

AI RECEIVES DAG HAMMARSKJOLD MEMORIAL AWARD FOR WORK IN FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The American Veterans Committee has presented AI with its Dag Hammarskjold Memorial Award for outstanding service in the international field of human rights. The award, in memory of the late Secretary General of the United Nations, was presented to AI on 29 June in South Fallsburg, New York. It was accepted on AI's behalf by MARCOS ARRUDA, a former AI adoptee in Brazil who now lives in Washington.

The inscription with the award says it was given to Amnesty International "for its dedicated service on behalf of the civil and political rights of men and women throughout the world imprisoned for their conscientiously held beliefs". Previous recipients of the award were the late American President JOHN F. KENNEDY and the former presidential candidate and US representative to the UN, ADLAI STEVENSON.

'TOTAL DENIAL OF HUMAN FREEDOM'

CONFESSIONS UNDER TORTURE ACCEPTED BY SOUTH KOREAN COURT, AI DELEGATE SAYS

An American lawyer who visited South Korea on behalf of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL reported on 30 July that 55 opponents of the regime who had been tried and found guilty of subversion had only confessed under torture.

In his 50-page report to AI's International Executive Committee, New York attorney WILLIAM BUTLER called the South Korean Government's emergency measures to combat alleged subversion "a total denial of human freedom".

The trial of the 55, who had all been arrested under the emergency decrees, resulted in the imposition of death sentences on 14 of them, including South Korea's leading poet, KIM CHI HA. Fifteen were sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labour; 20, among them two Japanese nationals, received 20-year sentences; and six were jailed for 15 years. The death sentences on Kim Chi and four others were later commuted to life imprisonment.

Shortly after the sentences were passed, the government announced that it was prosecuting four other prominent South Koreans, including former President YOON PO-SUN and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Wonju, DANIEL TJI, who is Honorary Chairman of AI's South Korean Section. Bishop Tji has been arrested on a number of previous occasions for his outspoken opposition to the government's civil rights and constitutional policies (December 1972 *Newsletter* et seq). Later the government announced that it had decided to postpone these trials indefinitely.

In his report on the trial of the 55, Mr Butler criticizes the fact that none of the defendants had been allowed to repudiate the confessions extracted under torture or to call witnesses;

that the hearings had been conducted by military tribunals *in camera*; and that all foreign newsmen and foreign observers were barred from attending the trial.

Mr Butler concludes on the basis of his investigations that some 1,500 persons have been arrested since September 1972, that 1,100 prisoners charged with or convicted of political crimes are detained throughout the country, and that since the promulgation of the latest emergency decree on 3 April this year, some 250 people have been arrested and detained and only 67 of them have been tried so far. All 67 have been found guilty and given sentences ranging from death to 5 years' imprisonment.

Mr Butler recommended the immediate repeal of the emergency decrees which, among other things, provide the death penalty for anyone who "praises, encourages or sympathizes" with one proscribed student organization or who even "defames" a measure under which the education minister may expel or suspend students who violate the regulations. Mr Butler also called for a ban on the use of torture and for an amnesty for those detained under the emergency decrees.

GREECE FREES ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS

Greece's new civilian government to whom the military junta handed over power on 24 July announced immediately that it was freeing all political prisoners and closing the notorious prison camp on Yaros Island.

All of AI's adopted prisoners were among those subsequently released.

Citizenship was handed back to all opponents of the junta who had been deprived of their nationality, and an amnesty was declared for all political offences.

In a cable to the new Prime Minister, CONSTANTINE KARAMANLIS, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS welcomed the return to civilian government in Greece. He urged Mr Karamanlis to establish an official inquiry into the systematic torture of detainees carried out during the seven years of military rule (*see below*). Many of the freed prisoners told of being tortured and some bore torture scars on their bodies.

LIBEL SETTLEMENT VINDICATES 1968 AI REPORT ON TORTURE IN GREECE

The author and publisher of a book that questioned the truth and objectivity of a 1968 AI report on torture in Greece admitted in London's High Court of Justice on 25 July that the report had been "based on sound evidence and thorough and objective investigation" and its "conclusions have been subsequently confirmed".

