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Plea to Afghan government and guerrillas over execution of prisoners

In a public appeal to the Afghan Government and to guerrillas fighting against it, *AI* has called for a halt to the execution of prisoners in Afghanistan.

A letter has been sent to the President of Afghanistan, Babrak KARMAL, citing reports by Kabul Radio of the execution of at least 20 political prisoners during 1981. The letter recalled that President Karmal had told an *AI* delegation in February 1980 that he was committed to abolition of the death penalty, and it urged him to halt such executions.

In a news release on 8 January 1982, *AI* said it was trying to make its message known to guerrilla groups, particularly an appeal to the Hezbi Islami group not to execute three Soviet soldiers reported to have been captured. A news agency report had quoted leaders of the guerrilla group as saying the three would probably be tried under Islamic law and executed.

There have been persistent reports that such armed anti-government groups had put prisoners to death.

Terrorist charges

Early in 1981 *AI* cabled the Afghan authorities expressing concern at a report by Kabul Radio that four people had been executed by the authorities in February 1981. Since then the radio station has reported the execution by the authorities of at least 16 more political prisoners, including school teachers and government officials, who were charged with involvement in terrorist activities; a number of those executed are said to have been convicted of "frightening people and kidnapping youth".

In its letter, *AI* said it was deeply concerned about these executions, especially since it had not received evidence that the minimum legal safeguards for a fair and open trial as set out in international law, including the right of appeal, had been observed.

AI also appealed to President Karmal



Part of the crowd of Afghans who stormed the gates of Pule Charkhi prison, near Kabul, in January 1981; they wanted more prisoners to be freed by the new government.

for an immediate review of the cases of political prisoners now held in Afghanistan, with a view to releasing prisoners of conscience, and appealed for an investigation into the fate or whereabouts of "disappeared" people.

Releases welcomed

It welcomed reports that hundreds of political prisoners had been released during 1981 but expressed concern at the arrest of hundreds of others, including some believed to be held for the peaceful exercise of human rights.

AI asked President Karmal to make public the reasons for the arrest of at least 500 political prisoners, most of them members of left-wing groups, reported to have been taken into custody since July 1981.

The letter cited press reports that more than 150 schoolgirls had been arrested in Mazare Sharif in November

for demonstrating against the wearing of western clothes. According to reports in the Indian press, "foreign" troops had fired on the girls, killing five and wounding 12. *AI* appealed to the Afghan Government for information about the incident.

It reiterated an appeal made by its 1980 delegation for an investigation into the fate of at least 12,000 prisoners who "disappeared" under the previous administration, before President Karmal took power.

- In its letter, *AI* said it appreciated the difficulties posed by the continuing violence in Afghanistan and did not question the government's determination to arrest and prosecute those

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Martial law in Poland

At least 11 killed, 5,000 held in camps

Following the declaration of martial law in Poland on 13 December 1981 at least 11 people have been killed and more than 5,000 held in internment camps, according to official figures. Unofficial sources say more people were killed and put the number of those interned very much higher. Because of the rigid control of news by the new ruling military authorities it has been impossible to have the numbers verified independently.

On 11 January 1982 a Polish deputy is reported to have said that nine people had died in Silesia, one in Gdansk and one in Wroclaw.

Most of those interned appear to be members of the trade union organization Solidarity and its supporters, including many intellectuals. They are held without charge or even suspicion of having committed any crime. Many are reported to be held in cold and overcrowded conditions and fears have been expressed for their health and safety.

SUMMARY TRIALS

In addition, by 13 January 1982 officials are reported to have stated that some 3,000 people had been arrested, many charged with offences such as distributing leaflets and trying to organize meetings, strikes or sit-ins. There have been an unknown number of summary trials under the martial law regulations and sentences have ranged up to seven years' imprisonment. On 9 January the Polish news agency PAP said that summary courts had dealt with 364 cases involving 565 people.

The following are some of the people officially reported to have been sentenced to imprisonment since martial law was introduced (as heard over Polish radio):

Wojciech MARUSINSKI, seven years; Herbert RENNERT, five years, six months; Zbigniew SOBOLEWSKI, six years; Ryszard BIDZINSKI, four years, six months; Jan LEGUT, three years, six months (all were sentenced on 2 January 1982 in Katowice on charges of having continued the activities of Solidarity by directing a sit-in at the Katowice foundry).

