



Amnesty International

newsletter

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New Arrests in South Korea

AI cabled President PARK CHUNG-HEE of the Republic of Korea on 10 March to protest against the arrest and interrogation of more than 20 prominent men and women in connection with a declaration calling for the restoration of democratic rights in that country.

An official statement by the South Korean government on 10 March said that 20 persons had been detained for questioning by the police. Eleven had been arrested on charges of agitating to overthrow the government. Those arrested included KIM DAE JUNG, a former opposition presidential candidate who is seriously ill, four Presbyterian ministers, including MOON IL KWAN and his brother STEPHEN MOON, three Catholic priests, including HAHM SE WOONG, and three university professors, including the well-known theologian AHN BYUNG MOO.

The distinguished Quaker leader HAHM SUK HON, known as "the Gandhi of South Korea", former foreign minister CHUNG IL HYUNG and his wife Dr LEE TAI YOUNG (South Korea's first woman lawyer), and the wife of former president YUN PO SUN were among nine people released after questioning. YUN PO SUN himself, though not arrested, was reportedly questioned for seven hours at his home. Despite their release, these people have also been charged.

Unofficial sources put the number of people detained at 33. The fate of the 13 not mentioned in the official statement is unknown.

The declaration called for the lifting of a presidential ban on opposition to the present political system, the release of political prisoners, and restoration of democratic freedom, independence of the judiciary and freedom of the press. It was read out at a meeting of 700 people in Seoul Cathedral on 1 March. □

AI Calls for OAS Investigation

REPORTS OF ARRESTS, TORTURE AND DISAPPEARANCES IN PARAGUAY

AI urged the Organization of American States' (OAS) human rights commission on 17 March to investigate reports of arrests, torture, disappearances and other gross violations of human rights in Paraguay (March *CAT Bulletin*).

In a letter to the Executive Secretary of the OAS Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, LUIS REQUE, *AI* cited

AI Seeks UN Commission Action

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, in an appeal to the 32nd session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on 26 February, asked that the commission "not close its eyes to certain known instances of grievous, widespread and persistent violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

AI Legal Adviser NIGEL S. RODLEY expressed *AI*'s "deep appreciation" of the commission's work on human rights violations in Chile and southern Africa and pledged the organizations continued assistance to that "crucial work". Nevertheless, he asked whether "isolated in this room, members of the commission lose their perspective on certain situations".

Mr Rodley said that information *AI* had submitted on Brazil in 1972, 1973 and 1974 disclosed "a reliably attested pattern of arbitrary arrests, detention, torture and disappearances at the hands of government officials or extra-legal death squads operating with the apparent connivance of the authorities—a veritable "reign of terror".

He felt that the situation in Brazil could have tested the effectiveness of the confidential procedures for investigating serious human rights violations that the

UN adopted six years ago. However, it was reported subsequently in March that the commission had decided to drop the Brazil case. The commission also deferred for a year consideration of a proposal to amend its procedures to deal with up-to-date information.

Mr Rodley pointed out that *AI* had also submitted information in 1973 and 1974 to the UN alleging a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights in Indonesia. However, in a letter to *AI* Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS on 10 March 1975, the Indonesian ambassador to London, Admiral RICHARDUS SUBONO, had said that the UN regarded the matter as closed.

In a separate move, the commission adopted a resolution to ask its sub-commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to prepare a body of principles for the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment. This was a modest achievement for *AI* which had submitted a document to the commission asking for several initiatives to combat torture.

The commission deferred for yet another year substantive discussion of conscientious objection. □

AI Asks Soviet Union for Details of Tverdokhlebov Trial

AI called on Soviet authorities on 21 March to reveal the time and place of the forthcoming trial of the secretary of *AI*'s Moscow group, ANDREI TVERDO-KHLEBOV, and also the precise nature of the charges against him.

Mr Tverdokhlebov, one of the leading human rights advocates in Moscow, has been detained without trial since his arrest in April 1975 for alleged "anti-Soviet slander" (May 1975 *Newsletter*).

Soviet law sets a maximum of nine months for pre-trial detention and therefore Mr Tverdokhlebov should have been tried by January. So far the trial has not

taken place and Soviet authorities have refused to make public its date and location or even the charges against the 35-year-old physicist.