KENNETH YOUNG, author of the book *The Greek Passion*, and the publisher, J.M. Dent & Sons Limited, apologized and agreed to pay damages to the author of the report, former AI Treasurer and delegate to Greece ANTHONY MARRECO, who had sued them for libel.

In an agreed statement read out in open court,

the defendants admitted that the author had wrongly accused Mr Marreco in the book of using *AI* "to conduct a false campaign against the Greek Government inspired by sympathy for the communist cause".

"The defendants now realize that Amnesty International is an organization of high integrity which has investigated and reported with impartiality upon imprisonment and ill-treatment for political motives, in breach of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, not only in communist and right-wing countries, but also in many democratic countries," the statement said.

The author, who had previously refused to accept any Greek official complicity in the use of torture, now admitted in the statement that "torture has continued to be employed as an instrument of torture" in the country.

GRIGORENKO THANKS THOSE WHO WORKED FOR HIS RELEASE FROM SOVIET MENTAL ASYLUM

Major General PYOTR GRIGORENKO, who was released from a Soviet mental asylum on 26 June after 5 years in detention, has publicly thanked all those who worked for his freedom.

General Grigorenko, aged 61 and an *AI* adoptee, is a Soviet war hero whose case became widely known outside the USSR when he was detained as a result of his outspoken advocacy of the cause of the Crimean Tatars and of civil rights generally.

After his release he was quoted by journalists as thanking "all those people who helped secure my release and helped prolong my life".

AI ADOPTEES IN PARAGUAY REFUSE TO EAT

AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS cabled President ALFREDO STROESSNER of Paraguay on 22 July appealing for the release of four *AI*-adopted prisoners who have been on hunger strike since 1 July in order to reinforce demands for their freedom.

The four, none of whom has ever been charged, are CALIXTO RAMIREZ SANCHEZ and BERNARDO CARDOSO, both detained since 1964, ROGELIO MORA, who has been held since 1969, and HERMINIO STUMAS, held since 1970.

This is the fourth hunger strike that Calixto Ramirez has undertaken since 1971. In December 1971 he began a hunger strike in protest at the appalling conditions of the prison in which he was detained. In August 1971 he was confined to a police clinic after a second strike. Although allegedly promised his freedom, he was in fact returned after treatment to the 7th Police Station in Asuncion where in November 1973 he began a third hunger strike which lasted for 17 days. He now suffers from a total paralysis of his right side and has reportedly been transferred to the police clinic in critical condition.

AI ASKS ZAMBIA TO HALT EXECUTIONS

AI cabled President KENNETH KAUNDA of Zambia on 19 July urging him to commute death sentences passed by the High Court in Lusaka on three Zambian nationals who were charged with treason.

The three had allegedly recruited Zambians to

cross the border into the South African-occupied territory of Namibia to undergo training aimed at overthrowing Dr Kaunda's government.

WORK STARTS ON DETENTIONS IN BAHREIN

AI has started an investigation into the cases of 25 workers who were arrested in Bahrein in June during an industrial dispute at an aluminium plant. The workers had been demanding higher wages and the reinstatement of 40 welders who had been dismissed from their jobs after an earlier strike action.

All those arrested had long been agitating for the formation of trade unions which are not yet legal in Bahrein but which would be permitted under the draft constitution now before the national assembly. So far *AI* has adopted one of the 25 detainees: ABDUL HADI KHALAF who, prior to his arrest, had been asked by the finance ministry to close his bookshop where "socialist" literature was sold.

BRITISH ASSURANCE TO AI OVER RHODESIA

Britain has assured *AI* that it is doing all it can to try to obtain the release of political detainees in Rhodesia. The assurance came in a letter dated 5 July to Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS from JOAN LESTOR, member of parliament and Parliamentary Under-Secretary in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The letter followed a visit to Miss Lestor by Mr Ennals and JACOB MOYO, leader of the London-based Campaign for the Relief of Rhodesian Political Prisoners. They were accompanied by two ex-detainees. The delegation had pressed Miss Lestor to ensure that the British Government took vigorous steps to assist the more than 350 persons presently detained in Rhodesia, which is still officially a British colony.

