

FEBRUARY 1965:

(1) 1965 INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

This year's International Assembly will be held in the Netherlands. The site selected (subject to the confirmation of the International Executive) is "De Goude Wieken" (Golden Wings), a conference centre on the outskirts of the Hague on the road to Scheveningen. The Assembly will take place on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th September.

It is hoped that each country in which there is a Group established will take advantage of its voting rights to send two delegates to take part in the decisions determining the future policy of the movement. Accommodation will be provided at the expense of the movement in "De Goude Wieken" for all voting delegates. There are numerous hotels of all categories in the Hague and Scheveningen where other supporters who wish to be present may be accommodated. As in previous years the International Executive is not able to pay the travelling expenses of delegates, but where appropriate it is hoped that National Sections and Groups will make contributions to the cost of travel.

It is essential that the International Secretariat should be informed by 1st July whether each country will be represented by its full complement of two delegates. The names of the delegates and of other supporters wishing to be present should reach the Secretariat not later than 1st September.

International organisations in the human rights field will be invited to send observers, as in previous years. In addition the Executive will be pleased to consider suggestions from Groups that an invitation to send an observer should be sent to a suitable national organisation in their country.

(2) GHANA.

The Secretariat has received enquiries from Sections and from the Press about what action it proposes to take to plead for clemency for the three Ghanaian politicians lately sentenced to death. Subject to funds being available and a suitable person likely to be able to influence Nkrumah, being willing to undertake the journey, a delegate will be sent to Ghana. In addition the Secretariat is exploring ways of bringing private pressure to bear on the Ghanaian Government.

In order to draw attention to the situation in Ghana, the Secretariat has made available a gift of £50 as a prize for the best plaster bust of Dr. Joseph Danquah, the opposition leader who recently died in detention. A bronze cast of the prize-winning bust, paid for by the Church, will be placed in St. Martin's in the Fields, London, where the memorial service for Dr. Danquah was held.

National Sections are asked to publicise the competition among young artists in their country. The prize will be awarded by a jury selected by Paul Danquah, film-actor son of Dr. Danquah. Since the cost of sending a plaster mould to London might be too high for a young artist, National Sections are asked to consider subsidising the freight for the best one or two busts from their country. Photographs of Dr. Danquah will be made available to National Sections on request. Entries for the competition must reach London by 1st December, 1965.

(3) ANATOMY REPORTS.

There are situations in certain countries which would not be improved by general publication of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL reports and for this reason the International Secretariat has decided to publish reports that cannot appear in EUSTOMY, under the title ANATOMY. Like 'Eustomy', the word 'Anatomy' is derived from the Greek and means "to furnish with a mouth" or "to open up a blocked passage". It is a title which is appropriate in the circumstances, as the situations reported in 'Anatomy' are under what lawyers call 'sub judice'. Governments and non-governmental organisations are making up their minds about what action they should take or else are in the process of re-defining their policy. Publication of disturbing facts or strong views might prejudice the process of policy-formation

'Anatomy' reports will, in the first place, be sent singly and free to governments, international non-governmental organisations and opinion-forming journals thought to be concerned with the subject-matter of the particular report. Copies will also be provided without charge to all the agencies of the United Nations Organisation and of the Council of Europe, as well as individually to members of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe.

One free copy of 'Anatomy' will be sent to those Groups which have adopted prisoners in the country about which the report is written. Other than this, copies will be available to all Groups at the prices stated below:-

Post free charges - 2/6 d.
1.50 Deutsche Marks
2 Nouveaux Francs
50 U S. cents.

It is not intended that this series of reports should be quoted in the press or over the air. Its purpose is to provide background material for those whose function it is to form and influence policy.

The two 'Anatomy' reports available at the moment are on CUBA and HAITI. All orders should be addressed to Head Office.

(4) "JUSTICE IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH".

This is the title of the report by Anthony Lester, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL's delegate who went to the Southern States of the U.S.A. in the summer of 1964. All Groups receive one free copy. Additional copies of the report are available from Head Office at the prices stated below:-

Post free charges - 5/6 d.
3 Deutsche Marks
1 U.S. dollar.

(5) THE NATIONAL SECTION OF AMNESTY IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the February edition of the "Reader's Digest" published in America there is an article on the work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. This has so far brought in about 350 enquiries and a questionnaire has been sent out to all those who are interested, asking them in what way they could help AMNESTY. If a sufficient number of replies are received, the International Secretariat is considering having a full-time, paid organiser to co-ordinate the Groups throughout the United States for at least 6 months. It is hoped that he will be helped in this by voluntary 'Group Organisers' in different areas who will travel round their part of the country visiting AMNESTY Groups.