The prosecution has reportedly prepared more than 40 volumes of documentation on the case—an unusually large amount.

In a letter to Soviet Procurator General ROMAN RUDENKO on 18 March *AI* said that "Amnesty International expects that the trial of Mr Tverdokhlebov will be carried out in accordance with USSR legal norms and international standards of human rights. Amnesty International does not believe that Mr Tverdokhlebov has knowingly spread lies about Soviet reality and hopes that the court which hears his case will allow all conditions necessary for rigorous examination of this essential feature of the charges against him."

AI has requested permission to send a lawyer to observe Mr Tverdokhlebov's trial but has received no formal response from the Soviet authorities. □

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Reports of Arrests, Torture and Disappearances in Paraguay

Continued from page 1, column 2.

members of the family were taken by the security forces.

"There is strong indication that many of the detainees, including women, the elderly and the infirm, have been subjected to torture," AI said in the letter to Dr Reque.

"Reports of gross maltreatment and the continuing detention incommunicado at unknown centers are causing great anxiety amongst families who have not yet been able to trace detained relatives. This, apparently, has also given rise to a profitable commerce in information amongst police officials, who, it is alleged, will admit the whereabouts of a detainee only on receipt of a sum of money."

Among the cases of incommunicado detention and torture were those of prominent academics and members of the Marandu Project—a non-political Indian information/aid agency attached to the Catholic University in Asunción—and workers, students, lawyers and housewives.

AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS wrote to President ALFREDO STROESSNER on 9 February about the arrests and protesting against the use of torture in Paraguayan prisons—torture which has been routine since the 1954 military coup that brought President Stroessner to power. No reply had been received to the letter. □

AI PROTESTS AGAINST EXECUTIONS IN NIGERIA

AI cabled Nigerian Head of State Lieutenant-General OLUSEGUN OBASANJO on 12 March, to protest against the execution of 30 people by firing squad at Lagos on 11 March. The 30, who were tried by military tribunal, were accused of involvement in the coup attempt on 13 February which resulted in the death of the then Head of State Brigadier MURTALA MOHAMMED.

Thirty-two people were originally sentenced to death by the tribunal and one person to life imprisonment. The fate of the two who were not executed is not known.

According to official Nigerian sources 125 people, mostly military personnel, were arrested after the coup attempt. Forty have been released. Investigations and trials of the remaining people are continuing.

In the cable, AI expressed its opposition to the death penalty in all circumstances and called on General Obasanjo to exercise his prerogative of mercy if further death sentences are imposed. □

AI RECEIVES ALLEGATION OF TORTURE IN JORDAN

AI received in March allegations of the torture of three Palestinians, MAHMUD NAZZAL, JIHAD ZABRI and FARUK SUWAIHIL. They were sentenced in

November 1975 to 3 years' imprisonment in Jordan for subversion and illegal possession of arms.

AI also received during February and March the names of 143 Palestinians currently detained on similar charges and reported to have been subjected to ill treatment.

AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS wrote to KING HUSSEIN of Jordan on 27 February asking that the reports be investigated. □

AMNESTY IN ETHIOPIA

AI sent a cable to the chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administration Council, Brigadier General TEFERE BENTI, on 9 March welcoming an amnesty announced on 8 March, in which 97 political detainees were released.

Those released included leading members of the Confederation of Ethiopian Labour Unions—ATO BEYENE SOLOMON the former president, ATO FISEHATSION TEKIE the former secretary general and ATO GIDEY GEBRE the former vice-president. They had been held without charge or trial since their arrest in the autumn of 1974. A number of military personnel were also released.

AI also requested permission to send a second AI mission to Ethiopia. A mission visited Ethiopia in February 1975 (March 1975 Newsletter). □

AI URGES RELEASE OF HUNGER STRIKER IN TAIWAN

AI cabled President YEN CHIA-KAN and Prime Minister CHIANG CHING-KUO of Taiwan on 5 March urging the release of HSIEH TS'UNG-MIN (October 1975 Newsletter) who is on hunger strike. Hsieh Ts'ung-min, an AI-adoptee and a well-known independence movement leader in Taiwan, began his hunger strike on 17 February to demand medical treatment. He is in poor health and in the cable AI asked that he be released to obtain proper medical attention.