In her letter, Miss Lestor said Britain had been trying to obtain the release of detainees and to get something done about the conditions in which they are held.

"From time to time some of the detainees have been released, partly due to our representations and also to those of Amnesty whose assistance is appreciated," she wrote. She said Britain would continue to do what it could about such matters as detentions, executions for political crimes and the alleged use of torture by Rhodesian security forces.

ALL AI-ADOPTEES IN TURKEY RELEASED

All prisoners for whom *AI* groups have been working in Turkey have now been freed as part of the general amnesty declared in May. Political prisoners were excluded at first from the amnesty (June *Newsletter*). But in July, the Constitutional Court, after an application by Prime Minister BULENT ECEVIT's ruling Republican People's Party, quashed the exclusion on procedural grounds. The release of the prisoners began soon after the court's ruling was published in the official gazette on 12 July.

The release of *AI*'s adoptees was confirmed by *AI* researcher ANNE BURLEY who visited Turkey in July. During her visit, she and THOMAS HAMMARBERG of *AI*'s International Executive Committee held talks with Minister of Justice SEVKET KAZAN on a number of matters, including the legislation under which most of the political

prisoners had been detained before the amnesty was declared.

YUGOSLAV APPEALS TO EUROPEAN COURT

LAZAR STOJANOVIC, a Yugoslav film director who is an AI adoptee, has appealed to the European Court of Human Rights to intervene on his behalf with the Yugoslav Government. The appeal was contained in a letter smuggled out of Pozarevac Prison where Mr Stojanovic is serving a 3-year sentence for "attacking the social order".

The charge arose from his film "The Plastic Genius" which he made as a graduate student at the Belgrade Film School and which was highly praised by his teachers.

The European Court of Human Rights is unlikely to take any action on Mr Stojanovic's letter, however, because Yugoslavia is not a member of the Council of Europe.

CAMPAIGN FOR 118 SOUTH VIETNAMESE

AI has launched an urgent action campaign to help the 118 South Vietnamese refugees who were sent back to Saigon last month from Hong Kong (July Newsletter). The 118 have been detained on Con Son Island pending trial despite the Republic of Vietnam's earlier assurance to Hong Kong that they would be treated leniently. A newspaper report said that the head of South Vietnam's national police has denied knowledge of any such commitment by his government.

As part of the action campaign, which began on 2 July, AI national sections and groups have been urged to make representations to the Saigon authorities, to the press and to embassies in their countries calling for the release of the 118.

AI TESTIFIES TO UN GROUP ON AFRICA

AI's researcher on southern Africa, MALCOLM SMART, gave evidence on 18 July to the United Nations Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts of the Commission of Human Rights which met in London. His submission included evidence on prison conditions and alleged brutalities in Rhodesia, floggings of political activists in Namibia and the banishment of released political prisoners to resettlement areas in South Africa.

The UN group is gathering evidence in Europe before proceeding on a tour of various African capitals to hear further witnesses.

POSTCARDS FOR PRISONERS

FROM PAST CAMPAIGNS

KHAN ABDUS SABUR KHAN RELEASED

Khan Abdus SABUR Khan, who was on the *Postcards for Prisoners Campaign* last month, has been freed from detention in Bangladesh, according to the Bangladesh Embassy in Bonn. AI has written to the Prime Minister, Sheikh MUJIBUR RAHMAN, thanking him for Mr Sabur's release.

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NEWS OF FIVE SOVIET PRISONERS:

Simas KUDIRKA (June 1974 *Campaign*), the Lithuanian nationalist jailed in the USSR after he tried to defect to the United States (where his mother was born) has been granted American citizenship by the State Department, according to a newspaper report from Washington.

