

SOUTH KOREA

PRESIDENT LIFTS EMERGENCY LAWS AFTER BISHOP TJI IS IMPRISONED FOR 15 YEARS

President PARK CHUNG-HEE of South Korea repealed Emergency Regulations 1 and 4 on 23 August, 11 days after Bishop (Daniel) TJI HAK-SUN, Honorary President of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL's South Korean Section, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

But President Park, whose wife died in an attempt on his life earlier in the week, said those already convicted under the regulations would remain in detention.

Emergency Regulation 1, promulgated in January, provided a maximum 15-year sentence for anyone opposing the country's controversial constitution of 1972. Emergency Regulation 4, promulgated in April, instituted the death penalty for anyone who praised, encouraged or sympathized with a student group that had been instrumental in organizing anti-Park demonstrations. Both regulations had been the subject of strong protest both inside and outside South Korea. President Park said he was revoking them because the death of his wife had united the country to an awareness of the alleged threats it was facing.

At least 170 South Koreans - mostly students, church leaders and intellectuals - and two Japanese nationals received stiff sentences ranging from long terms of imprisonment to death under the two regulations. Some death sentences were commuted subsequently, but nine South Koreans still face execution at the time of writing. All nine were put on last month's *AI Postcards for Prisoners Campaign*.

Monsieur Tji, who is Roman Catholic Bishop of Wonju and an outspoken critic of the Park regime and the 1972 Constitution, was found guilty under Emergency Regulation 4 and five articles of South Korean penal code. He was accused of "providing money to dissident students planning the violent overthrow of the government". He admitted giving one million Korean won (about £1,200) for humanitarian reasons to the poet KIM CHI-HA, who was sentenced to death under the regulations in July and then had his sentence commuted to life imprisonment (August *Newsletter*).

After the emergency regulations were lifted, *AI* cabled President Park welcoming their repeal and urging the immediate and unconditional release of all prisoners sentenced and detained under these regulations".

A 50-page report last month by an *AI* delegate to South Korea, New York Lawyer WILLIAM BUTLER, called the emergency measures "a total denial of human freedom". He said many of those found guilty under them had only confessed under torture.

Mr Butler subsequently gave testimony on his findings before a foreign affairs sub-committee

of the United States House of Representatives. This was followed by a call by leading American newspapers and politicians for withdrawal of US assistance to South Korea.

AI TO PUBLISH REPORT ON CHILE

AI is publishing a major report on Chile to mark the first anniversary on 11 September of the military coup that overthrew the government of President SALVADOR ALLENDE.

The 80-page publication, called *CHILE - an Amnesty International report*, examines in detail the program of repression upon which the new military junta embarked after the coup. It contains chapters on the circumstances of the coup, political prisoners, executions, deaths and disappearances, the use and abuse of the law by the junta, torture and the plight of refugees. There is also an appendix containing individual cases of repression and chronology of *AI*'s own work on Chile.

The report, which is being published in English and Spanish editions, is illustrated with photographs and a map showing the locations of detention centers in Chile.

Price of each edition is 85 pence (US \$2.10) plus postage. Copies are available from national sections and from Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England. Payment, including postage, must be received in advance.

DANISH EX-FOREIGN MINISTER WILL OPEN AI INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Some 150 delegates and observers from 22 national sections are expected to attend *Amnesty International's* Seventh International Council meeting which is being held at Askov Folk High School near Vejen, Denmark, from 6-8 September.

They will be welcomed by the former Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs KNUD BORGE ANDERSEN.

Representatives from 36 non-governmental organizations are also sending observers to the council. Prior to the council, these observers will attend a special meeting to discuss future action in *AI*'s Campaign for the Abolition of Torture.

Also preceding the council will be a meeting of *AI* treasurers and a meeting of the International Executive Committee.

Among the topics for discussion at the council itself are plans for new approaches in *AI*'s work, development in new areas, the handling of emergency situations, capital punishment and means of broadening awareness of *AI*'s aims and concerns.