The following were sentenced by the same court the same day for having continued Solidarity's activities in Dabrowa Gornicza by organizing strikes and distributing publications, as



Andrzej Slowik, senior member of Solidarity, jailed

branch leaders of Solidarity in the Katowice steelworks: Witold RUBLIK, six years, six months; Zbigniew POLOMAR, five years; Wladyslaw ROZICKI, five years, six months; Piotr GORALSKI, four years.

In Kozalin on 24 December 1981, Makary KOLASA, Pawel SZUMSKI and Henryk PODSIADLO were sentenced to three years and Zdzislaw BELKIEWICZ to three years, six months for trying to organize a strike.

Others reported to have been sentenced include:

- Zdzislaw GULINSKI (in Czestochowa), for urging people to go on strike, three years;

- Jerzy KROPIWNICKI and Andrzej SLOWIK, Deputy Chairman and Chairman of Lodz Regional Board of Solidarity and members of Solidarity National Commission, four years, six months each for trying to organize strikes;

- Jan FILIPEK, local Solidarity Chairman in the construction works in Boleslawiec, three years for proclaiming a warning strike;

- Andrzej PAWLIK, Solidarity member, five years for disseminating leaflets;

- Jerzy LEWCUN, Solidarity Works Commission Chairman at a rehabilitation centre for children, six months, in Nowy Sacz on 23 December 1981, for urging strikes through posters.

On 22 December *AI* appealed to the military authorities to release the thousands of people who had been interned.

In a letter to General Wojciech JARUZELSKI, Head of the Polish Military Council, it said the mass round-ups and summary trials carried out under martial law violated international standards.

It called for the release of everyone interned, arrested or imprisoned for the non-violent exercise of basic rights and said *AI* would consider everyone in this category to be a prisoner of conscience.

The letter expressed fears for the health and safety of the thousands interned without charge.

Calling for the revocation of internment, the letter said *AI* believed the provisions of internment had led to "large-scale arbitrary detention".

It noted that under the new regulations people were interned without being suspected of any offence, but because of alleged suspicion that they might act unlawfully or against state interests. There was no limit to how long people can be held, and no supervision of internment by the courts.

NO RIGHT OF APPEAL

Other people had been arrested under martial law and faced trial under summary procedures which gave them no right of appeal. Under martial law provisions they could face penalties ranging from three years' imprisonment to death. Some of these people had been arrested for such non-violent acts as trying to organize strikes.

The provisions of both internment and summary trial contradict established international principles, *AI's* letter said. These principles barred arbitrary arrest or detention and recognized the rights of anyone taken into custody to be brought before a judge, to be informed of charges, to be tried within a reasonable time, to have the right of appeal, and to be given humane treatment.

The letter, *AI's* second to General Jaruzelski since martial law was introduced called for full legal safeguards and fair, open trials for anyone accused of crimes. It appealed against the use of the death penalty in any case. It reiterated an appeal made in the first letter, sent on 16 December, for the authorities to provide a full list of detainees and the places where they were held □

Campaign for Prisoners of the Month



Each of the people whose story is told below is a prisoner of conscience. Each has been arrested because of his or her religious or political beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin or language. None has used or advocated violence. Their continuing detention is a violation of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International appeals can help to secure the release of these prisoners or to improve their detention conditions. In the interest of the prisoners, letters to the authorities should be worded carefully and courteously. You should stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. In no circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner.

Yuri SHUKHEVYCH, USSR

A 48-year-old Ukrainian who has spent 30 years in Soviet prisons and corrective labour colonies, he is now serving a 15-year term of imprisonment and internal exile.

Yuri Shukhevych was 15 when he was first arrested in 1948 and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment for being the "son of a nationalist leader" (Roman Shukhevych, a leading figure in the Ukrainian nationalist resistance movement of the 1940s, killed by Soviet security forces in 1950).

Yuri Shukhevych was rearrested on the day of his release in August 1958, allegedly for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" in his place of imprisonment, and sentenced to a further 10 years' imprisonment.