Vladimir GERSHUNI (September 1971 *Campaign*) has been transferred to an ordinary psychiatric

hospital where conditions are reported to be better than in the special hospital in which he was detained previously.

Yuri SHIKHANOVICH (November 1973 *Campaign*) has reportedly been released from confinement in a psychiatric hospital.

Valentin MOROZ (July 1971 *Campaign*) began an indefinite hunger strike on 1 July to obtain a transfer from Vladimir Prison where conditions are notoriously bad.

Vladimir BUKOVSKY (August 1967 and January 1974 *Campaigns*) was transferred from a labour camp to Vladimir Prison in June. His health is poor and it is feared that he will not survive the conditions there.

THIS MONTH'S CAMPAIGN

9 UNDER DEATH SENTENCE, South Korea

Nine of the 14 persons condemned to death in South Korea in July have been placed *en bloc* on the *Postcards for Prisoners Campaign* as one of the three appeals AI is making this month. The other five have already had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment. But the remaining nine are still under sentence of death as this Newsletter goes to press.

The background to their present situation may be found on page 1. All nine are regarded as prisoners of conscience who have been given the death penalty for their opposition to the policies of the government.

Their names and ages are:

Reo Jeong Nam, 29; Lee Hyeon Bae, 30; Soh Do Weon, 51; Do Rye Jon, 50; Ha Je Wan, 42; Kim Yong Weon, 39; Lee Su Byeon, 36; U Hong Seon, 44; and Song San Jin, 46.

Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for the commutation of the death sentences of all nine and for their release to: President Park Chung-hee, President of the Republic of Korea, The Blue House, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

Gabriel SUPERFIN, USSR

Gabriel SUPERFIN, a young literary scholar and archivist who once worked as a researcher for Alexander Solzhenitsyn, was arrested on 3 July 1973 in Moscow. For several months previously he had been interrogated regularly by the KGB about the *Chronicle of Current Events* and searches had been carried out at his own home and the homes of his friends and relatives.

Following his arrest, Mr Superfin was held in strict isolation during investigation of his case. In August 1973 he was sent for psychiatric examination in the Serbsky Institute and fears were expressed that he might be faced with internment in a mental hospital. However, Mr Superfin was declared to be responsible for his actions.

By March 1974 Mr Superfin had still not been permitted to meet his relatives or counsel. In that month he was called as a witness in the trial of another dissident, Viktor Khaustov, with whose case his own had originally been linked. The prosecution wished to use the testimony given by Mr Superfin during his preliminary investigation, but at the trial Mr Superfin courageously withdrew the depositions he had made, stating that they had been given under pressure. His own trial eventually took

place in May 1974. He faced several charges under Article 70 of the RSFSR Penal Code ("anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda"), among them participating in the publication of the *Chronicle of Current Events*, sending to the West the prison diary of Eduard Kuznetsov, and signing a letter in defence of the dissident writers Alexander Ginsberg and Yuri Galanskov.

Pleading not guilty, Mr Superfin said that he would not renounce anything he had done because "this would mean denouncing part of my own life". He was convicted and sentenced to a period of 5 years' strict regime labour camp, to be followed by 2 years' exile. An appeal for reduction of this heavy sentence was rejected in July by the Moscow Supreme Court.

Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for his release to: L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party; *and to:* N.V. Podgorny, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet. Their address is the Kremlin, Moscow, RSFSR, USSR.

Ivan Axelrud DE SEIXAS, Brazil

Ivan Axelrud DE SEIXAS was arrested in 1970 at the age of 16. His case should have been heard by a minor's court, but he was held instead in the Presidio do Hipodromo, Sao Paulo, where political prisoners have reported hearing common law prisoners being tortured daily.

He saw his father, Joaquim Alencar Seixas, die in prison as a result of torture; and his mother, Fanny Seixas, and his father's two sisters were also imprisoned and held for over a year before being released. The authorities continue to hold him because they say they feel it is best for him to remain in custody until he has "calmed down" after the events which they themselves apparently acknowledge to have constituted "injustices" against his family.