BULGARIA RELEASES HEINRICH SPETTER

Dr HEINRICH SPETTER, the Bulgarian economist sentenced to death in Sofia on 1 June for alleged espionage, arrived in Israel on 22 August after being freed by Bulgarian authorities.

Dr Spetter, aged 53 and a former employee of

the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in Vienna, was the subject of an appeal by AI for commutation of his sentence (July *Newsletter*). The appeal to Bulgarian Communist Party Leader TODOR ZHIVKOV, was renewed 13 August after the Supreme Court, meeting *in camera*, confirmed the death sentence.

Dr WERNER SPORN, an Austrian lawyer representing AI, tried to attend the Supreme Court appeal hearing but was compelled to leave the courtroom. He was also prevented from meeting Dr Spetter and his family.

After receiving Dr Sporn's report, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS went to the Bulgarian Embassy in London and, in a meeting with embassy officials, welcomed the release of Dr Spetter. But he also expressed concern that the appeal had been held *in camera* and at the defence lawyer's handling of the Spetter case.

AI OBSERVER EXPELLED FROM TUNISIA

MONIQUE DESFORGES, a French lawyer representing AI, was expelled from Tunisia on 15 August while attending the trial at the National Security Court in Tunis of 202 students, teachers and workers accused of various political charges. A number of other foreign observers were also expelled.

On 24 August the court sentenced 175 of the defendants to terms of imprisonment ranging from six months to ten years. The court suspended 52 of the sentences. During the trial, which began 5 August, several of the accused protested against torture they said they had suffered while in detention and pointed out individual torturers among the police present in the courtroom. The trial has been condemned by international observers as being part of an attempt to suppress all opposition movements in Tunisia.

SOUTH VIETNAM DENIES 118 HONG KONG DEPORTEES WERE TREATED BRUTALLY

The Republic of Vietnam has angrily denied reports that 118 Vietnamese refugees deported from Hong Kong in June (July *Newsletter*) were brutally assaulted on their forced return to Saigon and that 14, including two children, died after most of them were sent to the notorious prison on Con Son Island.

But A.J.J. SANGUINETTI, a Hong Kong lawyer who visited Saigon 8-10 August on behalf of AI, confirmed the assault charge. He also confirmed that most of the refugees had initially been sent to Con Son on arrival, despite assurances given by the Saigon regime to Hong Kong that they would be treated leniently if returned.

Saigon's denial of the charges came in a cable to AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS from HOANG DUC NHA, Minister for Information and Open Arms of the Republic of Vietnam. The cable was in response to an AI cable and press statement calling for an urgent and impartial international inquiry into the fate of the 118.

According to the reports on which AI based its call for an inquiry, a girl aged four and a boy aged 12 were among the 14 alleged to have died, mostly of illness and "injuries". The reports also said that some 25 military-age men who were among the 118 refugees and who are

believed to be conscientious objectors, had been sent without training to join front-line units in one of South Vietnam's heaviest fighting zones.

Mr Hoang's cable in reply said he was "absolutely stunned at (the) shocking inaccuracy" of the reports about the refugees. "There has been no repeat no deaths or injuries inflicted on them," Mr Hoang said, "nor have there been people sent to frontline without training stop. Amnesty International's excitement therefore (is) gratuitous and unnecessary."

Mr Hoang said that "instead of fidgeting over nothing", AI should look into the fate of the 100,000 South Vietnamese whom he alleged were "still in North Vietnamese hands and so far unaccounted for".

In a report of his visit to Saigon, Mr Sanguinetti said a Saigon government official had admitted to him that none of the detained refugees had been seen by independent persons. The official said that all the refugees, including 35-40 of them who have been released, will soon face trial.

Mr Sanguinetti said independent sources in Saigon had confirmed that the 118 were "brutally assaulted" on their arrival from Hong Kong. He said that the Hong Kong authorities had not produced a list of the names and particulars of the refugees. (In London there were reports that the Hong Kong government was claiming it had never recorded the names of the refugees before it deported them.)

