-marketeering. Its wide powers of arrest, detention without trial and denial of bail were increasingly used to detain large numbers of members of the left-wing opposition, particularly the JSD (*Jatiyo Samajtantrik Dal*), a matter about which AI expressed concern to the Prime Minister in December. In February 1974, Presidential Order Number 50 was repealed, but immediately replaced by two orders which were severely criticized by various prominent persons and organizations inside Bangladesh, such as the Bar Associations.

The Special Powers Act, passed in February 1974, allows for detention of people without trial—in fact indefinitely but with certain legal safeguards—to prevent them from indulging in "anti-state activities" and from printing or publishing reports which are deemed prejudicial. At the same time, the *Rakkhi Bahini*, a paramilitary armed force, was endowed with very wide powers of arrest and detention under the *Rakkhi Bahini* Amendment Act, and its members were allowed immunity for their actions from scrutiny by the courts. These new powers were used both to detain journalists—Shamsul Alam, editor of the weekly *Nayajug*, and AI Mahmud, editor of *Ganakaniha* are both presently adopted by AI groups—and an estimated 2,000 members of the JSD, including its leaders A. S. M. Abdur Rab, M. A. Jalil and Mumtaz Begum. They were arrested by the *Rakkhi Bahini* following a JSD protest demonstration at the house of the Home Minister on 17 March 1974, in which at least five JSD supporters were killed. AI, at the moment of writing this report, is still collecting details about these last arrests. It has learned with pleasure that a Committee for Civil Liberties and Legal Aid, called "Samakal", and consisting of prominent Bengali citizens, has been formed in Dacca. Its main aim is to provide legal aid to prisoners held without trial.

Brunei

In September 1973 a complete list of detainees in Brunei reached the International Secretariat in London. All 49 were

immediately sent to AI groups for investigation. These detainees were arrested in 1962 and 1963 as part of a much larger group detained after the revolt in December 1962. This was an attempt by the majority *Partai Rakyat* (Peoples' Front) to obtain the political power to which it was entitled by its massive victory in the 1961 elections, but which it had been denied by the then Sultan of Brunei. The detainees have now been held for well over 10 years without charge or trial under continuing states of emergency.

The 1962 revolt involved some violence, but in a letter to the Sultan of Brunei, Secretary General Martin Ennals said it could be argued that "whatever the legal cases against these individuals at the time of their arrest . . . they have now served a substantial prison sentence and so purged their offence by virtue of this prolonged period of detention". He therefore appealed for their release.

A letter was also sent to the British High Commissioner in Brunei, drawing his attention to the sharp deterioration in prison conditions which had followed the mass transfer of detainees from Berakas Camp to Jerudong Prison in July. The British Government retains a responsibility for Brunei's defence and foreign affairs, and AI groups have, therefore, been asked to direct inquiries and pressure to both Brunei and London.

People's Republic of China

The Research Department has now gathered material on political imprisonment and reform, and on re-education-through-labour for the period up to the 1965-69 Cultural Revolution. But, reliable information about conditions since that time remains fragmented. In particular, it is not yet clear to what extent statutory law and formal court proceedings are still being applied to overtly political offences.

The Research Department has also collected and assessed reports from sources outside China: in the case of Tibet, there have been recent allegations of widespread political imprisonment and continuing ill-treatment of detainees.

In May contacts were established with

the Chinese Embassy in London. It was asked to look into the case of the former Bishop of Shanghai, Jung Ping-mei, who was arrested in September 1955, along with 27 priests and 300 Roman Catholic laymen. He was denounced as a counter-revolutionary, tried before a court in Shanghai in March 1969 and sentenced to life imprisonment for "spying" and "high treason".

Hong Kong

Following Amnesty International's intervention, the Governor of Hong Kong agreed to allow Leung Pak-kin, a draft evader from South Vietnam, to go to Taiwan as he asked, rather than be returned to Vietnam where he feared he would suffer reprisals. Just before Mr Leung was due to be deported, the Secretary General had cabled the Governor asking for a stay of deportation pending full inquiries, to which the Governor agreed. AI is also trying to establish the approximate number of South Vietnamese draft-evaders and deserters in Hong Kong.

India

Political prisoners benefited from the normalization of relations in the sub-continent during 1973. The agreement between India and Pakistan in August 1973 led not only to the release of all prisoners of war, but also of 16,000 civilian prisoners, including three journalists who were adopted cases. A few months later, Pakistan's recognition of Bangladesh at the Islamic Summit Conference in Lahore prompted a second Delhi agreement in April 1974 and a decision by Dacca to drop the envisaged trial of 195 Pakistani prisoners of war. This agreement also provided that "all nationals, of either country, detained in the other prior to the conflict of 1971, shall be released". Thus, four Pakistani prisoners adopted by Amnesty International and detained in Kashmir under security and preventive detention laws since 1965, were released. However, a small number of Pakistani nationals, who fled from East Bengal during and after the war to Nepal and Pakistan, are still

in detention in jails in Bihar and West Bengal. AI is taking steps to secure their early release.

Some 1,740 left-wing political prisoners held in West Bengal were to be released under an important decision of the Supreme Court which ruled on 19 April 1973 that arrest under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) was illegal. But most were immediately re-arrested either under other sections of the same act or on different charges. In October Secretary General Martin Ennals wrote to the West Bengal Home Minister asking for information about 66 cases. AI estimates the number of political prisoners held in West Bengal to be as high as 20,000, of whom 18,000 have not been charged in court. Most detainees are held under preventive detention legislation in force since the ending of the Pakistan war: the Defence of India Rules and the Maintenance of Internal Security Act. But those prisoners accused of Naxalite activities are held on a variety of criminal charges. AI knows of very few cases where prisoners were brought to trial. In a letter to the West Bengal Chief Minister in February 1974 Martin Ennals expressed AI's great concern about the situation and urged that the prisoners be brought to trial as soon as possible, or, in the absence of criminal evidence, be released immediately. Many have already spent some three years in prison without trial.

The first general railway strike, which started on 8 May 1974 at a time of economic crisis, provoked a very strong government reaction and massive arrests. AI estimates that 30,000 trade unionists were detained, most held under preventive detention laws. Those arrested included not only members of the strike action committee and leading trade unionists—like George Fernandez, a member of parliament, who is also a member of Amnesty International—but also railwaymen who participated in the strike. Martin Ennals sent a telegram and a letter protesting strongly against the arrest of people "for exercising what are generally recognized as legal trade union rights". The International Secretariat organized an urgent action campaign for all

national sections to demand the immediate release of all prisoners held under preventive detention. On 27 May the strike was called off. Although large numbers of prisoners were released, among them Mr Fernandez, some thousands remain in detention, charged with specific offences.

Indonesia

There were no discernible improvements in the position of political prisoners in Indonesia during the past year, and therefore Amnesty International's work continued for the relief and release of over 55,000 prisoners, all detained without charge or trial since 1965. Political change has been minimal. With the removal of General Sumitro early in 1974, President Suharto assumed real, as well as titular, responsibility for all security—and hence prisoner—issues.

Although arrests of suspected supporters of the banned Communist Party are a continuing feature of the Indonesian political situation, action by KOPKAMTIB—the army security forces—took a new direction in January 1974 when over 720 people were arrested after the visit to Jakarta by the Japanese Prime Minister had sparked off mass demonstrations against Japanese and foreign investment. Some of those arrested were students while others were economists, lawyers and intellectuals, many of whom are well-known for their anti-communist beliefs. A number remain in prison, due to be tried on subversion charges. AI groups are working for about 20 of them. The adopted cases include two internationally-known lawyers, Yap Thiam Hien, who is a leader of the Christian community, and Buyung Nasution, the founder of the Legal Aid Institute.

In August 1973, the UN Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Treatment of Minorities accepted as "admissible" AI's communication presenting evidence to show that the government's detention policies "revealed a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms". This was one of only eight "admissible"

cases. All were then referred to the Human Rights Commission which, at its February 1974 meeting, decided to appoint a special group to consider them. No report will be made until 1975.

Throughout 1973 approaches were made from the International Secretariat and from national sections to the member states of the Inter-Government Group on Indonesia (IGGI), the inter-governmental aid consortium which has provided large-scale development aid to Indonesia since 1967. Governments were asked to bear in mind the vast scale of political detention, and although some refused, others showed that they regarded this as a matter of importance: in December reference was made to political imprisonment in the opening session of the IGGI meeting in Amsterdam.

As a result of price rises, prison conditions have seriously deteriorated. In December 1973 Secretary General Martin Ennals wrote expressing AI's concern at reports of malnutrition from prisons in Jakarta and in Central Java. In Salemba Prison it was reported that three prisoners had died from starvation in a single week. Despite high inflation the daily allocation remains at its 1970 figure of 25 rupiahs per prisoner.

Other initiatives have been taken to publicize the detention situation. In July 1973, prior to a meeting in Jakarta of the Law Association for Asia and the Western Pacific (LAWASIA), the secretariat drew up a legal memorandum specifying major violations of the rule of law. This was sent to LAWASIA associations, and to AI's national sections in Asia. Although AI received no formal response, the Indonesian Government did not try to use the meeting as a forum in which to justify its political detention policies, despite an earlier announcement that President Suharto intended to do so.

The permanent "resettlement" of category "B" prisoners in labour camps has continued to be a prominent part of government policy. In October 1973, journalists were taken to visit the camps on Buru island, to which some wives and children have now been transported. The reports published by Indonesian journalists

were not uncritical and official statements contrasted sharply with an official statistic that 102 prisoners have died since 1969 when the first group of detainees were taken to the island.

In April and May 1974, large numbers of prisoners were removed from prisons in Jakarta and Central Java. Families were not told of their destination, but reports reaching AI said that many were to be transported to the prison island of Nusakambangan, off the south coast of Java, and to Central Java, to engage in varying forms of agricultural labour. AI wrote to President Suharto expressing the fear that this would not only have the effect of cutting family ties and ending the material aid provided by relatives living nearby, but represented a new and more permanent form of detention for these prisoners, none of whom had still been tried or convicted.

No firm figure for the total number of prisoners exists but in July 1973, President Suharto told the *London Times* that there were 2,547 "A" category detainees, 26,650 "B" category (a figure which may well exclude the 10,000 taken to Buru island) and 7,114 "X" category prisoners. It seems that the "C" group no longer exists as a classification and that its occupants have been released or, since few releases have taken place, re-allocated to "B" or "X". Trials have continued at a slow rate, and the number of prisoners who have come before the courts since 1965 is still probably fewer than 500, despite an army announcement in June 1973 that trials would proceed at a yearly rate of 200.

Death sentences have been reported, though not carried out, and in each instance AI has appealed by cable for clemency.