Ivan Axelrud de Seixas has been adopted by AI because he has committed no act of violence and seems to have been arrested originally with other members of his family in order to intimidate his father.

Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for his release to: The Minister of Justice, Exmo. Sr. Falcao, Ministerio da Justica, Espl. dos Ministerios, bl. 10, Brasilia (DF), Brazil.

PRISONER RELEASES AND CASES

The International Secretariat learned in June of the release of 117 AI-adopted prisoners and took up 95 new cases.

IEC DECIDES ON NEW INITIATIVES

AI's International Executive Committee, meeting in London 5-7 July, heard detailed reports of missions to Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Cuba and Namibia and agreed to a number of further initiatives. These include a high-level mission to Spain later this year and a report on Soviet prisons and labour camps to be published early in 1975.

The IEC also decided to send an immediate mission to Portugal to press the new government to undertake a public inquiry into the past excesses of the now-disbanded secret police organization, the DGS. The mission was also to en-

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT VACANCIES

Applications are invited for the following vacancies at the International Secretariat in London:

PUBLICATIONS ASSISTANT

The Information Office needs an organized person to handle all aspects of production, proofreading, sales and distribution of AI publications and printed matter. Good typing is essential and experience on an IBM Composer would be useful. Annual salary: £1,892 plus luncheon vouchers, rising soon to approximately £2,100.

SECRETARIES

The Research Department urgently needs secretaries with good shorthand and typing and preferably with languages. The work is demanding but rewarding. Annual salary: £1,730 plus luncheon vouchers, rising soon to approximately £2,000.

All applicants should have a sound knowledge of English which is the working language of the secretariat. Those interested in the above posts should write with a resume of their experience to: Personnel, International Secretariat, Amnesty International, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England, or telephone: 01-404-5831.

courage the medical and legal work already being done in Lisbon to assess the effects of torture under the Caetano regime and to treat the victims.

In light of the experience of Chile, the IEC also discussed AI's approach to political emergencies. The Secretary General was asked to prepare resolutions for September's International Council meeting in Denmark on contingency planning and on the establishment of crisis machinery and funds within AI's larger national sections.

TWO NEW RESEARCHERS APPOINTED

MALCOLM SMART, aged 27, has been appointed AI researcher for southern Africa in succession to CLARA OLSEN who has left for a career in journalism. Mr Smart holds a master's degree in African studies and has carried out research in South Africa and Botswana.

WEN-HSIEN HUANG, aged 36, has been appointed researcher for southeast Asia in succession to STEPHANIE GRANT, now Head of Research. He was a Fellow of the University of California's Department of Political Studies in Berkeley and research officer at Sussex University's Institute of Development Studies.

LES HASWELL, aged 26, previously acting Finance Officer, has been named acting Administrative Manager, succeeding JIM GAYLORD who has now left AI. Mr Haswell will occupy the post until after the new Deputy Secretary General takes up his appointment in October.

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FUNDRAISING IDEA: AI's Western Australian Section has rented a shop and rooms cheaply and opened an "Opportunity Shop" to raise money. The shop sells second-hand clothing and household goods that have been donated to the section.

INDONESIAN OFFICERS ALLEGEDLY TRAINED IN TORTURE AT AUSTRALIAN ARMY CENTER

The Australian press disclosed in June the existence of an Army intelligence center in South Australia, where military personnel are allegedly being trained in techniques of interrogation, including torture. Particularly disturbing are reports about the training of Indonesian Army officers in such courses.

Trainees at the School of Military Intelligence at Woodside, near Adelaide, are reported to be instructed to apply methods of interrogation that include beatings, electric shocks, mental torture and sexual humiliation. Next to the School itself a "prison camp" has been built that "simulates prison conditions in an Asian Communist country" - these conditions include underground cells, rooms for soft and hard interrogation, filthy open toilets, a "people's court", and posters of Mao Tse-tung on the walls. The most frightening feature of this camp is said to be a large concrete well in which, after the prisoner has been locked inside, water is poured while the interrogators pound on the iron top with sticks.