"Even cattle when shipped have some kind of documentation," Mr Sanguinetti said. He pointed out that such a list is important "as there may well be substitution at the trials".

The Australian Government has already joined AI in asking Saigon for an independent inquiry into the fate of the 118.

APPEAL TO BAHREIN TO FREE 29 WORKERS

AI cabled Sheikh ISSA BIN SULMAN AL KHALIFA of Bahrain on 18 August calling for the release of 29 workers who were arrested in June during an industrial dispute at an aluminium plant in the Arabian Gulf state (August *Newsletter*).

A press statement issued with the cable expressed concern that the 29 had been detained for over two months without charge or trial in contravention of Bahrain's criminal code which stipulates that no one can be detained for more than 48 hours.

The statement also voiced concern at reports of poor conditions in Jidda Island prison where the 29 are being held and at the fact that their relatives had not been allowed to see any of them. One report said that prisoners subsisted on tiny daily rations of boiled vegetables, sugar, tinned milk and flour, receiving only two ounces of fish and one ounce of meat per week.

CHILE COMMUTES FOUR DEATH SENTENCES

The Chilean Government announced in August that it was commuting the death sentences passed by an air force tribunal on three air force officers and one civilian for collaboration with the government of President SALVADOR ALLENDE before last year's military coup.

Earlier AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS had written to Chile's Head of State, General AUGUSTO

PINOCHET UGARTE, appealing for commutation of the sentences on Colonel ERNESTO GALAZ, aged 46, Captain RAUL VERGARA, aged 31, Sergeant BELARMINO CONSTANZO, aged 43, and CARLOS LAZO FRIAS, aged 47, a member of the Chilean Socialist Party and former Vice-President of the State Bank of Chile. The background to their case is detailed in the forthcoming *AI* publication *Chile: an Amnesty International Report* (see front page box).

Mr Ennals said in his letter that a number of impartial foreign observers who attended the air force trials reported that the legal rights of the defendants had been grossly violated. The observers had said that, among other violations, the charges against the defendants were based on confessions extracted during severe interrogation involving the use of torture.

Mr Ennals also expressed concern to General Pinochet at the news that in a trial of 74 political prisoners which began recently in Linares, the military prosecutor had demanded the death penalty for four civilian members of the regional council of the Socialist Party during the Allende government.

JORDAN URGED TO FREE 9 PALESTINIANS

AI cabled King HUSSEIN of Jordan on 18 August urging him to free nine Palestinians who have been arrested over the past three months for trade union activities. The nine have been detained without charge or trial and without being permitted visits from relatives.

The nine include MUHAMMED KASSEM, Secretary of the Amman Engineering Workers' Union, and ABDUL KADER KHATTAB, a member of the Executive Bureau of the Amman Bank Employees' Union. All were arrested following a complaint they made against the Minister of Labour who had crossed their names off the register at recent trade union elections.

UN RECEIVES AI SUBMISSION ON NAMIBIA

AI sent United Nations Secretary General KURT WALDHEIM a communication on 6 August on the "consistent pattern of gross and reliably attested violations of human rights perpetrated by the government of South Africa upon the inhabitants of Namibia".

The communication referred to the situation in northern Namibia where, since the second half of 1973, more than 100 persons have been flogged in public because of their opposition to South African policies in Namibia. It said South Africa's refusal to stop the floggings constituted a gross violation of human rights. *AI* sent the UN affidavits from victims of the floggings and from a surgeon who examined two of them, as well as photographs of the wounds inflicted and of the instrument used: the dried rigid stem of the makalani palm branch.

Five days after the communication was sent, *AI*'s Campaign for the Abolition of Torture department issued a news release challenging South Africa's statement that the floggings are the outcome of "tribal law and custom" in Namibia. It also issued a 12-page report on the floggings. The news release said that South Africa's protestations that it was unable to intervene "is not only hypocritical but also

false" since the government, in fact, controls, directly or indirectly all important political and economic matters in Namibia.