AI groups are now working for a total of 215 cases. In December 1973, a special campaign began for the release of 17 imprisoned members of parliament.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Case sheets were issued on two foreigners, a French linguist-translator and

a well-known Venezuelan poet who translated Premier Kim Il Sung's memoirs into Spanish. Both have been detained in North Korea since 1967, apparently as a result of criticizing the Pyongyang government. Both men were employed by the North Korean authorities as translators and have been the subject of numerous inquiries and petitions by other human rights organizations.

In August 1973 Secretary General Martin Ennals also wrote to President Kim Il-sung asking for details of the precise charges against, and trials of, three alleged South Korean agents said to have been captured by the North Korean authorities while working with "unsound elements" for "subversive" ends. While stressing that AI was not concerned with *bona fide* espionage cases, Mr Ennals reminded President Kim and other North Korean authorities to whom he wrote, of articles in the country's new constitution upholding the principles of fair and open trials. A member of the German co-ordination group on Korea subsequently visited the North Korean embassy in East Berlin and made further inquiries about these cases. There are seven cases under investigation by AI groups.

Republic of Korea

During the past year there has been growing opposition among students and intellectuals to the authoritarian constitution introduced by President Park Chung-hee in late 1972. This opposition has been met by increasingly repressive measures on the part of the authorities, in particular the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), culminating in a presidential decree passed in January 1974 forbidding all criticism of the constitution on pain of 15 years' imprisonment. On 3 April 1974 Presidential Decree Number 4 went yet further, making students' "non-academic" activities punishable by the death sentence. A five-day amnesty followed, during which police claimed that 261 people had reported involvement in student organizations. The official rationale for this savage attempt to eliminate student protests is that all are communist-inspired

and "part of North Korea's hackneyed scheme to communize the country".

Throughout the year, pressure has been maintained by AI. The International Secretariat, the co-ordination group in West Germany, the Japanese Section and other national sections have intervened on behalf of a number of prisoners, not least those of AI members in South Korea. In November, the Reverend Un Myung-ki, an executive committee member of AI's South Korean Section, was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment with a two-year stay of execution on charges related to "spreading a groundless rumour". Four other directors of the section were detained for questioning by the South Korean CIA on at least two occasions, while a fifth, Boo Wan-hyuk, a publisher, was summarily sentenced to 10 days' detention in May 1973, also on a "groundless rumour" charge.

AI also intervened in the cases of a group of students in the southern city of Kwangju who were charged with anti-government activities. All the cases were taken up by AI groups. Following an appeal, all the defendants were eventually released or given suspended sentences. AI initiated a campaign for the release of Reverend Park Hyoung-kyu, who was arrested along with a number of clergy who were charged with plotting to overthrow the government. He is now on bail with a suspended sentence of two years.

AI has been following with close concern the trial of a Korean previously resident in Japan, Kim Chul-woo, and his younger brother on charges of spying for North Korea. There were a number of anomalous features to the case, and an observer was sent from Japan to attend the elder Kim's Appellate Court hearing in Seoul. Following the appeal, Mr Kim received a 10-year sentence (despite prosecution demands for a death sentence), and his younger brother three years.

A number of other cases, including some allegedly involving espionage, have also been taken up. The latest, whose trial is now in process, is that of writer Lee Ho-chul, charged on apparently insufficient evidence with being recruited as a North Korean spy while attending a PEN Inter-

national meeting in Japan. The case has been taken up for investigation. Kenkichi Nakadaira, a former judge who is well-known in Japan for his work on civil rights cases, went to Seoul in May 1974 on behalf of AI to observe Mr Lee's trial. Sentences, passed in July, were lenient and one defendant, Chung Ul-byong, was acquitted. Groups are now working on a total of 17 cases.

Laos

In August 1973 the Secretary General sent a cable to Prince Souvanna Phouma expressing concern that rebels captured after an attempted coup were executed or shortly to be executed without trial.

Malaysia

In February 1974, Amnesty International issued a news release asking the Malaysian Government to inquire into allegations that prisoners in the detention camps of Batu Gajah and Taiping had been ill-treated. A hunger strike had then been in progress since 29 December 1973, when a detainee held under the Internal Security Act in Taiping had committed suicide. Requests for an inquiry had been refused and detainees subsequently clashed with members of the Federal Reserve Unit who had been brought into the camp to return them to their cells. Restrictions then imposed on detainees included a three-month suspension of correspondence and of visits from families and lawyers. The hunger strike was in protest against these.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak, Secretary General Martin Ennals noted that Malaysia was one of the comparatively few countries from which AI had never previously received allegations of torture or ill-treatment. In March, the restrictions were lifted and the Malaysian Government agreed to inquire into the allegations. The results of the inquiry had not been announced at the time of writing.

The total number of prisoners detained under the Internal Security Act in East and West Malaysia is not known. Releases have taken place in West Malaysia, includ-

ing some AI cases, thus reducing the number of adopted prisoners to 17.

Nepal

According to a recent statement by the Home Minister, there are presently 157 political prisoners in Nepal. Of these, Amnesty International has adopted 13 as prisoners of conscience and is investigating 44. One of the prisoners adopted, Dr P. C. Lohani, a member of the Nepalese parliament, was released in December 1973 after he had been featured in AI's postcard campaign in November. Group work has still met with no official response, in spite of friendly talks between the Nepalese Foreign Minister and the AI researcher, who visited Nepal in July 1973. During these talks AI's aims were explained and the issue of political imprisonment was raised by the Foreign Minister himself. AI groups have been active in collecting funds for political prisoners, which are being used to provide them with books and medicines.

Pakistan

Inevitably, Amnesty International was drawn into the problem of Bengalis stranded in Pakistan after the ending of the Bangladesh war. In May 1973, 250 top Bengali civil service personnel were rounded up in Islamabad and Karachi, following Bangladesh's announcement that it would proceed with the trial of 195 Pakistani prisoners of war. The detention of civilian prisoners was one of the main concerns of a research mission in May 1973. AI had corresponded with the Foreign Minister about their release and repatriation. All the prisoners, including 70 adopted cases, were later released and repatriated under the provisions of the August 1973 Delhi agreement.

By consenting to the repatriation of the Bengalis and by extending recognition to Bangladesh in February 1974, the Pakistan Government has now come to terms with the aftermath of a traumatic war. However, the danger of "external threats" is still used to justify continuing the state of emergency invoked during the Bangladesh

war. Under the emergency, the Defence of Pakistan Rules (DPR) remain in force, and their application is presently AI's main concern in Pakistan. These rules provide for preventive detention and place the burden of proof on the defendant in a bail application. Special tribunals are empowered to deal summarily with offences carrying prison sentences of more than seven years.

These powers of arrest and detention are being used broadly to detain dissenting editors, journalists, publishers, politicians and even lawyers and judges, some of whose cases AI has adopted. It is significant that all 100 *habeas corpus* petitions before the High Court of Sindh and Baluchistan from January 1972 to June 1973 were successful as the court could find no grounds for detention. The short prison terms mean that AI groups are working for only 15 cases, a figure which in no way reflects the scope of political detention under the DPR.

Following President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's dismissal of the opposition government in Baluchistan in February 1973 on alleged grounds of inefficiency and secessionist activities, political tensions increased in the province. In August 1973, opposition leaders were arrested on various charges. On 14 April 1974, President Bhutto announced an amnesty for political prisoners in Baluchistan. In a letter of 23 April 1974, Secretary General Martin Ennals welcomed this, but pointed out that some of these prisoners, including 15 members of the former provincial government, all AI cases, were still awaiting trial on criminal charges. He submitted that these prisoners should either be tried immediately or released under the amnesty.

After a number of specific allegations had appeared in the Pakistani press that torture had occurred during police interrogation, AI received in March 1974 medical and legal affidavits indicating that torture had been administered in the case of Lal Bux Rind. In his letter of 18 March, Martin Ennals asked Prime Minister Bhutto—his title was changed in August 1973 from President to Prime Minister—to investigate these serious allegations imme-

diately and, if they proved correct, take all possible steps to insure that similar excesses would not occur in future.

Philippines

Shortage of staff has prevented research and new adoptions during much of the year. Nineteen releases took place, and as a result, Amnesty International groups are now working for only 12 cases, a figure which bears little relation to the government's continuing use of martial law to arrest political opponents.

In June, the cases of Benigno Aquino and Jose Diokno were taken up. Both are senators. Aquino is Secretary General of the Liberal Party and Diokno was formerly chief legal counsel to the ruling Nacionalista Party. Arrested initially in September 1972, both have been denied adequate legal process and held incommunicado for most of their detention period. AI has made preliminary arrangements to send an Australian lawyer to observe any effective legal proceedings which may be brought against Mr Aquino.

Singapore

There are probably less than 40 political prisoners in Singapore at present. All are held under the Internal Security Act. A likely figure would seem to be between 25 and 35 detainees. Since January 1973 six batches of prisoners have been released, the latest releases being of two groups of seven in December 1973 and January 1974. Among those released have been several prisoners adopted by Amnesty International. These include Dr Poh Soo Kai (arrested 1963), Goh Cheng Meng (a trade unionist arrested in 1963), and a number of students arrested in 1963-64. It is encouraging to note that the practice of televised confession seems to have been abandoned, and many of the detainees have even refused to sign the restriction orders normally imposed on released political prisoners.

However, four prominent, long-term detainees, including Dr Lim Hock Siew and Said Zahari, have not been released. Lee Eu Seng, Managing Editor of the

Nanyang Siang Pau, is still in detention, although his brother, Lee Mau Seng, was freed in October 1973 and has emigrated to Canada. Given the present trend, it is hoped that some, if not all, of these detainees may be released before long. AI groups were asked to write to the Singapore authorities welcoming the releases and appealing for a review of the cases of those still in detention.

Other than the prisoners named above, who, with three others, have been adoptees for some time, AI has re-adopted four detainees and has taken up a further 13 cases on an adoption or investigation basis. The Singapore Government has made no response to approaches from AI.

Sri Lanka

The majority of the 14,000 young people detained in 1971 after the insurgency organized by the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) left-wing youth movement have now been released on parole. Some 1,400 young men and 20 girls are out on two-year suspended sentences for acts of minor involvement with the uprising. Some 100 prisoners, thought to be leaders of the JVP movement, have been jailed with terms ranging from two to eight years' imprisonment, whereas the trial of 41 people before the Criminal Justice Commission in Colombo is still continuing. In a recent interview with a representative of the League for the Rights of Man, Sri Lanka's Ambassador to the United Nations admitted that 6,000 prisoners were still kept in detention without formally being charged. Arrests of JVP "suspects" for alleged subversive activities—in fact, for holding political instruction classes similar to those held before the April 1971 insurrection—still continue to be made.

Amnesty International has so far taken up only the cases of eight Tamils, arrested in early 1973 for demanding a greater autonomy for the Tamil minority. There appears to be no evidence to support criminal charges in these cases, and AI has received reliable reports stating that the prisoners are not allowed to see their lawyers. One of them, the poet Kasianadan, is being held in solitary confinement,

and in three out of the eight other cases, allegations of torture have been made, which AI, so far, has not been able to confirm.