He was not allowed to return to Ukraine after serving his second sentence and settled in Nalchik in the north Caucasus region. During a major crackdown on Ukrainian dissenters in early 1972, he was again arrested, although he had not engaged in any open dissent. He was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment and five years' internal exile, again for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda": the incriminating evidence consisted of pages of handwritten notes from a rough draft of his memoirs.

He is being held in Chistopol Prison in the Tatar ASSR, whose conditions constitute the most severe form of imprisonment in the Soviet Union's penal system.

In March 1982 Yuri Shukhevych is due to be sent into internal exile.

Yuri Shukhevych, who is married with two children, is reported to be in poor health: he has a heart condition and a stomach ulcer.

Please write courteous letters appealing for his immediate release to President Leonid Brezhnev: SSSR (USSR)/Moskva/Krem1/Generalnomu Sekretaryu TsK KPSS/i Predsedatelyu Prezidiuma Verkhovnogo Soveta SSSR/L.I. Brezhnev.

Meraj Mohammad KHAN, Pakistan

A well-known politician, he has been imprisoned at least nine times in the past 20 years under successive governments for his peaceful political activities. He has been held without trial since February 1981.

Meraj Mohammad Khan is the leader of the National Liberation Front, a left-wing opposition party which is calling for a return to democracy in Pakistan. A senior government minister under Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, he was imprisoned under the latter's administration from May 1974 to November 1977. He has been imprisoned twice since the July 1977 military coup, the first time in 1978, when he served two months after a strike by journalists.

On 26 February 1981 he and other political leaders, lawyers, students and others were arrested for attending a meeting of the central executive committee of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD). The MRD had been formed earlier in the month by Pakistan's nine major political parties (all banned) and called for an end to martial law, the holding of general elections and the restoration of democratic rights.

Meraj Mohammad Khan was told he had been arrested under Martial Law Regulations 13, 33 and 48 (which prohibit all political activity) but to AI's knowledge he has not been officially charged or tried.

AI is concerned about his health and fears he is not receiving proper medical treatment in jail. In July 1981 he experienced severe pain in his spinal cord but, according to reports, it was 10 days before he was taken to the district hospital.

He is reported to have been held incommunicado since late November 1981.

Please send courteous letters appealing for his immediate release to: President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq/The Presidency/Rawalpindi/Pakistan.

Dr Mamadou El Bechir GOLOGO and Idrissa DIAKITE, Mali

Both were leading members of the former ruling party in Mali and are now serving four-year prison sentences for "offending the head of state" and "secret association".

The two men were among seven people arrested and detained in April 1979 in connection with the production of a pamphlet criticizing the government and the newly-formed sole political party, the *Union démocratique du peuple malien*.

Dr Gologo and Idrissa Diakite are reported to have been beaten and tortured with electric shocks during three days' interrogation by the police.

Three of the detainees were freed without charge after six months. On 2 October 1979 the remaining four were tried for "offending the head of state" and "secret association", convicted and sentenced to between six months' and four years' imprisonment.

In March 1980 Dr Gologo was moved from Bamako's Central Prison to the remote town of Nioro, where his eyesight deteriorated in the absence of proper medical attention. In December 1980 he was allowed to return to Bamako and is now being held and treated in a specialist eye hospital.

A medical practitioner and journalist, he was a leading member of the *Union soudanaise-Rassemblement démocratique africain* (US-RDA), the former ruling party, and was a government minister under President Modibo Keita before the military coup of 1968.

Idrissa Diakite, a former school headmaster, was a high official in the US-RDA and a member of the National Assembly under President Keita's government.

Please send courteous letters (preferably in French) appealing for the two men's immediate release to: Son Excellence le Général Moussa Traore/Président de la République/Maison du Peuple/Bamako/Mali.

An AI report, 'Pakistan: Human rights violations and the decline of the rule of law', published on 13 January 1982, describes a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights in Pakistan and reflects AI's long-standing efforts under successive governments to secure the effective protection of human rights in that country.