Hsieh Ts'ung-min was tried *in camera* by a military court in early 1972 and was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment on various charges of advocating Taiwan's independence.

Professor JAMES SEYMOUR, an American sinologist, went to Taipei in September 1975 as an AI observer at an appeal hearing initiated by the prosecution. He was refused admission to the closed military court but was able to get information about Hsieh Ts'ung-min's poor state of health, and that he was kept in solitary confinement. He also learned that those on trial had been convicted of sabotage and that Hsieh Ts'ung-min had to remain in prison for 2 years. □

LECTURERS AND STUDENTS STILL DETAINED IN ZAMBIA

DARIO LONGHI, a university lecturer, was released from Kabwe Maximum

Security Prison in Zambia and served with a deportation order on 17 March. He was one of five lecturers and 17 students reported detained following President KENNETH KAUNDA's declaration of a full state of emergency in Zambia on 28 January (March Newsletter).

A sixth lecturer, KLAUS VAN DEN BERG, was reportedly detained on 5 March. Latest reports indicate that at least five lecturers and 15 students remain in detention without charge. □

AI CRITICIZES TRIAL OF YUGOSLAV LAWYER

AI criticized the trial in Yugoslavia of a lawyer SRDJA POPOVIC, who was sentenced on 10 March to one year in prison in connection with statements he made while defending one of the country's leading writers. A criminal lawyer from Stockholm, GUNNAR BERG, went as an AI observer to the opening session of the trial on 1 March.

The charges of "spreading false rumours" arose out of his defence in April 1974 of writer and poet Dr DRAGOLJUB IGNATOVIC. During that trial, Mr Popovic quoted statements his client had made that cited unemployment, inflation and primitive agriculture as evidence that Yugoslavia was a "barbarian society".

Yugoslavia was signatory on 2 June 1971 to an important human rights document which is about to be put into effect: the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. AI said it was a matter of particular regret that the trial should have taken place at all in view of Yugoslavia's commitments under the covenant.

AI also cabled the Yugoslav government on 11 March protesting against the sentence. □

TWO REFUSE TO TESTIFY AT TRIAL IN NAMIBIA

Two political detainees, VICTOR NKANDI and AI-adoptee AXEL JOHANNES, were each jailed for one year in Namibia on 1 and 2 March respectively. They had refused to testify as state witnesses at the trial in Swakopmund of six members of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) who were charged under the Terrorism Act (January Newsletter).

Victor Nkandi told the court that he had been detained without charge since September 1975. He had been beaten until unconscious and then taken to a place where he had heard people screaming. The security police told him that he too would be made to scream unless he cooperated. He refused to testify against the defendants and was sentenced by Judge J.J. STRYDOM for contempt of court.

An AI observer, Professor OTTO TRIFFTERER of the University of Giessen, West Germany, went to Swakopmund to attend the trial on 18 March. □

Prisoners of the Month Campaign

Participants in the Campaign are reminded that appeals must only be sent to the officials named at the end of each case. In *no* circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner.

Wilhelm LANGE, German Democratic Republic (GDR)

WILHELM LANGE, born in 1908, has spent nearly 15 years in GDR prisons and institutions. He has been held in a psychiatric hospital in Leipzig-Dösen since 19 October 1971 because he asked to emigrate to the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and refused to accept identification papers which described him as a citizen of the GDR.

Wilhelm Lange was first arrested on 4 November 1961 after protesting against the building of the Berlin Wall. He was charged with "incitement hostile to the state and harming the socialist order of state and society" and was sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment, to be followed by restricted residence which banned him from certain parts of the country.

At the end of his prison sentence, he was transferred to a transit camp in Oschatz near Leipzig and then, because of bad health, to a hospital in Wernsdorf. When he left the hospital he visited his home town of Sonneberg, from which he was banned under the restricted residence sentence. He was again arrested and sentenced to another 2 years in prison for "endangering the order and security of the state frontiers". On completion of this second sentence, he was taken into a home for social care. It was while he was in this home that he asked to emigrate from the GDR and refused to accept the identification papers, which resulted in his present confinement in the psychiatric hospital.