The United Nations' Office of Public Information has just completed a 16mm colour film entitled "Namibia - a trust betrayed", which provides a useful background to the problem. Sections and groups wishing to obtain a copy of this 27-minute film should write to: Daphne Brooks, Chief of Distribution, Radio and Visual Services Division, United Nations, New York, New York 10017, USA.

POSTCARDS FOR PRISONERS

FROM PAST CAMPAIGNS

MUSTAFA DZHEMILEV OF USSR RE-ARRESTED

Mustafa DZHEMILEV of the Soviet Union, who was on the *Postcards for Prisoners Campaign* in November 1971, has been re-arrested and sentenced to a year's imprisonment for refusing to report for military training.

Some reports maintained that he was actually detained for attempting to mark the 30th anniversary of the deportation of the Crimean Tartars to Uzbekistan.

Mr Dzhemilev, who is now believed to be on hunger strike, was put on the postcard campaign during a 3-year term of imprisonment he was serving for allegedly writing and distributing *samizdat* - underground literature in typescript form.

Ota FILIP of Czechoslovakia, who was on the October 1970 *Campaign*, was expelled from the country in July and arrived in West Germany with his family. Expelled with him was fellow Czechoslovak writer Jiri Hochman who was also an *AI* adoptee and who has now gone to Switzerland for medical treatment. An article in the Swiss newspaper *Zeitung* on 8 August credited *AI*'s intervention with playing a major part in Mr Hochman being allowed to leave Czechoslovakia.

THIS MONTH'S CAMPAIGN

Dr Jan TESAR, Czechoslovakia

Dr Jan TESAR, aged 41, married with four children, is a prominent historian. He had a research post at the Military Historical Institute in Prague and was later attached to the Historical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Prague. He took part in the drafting of the "Piller Report" which was ordered by the former Czechoslovak leader ALEXANDER DUBCEK and which analyzed political developments in Czechoslovakia since 1948 and outlined reasons why the Socialist experiment failed. He was also co-author of the "Ten Point Manifesto," the letter to the Czechoslovak State and Party institutions protesting against the retreat from the policy of the reform period.

Dr Tesar was arrested in 1969, released, and arrested again in November 1971. In July 1972 he was sentenced to 6 years' imprisonment on charges of subversion. He is held in Ostrava prison. Last July he underwent a stomach operation in Prague. His wife, who last saw him in February, was not allowed to visit him in hospital.

Please send courteously worded cards appealing for his release to: General Ludvík Svoboda, President of the Czechoslovak Republic, Praha -

Hrad - Czechoslovakia; *and to:* Dr Gustáv Husák, Secretary General of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, Praha 1, Nábřeží Kyjevské Brigády, Czechoslovakia; *and to:* Dr Jan Němec, Minister of Justice, Praha - Nové Město, Vyšehradská 16, Czechoslovakia.

Rosario RAMIREZ Mora, Spain

Arrested together with her husband Cayetano Rodriguez Garcia in December 1969, Rosario RAMIREZ Mora has been held in Granada Provincial Prison ever since, having been denied bail. They are both accused of illicit association and illegal propaganda, charges for which the prosecution is demanding a total 10-year sentence for Senora Ramirez.

She suffers from a liver disease and is not receiving adequate medical care for her condition. She has been unable to have children because of poor health and has no other family besides her husband, who is also imprisoned in Granada.

Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for her release or trial to: Sr Don Francisco Ruiz-Jarabo y Baquero, Ministro de Justicia, Calle San Bernado 47, Madrid, Spain.

Mrs KUSNAH, Indonesia

Mrs KUSNAH was first arrested shortly after the abortive coup attempt in 1965 and was released after spending several months in jail. She was again arrested in 1969 and has remained in prison without charge or trial ever since.

Prior to the coup attempt Mrs Kusnah was employed at the Unilever plant in Jakarta and was an activist in the Unilever Workers' Union, an affiliate of the left-wing trade union federation SOBSI. SOBSI and all its affiliates were banned immediately after the coup attempt and many of its leaders were arrested.