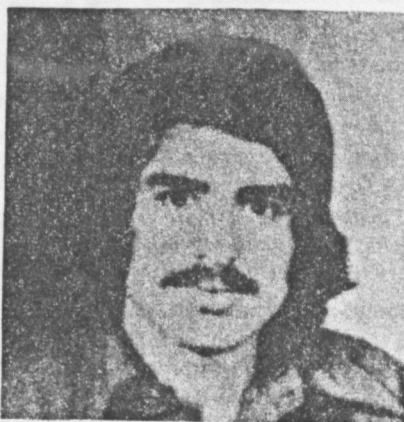
Report on Pakistan

'A consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights'

Imprisonment, torture and executions of political prisoners have increased in Pakistan as a result of a program by the authorities of stripping civilian courts of the power to protect human rights. Thousands of people have been arrested solely for expressing their opinions and hundreds of others, including some political prisoners, have been executed each year.

AI's new report says that although there have been abuses of human rights in the country for years, the situation has deteriorated, especially in the past year. A crucial point in the erosion of the powers of civilian courts was reached with the Provisional Constitutional Order of 24 March 1981 which effectively annulled the 1973 constitution and its guarantees of fundamental rights.

The amendment banned civilian judges from reviewing the decisions of



Abdul Hameed Baluch, executed. . . the name of the man he was charged with murdering was changed twice during the trial—when the alleged victim proved to be alive.

military authorities and ended the independence of the judiciary. Most civilian political prisoners face summary trials by military courts, headed by officers rather than independent judges. Most of the accused are not

allowed defence counsel. There is no appeal to independent courts of law. They are sometimes tried behind closed doors inside prisons.

Military courts can impose the death penalty or flogging as well as prison terms. They are not required to explain their verdicts by giving reasoned judgments.

Torture is used systematically in Pakistan, the 51-page report says. Dozens of detailed accounts, including descriptions of beatings, burning with cigarettes, and electric shocks, have reached AI, and medical examinations of ex-prisoners have confirmed some of these reports. The report describes the cases of 10 prisoners said to have died as a result of torture in police custody between January 1980 and August 1981; three were political prisoners.

The report says it is difficult to estimate the number of political prisoners held at any one time because of a pattern in which many are re-arrested after release. But it notes that in just one month—March 1981—an estimated 6,000 people were arrested for political reasons. In a number of cases the police, unable to find people sought on political grounds, have arrested their wives or other relatives.

Many political prisoners are arrested without warrant and without any reason being given. Others have been charged with "making objectionable speeches" or "raising slogans". The report lists 193 of the people known to have been sentenced to imprisonment and flogging for political offences since the military took power.

Normal political or trade union activity is banned. Most of the thousands jailed for political reasons are regarded by AI as prisoners of conscience—men and women imprisoned for exercising basic human rights, who have neither used nor advocated violence.

There are no official figures for the total number of executions, but the toll is known to have risen sharply since the military government took over in

RECOMMENDATIONS

AI's report includes a list of detailed recommendations to the Pakistani Government, among them:

- release of all prisoners of conscience;
- restoration of basic rights guaranteed in the 1973 constitution;
- restoration of the independence of the judiciary and of its powers to protect the rights of political prisoners;
- repeal of legislation providing for preventive detention and of martial law regulations prohibiting the peaceful exercise of human rights;
- publication of details of arrests and releases of political prisoners;
- ending of incommunicado detention and allowing immediate and regular access to lawyers;
- abolition of the practice of trying political prisoners before military courts and restoration of legal safeguards, including the rights of appeal to an independent court and of defence by a lawyer;
- abolition of torture and establishment of independent machinery for investigating allegations of torture;
- impartial investigations of the deaths in custody described in the report, and full publication of the outcome;
- abolition of the death penalty and the punishments of flogging and amputation;
- accession to international human rights covenants, particularly those protecting from arbitrary arrest and detention and guaranteeing fair trial.

End of independent judiciary

The Provisional Constitutional Order (PCO) grants the President power to change the constitution at will. It effectively annuls the 1973 constitution and marks the end of an independent judiciary by requiring judges to swear a new oath which bars the higher courts from scrutinizing any action taken by the military authorities or reviewing military court proceedings. The PCO removes the long-established supervisory powers of the Supreme and High Courts to enforce and protect human rights and grant relief to political prisoners.

With the promulgation of the PCO, political prisoners lost the protection of the right to *habeas corpus*. The courts can no longer quash detention orders on political prisoners as being illegal, set aside summary convictions by military courts on political prisoners or stay floggings and executions of political prisoners and others as they had done previously.