Taiwan

Investigations have continued into cases in Taiwan. Amnesty International now has detailed information about a number of political prisoners tried and sentenced in the late 1960s and early 1970s. As a result, more than 30 new case sheets were issued, while many others were substantially revised. With the cooperation of the German co-ordination group on Taiwan, close liaison was established among several sets of AI groups working on related cases. New guidelines for group work were drawn up by the International Secretariat, and research on Taiwan is being done by AI members in Japan. This has strengthened group work in spite of the continuing difficulties resulting from Taiwan's growing diplomatic isolation.

In October 1973, AI appealed to Taiwan's President Chiang Kai-shek to mark the 62nd anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Republic by releasing a number of well-known Taiwanese writers and journalists imprisoned for upwards of 10 years on a variety of charges, generally related to their opposition to the Nationalist regime. The appeal, issued jointly by the secretariat in London and AI's German Section, was accompanied by a petition signed by over 250 journalists. The writers and journalists in prison include the popular satirists Lee Ao and Po Yang and newspaper editor Li Ching-sun.

Also in October, Jack Hasegawa, an American who is Director of the Kyoto Center of Friends World College, went from Japan to Taiwan on an AI mission sponsored by the German co-ordination group to investigate reports that the well-known Taiwanese independence leader Hsieh Ts'ung-min was about to be granted an appeal hearing. Mr Hsieh was sentenced to 15 years in 1972 on treason charges. Prior to Mr Hasegawa's mission, AI had received unconfirmed reports that Mr Hsieh had suffered ill-treatment since his convic-

tion and was in very poor health. Mr Hasegawa was unable to establish details about the reported appeal, but pressed inquiries about Mr. Hsieh and discussed AI's work with government officials in Taipei.

No precise figures exist for the total number of political prisoners detained in Taiwan. Estimates usually are about 2,000. AI groups are working on 14 adoption cases and 80 investigation cases.

Vietnam

In January 1974, Amnesty International criticized the Republic of Vietnam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) for their failure, in the year since the January 1973 Paris Peace Agreement, to secure the release of the tens of thousands of civilians detained for political reasons in South Vietnam. Letters written to both parties urged them to release the prisoners. Letters were also sent to the US Secretary of State, Dr Henry Kissinger, and North Vietnam's chief negotiator, Le Duc Tho, urging them to resolve the prisoner issue. Mr Tho was also asked to give more information about several AI-adopted political prisoners in North Vietnam.

Between July 1973 and March 1974 Saigon repatriated to the PRG at Loc Ninh a number of students, scholars and intellectuals. AI intervened on behalf of these people who were repatriated against their declared wishes. The Secretary General wrote to Saigon, the PRG, North Vietnam, the US Secretary of State, the UN Secretary General and to the members of the International Commission for Control and Supervision (ICCS) urging them to work for the immediate and unconditional release of these people. Among those forcibly repatriated were Nguyen Long, a distinguished lawyer and AI's adopted prisoner since 1972; Vo Nhu Lanh, President of the Provisional Union of Students of South Vietnam; and Professor Tran Huu Khue, a teacher and an active member of the Movement for People's Self-Determination. AI also expressed concern about the present whereabouts of the student leader Huyn Tan Mam who was arrested in 1970

and accused of being a communist agent. Mr Mam had been promised by the Republic of Vietnam, in front of the members of the ICCS and the bi-partite Military Commission at Loc Ninh, that he would be freed unconditionally in Saigon. AI has reason to believe that Mr Mam was re-arrested and is now detained somewhere in Saigon.

Madame Ngo Ba Thanh, the AI-adopted lawyer and pacifist who was the subject of a worldwide campaign for her release, was freed in September 1973. One of South Vietnam's best-known political prisoners, she spent two years in prison without trial, the last five months in solitary confinement in the prison hospital in Saigon. She had started a hunger strike in April when she vowed to take only liquids until she was freed.

For the first time in South Vietnam AI is investigating the cases of a number of prominent trade unionists who were detained in April 1973 and sentenced in September for "rebellious against the state power and collaboration with the country's enemies".

The figure of 100,000 political detainees quoted in AI's 1973 report *Political Prisoners in South Vietnam* provoked an adverse reaction from the Saigon Government. It claimed that there were only 5,081 civilians detained prior to the prisoner exchanges which took place earlier in the year. Many other committees have estimated the number to be 200,000 and upwards, particularly in view of the fact that arrests are still taking place. AI has 157 cases under adoption and investigation. AI is also concerned about Saigon's continuing practice of reclassifying political prisoners as common criminals.

AI continued to work for seven adopted prisoners in North Vietnam. The Secretary General wrote to the Saigon Government and to the Archbishop of Saigon in August seeking further information about 17 nuns and a priest alleged by Saigon to have been abducted and held in PRG-controlled territory. We are also trying to get more information about the 67,000 civilians whom the Saigon authorities allege have been abducted from the South, but we are still not clear whether they think these

people have been abducted into North Vietnam or into territory controlled by the PRG. The Saigon authorities have been unhelpful in providing further information

on this matter. At the moment 10 cases are being investigated in PRG-controlled territory.

Europe

An area which has long appeared "stable" compared with more volatile parts of the world, as far as patterns of political imprisonment and treatment of prisoners are concerned, has been shaken this year by far-reaching events in Portugal, while encouraging developments in other countries have proved to be regrettably short-lived. The August 1973 amnesty in Greece was followed by new waves of arrests, beginning in November, and the re-opening of the Yaros island prison camp. The long-awaited amnesty bill in Turkey finally emerged from the Turkish Parliament stripped of the clauses which would have included political prisoners in the measure.* The release of 65 detainees at Christmas in Northern Ireland has not been repeated since, and at least six of the 65 have now been re-detained. Spain and the Soviet Union continue to provide the highest number of adoption cases—approximately 400 and 350 respectively—in any of the countries of the world on which Amnesty International works. While the number of prisoners of conscience is declining in Poland and Hungary, the attitude towards basic human rights of governments in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania and Albania shows very little change, if any.

As the result of the growing numbers of conscientious objectors in countries such as Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, France and Italy, and of the fact that many of them are sentenced to terms of imprisonment too short for their adoption by AI groups to be practicable, the Research Department has started work on a study of conscientious objection in Europe. The report, which will focus largely on individual cases, is planned for publication early in 1975.

On the 25th anniversary of the founding of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in April 1974, AI asked its national sections in NATO member states to bring to public attention the violations of human rights in some countries which

*In July the Constitutional Court included them.

are members of the alliance. A news release also was issued.

Albania

Albania remains the least accessible country in Europe to Amnesty International's inquiries on prisoners of conscience. There is a strong belief, however, that Albania continues to have the highest number of political prisoners, in proportion to the entire population, among all European countries. AI was recently informed about prison conditions in the camp at Ballsh in Albania, where about 1,000 political prisoners, including Greeks and Yugoslavs, are held. As yet, no prisoners are adopted.

Bulgaria

Amnesty International has recently received more information on prisoners of conscience in Bulgaria, among whom are about half a dozen political dissenters. However, it is still difficult to obtain essential background material on persecuted members of the Turkish community, the largest minority in Bulgaria.

The Makarov-Lvov-Beliakovsky show-trial, which took place in mid-February 1974, highlighted the position of political dissenters in Bulgaria. Catherine Lvov, a French subject of Russian origin, was arrested in Sofia in September 1973, together with two old pensioners, Vladimir Makarov and Theodosi Bellakovsky, also of Russian descent. All three were accused of disseminating "subversive foreign literature" (mainly works by the Soviet author Alexander Solzhenitsyn). Their sentences ranged from three to five years and fines from 500 to 1,000 leva. Four weeks after the trial, however, Catherine Lvov was pardoned by Todor Zhivkov, the Bulgarian Communist Party leader, following a French diplomatic intervention, and she subsequently left the country. AI has adopted Mr Makarov and Mr Bellakovsky.

Czechoslovakia

As in the case of other East European countries, Amnesty International's work in Czechoslovakia has suffered from the difficulty of obtaining information on the detention of lesser-known prisoners of conscience. Out of an estimated total of 200 to 300 political prisoners, AI now has 14 adoption cases.

Just before Christmas 1973, 12 political prisoners, all AI adoptions, were unexpectedly released ahead of the expiry of their sentences as a reward for good conduct in prison. In February and March 1974, Secretary General Martin Ennals appealed to the Czechoslovak authorities for clemency on behalf of five prisoners who were prominent during the Dubcek era, and protested against the deterioration in their prison conditions. One of the prisoners, Vladimir Skutina, was freed 26 April 1974, according to a news agency report from Prague.

AI groups continued to provide generous relief to their adopted prisoners. Of late, however, it has become apparent that assistance should not cease with release from prison but is still needed during the rehabilitation period.

France and Italy

Adoptions of conscientious objectors have increased in France (six cases to date) and Italy (four taken up during the year, one of whom has now been released). The figures are lower than might be expected, given the restrictive nature of the legislation recognizing conscientious objection in both countries and the relatively severe maximum sentences provided for those whose applications for exemption from military service are rejected (two years in France, four years in Italy). A considerable proportion of objectors tried in France, however, receive sentences of several months—too low to make adoption by an AI group practicable—or suspended sentences. Detailed information on additional specific cases has proved rather difficult to obtain in Italy.

Federal Republic of Germany

During the year, Amnesty International received allegations of torture of prisoners in the Federal Republic of Germany. It was claimed that certain remand prisoners, some of whom had been in jail for over 18 months without trial, were being held in solitary confinement under conditions that could be described as causing sensory deprivation. Before deciding on whether or not to send a mission of investigation AI's International Executive Committee (IEC) authorized preliminary discussions with the Federal Attorney General of West Germany. These discussions took place on 17 January 1974, AI being represented by Dr Einar Kringlen, a psychiatrist from the University of Oslo, and Nigel S. Rodley, AI's Legal Officer. The report of the representatives was considered at the February meeting of the IEC which reiterated its opposition to long periods of solitary confinement and to conditions that might lead to sensory deprivation. The Secretariat is continuing its investigation into the subject.

In May 1974, the Secretary General of AI wrote to the Attorney General expressing concern that two prisoners, Monika Berberich and Brigitte Asdonk, had been detained continuously for 3½ years before and during trial. The letter asked how their long pre-trial detention could be reconciled with the principle of presumed innocence and with the guarantee of trial within a reasonable time.

Three conscientious objectors were adopted by AI groups during the year, one of whom has now been released.

