

POSTCARDS FOR PRISONERS CAMPAIGN

NOVEMBER, 1969

First some news about prisoners who have been on this Campaign:

Horst Bonnet, East Germany (October 1968). Horst Bonnet is reported to have been released at the end of September 1969.

Wole Soyinka, Nigeria (November 1967). Wole Soyinka was released on October 8 as part of an amnesty declared by General Gowon, the Federal Nigerian leader.

Pastor Vins, USSR (July 1968) is reported to have been released from the labour camp but to be seriously ill in a Kiev hospital.

Sheikh Guyo Jahtani, Kenya (October 1967). On October 13 President Kenyatta ordered the immediate release of all Somali detainees, including the group detained the day before Independence. The release of this group had been announced on the Kenyan radio in February but had not been implemented. On October 5 the Secretary General of Amnesty raised the question again with the Vice-President of Kenya. The order for their immediate release was finally made after President Kenyatta had received a delegation of 200 from the North Eastern region.

Major General Pyotor Grigorevich Grigorenko, USSR (August 1969). According to recent reports Major General Grigorenko has been transferred from Tashkent to a psychiatric clinic in Moscow well-known as a place of detention for prisoners of conscience. Letters can be sent to Professor Morozov, director of the Serbsky Institute. The address is SSSR, Moskva, Kropotkinsky Passazh 23, Institut Sudebnoi Psikiatrii imeni Serbskogo, Professoru Morozovu.

Captain Howard Levy, USA (July 1967). On October 13 Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas ruled that Captain Howard Levy, the Army physician sentenced in June 1967 to three years in prison for refusing to train Special Forces (Green Berets) medical orderlies for Vietnam duty, should remain free on bail until the courts can act on his Appeal.

Justice Douglas originally ordered Levy free on \$1,000 bail on August 6. Douglas's action ensures that the Supreme Court will take up at least some aspects of the case.

Lothar Dietzsch, East Germany (July 1969). He is reported to have been released and to be living in West Germany.

*Clodsmit Riani, Brazil (January 1969). The Brazilian Embassy in London has informed an Amnesty member that Clodsmit Riani has been released. This is all the information that we have at the present time. * We have since heard from the Brazilian Embassy in London that he has, in fact, not been released.

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Alfonso Carlos COMIN Ros, Spain (March 1969). Senor Comin was released at the end of the State of Exception in March. Since then the Supreme Court has rejected his appeal against the lower court's sentence of 16 months imprisonment, and Sr. Comin is now serving this sentence in the Provincial Prison La Modelo in Barcelona. Letters pleading for his release should be sent to:

EITHER

OR

The Minister of Justice,
Don Antonio Maria Oriol y Urquijo,
Ministry of Justice,
Madrid, Spain

The Minister of Information
& Tourism,
Don Manuel Fraga y Iribarne,
Ministerio del Informacion y
Turismo,
Avenida del Generalisimo 39,
Madrid, Spain

Father Gabicagogeascoa, Spain (October 1969). The Catholic Synod of Bishops met recently in Rome in October. Amnesty International forwarded to the Synod, for circulation to all the members, documents concerning the imprisonment and ill treatment of Spanish priests, together with an appeal to the Bishops to concern themselves with those priests who have suffered as a result of their protest against the suppression of human rights in Spain. The documents refer specifically to the group of priests now serving prison sentences, of whom Father Gabicagogeascoa is one.

THIS MONTH'S PRISONERS

Henry Fahnbulleh, LIBERIA

Mr. Fahnbulleh, a Liberian diplomat, had been Ambassador to Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda immediately prior to his arrest. He was arrested in February, 1968, and indicted in March the same year for Treason under Section 50 (d) and (e) of the Liberian Code. He was convicted on July 4, 1968 and given the maximum sentence of 20 years' hard labour with confiscation of all property. His Appeal was dismissed in February, 1969. Two reports by independent foreign witnesses who attended the trial, make it clear that his guilt was not satisfactorily established by the court - which has been described by many as a travesty of justice.

The prosecution case rested on the authorship of various documents alleged to have been found in his official residence in Nairobi and said to be by him, and on the authorship of anonymous letters sent to the Israeli and other Ambassadors. Other charges related to his behaviour as an Ambassador in East Africa, (which would not normally be considered as relevant to a charge of Treason), and to his alleged membership of the Chinese Communist Party. Fahnbulleh denied all charges of attempting to overthrow the Government.

The trial, the first major political trial of its kind for many years in Liberia, was held in public and widely reported by the press. For a fortnight before the

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interest in physiology and medical education, described by fellow scientists as a man with an attractive out-going temperament.

Since his and Mr Mouallem's forced stay in Syria, the Red Cross have been allowed to visit both men twice and report that they are both in good health and receiving the parcels sent to them. A letter from the Dean of the Syrian Medical School in Damascus, dated October 1969, stated that Professor Samueloff was living in the University hostel and we have received no complaints about his treatment. His wife recently flew to the United States and obtained an interview with U Thant and also saw the President of T.W.A., the airline on which he was travelling.

Cards appealing for his release should be sent to:

His Excellency Dr. Nureddin Atassi,
Office of the Chief of State,
Damascus,
Syria

Also to Professor Samueloff himself, c/o The University of Damascus,
Damascus,
Syria.

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Several members have asked us not to acknowledge every reply they send in to the Secretariat. While we appreciate their wish to reduce the work of the staff here, it is in fact very difficult to keep a record of which people (out of a membership approaching 1,000) don't want an acknowledgement. It would help us if you could write NO ACKNOWLEDGEMENT NEEDED on each reply sent in should you not want its receipt acknowledged.

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