Since the passing of the PCO, *AI* has been told by many former political prisoners who have fled the country, and relatives of political prisoners, that they fear for the safety of prisoners as they no longer have recourse to the courts. Lawyers are unable to give them professional help: they have advised relatives that

there is no point in approaching the courts. A letter received by *AI* in June 1981, one of many similar letters, says: "My brother has consulted several lawyers of the High Court concerning filing a writ in the High Court but was told that the recent constitutional changes prohibit such a legal remedy."

The effect of the PCO was immediate and led to the execution of two political prisoners. One of them, Abdul Hameed BALUCH, a 21-year-old student leader from Baluchistan, had been convicted of murdering a recruiting agent by a special military court and sentenced to death.

The Baluchistan High Court had granted an order on 8 December 1980 staying his execution, because of grave irregularities in his trial and conviction. The name of the man he was charged with murdering was changed twice during the trial when the alleged victim proved to be alive. As a result of the PCO (which also prompted the removal of Baluchistan's Chief Justice, Mir Khuda Baksh Marri), the High Court's order staying his execution was suspended and Abdul Hameed Baluch was executed in Mach Jail, near Quetta, on 11 June 1981.

1977, with an increasing number of death sentences imposed on civilians by military courts. On 1 March 1979, President Zia-ul-Haq was quoted as saying that "nearly 400 people have been hanged in Pakistan during the last 18 months." Almost all had been convicted of criminal activities. In August 1981, 1,250 prisoners were reported to be under sentence of death in the Punjab alone. The province of Punjab is estimated to contain over half of Pakistan's population. *AI* has no figures for the rest of the country.

- In statements issued to the news media through a number of its embassies on 13 January 1982, the Pakistani Government has criticized *AI*'s report on Pakistan and denied using mass arrests and systematic torture against political opponents.

One of the claims made in the statements is that there were "not more than 62 political prisoners in the whole country", whereas *AI* estimates that during the past four years the number of political prisoners held at any one

time was between several hundred and several thousand. *AI*'s report notes that independent sources have consistently put the number higher than any given by the Pakistani Government.

The government statements also describe the figure of 1,250 prisoners under sentence of death in Punjab province in 1981 as a "gross exaggeration"—the figure was given by the Home Secretary of the Punjab to the Pakistani newspaper *Dawn* and published on 23 August 1981.

The government statements criticize *AI* for not condemning the hijacking of a Pakistani airliner in late 1981 (during which a former government official was killed) and other violence against the authorities—*AI* does not condone violence but it believes that such acts cannot justify arbitrary arrest and detention or torture of non-violent political opponents, such as have occurred on a large scale in Pakistan.

AI delivered the report to the Pakistani Government through its London embassy on 17 November 1981. By 18 January 1982 it had received no reply from the government□

Romania Death sentence on wine seller

The manager of a cooperative wine shop in Bucharest is reported to have been sentenced to death by the city's municipal court for a fraud which is said to have cost the Romanian Government the equivalent of £500,000; in December 1981 Bucharest newspapers reported that the sentence had been confirmed by the Supreme Court.

Gheorghe STEFANESCU is said to have rigged alcohol prices and was accused of "trafficking in favours" and of corruption.

The imposition of the death penalty in this case appears to contradict two 1977 official policy documents which are reported to have stated that economic offences would no longer be punishable by death under a planned new penal code.

In December 1981 *AI* appealed to President Ceausescu to commute the death sentence□

Ivory Coast

Eight trade unionists held without charge since December 1980 in very poor conditions in the National Security police headquarters (*Sûreté nationale*) in Abidjan (see September 1981 *Newsletter*) are reported to have been released on 23 December 1981.

On 4 September 1981, 18 journalists forcibly conscripted into the Ivorian army in December 1980 because of their prominent role in a trade union were released on the order of President HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY and allowed to return to their homes□

Mission to Guinea

An *AI* mission visited Guinea from 16 to 23 December 1981; it met the President of the Republic, Ahmed Sekou TOURE, and the Ministers of Justice and of the Interior.