German Democratic Republic

The majority of prisoners adopted by Amnesty International are people who have been arrested and tried for attempts to leave the country. The *Grundvertrag* (basic treaty on the relations between the two German States) which was ratified in June 1973, is designed to improve relations between East and West Germany, to facilitate travel between the two countries and also to step up the family reunion program (*Familienzusammenführung*). According to unofficial reports, 6,450 East Germans fled

to the West in 1973, an increase of 16% over 1972, and an indication that hopes for easier emigration from the GDR have not been realized. Many West German citizens who have helped East Germans to escape have been arrested over the last year and sentenced to prison terms ranging from six to 13 years. These prisoners, however, cannot be adopted by AI because most of them were employed by professional escape organizations which receive large sums of money for their services. There continue to be arrests under GDR Penal Code paragraph 106 (incitement of hostility towards the State). People arrested on this charge appear to have done nothing more than criticize the GDR Government or its institutions. The GDR is now a member of the United Nations and in November 1973 it ratified the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 12 of which guarantees freedom of movement.

AI groups are now working for 30 adoption cases and 15 investigation cases.

Greece

In June 1973 Amnesty International appealed to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization meeting of defence ministers to take any steps possible to prevent the continuation of torture which reliable sources alleged was being inflicted on a group of naval officers accused of involvement in a mutiny. The officers concerned were among approximately 300 political prisoners released in an amnesty in August 1973. In a letter to President George Papadopoulos Secretary General Martin Ennals welcomed the amnesty, but pressed for the release of a small group of prisoners who had not been included. Among these were several of AI's adopted prisoners, including Grigoris Farakos, Argyris Argyrion and Vasillios Stavrakoglou—men who have now spent most of their lives in prison because of their political views. Eleni Voulgari, the only woman still detained for political reasons despite the amnesty, was subsequently released.

In November 1973 the arrest of 17 people during a clash with police after a memorial service for former Premier

George Papandreou, provoked protest demonstrations in Athens. This was followed by the occupation of the Athens Polytechnic by students. Many people were killed and injured and hundreds of arrests took place. Martial law was declared throughout the country and President Papadopoulos was deposed. In December 1973 the prison camp on the Island of Yaros was re-opened. AI protested to the new President Phaedon Gizikis about the re-opening of Yaros and appealed to him to allow those detained on Yaros to return to their families.

In April 1974 a letter to AI from a former political prisoner, Professor George Mangakis, describing the situation in Greece and asking "once more for your support", was given the widest publicity and the Secretary General replied that "Amnesty International will do everything possible to alleviate the suffering of those people imprisoned in Greece because of their political beliefs and to press for their release". In April 1974 the Secretary General wrote again to the Greek President, this time to express AI's concern at the increasing number of reports of people disappearing in Greece after arrest by the security forces.

By May 1974 a large number of reports of deliberate and systematic torture had reached the International Secretariat in London, together with the names of alleged torturers. In a letter to President Gizikis Mr Ennals insisted that the torturing "of these people and of all prisoners in Greece be stopped immediately" and asked that five named torturers should be relieved of their duties pending official investigation.

It is estimated that there are at present at least 300 to 350 political prisoners in Greece. AI groups are currently working on more than 100 cases.

Hungary

The recent re-shuffle in the party leadership, which took place in March 1974, indicated that Hungary might be moving towards a more rigid system with less tolerance of political dissent and criticism. This development had been demonstrated earlier by the trial of the well-known left-

wing writer Miklos Haraszti at the end of 1973. For his bold criticism of the conditions of Hungarian workers in socialist enterprises, Mr Haraszti received a suspended sentence of eight months' imprisonment. The charges against him proved untenable, and the court's relative leniency was also due to the fact that he was supported during the trial by prominent Hungarian intellectuals.

Two catholic priests adopted by AI, Fathers Sandor Somogyi and Lajos Tury, who had been sentenced to three and four years' imprisonment in May 1971, were both reported free earlier this year. The release of the third imprisoned priest, Father Frigyes Hagemann, also an AI case, has not been confirmed yet. At present AI is looking into several more cases of dissident intellectuals in Hungary. Groups are working for two adoption cases and one investigation case.

The Netherlands

Amnesty International sent a telegram to the Minister of Justice of the Netherlands in April 1974, expressing concern about the 21-month sentence passed on a conscientious objector, Kees Vellekoop, and urging that military service legislation be changed to admit objection on political grounds.

Norway

Secretary General Martin Ennals wrote to Prime Minister Lars Korvald in July 1973, urging the Norwegian government to introduce proposals which would recognize the right of selective conscientious objectors to exemption from military service. Under existing legislation, young men who refuse to perform military service because of Norwegian membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), for example, are liable to an initial term of imprisonment of 120 days and to a minimum of one year if they are called up and refuse a second time. AI received no reply to Mr Ennals' letter, and another letter on the subject was sent to Prime Minister

Korvald's successor, Trygve Bratteli, in November 1973. At the time of writing, this letter, too, is unanswered.

Poland

Pursuing a liberal economic policy under the leadership of Edward Gierek, Poland apparently continues to have the lowest number of prisoners of conscience in Eastern Europe, although there are reports of Polish citizens of German origin being persecuted by the authorities for wanting to emigrate to West Germany. At the end of April 1974 Jerzy Bartosiewicz, the only conscientious objector under adoption in Poland, was released. A Jehovah's Witness, he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in 1973 for his refusal to bear arms.

The relationship between the State and the Roman Catholic Church in Poland remains very tense. Father Piotr Zabieliski, who was detained in a psychiatric asylum in January 1974 because he celebrated mass at his home and had an argument with police afterwards, is reported free now.

Portugal

In May 1974, shortly after the military coup which overthrew the government of Prime Minister Marcelo Caetano, the International Executive Committee of Amnesty International sent a delegate to Portugal with a brief to establish contact with those collecting information on former prisoners and to assess the need for help in the prisoners' after-care. The delegate also made contact with those collecting information on interrogation procedures, torture and prison conditions. She conveyed to them the international implications of this material for AI's Campaign for the Abolition of Torture. It is a unique experience to be able to confirm that all political prisoners of the Caetano regime in metropolitan Portugal and probably the majority of all political prisoners in the overseas territories have been released. This was one of the first steps taken by the ruling junta after it took power on 25 April 1974.

In June 1973 AI began receiving word from the overseas territories of reports compiled by Spanish missionaries of what became known as the Wiriyamu massacre. Accounts of murder and pillage of the civilian population in the three villages of Chawola, Wiriyamu and Juwai were followed by details of alleged massacres in Nhacambo and Inhaminga, all townships in Mozambique. AI received the reports as a direct result of personal contacts established by the researcher during the year in Rome, Madrid, Geneva and the Netherlands with missionaries and others who had spent long years in Mozambique and Angola. From these contacts and from the two Spanish missionaries who had spent 23 months in prison in Mozambique and were adopted by AI as prisoners of conscience, AI learned much about political prisoners, prisons, prison conditions, interrogation and torture. In May 1974, the International Secretariat gave evidence at a hearing of a special committee of the United Nations set up to inquire into all the allegations of massacres in Mozambique.

Adoption of prisoners of conscience continued throughout the year and included some prisoners in jail in Angola and Mozambique. However, it became evident in the course of AI's work that the problem of prisoners of conscience in the Portuguese overseas territories was beyond the scope of group adoption, and for this reason it was proposed to compile information for a possible AI publication. AI also pressed for a dialogue with the appropriate government ministers in Lisbon. AI's aim was to be allowed to discuss the abuses of human rights both in Portugal and its overseas territories. The lack of response from those in power forced us to conclude that such a dialogue was not possible at that time. However, the April 1974 coup provided an unforeseen solution.

Individual AI national sections made public their support of prisoners of conscience in Portugal and the overseas territories. The British Section voiced their protest and concern with a letter to Dr Caetano and a demonstration at the Portuguese Embassy during Dr Caetano's

visit to London in July 1973. The Swiss Section did likewise at the Lausanne Comptoire, where Portugal was one of the chief exhibitors. In November 1973 the German Section sent an observer to the trial of a Roman Catholic priest whom a German group had adopted. The Swedish Section raised very substantial funds for the relief of prisoners' families.

Romania

Information on prisoners of conscience in Romania is generally difficult to obtain. Amnesty International has been investigating the case of George Gillig, a Romanian citizen of German origin, who was imprisoned after attempting to leave the country illegally. There are additional similar cases in Romania which AI might take up in future if adequate information is forthcoming.

On 3 April 1974, the leader of the Romanian Communist Party, Nicolae Ceausescu, signed two amnesty decrees in his new capacity as President of the Republic. Neither, however, applies to prisoners of conscience, who, in Romania, all belong to the category of those who "violate state security".

Spain

Amnesty International's report, *Political Imprisonment in Spain* was published in English and Spanish in August 1973. A copy of the report was sent to the Spanish Minister of Justice before publication, but no formal response has ever been received—apart from a brief statement by a high-ranking police official to reporters in Madrid. He suggested that references to the ill-treatment of political prisoners in police stations as a widespread practice were inspired by the Communist Party of Spain "to make propaganda against the government".

On a number of occasions throughout the year, however, AI has approached the Spanish authorities in response to hunger strikes and harsh measures taken against prisoners in several different prisons. Nineteen political prisoners in Soria prison went on hunger strike in June 1973 after



"If they've got plenty of sunshine, a low rate of income tax, cheap booze and no tiresome regulations, then why do they need a repressive regime?"

Cartoon by Hector Breeze in the *Evening Standard*, London. Reproduced by kind permission of London Express Service

seven of them had been sent to isolation cells and three had been beaten by prison guards. Secretary General Martin Ennals wrote to the Minister of Justice appealing that all practices in violation of the United Nations' Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners be stopped and that the specific complaints of the Soria prisoners (restrictions on their communications with their families and lawyers, censorship of reading material, arbitrary punishments meted out by the prison director) be looked into immediately. On 6 November 1973, six of the seven priests held in Zamora prison (reserved for priests only) began a hunger strike to support their demands to be transferred to prisons where they could be together with other political prisoners. A telegram signed by 11 delegates to the Paris Conference for the Abolition of Torture was sent on 11 December, expressing concern for the priests' health and asking that they be moved from Zamora as they wished. The strike lasted, with a short interruption, for more than a month, but the priests remained in Zamora and were punished for their action with 120 days in solitary

confinement. In February 1974, political prisoners in both the Pontevedra and Santander provincial prisons went on hunger strike to protest against deteriorating conditions there, and Martin Ennals cabled the Director General of Penal Institutions urging that an investigation be made into the events that touched off the hunger strikes.

One of the priests involved in the Zamora prison hunger strike in November 1973 was tried in Madrid a month later, together with nine others, all accused of being members of the National Co-ordinating Committee of the Workers' Commissions, a clandestine trade union organization. Some 25 foreign observers, among them an AI representative, attended the trial, which opened on the same day that a bomb killed Prime Minister Luis Carrero Blanco. In the resultant highly tense atmosphere, the 10 defendants were given sentences ranging from 12 to 20 years' imprisonment.