During interrogation following her second arrest, Mrs Kusnah was severely maltreated, including being burned with cigarettes, while being pressed to give information about the whereabouts of her pre-1965 trade union colleagues.

After spending many months in interrogation centers in Jakarta, Mrs Kusnah was transferred to the Bukit Duri Women's Prison in Jakarta where she remained until April 1971 when she was transferred to the Plantungan Women's Detention Center in Central Java. This means that she has been classified as a "B" category prisoner, the category for those who cannot be tried for lack of evidence but who will not be released because they are deemed to be security risks. Mrs Kusnah has 13 children who are now in the care of her husband.

Please send courteously-worded cards appealing for her release to: President Suharto, Istana Hegara, Jakarta; *and to:* the Prosecutor-General, Ali Said SH, Kejaksaan Agung, Jalan Hasanuddin 1, Kebayoran-Baru, Jakarta.

PRISONER RELEASES AND CASES

The International Secretariat learned in July of the release of 104 AI-adopted prisoners and took up 144 new cases.

AI NEWS IN BRIEF

Following conflicting reports that a young

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AI MEMBERS

The Victorian Section in Australia has drafted a suggested set of guidelines for AI members under the above title:

A member will hold personal opinions but he must be tolerant of the opinions of others and he must be prepared to work for those who are imprisoned for views he does not share.

A member may express his opinions publicly, but unless he refers to matters of direct concern to Amnesty International and has been authorized to speak for the movement, for a section or a group, he must not allow the impression to arise that he is presenting Amnesty's views.

A member may also belong to other organizations. He must then carefully separate his activities for another organization from his work for Amnesty International and must refrain from involving Amnesty in matters beyond its concern.

In particular, a member or an organization to which he belongs may be committed to aims to which Amnesty International could not subscribe or appear to be subscribing. For example, he may be opposed to a specific regime's ideology or policies on matters other than the jailing of prisoners of conscience or torture. The member must then carefully weigh to what extent his being considered hostile to that regime could prejudice his or Amnesty's work for prisoners of conscience in that country.

In brief, while a member's right to other interests and commitments is not questioned, he must not prejudice the standing of Amnesty International as an unbiased movement with specific objectives.

Soviet violinist, GEORGI ERMOLENKO, had asked for political asylum in Australia, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS cabled Prime Minister EDWARD GOUGH WHITLAM suggesting the formation of an *ad hoc* independent committee, composed of legal authorities and an AI representative, to determine whether Mr Ermolenko really wanted asylum. The violinist eventually returned to the USSR after assuring Australian officials that he wished to do so. Australia is proposing a new international covenant for the granting of asylum for political reasons and something like the committee proposed in this case by AI would need to be a constituent of it.

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AI cabled President ANWAR SADAT of Egypt on 8 August condemning the execution of two alleged spies, ATTIA FAHMI ISKANDER and SULEIMAN SALMAN. They are believed to be the same two persons - then named as Fawwaz Hussein and Suleiman Suleiman whose death sentences AI urged President Sadat to commute last June.

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FUNDRAISING IDEA: During Prisoner of Conscience Week 1973, special collections in Lutheran churches in the Hanover area of West Germany raised 30,000 Dms. Now is the time for groups to make similar arrangements for PoC Week 1974: 13-20 October.

MARTIAL LAW REGIME IN THE PHILIPPINES EMPLOYS TORTURE TO CRUSH OPPOSITION

Several reports received during recent months by the CAT department from the Philippines, indicate that torture of political opponents of President FERDINAND MARCOS' regime is common practice, and may be on the increase.

There are no signs that any adequate measures have been taken to curb these practices, in spite of previous international protests against similar allegations since the imposition of martial law in September 1972.

In October 1973, the Catholic Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines conducted a nationwide survey on the role of the church under martial law, and in the report of this survey, only recently released in Europe, an alarming account is given of a political atmosphere in which the proper exercise of civil rights is severely restricted, and basic human rights grossly violated. In a chapter on the political situation, the report says that "there are frequent reports of physical torture from all regions of the country".