The delegation included the Chairperson of *AI*'s International Executive Committee, José ZALAQUETT. A report of the mission is to be submitted for comment to the Guinean authorities□

Prisoner Releases and Cases

The International Secretariat learned in December of the release of 130 prisoners under adoption or investigation; it took up 107 cases□

South Africa Winnie Mandela banned again

The South African Government placed a new five-year banning order on Winnie MANDELA on 29 December 1981, two days before her previous banning order was to expire. As a result, her banishment to the small town of Brandfort, more than 450 km from her home in Soweto, continues. She is prohibited also from meeting more than one person at a time and, like all banned people in South Africa, may not be quoted.

No reasons were given by the Minister of Justice for the reimposition of the banning order—the fifth to be imposed on her. She has never been convicted of a serious political offence—although she has a number of convictions for breaking her banning order. *AI* has adopted her as a prisoner of conscience.

Her husband, Nelson Mandela, leader of the banned African National Congress, has been serving a life sen-

tence in the maximum security prison on Robben Island since 1964.

Zwelakhe Sisulu

Zwelakhe SISULU (Prisoner of the Month in October 1981) is reported to have been transferred from detention under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act and now to be held under Section 12B of the Internal Security Act of 1950; this permits the security police to detain potential state witnesses in political trials.

He is expected to be called by the state to testify in the coming trial of Khotso SEATLHOLO, a former Soweto student leader who was arrested in June 1981 after returning clandestinely to South Africa.

In 1979 Zwelakhe Sisulu was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment when he refused to appear before a magistrate to give evidence against a journalist facing charges under the Terrorism Act. The sentence was set aside on appeal.

Thami MAZWAI, another black journalist detained at the same time as Zwelakhe Sisulu, is also reported to be detained as a witness for the state□



AI photo file 1961-1981



In a special campaigning publication, *AI* has produced a photo file covering important human rights events in which the movement has been involved in the 20 years since it was founded, with photographs ranging from a secretly taken shot of a Soviet prison for political prisoners and another of a torture cell in Colombia, to a picture showing the touching reunion of a father and his little son after the former had spent three years in one of Haiti's most dreaded prisons.

Amnesty International Photo File 1961-1981 contains a selection of 21 good quality photographs reproduced on A4 size sheets suitable for display. Captions explaining *AI*'s involvement and giving information about the movement are provided on separate pages and there is also an introductory article, "The Defence of Human Rights", and a concluding page, "What you can do...".

The photo file will be useful for public meetings and displays. Groups and sections will find it helpful for public education, internal training, general publicity and for sale to people interested in *AI*'s work as a whole. The file is designed as an integral publication and the photographs are to be treated as a collection.

This unique photographic record is available to national sections, groups and members at £0.20p a copy plus postage; the cost to the public is £2.00. Orders to Amnesty International Publications (address on back page) or national sections□

Iran Baha'i leaders are executed

All eight members of the Baha'i National Spiritual Assembly in Iran were arrested on 13 December 1981 and have since been executed.

Two other people were arrested at the same time—Zough'u'llah MOMEN and Farideh SAMIMI. *AI* does not know what has happened to them but fears they too have been executed.

In addition to these executions, seven other members of the Baha'i faith were executed on 4 January 1982. Six were members of the local Tehran Spiritual Assembly, the seventh was the hostess at whose house they were arrested on 2 November 1981. The relatives of the seven were not informed of the executions.

As far as *AI* knows none of the 15 executed people were charged or tried□

Turkey Detained teacher dies in hospital

A Turkish high-school teacher, Bahadır DUMANLI, taken into custody by the authorities on 29 October 1981, died at Haydarpasa Hospital, Istanbul, on 3 January 1982.

His family had expressed fears for his safety after he and his wife were taken into custody together (see January 1982 *Newsletter*); she was released on 7 December—Bahadır Dumanli's brother-in-law, Ataman INCE, had died in custody on 26 October 1981 and the authorities had refused to hand his body over to his family for burial.

AI has urged the Turkish authorities to investigate the circumstances of his death□

STOP PRESS

Republic of Korea: On 22 January 1982 LEE Tae-bok was sentenced to life imprisonment (see next page). Other defendants in the case received prison terms of from one to 10 years; one was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, suspended, and one was acquitted. After the verdict was announced, relatives of the accused reportedly shouted that confessions had been extracted under torture. Lee Tae-bok said he had been forced to sign a false confession□



The picture of this little Uruguayan girl became familiar to hundreds of thousands of people around the world after it had appeared in the November 1979 *Newsletter* and then featured in campaigns in many countries on behalf of children who, directly or indirectly,

had become the victims of political repression.