Admiral Carrero Blanco was succeeded in office early in January 1974 by a former police chief and mayor of Madrid, Carlos Arias Navarro, whose first speech to the nation promised more liberal policies and wider participation of Spaniards in the political life of their country. At about the same time, however, a military court passed the death sentence on a young anarchist accused of killing a policeman. The sentence was approved by the Council of Ministers and carried out on 2 March—in spite of urgent appeals by organizations (AI was one) and individuals around the world: the first execution of a political prisoner in Spain since 1963. Prime Minister Arias' government has further been characterized by mass arrests of members of clandestine political organizations—350 in the first three months of 1974, according to police sources—and, if anything, a rise in the number of heavy fines imposed by the police on individuals for alleged infractions of the Public Order Law. The penalty for non-payment of the fines is several months in prison without trial, an administrative measure being used increasingly against local priests who speak out in their sermons in defence of human rights.

In December 1973, the Cortes (parliament) approved an amendment to the Code of Military Justice regulating the refusal to perform military service, which is compulsory in Spain. Martin Ennals wrote to the Minister of Justice, welcoming the end of the system of recurring sentences for more than 300 conscientious objectors (most of them Jehovah's Witnesses) then in prison but pointing out that the new legislation still left much to be desired. The law makes no provision for an alternative civilian service and lays down sentences of from three to eight years for those who refuse to bear arms on any grounds, as well as loss of political rights for life and a prohibition to take up posts in local and state institutions, including schools. With some exceptions, the prisoners who had served three years or more in prison by the time the law came into effect have now been released (to date, approximately 50 AI adoptions), but Jehovah's Witnesses whose cases have been heard since December have received four- and five-year sentences—although it was hoped that these conscientious objectors for strictly religious reasons would be given the minimum three years' imprisonment.

The scope of group work for adopted prisoners in Spain, the total of which remains steady at around 400 (with fairly regular releases of prisoners as they finish their sentences), is broad and varied, and both groups and the International Secretariat have benefited from the assistance of the co-ordination groups that are now active in the German, Swedish, Dutch, British and Austrian National Sections. It is estimated that the total number of persons tried by the Public Order Court in 1973 reached 8,000; of these, approximately 600 are actually in prison at any one time.

Switzerland

On 18 June 1973, six civilians and four soldiers were tried before a military tribunal at Yverdon, Switzerland, on charges of incitement to breach of military discipline. The case was drawn to Amnesty International's attention because of the

unusualness of trying civilians before a military tribunal and because the charges concerned the distribution of leaflets claiming certain rights for recruits, including the right of soldiers to freedom of speech and to organize. Nigel S. Rodley, AI's Legal Officer, attended the trial as an official observer. All the accused were acquitted. On 22 November, the Military Appeal Tribunal heard an appeal by the prosecution *in camera*, without even the presence of defence council. (Written submissions had been made.) The appellate tribunal reversed the earlier decision, convicting nine of the defendants, all of whom were given short sentences suspended for two years. On 31 December, Martin Ennals sent a letter to the President of the Swiss Confederation expressing "dismay" at the decision and urging that a pardon be granted the accused. The letter also urged the President "most seriously to reconsider the compatibility with fundamental human rights of a law which permits civilians to be tried by the military authorities and which renders illegal acts which would seem to be protected by the Swiss Constitution".

A second Swiss conscientious objector was adopted by AI: Rudolf Eppler, sentenced to six months' imprisonment in December 1973.

Turkey

During the year Amnesty International continued to press for an independent inquiry into allegations of torture in Turkey. In particular, every opportunity was taken to enlist the support of the Council of Europe and the European Economic Community. In connection with a meeting in Turkey of foreign ministers from member countries of the EEC to discuss issues concerning Turkey's relationship with the community, Secretary General Martin Ennals wrote to Sir Christopher Soames: "We do not question the right of the authorities to take reasonable steps to prevent the continuation of these acts [of violence]." But he went on to say that "we do oppose torture as such, and are extremely disturbed at the incidence of torture in Turkey since the

imposition of martial law in April 1971."

In July 1973 Sean MacBride, Chairman of AI's International Executive Committee, once again appealed to the Turkish authorities to commute death sentences and to abolish the death penalty in Turkey. He argued that the death penalty is "a primitive, cruel and inhuman punishment, beneath the dignity of a modern state".

In August 1973, in preparation for the forthcoming elections in October and the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Turkish Republic, AI national sections and groups were asked to initiate campaigns for the amnesty of political prisoners in Turkey.

Although AI welcomed the announcement in December 1973 that an official investigation into allegations of torture was to take place, the investigation was in fact carried out by officials of bodies which were themselves implicated in allegations. For this reason and because of the overwhelming evidence supporting the allegations, AI rejected the findings of the inquiry, which were that the torture allegations were false. AI stressed the need for "completely independent inquiries into situations such as these".

In a telegram addressed to Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit on 15 May 1974, the Secretary General expressed his great disappointment that political prisoners were not to be included in the amnesty for prisoners which had been much delayed by differences of opinion within the Turkish Parliament about its terms. In July, the Constitutional Court ruled that political prisoners would be included in the amnesty.

Some 4,000 people have reportedly been sentenced to terms of imprisonment on political charges since March 1971, but owing to the nature of the Turkish legal system many of these are not in fact in prison.

AI groups are working on a total of 85 adoption and investigation cases in Turkey.

United Kingdom

Michael Tobin, Amnesty International's only adopted prisoner in England this year, was released in August 1973, having

served one year and four months' of the maximum two-year sentence given him under the 1934 Incitement to Disaffection Act. Not long after his release, Pat Arrowsmith, a pacifist and member of AI's International Secretariat staff, was arrested at an army base in Warminster as she distributed a leaflet describing how British soldiers who did not want to serve in Northern Ireland could receive help in leaving the armed forces. She was first charged under the Public Order Act, but later the Director of Public Prosecutions decided to bring two charges against her under the Incitement to Disaffection Act. The trial was held in London in May 1974. It was attended by an American lawyer as a foreign observer briefed by AI, and ended with Pat Arrowsmith receiving an 18-month sentence. Her case will be taken up at a group level by AI for the second time. (She was previously adopted by a Swedish group while serving a six-month sentence which she received in 1968. She was then found guilty of obstruction, for sitting on the pavement outside a British firm which supplied United States armed forces with technical equipment in Vietnam.)

Earlier, AI had written to the Attorney General referring to the case of both Michael Tobin and Pat Arrowsmith and pressing for a repeal of the 1934 Act, because it represents a restriction on the freedom of speech and dissemination of ideas.

AI groups have continued to work for individual prisoners in Northern Ireland. There are now 20 of these taken up as investigation cases and one adoption case, all detained without trial, out of a total of approximately 650 detainees. AI has also urged that proper medical care be given to a number of other prisoners whose poor health has been brought to our attention. Detention without trial has been the object of AI concern in a variety of countries around the world, and Northern Ireland is no exception. Another particularly disturbing aspect of the very complex situation there is the fact that persons tried and acquitted by the ordinary courts have been re-arrested by the police on leaving the courtrooms and detained on

order of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. In February 1974, AI's International Executive Committee asked Professor Alfred Heijder of Amsterdam University's Law Faculty to undertake a study of the Emergency Provisions Act (1973), under which those suspected of terrorist activities can be detained indefinitely or tried by special no-jury courts. It is expected that the act will be renewed by Parliament when it expires in July 1974, and AI hopes that Professor Heijder's mission will take place soon after.

USSR

The internment of dissenters in mental hospitals in the Soviet Union has continued to be a major concern, particularly in connection with the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture. In March 1974 a special campaign was initiated on behalf of Leonid Plyushch, a Ukrainian mathematician, and Pyotr Grigorievich Grigorenko, who has now spent 4½ years in mental hospitals. The fifth anniversary of General Grigorenko's arrest fell on 7 May 1974 and an international campaign was launched on his behalf by Pavel Litvinov, a recent emigrant and former adopted prisoner, in which national sections and groups were asked to participate.

The mother of Vladimir Bukovsky, the young dissenter who was sentenced to 12 years for sending out to the West information about the abuse of psychiatry in the USSR, appealed to Amnesty International in February 1974 on behalf of her seriously-ill son, asking that an international commission be set up to investigate conditions in the Perm region labour camps 35 and 36. In March the Secretary General sent telegrams to the legal and camp authorities asking that Mr Bukovsky's sentence be reviewed and commuted on humanitarian grounds.

In April 1974, Vladimir Bukovsky and 50 fellow prisoners in the two Perm camps went on hunger strike, demanding an improvement in conditions, including better supply of food, a change in the starvation diet of those in punishment cells and the transfer of Mr Bukovsky to hospital. The

Secretary General cabled Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev and authorities in the procuracy and camp administration urging that Mr Bukovsky, who is suffering from rheumatism, a heart defect and liver ailment, be transferred to hospital for proper medical treatment. The appeal pointed out that the denial of food and adequate medical care was contrary to humanitarian principles and in violation of both the Soviet Union's own penal legislation and the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

In January 1974 AI appealed to the Prosecutor General of the USSR, R. A. Rudenko, on behalf of Silva Zalmanson. The appeal was made on humanitarian grounds because of the deteriorating health of Miss Zalmanson, who is serving a 10-year sentence for her involvement in the "hijacking affair" of 1970 (and is therefore not eligible for adoption).

Following the expulsion of writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn in February 1974 a statement was issued by AI's International Executive Committee (IEC) pointing out that the Soviet Government was violating articles of the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which it ratified in October 1973, by its action against Mr Solzhenitsyn and by its policy of detaining those who work for political and religious freedom.

There have been increasing reports of the carrying out of death sentences and the International Secretariat has sent several telegrams to the Soviet authorities about these. In January 1974 the Chairman of the IEC, Sean MacBride, wrote to Mr Brezhnev expressing concern at this continuing practice and recalling the recommendation in favour of the abolition of the death penalty passed by the Commission on Social Progress and Human Rights at the World Peace Congress in Moscow in October 1973. No reply has been received to date.

Exploratory talks between officials of the Association of Soviet Lawyers on one hand, and Sean MacBride and members of the IEC and International Secretariat on the other, took place in Moscow during the World Peace Congress. The talks were

continued in Paris in December 1973 and in Geneva in March 1974. A list of adopted prisoners in the USSR was handed to the Soviet representatives for comment and a reply is now awaited.

There is growing interest in the USSR in human rights and democratic freedoms throughout the world. Four members of a human rights committee in Moscow called "Group 73", whose statute is closely based on that of Amnesty International, sent greetings to the International Council in Vienna in September 1973, saying that they were "astonished and could not at first grasp the fact that it is possible to speak to total strangers about words like conscience, dignity and conviction, even though they live in totally different conditions and other cultures. It is this above all that we prize in your example and your activity, insofar as we are in a position to judge it." The Secretary General sent a cable in response warmly thanking them for the message of good wishes.

The main focus of work on the Soviet Union remains group work for individual prisoners: there are just under 350 prisoners adopted, nearly half of whom are dissident Baptists. A national sections co-ordination meeting was held in London in April 1974 to discuss our work for Soviet prisoners and to make plans for future action. The meeting recommended that the secretariat prepare a report on conditions in the prisons and labour camps within the next six months with a view to launching a full-scale campaign on the findings of the report.