AI's Victorian and South Australian Sections have publicly protested against the courses at Woodside, and especially against the alleged training of Indonesian military officers in methods that they could subsequently use on political prisoners in Indonesia.

From the International Secretariat in London letters have been sent to Prime Minister E. GOUGH WHITLAM and Minister of Defence LANCE BARNARD, asking for a full investigation and, if the allegations prove to be accurate, adequate measures to stop these practices.

Defence Minister Barnard, in a statement of 24 June, denied that foreign officers attended the courses at Woodside specifically concerned with interrogation. He said that 50 Indonesians had received other forms of intelligence training, almost all through a course entitled "Intelligence Officers' Course for Foreign Officers". However, he admitted that six per cent of the overall time of this course dealt with aspects of interrogation in the intelligence setting.

MILITARY IN INDONESIA RULE BY TORTURE

Recent reports received by the Campaign Department indicate that torture is still practiced widely and systematically in Indonesia, in particular by specialized army units, against suspected political opponents of the government.

The army has since the abortive coup in October 1965 built up considerable political power. The department responsible for political matters is *Kopkamtib* (Command for the Restoration of Security and Order), which is headed directly by President SUHARTO. *Kopkamtib* consists of *Satgas*, special units for political intelligence; most regional and local army commands have *Satgas Intel* details, which have taken over all police tasks with regard to political suspects and detainees.

amnesty international

CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE

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According to authoritative sources, most political suspects are tortured during interrogation by the army. Methods used include electric shocks, beating, kicking, sexual violations, pulling out hair, and previously unheard of methods such as twisting an edged pencil between fingers that are firmly tied together. Detainees are held incommunicado during interrogation. Torturers are believed to be specialists: there are strong indications that Indonesian officers receive training in interrogation techniques abroad.

Torture of political prisoners appears to be restricted to the army's interrogation. There is no evidence that torture as such is used in prison camps, although harsh punitive measures are applied there: isolation, "drying in the sun" for hours, intimidation, transfers without apparent reason. Sometimes prisoners are taken back for renewed interrogation and torture.

Criminal suspects are also reported to be subjected to torture and ill-treatment by the regular police. They, too, are often held incommunicado for a period of time. It seems, however, that torture of criminal offenders could be ascribed to police brutality of a more primitive nature that is applied as a matter of course rather than to systematic, professional practice.

Although torture seems to be used mainly for extracting information and confessions, it clearly also serves the purpose of intimidation, a purpose that has served the authorities well. People know about torture, but are anxious not to talk about it, for fear of reprisals against themselves or against relatives who are still in prison - and there are very few families untouched by past or present imprisonment.

REPORT OF DEATH BY TORTURE IN IRAQ

MULLA ALI AL SHAMDANI, a Kurdish religious leader and scholar was tortured to death by Iraqi soldiers, according to reliable information received by the CAT Department.

After the capture in April by the Iraqi army of the border town of Zakho, Mulla Ali protested against the killing of civilians. Because of this protest he was arrested as a sympathizer of the Kurdish revolutionary forces and tortured for information about their secret

movements. He was blinded before he died.

This is one of a number of reports that AI has recently received. Other information concerns the ill-treatment of Kurdish and Arab prisoners between 1971 and 1973, including the names of 13 who died as a result of torture inflicted during interrogation.

APPEALS

AI has learned in messages from Brazil that the torture of MARIA DE CONCEICAO SARAMENTO COELHO DA PAZ has stopped as a result of international pressure on her behalf, including the concern shown by AI (July CAT BULLETIN). After having been tortured during the first weeks of her imprisonment, her treatment improved, and Maria can now see her lawyer and relatives.

However, the authorities are apparently searching for some reason to indict Maria, and as there is reportedly no justification for her arrest, your letters on her behalf are still needed. Write to General Ernesto Geisel, Presidente da Republica, Brasilia (DF), Brazil, and to the Brazilian embassy in your country.