Cecilia CARRERE García was aged five at the time and was living in exile in the United Kingdom, while her father Ricardo CARRERE was a prisoner of conscience in Uruguay's Libertad Prison. He had been seized in April 1974, when she was only two months old.

Held on suspicion of belonging to the banned communist party, *Partido Comunista Revolucionario*, he was tortured for the first 22 days of his detention: hooded throughout that period he was forced to stand continuously until he lost consciousness; in between, he was interrogated, given electric shocks and repeatedly subjected to *submarino*, having his head held under water until he almost drowned.

During his detention Ricardo Carrere learned that his wife, Brenda, and daughter had been brought into the prison and he heard a tape recording of his wife being questioned (not under torture).

In 1977, after three years' detention, he was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for "subversive association". He was released in early 1981.

Ricardo Carrere was able to see his daughter only three times during the seven years of his imprisonment. But now that nightmare is over: he has left Uruguay and gone into exile in the United Kingdom, where he is now working as a volunteer at *AI's* International Secretariat in London. The picture below shows Ricardo Carrere and his daughter together again in London.



Republic of Korea Publisher tried on security charges

On 13 January 1982, the prosecution asked for the death penalty to be imposed on a publisher, LEE Tae-bok, on trial on charges under the National Security Law (see December 1981 *Newsletter*); he is accused of organizing students and workers leagues and of publishing books which the authorities regard as pro-communist, in an attempt to overthrow the government and disseminate communist ideas.

AI has adopted Lee Tae-bok as a prisoner of conscience and on 14 January 1982 cabled the South Korean Minister of Justice, LEE Jong-wu, expressing concern at the request for the death penalty and urging Lee Tae-bok's immediate and unconditional release.

Also on trial with Lee Tae-bok are 27 others: students accused of organizing anti-government demonstrations; students expelled from universities for their political activities, who subsequently went to work in factories; trade unionists and members of the Urban Industrial Mission, an organization related to Protestant churches in South Korea and abroad which assists low-paid workers

in urban areas. They were arrested in June and August 1981; their trial started at the end of October 1981. *AI* also adopted them as prisoners of conscience.

Releases

Three people adopted by *AI* as prisoners of conscience were released under an amnesty granted by the government on 25 December 1981.

HONG Nam-soon, a prominent lawyer known for his defence of political cases, and MYONG No-keun, Professor at Chunnam University, were arrested in May 1980 and convicted in connection with the violent disturbances in Kwangju that month. According to information received by *AI*, they belonged to a committee formed to negotiate with the military authorities to prevent further violence.

Both prisoners' original sentences had already been reduced by previous presidential amnesties in 1981.

KIM Tae-hung, former President of the Korea Journalists Association, was arrested in September 1980 and also convicted of aiding Kim Dae-jung to try to overthrow the government. *AI* believes he was arrested because of his protest against censorship imposed by the martial law authorities in May 1980□

Swaziland Lawyer detained without charge

Godfrey Sipho MDHLULI, a well-known Swaziland lawyer, was detained on 29 October 1981 and held under a provision which permits detention without charge or trial for 60 days. He is believed to be held under the provision still—it has been common for the authorities to issue successive detention orders so as to provide for continuous detention without trial.

The detained man returned to Swaziland in August 1981; he had gone into exile abroad in early 1978, when his business colleague, Ambrose SIMELANE, was detained under the 60-day law. Ambrose Simelane, adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience, was released unconditionally in May 1980, after more than two years' detention without trial.

Godfrey Mdhululi is said to have returned to Swaziland after being assured by senior government ministers that no action would be taken against him. No reasons have been given for his imprisonment. *AI* has appealed to the authorities for his release if he is not to be charged or tried and has asked them for information about him□

Health fears for political prisoners in Uruguay's military jails

More than 1,000 political prisoners are being held in Uruguay, according to official figures released last year—and most of them are being held in conditions deliberately designed to undermine the psychological stability of the inmates, according to the testimony of a prisoner of conscience recently released from the military prison of Penal de Libertad in San José province.

Most of Uruguay's political prisoners are held in Libertad (for men) and in another military prison, Penal de Punta Rieles (for women). *AI* adopted 262 Uruguayans as prisoners of conscience and is investigating the cases of another 68.