Yugoslavia

Yugoslavia remained very much the focus of Amnesty International's work on Eastern Europe throughout the year. After suppressing the Croatian nationalists in 1972, the machinery of the state moved

further against smaller groups of dissidents, mainly intellectuals, students, members of religious orders and of nationalist minorities. A whole series of small trials, closed to the public and the press, took place in Belgrade, Novi Sad, Pristina, Rijeka, Sarajevo, Sibenik, Skopje, Split, Subotica, Tuzla and Zadar.

As a special target for their campaign against "liberal deviationists", Communist Party functionaries in 1973 selected a neo-Marxist group of eight Belgrade university lecturers associated with the philosophical journal *Praxis*. But strong protests by the international intellectual community have apparently prevented the authorities from arresting the dissident eight so far. Famous writers like Milovan Djilas and Mihajlo Mihajlov are under constant surveillance and not allowed to publish or to travel abroad. AI supplied a list of imprisoned Yugoslav writers and intellectuals to the members of the PEN International Congress which met in mid-May 1974 at Lake Ochrid in Macedonia.

The Law on Amnesty in Yugoslavia, promulgated at the end of November 1973, had practically no effect on prisoners of conscience sentenced after 1 January 1971. The law applies only to a certain category of young people who were found guilty of association with "political criminals" and have since renounced their past involvement, or who have avoided military service by staying abroad.

The total number of adopted prisoners of conscience in Yugoslavia, including 10 recent releases, does not exceed 30 at the moment, but AI is currently investigating more than 20 cases. The most recently adopted case is that of Lazar Stojanovic, a young film director sentenced to three years' imprisonment in December 1973 for having made a critical film about the present political system of Yugoslavia. (The film was found intolerable by the party and state authorities.)

The Middle East

Special efforts were made this year to expand and develop Amnesty International's work in the Middle East. To this end AI's Middle East researcher undertook a mission to Lebanon and Egypt in March and April 1974. The mission's purpose was, firstly, to collect specific and general information about political imprisonment in the Middle East; and, secondly, to contact persons and organizations interested in human rights with a view to increasing AI membership and establishing national sections in the two countries.

Discussions about AI's aims and future activities in the area were held with journalists, lawyers, legal and human rights organizations, and with those connected with the newly-formed Arab Committee of Human Rights.

Bahrain

Amnesty International took up the cases of 20 workers and intellectuals, including two women—one of whom was pregnant—from among the 150 who had been arrested either in March 1972, following labour demonstrations against the government, or during March and April 1973, before campaigning for the National Assembly elections started. None were charged or tried, and many reports of ill-treatment were received. In December 1973 the newly formed parliament called for the immediate release of all political prisoners. By the beginning of 1974 all had been released, except for about eight persons convicted of sabotage and for Murad Abdul Wahab, an AI-adopted prisoner. He was arrested on 20 February 1973. Fellow prisoners, since released, say he was badly tortured during interrogation and had not been seen after 5 March 1973. They believe that he may have been transferred to a prison in Oman, despite his Bahraini citizenship.

Egypt

Amnesty International learnt of the release, in August 1973, of Sa'id Loutfi, a journalist who had been in prison since 1958, charged with disseminating anti-Nasser propaganda. Despite a presidential decree that guarantees re-employment for all released political prisoners, Sa'id Loutfi is facing serious difficulties in finding a suitable job.

AI was concerned with the large numbers of students and intellectuals arrested as a result of anti-Government demonstrations in January 1973. Of these, 102 from Cairo and Alexandria were charged with anti-state activities and appeared briefly before the State Security Court in September 1973. The trial was adjourned until October, then postponed indefinitely, and all remaining student detainees were released.

A significant trend in Egypt over the past year has been the unconstitutional application of the law on numerous occasions to arrest persons accused of attempting to form, or membership of, illegal left-wing and communist organizations. The Law of Sequestration and Security of June 1971, which was originally passed, though never applied, to protect the working class against the landowners has been given wider scope, empowering the newly-created—and constitutionally-appointed—Socialist General Prosecutor to order the "restricted residence" (in fact, usually detention in prison) of anyone considered, though not proved, a danger to security. A trial by a special (military) court within 60 days of the arrest confirms the order for detention and the prison sentence of one year, renewable every year for five years.

A group of five (a lawyer, a trade unionist, a chemist, a teacher and a writer) were arrested early in 1973 for attempting to reconstitute the banned Communist Party and were detained under the Law of Sequestration and Security. AI groups

worked for three whose names were known: Nabil El Hilali, Muhammad Ali Amer and Adib Dimitri. Early in 1974, AI sent a letter to President Anwar Sadat, followed by a cable and a press statement, urging their release. All were later released after a year in detention.

AI currently is investigating the cases of three groups of prisoners—31 persons in all—similarly charged with forming illegal organizations.

Allegations of torture and ill-treatment have been received, although not yet subjected to investigation by AI. One such allegation is that Nabil Subhi was given electric shock treatment at Abbasiyeh mental hospital to elicit information which subsequently led to the arrest of Nabil El Hilali and others. Israeli prisoners of war captured in October 1973 alleged that they were subjected to torture and routine ill-treatment, and student detainees, both men and women, said they were maltreated by prison guards.

A cable was sent to President Sadat on 13 June 1973 pressing for the commutation of death sentences passed on two Egyptians convicted of spying for Israel. AI has received no reports of the executions having been carried out.

Amnesties were granted in January and April 1974 to over 2,000 political (and criminal) prisoners. They included Moslem Brothers, anti-Nasserites, right-wingers and former government officials.

Iran

In 1973, for the first time, Amnesty International obtained information about Kurds imprisoned in Iran for political reasons, and AI groups are now working on 29 such cases.

Of particular concern during the past year, as in previous years, has been the extremely high number of executions in Iran. Frequent appeals have been made to the Shah to commute death sentences passed by military tribunals after trials whose procedures have been criticized by all independent lawyers who have observed them (*Trial Procedures in Iran*, Amnesty International Publications, August 1972). More than 200 people have been executed

as a result of these trials in the last two years. Although some of these were accused of smuggling drugs and others of political offences, the trial procedures must throw doubt on the validity of the judgements handed down by Iranian courts.

Reports of political prisoners being beaten and in other ways ill-treated at Adel Abbad prison in Shiraz and Qasar prison in Tehran were raised in a letter from the Secretary General to Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveida in September 1973. The letter also asked about the health of particular prisoners. There was no response to this letter, or to a subsequent one to the Iranian ambassador in London in which the Secretary General requested that an AI observer be admitted to the trial of 12 people which took place in Iran in January 1974. Two of the 12 were executed.

It is impossible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the number of political prisoners at present detained in Iran, but it is AI's impression that there are many thousands. As well as the 29 cases of Kurds mentioned above, AI groups are working on the cases of 74 other political prisoners in Iran.

Iraq

Amnesty International sent a letter to President Hassan Al Bakr on 10 July 1973 protesting against the execution by firing squad of 36 persons for their part in an unsuccessful coup attempt on 1 July. Among them was Nazzem Kazzar (the alleged leader of the plot) who, it was revealed later by the President at a news conference, was personally responsible as Chief of Security for the death by torture or execution of some 2,000 people, including innocent Jews and political personalities. This leads many people to believe that the 18 Iraqi Jews who disappeared between September 1972 and September 1973 are dead.

Since the coup attempt, there have been two encouraging developments: firstly, the universally dreaded prison in Baghdad called "Kasr Al Nihaya" (Palace of the End) has been demolished to make way for a public park. Secondly, according to

Iraqi Jews who have recently left the country, the situation of the remaining Jewish community has considerably improved. But there is still no news of two adopted Jewish prisoners, Akram Baher and Shua Soffer, imprisoned since 1968 and 1969 respectively, despite the very many letters AI groups have written on their behalf. The exact number of political prisoners at present detained in Iraq is not known, although it is believed to be several thousand.

Hostilities between the Kurds and the Iraqi Government flared up again in March 1974 when the proposal for Kurdish autonomy was rejected by Mulla Mustapha Barzani, the 76-year-old Kurdish leader. On 11 April 1974 eight Kurds were sentenced to death, and AI issued a news release urging clemency. But all were executed three days later. On 21 April in retaliation, the Kurds executed 19 Iraqi soldiers. Again, on 1 May, five young Kurds, including a girl, were summarily executed for planning acts of sabotage in Baghdad. Within the 24 hours between their arrest and execution, they had been tried by a revolutionary court and had made a public confession on television.

At the end of April 1974, Sir Osmond Williams, Acting Chairman of AI's British Section, visited Baghdad at the invitation of the Human Rights Society in Iraq. He was accompanied by Katrina Mortimer from the Research Department. This was, AI believes, the first visit by a humanitarian organization to Iraq for many years. It provided the opportunity to establish personal contact with the Human Rights Society, lawyers and government officials, and to explain to them the aims and methods of AI.

Israel

Several cases of alleged ill-treatment of Arabs and "disappearances" of Arabs in Israeli-occupied territory were raised with the Israeli authorities. In a letter to the Israeli ambassador in London on 11 February 1974, the Secretary General once again urged the Israeli government to "set up judicial machinery for the examination of complaints of ill-treatment by prisoners,

so that in cases such as those described below, the truth can be discovered and justice can be seen to be done".

The only case of a political prisoner in Israel being worked on by an AI group at the present time is that of Rami Livneh, an Israeli Jew who was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment in June 1973 for allegedly "having contact with an enemy agent and failing to report this to the proper authorities". Mr Livneh did not deny that he had met and talked with a member of AI Fatah, the Palestine national liberation movement, but he maintained that he disagreed with their methods and that there was no question of his cooperating with them in any way. He alleges that he "incriminated" himself because Shin Beth (the Israeli secret service) tortured his friend, Shawqi Khatib. The case was submitted to AI's Borderline Committee for their opinion as to whether Rami Livneh should be adopted. Their decision was unanimous that the case merited further investigation, especially because of serious doubts as to the validity of his confession, since the torture allegation had not been investigated satisfactorily.

Jordan

Amnesty International has no adopted prisoners in Jordan. Reports that several trade unionists had been imprisoned for protesting against rigged trade union elections were investigated, and it was discovered that all are now released.

Several amnesties have been granted over the past year and only 64 political prisoners remain, all of them Palestinian guerrillas.

Libya

The popular revolution launched in April 1973 was an opportunity for President Muammer Al Gaddafi to clear away political opponents, real or imaginary. Wide-scale arrests—exact numbers are unknown—included members of the professional middle class and supporters of the "progressive" Arab parties. Amnesty International took up the cases of four of these. On 8 December 1973 the Libyan

News Agency announced that 61 political prisoners had been released, including, it is believed, those who had been adopted. However, investigations show that there are still at least 100 political detainees. In a letter to President Gaddafi on 28 January 1974, AI requested that "all persons imprisoned for their political convictions should be released immediately".