Wilhelm Lange's relatives in the FRG are willing and able to give him a home there. However, in 15 years they have never had any response from the authorities in the GDR to their inquiries. Wilhelm Lange is now physically very weak.

Please send courteously worded appeals for the release of Wilhelm Lange to: Herrn Willi Stoph, Vorsitzender des Staatsrates der GDR, Berlin Niederschönhausen, Carl von Ossietzky Strasse, GDR.

KIM Chi Ha, South Korea

KIM CHI HA, aged 35, is a famous South Korean poet and writer. An outspoken critic of President PARK CHUNG-HEE's authoritarian regime, he has spent many of the past 14 years in prison. At present he is in prison awaiting trial for alleged violations of South Korea's Anti-Communist Law. Conviction under this law could carry the death penalty.

He is held in solitary confinement and in an unheated cell, despite the extreme cold of the Korean winter. He is denied visits from his family and lawyer and is kept under constant surveillance. Kim Chi

Ha suffers from tuberculosis and was due to go into hospital for treatment at the time of his arrest in March 1975.

Kim Chi Ha was sentenced to death in July 1974 for supporting student demonstrations. The sentence was commuted to one of life imprisonment and, in February 1975, it was suspended, though not removed. Kim Chi Ha was re-arrested on 14 March 1975 under the Anti-Communist Law after publishing an article describing the torture of fellow prisoners. Although a trial began in May 1975, it was postponed and the period of pre-trial detention allowed under South Korean law expired in September 1975. To keep him in prison, a military court reinstated the earlier life sentence.

Kim Chi Ha managed to smuggle a 12,000-word "Declaration of Conscience" out of his prison cell in August 1975. This document described how the Korean Central Intelligence Agency had subjected him to enormous pressure to make him confess to being a communist (September 1975 *CAT Bulletin*). He has subsequently been denied all writing materials. Kim Chi Ha, who is a Roman Catholic, is also denied a bible.

Please send courteously worded cards, appealing for a prompt and fair trial for Kim Chi Ha, to: President Park Chung-hee, The Blue House, Chongno-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea *and to:* Mr Hwang San-dok, Minister of Justice, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

Lucas Francisco do NASCIMENTO, Brazil

LUCAS FRANCISCO DO NASCIMENTO is one of a group of members of the Union of Self-Employed Drivers arrested by security agents in Recife in January 1975. Although initially detained on suspicion of "activities linked to the left", it appears likely that the arrests are related to trade union activity. Since 1964 trade unions have been suppressed in Brazil and this wave of arrests can be seen as the government's response to an increasing restlessness in the larger cities, especially among transport workers.

After being held incommunicado, Lucas Francisco was brought to the DOPS (Department of Public and Social Order) in São Paulo for a complete investigation of his case. He was tried before a military tribunal, in August 1975, and, among other things, he was charged with being a member of the Brazilian Communist Party, of holding political meetings in his home, and of fundraising for the party. He denied these charges which, he said, he had only admitted under the strain of physical and psychological coercion. Nevertheless, he was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment.

Lucas Francisco is married and has a daughter. As the family is poor, the imprisonment of the sole breadwinner has created desperate financial difficulties.

Please send courteously worded appeals asking for his release to: Departamento de Ordem Publico e Social, Largo General Osorio, 1164, São Paulo, Brazil.

News of Past Campaigns

Mirna DEL RIO, Bolivia

MIRNA DEL RIO (December 1975 *Prisoners of the Month Campaign*), who was reported to have been freed in an amnesty on 22 December 1975, has been re-arrested in Bolivia and forcibly exiled with seven other political prisoners to southern Chile. She is currently confined to a hotel in Punto Arenas. *AI* groups are seeking permission for her to return to Bolivia or to go to another place of exile.

AI CALLS FOR RELEASE OF HUNGER STRIKERS IN PERU

AI urged President FRANCISCO MORALES BERMUDEZ of Peru on 25 March to free four lawyers and two trade union leaders who are on hunger strike in a remote Peruvian jungle penal colony in protest against their detention without charge or trial. (February *Newsletter*).