It appears, however, that the methods of torture employed are not restricted to physical brutality. It has been alleged that interrogators have injected detainees with addictive drugs, in order to break their minds. A more recent report by the Philippines Catholic Church says that many of the political detainees are subjected to "rehabilitation" by psychologists and psychiatrists. The report quotes Brigadier General CICERO CAMPOS, commanding officer of Camp Crame, a notorious detention center, as saying: "Call it what you may, call it brainwashing or whatnot, but simply we have to change the attitude of these persons, and that is not a simple job to do." Victims of the tortures, for which the military and the Philippine Constabulary (police) are to be held responsible, include lawyers, writers, teachers and churchmen.

In a letter of 22 August to President Marcos, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS has sharply protested the continuing use of torture and called for an investigation into the cases of some of the alleged victims. The letter further urged the President to abide by the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

CLANDESTINE LETTER CHARGES KOREAN CIA

Relatives and lawyers of some of the prisoners recently on trial in South Korea have circulated a mimeographed letter, telling of the claims of torture that were made in the courtroom. LEE KANG CHUL, a 26-year-old student, was quoted as charging: "I was tortured with electricity for 20 days in a basement of the KCIA (Korean Central Intelligence Agency) building. I could no longer stand the torture and admitted the prosecution charges". He was sentenced to 20 years. Another student, YO JUNG NAM, reportedly told the judges: "It was so painful and distressing to be kept awake so long at the KCIA that I just wrote what they were dictating". He was sentenced to death.

amnesty international

CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE

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UN SUB-COMMISSION DISCUSSES TORTURE

Just before this *Bulletin* went to press, a message was received from New York that the United Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, at its 27th session which was held 5-23 August, has in a resolution made the recommendation that the question of torture be discussed at this autumn's session of the UN General Assembly.

In Resolution 3059 of 2 November 1973, in which the General Assembly unanimously rejected any form of torture, specific mention was made of the fact that the Sub-Commission had asked the Commission on Human Rights for authorization to include in its agenda for last month's session an item on the human rights of persons subjected to any form of detention and imprisonment. This authorization was granted, and AI, in accordance with its consultative status, submitted a statement concerning the question of torture in relation to the work of the United Nations.

In this statement AI pointed out how the dangers of abuse of scientific research, the circumstantial evidence of involvement of medical personnel, and the inevitable corruption of the judiciary had been shockingly confirmed by the recent disclosures in Portugal. These confirmations from Portugal are all the more disturbing since in a large number of countries all over the world we are faced with a similar picture of highly developed internal security, political imprisonment and torture as in the Portugal of the past.

Stressing the need for more effective action and machinery to combat torture on the inter-governmental level, the statement drew the Sub-Commission's attention to the recommendations to that extent that emanated from the Paris Conference for the Abolition of Torture, and suggested further that the commission set up a working group on torture.

In another resolution the Sub-Commission recommended that the Commission on Human Rights study the "violations of human rights in Chile, with particular reference to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

MAKARIOS ACCUSED OF TORTURE

Torture has become an effective political issue in the hands of the opponents of the ousted President of Cyprus, Archbishop MAKARIOS. On display in New York and London early in

August were implements that had allegedly been used by the Cypriot Auxiliary Police, a security force that was established by President Makarios to combat the banned EOKA-B movement. The last months of the Makarios government were marked by a vendetta of attacks and reprisals between the EOKA-B guerrillas and the Makarios security forces.

It seems clear that the use of torture against suspected EOKA-B guerrillas and sympathizers (including at least two of their lawyers) was a routine part of their interrogation. A member of the AI Campaign Department examined the torture equipment that had allegedly been used in Cyprus, which included the following: chains and hard rubber hoses; three-foot-long tails of the stingray fish, allegedly used for whipping, that are firm, flexible, and covered with small, sharp spines; and foreign-made equipment, including heavy battery-driven police truncheons (manufactured in Savage, Minnesota, USA) that give powerful electrical jolts and a Japanese-made device (perhaps manufactured for medical use) that could be inserted in the anus and activated by batteries to cause intense vibration.