An adopted prisoner, Giulio Hassan, a Jew of Italian extraction who was arrested in 1969, was released in January 1974, with the Libyan Government apologizing for its mistake. He is now in Italy with his family.

Oman

On 20 June 1973, after a trial by military court in virtual closed session, 10 members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman and the Arabian Gulf were summarily executed by firing squad for attempting to overthrow the government. Martin Ennals, Secretary General of AI, sent a letter to the Government of Oman on 27 June condemning the executions. In a reply received on 4 October the Minister of Interior and Justice stated that "each of those condemned was given a full and fair trial according to the laws of the land, wherein is enshrined the right to impose the death penalty on those who have proved traitorous in the interests of this country".

AI is currently investigating the cases of 51 others charged with complicity in the plot, whose conditions and treatment in prison are reportedly poor; as well as the cases of 48 Omanis arrested in Abu Dhabi and extradited to Oman.

Saudi Arabia

Hitherto information of political prisoners in Saudi Arabia has been slight, but detailed material recently received suggests that there is extensive political imprisonment. Exact numbers are unknown but reports say there are as many as 5,000 political prisoners and also gross violations of human rights. Islamic law is the sole legal system in the country, but there is no legislation to deal with alleged political

offenders. Political detainees, therefore, have no legal rights and are subject to no judicial procedures. Amnesty International has collected the names of 200 Saudi political prisoners, whose cases will be the subject of investigation during the coming year, as well as the names of 13 Saudis who have allegedly died as a result of torture since 1969.

Yemen Arab Republic

The most serious violation of human rights in North Yemen has been the large numbers of executions carried out over the past 12 months. About 50 people have been executed between May and December 1973. All were tried by a special, or military court, and were convicted of conducting sabotage with support of the government in South Yemen. Alarming reports were received in June that four saboteurs had been crucified in the main square in Sanaa. Representations were made to the North Yemeni Ambassador in London who assured Amnesty International that these reports were quite untrue, but that it was customary for the bodies to be publicly displayed after execution by firing squad. In December 1973 a further eight people were executed for the murder in May of Sheikh Muhammad Ali Uthman, a member of the Presidential Council. AI sent a letter of protest to President Abdul Rahman Al Iryani condemning these executions and requesting that future death penalties be commuted.

General information has been received about political prisons (although we have received no indication of numbers), prison conditions and torture, and this is being investigated.

People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

There appears to be no improvement in the situation in South Yemen as Amnesty International continues to receive reports of arrests, disappearances, summary executions, and the torture and murder of prisoners. Reports received indicate that over 200 persons have been unofficially

executed since December 1973. There is much conflicting information as to who has been killed or imprisoned, since families are unable to find out from official sources just what has happened to their relatives, or friends. On 2 January 1974 Sean MacBride, Chairman of AI's International Executive Committee, sent a memorandum to President Salem Rubia Ali, expressing grave concern at the continuing violation of human rights in the country, and enclosing a list of 93 persons representing only a few of those believed to be imprisoned, to have disappeared and to have been executed. The memorandum requested the government to "publish precise figures of all those imprisoned, together with the names of those held, the place of detention and the reason for their being imprisoned . . . and that all prisoners be treated in accordance with the United Nations' Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners". Until the time of writing there has been no reply from the Government of the People's Democratic Republic in Yemen to this memorandum.

Meanwhile, AI groups continue their work for 10 adopted prisoners.

A cable was sent on 17 July 1973 to the President urging clemency for six persons sentenced to death for subversion and conspiracy, but the sentences were carried out. Some of the 25 investigation cases AI has been working on since 1969 have been released.

Syria

New information has recently been received on political prisoners, and their cases will be taken up during the coming year. They include opponents of the previous government of Dr Nur Ed Din Atassi (exact numbers unknown), and of the present government of President Hafiz Assad (estimated at about 150). Many

are still untried, and of those who have been tried, some have completed their sentences without being released. AI group activity continues for 12 ministers of the previous regime, although no replies have been received from the government and no contact established with either the prisoners or their families.

AI has taken up the cases of eight Syrian Kurds who were arrested in August 1973 for addressing a memorandum to President Assad in protest against the deportation of 120,000 Kurds as part of the Arab Belt Plan. This is a government policy of evacuating Kurds from their lands in the extreme north of the country in order to create a purely "Arab" buffer between the Kurdish areas of Turkey, Iraq and Syria. None of them have been tried, visits have not been allowed, and there are fears that they are being maltreated in prison.

AI has adopted the case of Albert Elia, the Secretary of the Jewish Community Council in Lebanon. He was kidnapped in Beirut in September 1971, allegedly by Syrian agents because of his involvement in the illegal immigration of Jews from Syria. Nothing has been heard of him since, and he is presumed to be imprisoned in Syria. Group activity continues for two other Jewish prisoners, Joseph Swad and Nissem Katri, held since 1971.

Worldwide representations were made to AI on behalf of the Israeli prisoners of war captured during October 1973. Although AI is not mandated to intervene in questions relating to prisoners of war, a letter was addressed to President Assad on 5 December 1973 requesting that the government "observe the Geneva Conventions of 1949 in respect of the treatment of prisoners of war, and that they should in no way be subjected to any kind of inhuman or degrading treatment".

Letters

Below are excerpts from four of the many letters Amnesty International has received during the past year from prisoners, their families and friends.

From Ali Muhsin Barwani of Tanzania to a member of his adoption group in Norway

10 May 1974

Dear Arne Christensen,

For the first time I can write you without having to begin with the precedent "Pol/Dn" [political detainee]. I am a free man! It's an exhilarating thought and experience.

On Thursday I was summoned to the officer in charge who told me I was to be sent to Dar-es-Salaam where I would be released. But bookings could not be made that day and I had to leave the next day by air, escorted by one prison officer. For the first time in ten years I was allowed to handle my own cash, and for the first time in all that period I had the authority to purchase for my escort and myself Coca Cola. Although I was not yet free, the symbols of freedom were beginning to unfold themselves. At Dar-es-Salaam I was sent to Keko Remand Prison where I found my two colleagues already arrived. It was nerve-wracking to be hearing on the radio that we had been released since the previous Sunday, i.e., 28 April, when we were still being held in prison, and indeed, were under stricter control than we had had before the announcement. Anyway, we didn't raise a row but kept patient. Our patience was rewarded by the VIP [very important person] treatment that we received on Sunday. Early that day we were escorted to the airport. The Commissioner of prisons, the Senior Commissioner of Police and the Minister for Home Affairs all arrived one after another. They were all very courteous. The Minister congratulated us on our release. He told us that our release was absolutely unconditional. We were to stay where we liked, meet anyone we liked . . .

After assuring us of our complete freedom and security, the Minister and the Senior Police Commissioner accompanied us in a specially chartered plane for a quick visit to Zanzibar and Pemba . . . We had morning coffee in the new Century Hotel in Zanzibar, and a good lunch of cooked bananas and fish, which we prepared ourselves, refusing rice and curry, which had been our monotonous diet for ten years.

There is plenty to tell you, but I must end this letter by thanking you and all the brothers and sisters of AI for all that you have done for us—I'll write you a fuller letter when I am joined with my wife and children. Our numerous friends here are jubilant. Indeed, everyone is. We are overwhelmed. It's a wonderful experience.

To a Danish adoption group from the father of a dissident Baptist imprisoned in the Soviet Union and finally allowed home but put under house arrest

30 November 1973

Dear Mr Ravn,

Thank you very much for your letter, as well as for all your efforts concerning our son when he was imprisoned . . . Our son David is now at home, but he is still not free . . . It is hair-raising what our son has experienced, almost too terrible to tell . . .

David has said as well that since a letter [from the group] came to the camp his situation improved somewhat, but not that of the other prisoners. Thank you very much again for your efforts!

From the Portuguese prisoner relief group CNSPP (Comissao Nacional de Socorro aos Presos Politicos) to Amnesty International in London

6 May 1974

Dear Friend,

This will possibly be our last letter to you concerning the problems of political prisoners and their families in Portugal. As you must have known through the cable I sent you some days ago, all the political prisoners have been released.

We therefore ask you to thank everyone who, in any way and time, have given moral and/or financial support to all the prisoners and their families who were cruelly persecuted by the overthrown regime, support you have given for so many years.

You may be sure that for many ex-political prisoners, Amnesty International was a light of hope shining in the darkness of their despair . . . All the members of CNSPP send their kindest regards to all the members of Amnesty International.

From a prisoner in Indonesia who must remain anonymous to a German adoption group which had just sent the prisoner a small gift

. . . It is impossible for me to describe my feelings at that moment. The only conclusion I can draw is that I am not alone in these sufferings. I send my most profound gratitude to the friends there who are fighting for me. May the efforts these friends are making help to bring about a settlement to our problems so that we can return to our families. Once again, I express my thanks; God alone will repay your kindness.

Amnesty International Missions 1973-1974

Switzerland	June 1973	Nigel Rodley	observe trial
Morocco	June 1973	Judge Horst Woesner	observe trial
Pakistan/India Bangladesh/Nepal	June 1973	Yvonne Terlingen	research
Morocco	July 1973	Professor Werner Sarstedt	observe trial
South Africa Rhodesia/Namibia	July/August 1973	German delegate	research
Tunisia	August 1973	Judge Wolfgang Aigner	observe trial
Africa	August/September 1973	John Humphreys	research
Swaziland	August/September 1973	Barend van Niekerk	government talks
United Nations	October 1973	Martin Ennals	General Assembly
USSR	October 1973	Nigel Rodley Mark Grantham Thomas Hammarberg	World Congress of Peace Forces
South Korea	October 1973	Jack Hasegawa	research
Chile	November 1973	Professor Frank Newman Judge Bruce Sumner Roger Plant	government/legal talks/research
Ethiopia	November/May 1973	Clara Olsen	OAU refugee seminar
Spain	December 1973	Edmond McGovern	observe trial
West Germany	January 1974	Dr Einar Kringlen Nigel Rodley	legal/government talks
Bolivia	March 1974	Lennart Aspegren	government/legal talks
South Korea	March 1974	Kenkichi Nakadaira	observe trial
Lebanon/Egypt	April 1974	Katrina Mortimer	research
Iraq	April 1974	Sir Osmond Williams Katrina Mortimer	government/legal talks
Chile	April 1974	American delegate	legal talks/research
Uruguay	April 1974	Niall MacDermot Inger Fahlander*	legal talks/research
Argentina	May 1974	Inger Fahlander*	research

Paraguay	May 1974	Judge Horst Woesner Inger Fahlander*	government talks/ research
Cuba	May 1974	Inger Fahlander*	government talks
South Korea	May 1974	Kenkichi Nakadaira	observe trial
Portugal	May 1974	Eva Blumenau	research