LEONID PLYUSHCH - USSR

LEONID PLYUSHCH, a mathematician from Kiev and formerly a member of the Initiative Group for the Defence of Human Rights in the USSR, was arrested in January 1972 on charges of "anti-Soviet activity". At the Serbsky Institute of Forensic Psychiatry he was diagnosed as suffering from "creeping schizophrenia with messianic and reformist ideas", and at his trial in January 1973, which was held *in camera* and which he was not allowed to attend himself, it was decided that he should be detained in a special psychiatric hospital.

Mr Plyushch has now been detained for a year in the Dnepropetrovsk special psychiatric hospital, which has a particularly bad reputation even among institutions of this type. Here, he has received "treatment" by powerful drugs, as a result of which his health has been seriously undermined. In February 1974 a group of Moscow intellectuals, including ANDREI SAKHAROV, appealed to the international community to save the life of Mr Plyushch, stating that "being confined in appalling conditions of humiliation, persecution and physical suffering, the unregulated and senseless administration of large doses of haloperidol has caused a sharp deterioration in his health, extreme exhaustion and continuous shivering, weakness, swellings, spasms, and loss of appetite".

In March 1974, when Mr Plyushch's wife was allowed a rare visit to her husband, she found him greatly altered: formerly a thin man, he was swollen with oedema, could move his legs only with great difficulty and was completely unable to read or write. More recent reports have indicated that Mr Plyushch remains in a critical condition.

It is hoped that renewed attention may help Mr Plyushch's case; earlier this year there

have been releases from mental hospitals, including VIKTOR FAINBERG, VLADIMIR BORISOV, YURI SHIKHANOVICH and PYOTR GRIGORENKO.

Send courteously worded appeals for his release and rehabilitation to: N.V.Podgorny, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, and to: R.A. Rudenko, Attorney-General of the USSR. Addresses: SSSR, g. Moskva, Kreml, Predsedatelyu Prezidiuma Verkhovnogo Sovietsa SSR, N.V.Podgornomu; SSSR, g. Moskva, Pushkinskaya ul.15a, Prokuratura SSSR, Generalnomu Prokuroru, R.A. Rudenko.

ZANZIBAR TORTURE VICTIMS FACE DEATH

On 18 May 1974, after a year-long trial in which the defendants were held virtually incommunicado and were denied defence lawyers, 34 persons, 14 of them in absentia, were sentenced to public execution by firing squad for their alleged involvement in the assassination of the President of Zanzibar, Sheikh ABEID KARUME, in April 1972. Many of the defendants alleged that they were forced to sign confessions after being tortured. One of the accused claimed that the interrogation center to which he was taken was "like an abattoir -splashed with human blood". These allegations were given added weight by the prosecution's own admission in court. Attorney-General WOLFGANG DOURADO stated in his final submission on February 13 1974:"I am conceding that some form of arm-twisting was adopted in order to obtain these statements. It would be dishonest on my part if I were to submit otherwise".

The executions have not yet taken place because the accused have a right to appeal to three higher authorities: the High Court, the Supreme Council and President ABOUD JUMBE.

Send courteously worded appeals for lenience to: His Excellency President Aboud Jumbe, Zanzibar Town, Zanzibar, Tanzania. It should be stressed in particular that the use of torture to obtain confessions constitutes a gross violation of generally accepted standards of judicial procedure.

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AFFIDAVITS FROM NAMIBIA AVAILABLE

The Campaign Department has published a 12-page booklet entitled "Flogging in Namibia", presenting sworn affidavits from black Namibian victims of this practice (June CAT Bulletin). It describes the improper trials, the political reasons for floggings, their historical origin, and their medical effect.

National Sections have been requested to distribute the booklet as widely as possible, especially to churches, the press, and to businessmen who invest in Namibia, with the aim of using their influence with the South African Government. The Campaign Department has sent a copy to the World Health Organization, and members of the CAT Medical Commission have written letters to encourage the WHO to undertake a mission to Namibia in order to draw the attention of the world's medical professions to the floggings.(In May the WHO admitted Namibia as an associate member).