In London, a spokesman for Archbishop Makarios denied all of the allegations as the fabrications of those who would prevent the Archbishop's return to Cyprus as president. It is certainly true that his opposition has publicized the issue of torture in order to make it more difficult for the Archbishop to re-assume power. Nevertheless, the nature of the allegations has been corroborated by several foreign jurists, including a lawyer who visited Cyprus last year representing the International Commission of Jurists.

Perhaps the most telling evidence was contained in the denial issued by the Archbishop. His spokesman said that every allegation had been investigated and that in each case it had been determined that the alleged victim had allowed himself to be beaten, mutilated or burned by his colleagues so that he could accuse the government of using torture.

APPEALS

RELEASED : MARIA CONCEICAO SARAMENTO COELHO DA PAZ of Brazil (July and August *Bulletins*) has been released, according to a close relative living abroad, who expressed appreciation to those who appealed to the Brazilian authorities.

MARIA TERESA ALESSANDRO - URUGUAY

A 43-year-old social worker and former Dominican nun, MARIA TERESA ALESSANDRO, of Argentinian nationality, was arrested on 21 February 1972 in Mercedes on suspicion of collaboration with the Tupamaros. Although her relations with this underground organization seem to have been superficial, she was indicted for association with a subversive movement.

Upon arrest Maria Alessandro was taken to a military barracks, where, according to information received by AI, she was subjected to brutal tortures during a 24-day period, in order to extract a confession and to break her morale. She was suspended on a pole for hours on end in the blazing sun, was forced to walk around a

pole for 18 hours without pause, and when she collapsed, was kicked and pulled up by her hair. She was interrogated while naked, had nails pulled out, and was forced to watch how young boys were tortured on their genitals. In addition to these physical brutalities, she was sexually humiliated, and was continually disturbed during the short periods at night that she was allowed some rest.

After 24 days she was transferred to the prison of Mercedes in a very weak condition. The excessive tortures stopped, but prison conditions were harsh, and she and other prisoners were regularly harassed and subjected to humiliating treatment. This continued after subsequent transfer to the Women's Prison in Montevideo, where she is still awaiting trial.

As a result of the torture she has undergone and the poor prison conditions, Maria Alessandro's health has seriously deteriorated: she is reported to suffer from rheumatism and inadequately healed fractures, and is in constant pain. She is also losing hair, and has lapses of memory, and it is feared that she is developing a serious chronic psychosis.

Please send courteously worded letters, appealing for adequate medical treatment for Maria Teresa Alessandro, for an official inquiry into the alleged tortures, and for a speedy trial, to: Dr Marechal, Juzgado Crimen Tercer Turno, Soriano 1126, Montevideo, Uruguay; and to: Senores Miembros de la Suprema Corte de Justicia, Montevideo, Uruguay. Appeals for proper treatment should be sent to: Sr Figueredo, Director, and/or Sr Alejandro Otero, Comisario, Carcel de Mujeres, Sector Centro, Montevideo, Uruguay.

AI URGES GREECE TO RE-OPEN CASE BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Following the return of civilian rule to Greece, AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS wrote to Greek Prime Minister CONSTANTINE KARAMANLIS, requesting that the new government invite the European Commission on Human Rights to re-open the Greek case of 1968-69. The culmination of the Greek case was the withdrawal by the government of Colonel GEORGE PAPADOPOULOS from the Council of Europe on the eve of its expulsion.

Subsequently the "Report of the European Human Rights Commission in the Greek Case" was accepted by the Council of Europe. The report listed numerous violations of human rights, including 213 victims who had been tortured by the government's security forces.

The Commission "established beyond doubt that torture or ill-treatment contrary to Article 3 (of the European Human Rights Convention) has been inflicted in a number of cases, and given the 'repetition of acts' and the 'official tolerance', the use of torture in Greece constitutes an 'administrative practice'." The allegations of torture, as documented by AI, were instrumental in the decision of the Council of Europe that promoted the diplomatic isolation of Greece from the rest of Western Europe.