* Combined mission

Amnesties and Special Releases 1973-1974

30 November 1973	Bangladesh 33,000 prisoners were to be released on second anniversary of independence, but amnesty only implemented partially
December 1973	Bolivia 71 political prisoners released
March 1974	51 political prisoners released
April 1974	73 political prisoners released
November 1973	Congo general amnesty for political prisoners, some held since 1963
December 1973	Czechoslovakia 12 prisoners released before expiry of sentence
December 1973	East Germany about 90 prisoners released, probably as goodwill gesture for Christmas
June 1973	Ghana release of persons detained without trial since January 1972
20 August 1973	Greece over 300 prisoners released when Greece declared a republic
9 May 1973	Jordan eight persons pardoned
17 July 1973	181 political and criminal prisoners released
18 September 1973	general amnesty for all convicted, imprisoned or sought for abroad in connection with political crimes, with exception of murder and espionage
31 October 1973	general amnesty law covering all crimes committed before 31 October 1973
May 1974	Malawi 40 prisoners released in amnesty to mark President's birthday
March 1974	Niger all political prisoners freed following <i>coup d'état</i>
December 1973	Northern Ireland 65 detainees released as Christmas gesture
15 April 1974	Pakistan partial amnesty for political prisoners in Baluchistan
April 1974	Portugal all political prisoners released on overthrow of Caetano regime
April 1974	Portuguese Africa many political prisoners released on overthrow of Caetano regime
April 1974	Senegal 15 political prisoners released in presidential amnesty
March 1974	Sudan detainees held without trial since September 1973 released

December 1973 **Tanzania**
13 prisoners released in amnesty to mark anniversary of independence

January 1974 **Tanzania (Zanzibar)**
545 prisoners released

May 1974 20 prisoners released in amnesty on mainland

at various times **Vietnam**
partial prisoner exchanges

27 November 1973 **Yugoslavia**
new amnesty law which applied to sentences passed before 1 January 1971, affected draft dodgers staying abroad and some minor political offenders

May Day 1974 details not known

News Releases 1973-74

23 July 1973 Amnesty urges Tanzania to free former cabinet ministers

1 August 1973 Amnesty urges Commonwealth leaders to act on Rhodesian prisoners

12 August 1973 Amnesty asks Paraguayan president to mark new term by freeing political prisoners/Presionado al Presidente de Paraguay para que libere prisioneros políticos

19 August 1973 Amnesty urges Bolivia to free prisoners and end use of torture/Amnesty International pide a Bolivia liberar prisioneros politicos y terminar con torturamientos

19 August 1973 Amnesty International welcomes Greek move to free political prisoners

22 August 1973 Amnesty asks Moroccan tribunal to show leniency toward 157 defendants

26 August 1973 Amnesty report condemns brutal treatment of prisoners in Spain/Informe condenatorio del tratamiento brutal a prisioneros politicos en España (publication of *Political Imprisonment in Spain*)

13 September 1973 Amnesty International annual report says repression of dissent growing

13 September 1973 Texts of statement by Chancellor Bruno Kreisky of Austria and address by Mr Sean MacBride on the opening of the Amnesty International Council meeting in Vienna

15 September 1973 Soviet Human Rights Committee sends message to Amnesty International (issued from Vienna)

15 September 1973 Amnesty International and ICJ call for UN intervention on threats to civilian lives and to refugees in Chile (issued from Vienna)

16 September 1973 Amnesty International calls on new Chile regime to stop executions, arrests and threatened deportations (issued from Vienna)

23 September 1973 Amnesty International seeks assurances for release of untried detainees still held by Pakistan and Bangladesh

30 September 1973 Amnesty International observers sent to appeal of Taiwan political prisoner

7 October 1973 Leading doctors and psychiatrists seek end to involvement in torture practices (Issued from Oslo Regional Conference on torture)

9 October 1973 Amnesty appeals for release of Taiwanese writer-journalists

12 October 1973 Amnesty concern at trial of Hungarian poet

7 November 1973 Amnesty protests arrest of four South Korean Section officials

13 November 1973 Amnesty asks Morocco to free 70 still held after acquittal

18 November 1973 Amnesty asks Mali to mark anniversary by releasing prisoners

28 November 1973 Amnesty urges Nyerere to prevent executions

28 November 1973 Amnesty asks Prime Minister of Trinidad to save life of Michael X

- 3 December 1973 Military replacing civilian police in worldwide use of torture, Amnesty International report says
- 4 December 1973 Amnesty says government pressure behind UNESCO decision to withdraw torture conference facilities
- 5 December 1973 Amnesty International welcomes Bangladesh amnesty for 37,000 prisoners
- 10 December 1973 Amnesty International Conference for the Abolition of Torture opens in Paris (issued in Paris)
- 10 December 1973 Statement by Sean MacBride, SC, Chairman of the International Executive Committee of Amnesty International on 25th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- 10 December 1973 Paris conference "wires" one million signatures on anti-torture appeal to United Nations General Assembly (issued in Paris)
- 10 December 1973 UN condemnation of torture more important than UNESCO decision to deny conference facilities to Amnesty International, chairman tells opening session (issued in Paris)
- 11 December 1973 Conference for Abolition of Torture brands torture as crime against humanity and adopts action program for its end (issued in Paris)
- 12 December 1973 Amnesty sets up medical team to probe torture allegations and new structure to continue campaign (issued in Paris)
- 29 December 1973 Amnesty International condemns sentences on Carabanchel 10
- 7 January 1974 Amnesty protests to Switzerland over secret military tribunal session's reversal of acquittals of soldiers and civilians
- 10 January 1974 Amnesty International asks Bangladesh to extend full democratic rights to all prisoners freed under act of clemency
- 10 January 1974 Amnesty International urges Iran and Spain to commute death sentences
- 14 January 1974 Amnesty says Indonesian political prisoners have died of starvation
- 15 January 1974 Amnesty launches new campaign to free Brazilian political prisoners
- 20 January 1974 Amnesty International mission reports large scale torture in Chile
- 24 January 1974 Amnesty protests wave of arrests and torture in Tunisia
- 25 January 1974 Amnesty rejects Turkish government findings denying torture
- 25 January 1974 Three Amnesty International officials arrested in South Korea
- 27 January 1974 Amnesty urges Saigon and PRG to release civilian prisoners
- 18 February 1974 Amnesty International asks Malaysia about prisoner mistreatment charges
- 18 February 1974 Urgent Amnesty International appeal for hunger strikes probe in Spain
- 20 February 1974 Amnesty says USSR has violated its own undertakings in deporting Solzhenitsyn and continuing its policy of detaining dissidents
- 20 February 1974 Amnesty urges immediate release of arrested Uruguayan journalists and writers

- 26 February 1974 Amnesty International concern at persecution of peasants in Paraguay
- 11 March 1974 Amnesty International calls for release of Egyptian political prisoners
- 19 March 1974 Amnesty urges Bangladesh to accelerate release of 21,000 political prisoners
- 27 March 1974 Amnesty International calls Czech prison treatment unethical and cruel
- 3 April 1974 Amnesty International appeals to NATO to end torture and ensure that member states adhere to democratic principles
- 11 April 1974 Amnesty International news conference (Father Alfonso Valverde Leon, Burgos Father from Mozambique)
- 30 April 1974 Amnesty appeals to Brezhnev on behalf of Soviet dissident
- 9 May 1974 Amnesty sends Japanese lawyer to observe trial of Korean writers
- 13 May 1974 Amnesty calls on President Banda to free 1,000 Malawian prisoners
- 15 May 1974 Amnesty International says three American black activists were framed
- 19 May 1974 Amnesty International alarmed at new wave of torture in Greece
- 19 May 1974 Amnesty International appeals to Zanzibari President to halt executions
- 20 May 1974 Amnesty International shocked at severity of sentence passed on Pat Arrowsmith, an Amnesty staff member
- 21 May 1974 Amnesty International appeals to India to release trade unionists
- 22 May 1974 Amnesty International criticizes advertisers for holding congress with human rights theme in Iran
- 26 May 1974 175 imprisoned writers and journalists are on Amnesty list
- 1 June 1974 Amnesty International says Indonesia is transferring large numbers of untried political prisoners to permanent labour camps (issued in New York)

Some Amnesty International Statistics

As of 31 May 1974 there were:

1,483 Amnesty International groups in 30 countries, an increase of 280 groups over 1972-73

More than 38,000 individual members of Amnesty International in 57 countries

3,640 prisoners under adoption or investigation, an increase of 900 since 1972-73

During the calendar year 1973:
1,875 new prisoners were taken up and 1,059 prisoners released, respective increases of 19% and 26% over 1972

During the first five months of 1974:
1,100 new prisoners were taken up, 480 released

During 1973-74 Amnesty International:
Worked on more than 100 countries

Dispensed about £100,000* in relief to prisoners and their families

Sent missions and observers to 27 countries

Published three major reports

Issued 63 press statements

Held 11 regional conferences and meetings in various parts of the world on torture and a major international conference in Paris for the abolition of torture

Established a new department to further the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture and a special co-ordination unit to streamline work with national sections and groups on behalf of prisoners

* A rough estimate since groups often do not report all the money they send to their adopted prisoners and families.

International Executive Committee 1973-74

Sean MacBride, SC	Chairman	Ireland
Eric Baker	Vice-Chairman	Britain
Lothar Belck	Treasurer	Switzerland
Maggie Belrne	Staff representative	Britain
Herman van Geuns	Co-opted	Netherlands
Thomas Hammarberg		Sweden
Dirk Börner		Germany
Kari Poppe		Norway
Marie-José Protais		France

International Secretariat

Martin Ennals	Secretary General	John Humphreys	Deputy Head of Research
Stephanie Grant	Head of Research		Accounts
Martin Enthoven	Executive Secretary	Beatrice Rubinstein	Campaign for the Abolition of Torture
James Gaylord	Administrative Manager	Sherman Carroll	Campaign for the Abolition of Torture
Mark Grantham	Information and Publications	Dick Oosting	Librarian
Nigel Rodley	Legal	Odile Garros	

The International Secretariat staff includes 16 different nationalities. There are 52 full-time staff members, 11 more than last year, an increase of approximately 20%. There are 11 part-time staff and 13 volunteers. These figures include the Head of Research, 13 full-time researchers, seven part-time researchers, seven executive assistants to researchers, 13 secretaries to researchers, and one copy typist. In addition there are two librarians, one co-ordination assistant, four Information Office staff, and three Campaign for the Abolition of Torture department staff.

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There are also AI members and supporters in the following countries:

Argentina	Jamaica	Paraguay	Tanzania
Barbados	Jordan	Rhodesia	Thailand
Botswana	Kenya	Sierra Leone	USSR
Cuba	Lesotho	Singapore	Yugoslavia
Hong Kong	Malaysia	South Africa	Zaire
Iceland	Mozambique	Spain	Zambia
Iran	Pakistan	Surinam	

The International Treasurer's report and audited accounts for 1973-74 are published in a supplement to the annual report. The supplement is available on request.

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