According to the testimony of the released prisoner—and other reports received by *AI*—prisoners in Libertad are continually harassed, humiliated and arbitrarily punished (for instance, by loss of recreation and visits and by solitary confinement).

Prisoners classified as "highly dangerous" are kept in isolation on the second floor of the prison, and some have been removed from the prison, tortured again and retried.

AI is particularly concerned by reports of stiff new sentences being given to prisoners reaching the end of their terms. Mario Alberto TETI Izquierdo, Raúl Noel MARTINEZ



Rita Ibarburu de Suarez

Machado, Orlando PEREIRA Malanotti, Augusto KENNEDY Arbiza, Conrad GYRKOVITZ Herbon and Washington DE VARGAS Saccone are among 25 prisoners said to have faced retrial during 1981 by a special court in Libertad Prison.

Most political prisoners suffer from chronic ailments exacerbated by poor diet and inadequate exercise (exercise is forbidden in the cells) and there are cases of severe heart disease, cancer and psychiatric illness. Medical attention, both in the prisons and in the Military Hospital, appears to be seriously deficient. During 1981, *AI* medical groups appealed on behalf of 20 seriously ill prisoners, including 13 prisoners of conscience.

On 12 September 1981 Gerardo CUESTA, 63, an ex-member of parliament adopted by *AI* as a prisoner of conscience, died under surgery in the Military Hospital; Miguel COITINO died in December 1981 after an unsuccessful heart operation.

AI medical groups appealed in September 1981 on behalf of the prisoner of conscience Alberto ALTESOR, 68, ex-trade unionist and member of parliament, who was reported to require urgent surgery to replace a coronary prosthesis. After repeated appeals, an eminent Argentinian heart surgeon, who had operated on the prisoner before, was authorized to examine him and a cardiac catheterization was performed in December on his advice. On 21 December 1981 the patient was transferred to a civilian

hospital for cardiography and he later returned to Libertad Prison.

Please write courteous letters to the President of Uruguay expressing concern at reports of the ill health of many of the prisoners held at Libertad and Punta de Rieles, asking the government to undertake a full investigation of medical conditions in the prisons as a matter of urgency, and urging that the prisoners listed below receive full medical treatment, including transfer to specialized institutions and civilian hospitals where necessary.

Alberto ALTESOR González, aged 68, requires urgent cardiac surgery; José MARQUEZ Volonte, aged 46, suffers from chronic asthma and emphysema; Rita IBARBURU de Suarez, aged 66, suffers from serious coronary disease; Hector Pío RODRIGUEZ da Silva, aged 63, retinal thrombosis and stomach ulcers; Selva BRASSELLI de Ruffinelli, aged 41, severe weight loss, shortness of breath and chest pains suggestive of coronary insufficiency, kerato-conjunctivitis in both eyes; Batlle OXANDABARAT Scarrone, aged 55, arteriosclerosis and respiratory problems; German Omar MOLINA, aged 61, has had a laryngectomy for cancer, suffers from frequent acute respiratory infections.

Appeals should be addressed to:
Exmo. Sr. Presidente de la República/
Teniente General (R) Gregorio C. Alvarez/Casa de Gobierno/Montevidéo/Uruguay □

In a nine-page letter to the new President of Uruguay, Retired General Gregorio ALVAREZ, on 4 December 1981, *AI* outlined its concerns in his country, and called for an immediate improvement in prison conditions, including medical care, and drew attention to the plight of 25 seriously ill prisoners, including 12 prisoners of conscience adopted by *AI*.

AFGHANISTAN

Continued from page 1

responsible for acts of violence, provided such action was taken in accordance with the internal human rights standards laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. However, *AI* did not believe the existing difficulties justified recourse to killings of peaceful demonstrators or of the death penalty, whether by the government or by other forces □

Death penalty

AI has learned of 172 people being sentenced to death in eight countries and of 164 executions in six countries during December 1981.

Preliminary figures compiled by *AI* show that at least 3,209 people are known to have been sentenced to death in 52 countries during 1981, and at least 2,834 executed in 34 countries. In addition, at least 11 cases were reported of people being "executed" by political opposition movements in a number of countries in 1981.

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