AI received a letter on 23 March signed by the lawyers Dr GENARO LEDESMA, Dr RICARDO DIAZ CHAVEZ, Dr JOSE ONA MEONO and Dr ARTURO SALAS RODRIGUEZ. It had been smuggled out of the maximum security penal colony of El Sepa in the Amazon region of Peru which is accessible only by military aircraft.

The letter said they had taken up the hunger strike begun on 21 February by fellow prisoners, HERNAN CUENTAS and VICTOR CUADROS, leaders of the National Federation of Mine and Metallurgical Workers. Señor Cuentas and Señor Cuadros are reported to be in grave condition. The lawyers are all advisers to the Mine and Metallurgical Federation. They were detained in their offices by agents of the Peruvian investigative police on 4 December 1975, about the same time as the trade union leaders were arrested.

The two trade union leaders and all four lawyers have been adopted as prisoners of conscience.

The letter from the lawyers said they were going on hunger strike after "more than three months of illegal, unjust and irrational imprisonment" in demand for "our freedom. . . and the freedom of other leaders and social crusaders".

Since their arrest the detainees had been moved from jail to jail to frustrate *habeas corpus* proceedings. In all their cases, civil courts had declared such proceedings inadmissible on the grounds that it could not be proven that the men were in police custody. □

AI PUBLISHES BRIEFING ON RHODESIA/ZIMBABWE

AI on 29 March criticized violations of human rights in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe, pointing out that some political prisoners had been detained without trial for more than 10 years.

The criticisms are contained in a 16-page briefing paper which is part of a series of such papers AI is producing to summarize the available information on political imprisonment and other violations of human rights in individual countries (March Newsletter).

The paper on Rhodesia/Zimbabwe expresses concern at the use of detention without trial over long periods of time and other restrictive measures as means to repress political opposition to Prime Minister IAN SMITH's illegal Rhodesian Front government.

The paper also expresses concern at:

- "the holding of trials and detention review tribunals *in camera*";
- "the use of the death penalty, in some cases on a mandatory basis, for a wide range of offences, and the execution in secret of condemned prisoners";
- "the torture of political prisoners";
- "the government's refusal to establish an independent inquiry into allegations of atrocities committed by the Rhodesian security forces";
- "the forced settlement of large numbers of rural Africans in so-called 'protected villages' as part of the government's counter-insurgency policy".

The paper estimates that the Rhodesian government is presently detaining without trial over 700 men and women as political prisoners.

Amnesty International Briefing on Rhodesia/Zimbabwe: 16 pages, published by Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England. Price 40 pence (US \$1.00) plus 20 pence (50 US cents) postage and handling. Annual inclusive subscription price for 10 individual country briefing papers: £6 (US \$15) post paid. □

PRISONER RELEASES AND CASES

The International Secretariat learned in February of the release of 151 AI-adopted prisoners and took up 118 new cases.

AI GRANTED COURT RIGHTS IN US DEATH PENALTY CASE

The Supreme Court of the United States on 8 March 1976 granted AI leave to file an *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) brief that will allow the court to pronounce on the constitutional legality of the death penalty. The brief argues that international standards, similar to those of the US constitution, require the abolition of capital punishment.

This is the first time AI has sought such an opportunity before a court, and the favourable decision of the court makes this action an important precedent for the future.

The motion for leave to file the brief and

the brief itself were submitted by ARTHUR M. MICHAELSON of AI's US Section in February 1976. □

Amnesty International requires Deputy Secretary General/Head of Research

Amnesty International's International Secretariat in London is being restructured. The post of Deputy Secretary General is being combined with that of Head of Research as of May.

The new post combines the Deputy Secretary General's overall responsibility to the Secretary General and the International Executive Committee for maintaining the highest standards of accuracy, impartiality and judgement in AI's actions for the protection of human rights, with the executive function of the Research Department which provides the factual data and regional and country expertise on which AI bases its international work.

The successful candidate should have:

- a broad knowledge of political, economic and legal situations in the world;
- experience of international affairs, United Nations and other governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions;
- a record of organizational and administrative ability.

Fluency in at least one language other than English and willingness to travel are essential.

Salary: £5,070 per annum.

Interviews will be held in New York, Paris or London.

For details and application form write to:

The Secretary General
Amnesty International
53 Theobald's Road
London WC1X 8SP, England

LESOTHO RELEASES DETAINEE

AI learned on 25 March that G.M. KOLISANG, former general secretary of the opposition Basutoland Congress Party, had been released from prison in Lesotho. This followed a cable from AI to Justice Minister GERARD RAMOREBOLI on 10 March appealing for his release.

Mr Kolisang was one of the most prominent political figures in Lesotho until he retired from active politics to become a law student in 1970. He was first detained under the Internal Security Act on 21 November 1975 and was held without charge for 60 days, the maximum period allowed under the act. When he was released in January he was redetained almost immediately. □

USSR JOINS URUGUAY CAMPAIGN

AI learned on 24 March that a petition, calling for an international inquiry into alleged torture in Uruguay, has been organized by VALENTIN TURCHIN, chairman of AI's Moscow group. (See *CAT Bulletin*). Forty Soviet citizens including Nobel Peace Laureate ANDREI SAKHAR SAKHAROV, have signed the petition. □

AI ASKS DOMINICA TO COMMUTE DEATH SENTENCE

AI's Secretary General wrote on 22 March to the Governor of Dominica Sir LOUIS COOLS-LARTIGUE appealing for a commutation of the death sentence passed on DESMOND TROTTER, aged 22, of Dominica.

The judicial committee of the United Kingdom Privy Council on 18 March refused Mr Trotter leave to appeal against the sentence imposed for a murder charge. Mr Trotter, a former Dominican civil servant and an opponent of the government, has always maintained that he was innocent of the murder of an American tourist in February 1974. He attributes his arrest and sentence to his political activities. □

AI PUBLISHES FURTHER NUMBERS OF CHRONICLES

AI published on 21 March an English translation of numbers 32 and 33 of *A Chronicle of Current Events*, the *samizdat* journal of the movement for the defence of human rights in the Soviet Union.

The 192-page illustrated book covers the period May to December 1974. It details individual cases of harassment, arrests, trials and imprisonment in penal institutions or psychiatric hospitals of intellectual, religious and national dissenters in the USSR.

Number 33 especially provides a greater volume of up-to-date information on the conditions of political imprisonment in the Soviet Union than any single document to have emerged from the country in recent years. Included are details on the feeding and maintenance of prisoners, their labour requirements, the official regulations governing their daily life and efforts of prisoners themselves to obtain an improvement in the penal conditions.

Further numbers of the Chronicles are in the process of translation into English and will be published in the coming months.

A Chronicle of Current Events, numbers 32 and 33, 192 pages plus eight pages of photographs, is published by Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England. Price: £1.95 (US \$4.95), plus 20% for postage and packing. □

AI News in Brief

Change of Address: As from 1 April the address of the Norwegian Section will be: Akersgaten 39, III, Oslo 1, Norway.

New Section: The Greek Section of AI has now been formally recognized and the address is: Formionos 2, Athens 707, Greece. □

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amnesty international

campaign for the abolition of torture

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MONTHLY BULLETIN

AI Receives First Torture Photographs from Uruguay

Amnesty International received an open letter from a Uruguayan military officer at the end of February, denouncing the systematic use of torture and other human rights violations in Uruguay. Two photographs of men being tortured accompanied the letter. They were the first photographs of actual torture ever to come to AI's attention.

The officer said he was writing the letter because of "the revulsion I feel for all that I have the misery of witnessing, and worse still, in some cases, of taking part in".

The letter describes the widespread and indiscriminate use of various methods of torture:

"The Uruguayan armed forces systematically torture

and maltreat political or trade union detainees. I have hundreds of proofs, from my own painful personal experience. . .

"Dozens of prisoners have been taken to the Military Hospital with fractures and lesions. Such a level of sadism has been reached that military doctors supervise the torture."

This unique document confirms previous AI reports on the practice of torture in Uruguay, and it appeals to the rest of the world for help. Although the officer has, for obvious reasons, remained anonymous, AI has no reason to doubt that the letter and photographs are genuine.



The photograph (above) shows a hooded but naked man, his wrists handcuffed behind his back, enduring a painful form of torture called el caballete (the sawhorse); forced to straddle an iron bar which cuts cruelly into the groin. The other (right) shows another hooded man enduring la bandera (the banner); suspended by his wrists in the garden of a house.



More Torture Deaths in Uruguay; Government Criticizes AI Worldwide Campaign

AI received reports during March of the deaths of two more people in Uruguay as a result of torture. These reports followed denunciations by Foreign Minister JUAN CARLOS BLANCO on 18 February of AI's campaign against torture in Uruguay (March *CAT Bulletin*) which listed the names of 24 people who had died under torture. The latest reports bring the total number of deaths to 26.

OSCAR EDUARDO BONIFACIO OLIVEIRA, a 56-year-old metal worker was arrested in December 1975. He was reported to have died on 3 March. The body was

delivered to his relatives in a sealed coffin which was guarded until the burial that same day, 3 March.

EDUARDO MONDELLO, a 30-year-old socialist was arrested with his father on 6 March in the town of Piriapolis. Eduardo Mondello's body was returned to the family on 10 March and was buried after permission for an autopsy had been refused. He is reported to have died in the Maritimo Hospital.

The campaign against torture in Uruguay, which was launched by AI on 19 February, received a worldwide response. AI members

in over 60 countries initiated many varied activities, and the International Secretariat approached some 50 international non-governmental organizations with a request for support and also took initiatives at governmental level.

The Uruguayan government and press reacted vehemently to AI's campaign. At a press conference in Montevideo on 18 February Foreign Minister Blanco denounced the campaign as slanderous and accused AI of being in the service of communism. He stated that his government did not recognize the legal or moral authority of AI.

Although neither the Uruguayan government nor the national news media mentioned AI's claims of torture and other violations of human rights, AI has learned that the aims of the campaign are known and discussed widely in Uruguay.

appeals

Dr Mykola PLAKHOTNYUK, Soviet Union
Dr MYKOLA PLAKHOTNYUK, a Ukrainian, is one of the political dissidents still detained in Dnepropetrovsk psychiatric hospital after the recent release of LEONID PLYUSHCH (March *CAT Bulletin*).

Dr Plakhotnyuk, an *AI* adopted prisoner, was imprisoned in January 1972 for alleged "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda". Mr Plyushch said that he had personally witnessed the severe maltreatment of Dr Plakhotnyuk.

Dr Plakhotnyuk is a physician. Prior to his public statements in 1970 on behalf of a fellow Ukrainian VALENTYN MOROZ, he was a senior laboratory assistant at a children's tuberculosis sanatorium near Kiev. He was dismissed from this post in 1970, arrested in January 1972 and declared not responsible for his actions in November 1972—the diagnosis was schizophrenia.

It is likely that Dr Plakhotnyuk has been subjected to compulsory treatment by neuroleptic drugs at the Dnepropetrovsk psychiatric hospital.

Please send courteously worded letters, asking for the release of Dr Plakhotnyuk, to: SSSR, Ukrainskaya SSR, g. Dnepropetrovsk, ul. Chicherina, Spetsialnaya Psikhiatricheskaya Bolnitsa.

PORTUGUESE CIVILIANS ALLEGE ILL-TREATMENT IN MOZAMBIQUE

Portuguese Secretary of State for Co-operation, GOMES MOTA led a delegation in March to Maputo (formerly Lourenco Marques) following allegations of the arbitrary arrests and ill-treatment of Portuguese nationals in Mozambique. The delegation had discussions with members of the Mozambique government.

The allegations refer to about 100 Portuguese civilians believed to be held in Mozambique prisons and an unknown number of black and white detainees, among them many women, who are reportedly forced to work at government "political re-education centers".

The Portuguese authorities themselves have not alleged torture, but some of the 18 prisoners, who were released as a result of the mission, have done so. Former prisoner ANTONIO SA told journalists in Lisbon, shortly after his return from Mozambique, that "at least 70 men" in the prison where he was held had been subjected to abuse, torture and a sub-standard diet. □

CHILEAN OFFICIALS FOLLOW UP NEW ANTI-TORTURE LAW

AI noted with interest the surprise visits paid by Minister of Justice MIGUEL SCHWEITZER and President of the

Bolivia

AI learned in March of the alleged death under torture of a political prisoner, SERAFIN GIL CUBREUIL. A cable by *AI* Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS to President HUGO BANZER on 16 February had expressed concern about the arrests in January of 20 people charged with guerrilla activity. Some of these people have allegedly been tortured.

The arrests followed government allegations that exiled ex-president JUAN JOSE TORRES was using student unrest as part of a plot to overthrow President Banzer and that former army major RUBEN SANCHEZ was organizing the overthrow from within Bolivia.

Among those arrested was Major Sanchez's daughter, LOYDA SANCHEZ DE BEJARANO and her two children, RUBEN, aged four and LUISA, aged three. In an appeal to the Roman Catholic Church on 10 February to intervene on behalf of his daughter, Major Sanchez said he had information that she was "subjected to the most severe interrogation and to the most brutal tortures, which have unfortunately become habit. . ."

Through a campaign launched on 23 December 1975, *AI* attempted to protect another nine people arrested in November 1975 for allegedly plotting guerrilla warfare. The group included a journalist, ANTONIO PEREDO LEYGUE, who was the alleged leader of the Bolivian Revolu-

tionary Workers' Party, (*Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores de Bolivia*, PRT-B), the political branch of the guerrilla group *Ejercito de Liberación Nacional* (National Liberation Army).

The ministry of the interior which had announced the arrests in November, denied in early February that Señor Peredo was in detention. The denials followed allegations by Bolivian exiles that Señor Peredo had been severely tortured and that he and other political prisoners would possibly be killed. According to the exiles, the nine are held incommunicado, shackled and are subjected to torture. The PRT-B launched an appeal for international intervention in early February claiming that two women in the group, RUTH MEYER and PATRICIA GIL, were in a critical condition.

AI believes that further action is necessary to protect the following prisoners from torture and to ensure their proper medical care: Loyda Sanchez, Patricia Gil, Ruth Meyer, Julio Barbero, Marcos Farfan, Antonio Peredo, Jorge Sologuren, Fermin Montes and Ramon Donatto.

Please send courteously worded letters, asking that full legal guarantees and medical attention be given to these prisoners, to: S E Presidente, General Hugo Banzer Suárez, Palacio Quemado, La Paz, Bolivia and to: Comandante Guido Benavidez Alvizur, Secretaría General de D.I.N., La Paz, Bolivia.

Supreme Court JOSE MARIA EYZAGUIRRE on 5 March to detention centers in Chile. The visits followed the introduction of new legislation to protect prisoners from torture.

Both Señor Eyzaguirre and Señor Schweitzer visited Cuatro Alamos detention center, and Señor Eyzaguirre also visited Tres Alamos. He told journalists that he had met with full cooperation from the officials but said that his interviews with prisoners were confidential. Señor Schweitzer announced that he planned to continue his impromptu visits to ensure that the new provisions were carried out and to deal with any complaints from prisoners.

Supreme decree 187 of 28 January states that all prisoners must be medically examined both at the time of arrest and immediately before release. It also empowers the president of the Supreme Court and the minister of justice, or their delegates, to visit detention centers at any time. A written order of arrest must be signed by the head of a state security agency and a copy of the warrant must be given to the detainee's nearest relative, living at the place of arrest, within 48 hours.

The International Commission of Jurist (ICJ) pointed out in February that the law provides no new protection against torture. The security authorities can still

hold suspects incommunicado for long periods, and it is still possible for suspects to receive medical check-ups only after all traces of torture have disappeared. □

IRELAND TAKES TORTURE COMPLAINT TO EUROPEAN COURT

The Republic of Ireland announced on 10 March that it will refer its allegations of torture by the British forces in Northern Ireland to the European Court in Strasbourg. This follows the release in February to the British and Irish governments of a confidential report into the allegations by the European Commission on Human Rights.

The Irish charges, first initiated in December 1971, alleged that Britain's systematic use of specific interrogation techniques, including sensory deprivation, had violated article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights which relates to the torture and degrading treatment of prisoners, as well as article 14, concerning freedom from discrimination.

During the commission's four-year inquiry 118 witnesses were heard, often under exceptional security precautions. When the dispute is referred to the European Court of Human Rights, the proceedings will be conducted in public and the court's decision will be binding on the governments in question. □