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ORGANISATION

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The IEC met in London January 19-21. SEAN MacBRIDE was absent ill and thus missed an IEC meeting for the first time in *AI's* history. He appointed KEVIN WHITE of the Irish Section as his alternate and ERIC BAKER took the chair. HERBART RUITENBERG of the Dutch Section was alternate for HERMAN van GEUNS who was also absent. Considerable time was devoted to general finance, the 1973-74 budget and the strains on the current budget. National Sections will have an opportunity to guarantee their part of the budget at the Finance Meeting March 17, but the IEC recognised that expenditure might have to be cut back because:

- due to inflation in the United Kingdom, the current budget of £165,000 will not be enough to maintain the organisation's present level of activity

- National Sections may have considerable difficulty in increasing their contributions

The International Council meeting last September made no provision for the Campaign for the Abolition of Torture (*see below*). Funds are still urgently needed to cover the money already committed to production of the forthcoming report on torture, maintenance of a regular flow of information material and organisation of the international conference in Paris in December 1973. Among other items discussed were missions, conscientious objection and id-

CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF TORTURE

The IEC approved a draft plan drawn up by the Information Office outlining the Campaign's strategy for 1973. Also approved was a suggested action programme for groups during the current year. Both plans are being sent to National Sections. *Strategy for 1973* envisages six major elements in the first phase of the Campaign: diplomatic initiatives, an intensive information programme, the new survey of torture, an international appeal to the United Nations, the Regional conferences and sections and group action. The appeal, which will be circulated in as many countries of the world as possible, will call on the UN General Assembly to outlaw the torture of prisoners immediately. The target is one million signatures, ranging from those of heads of states to the man in the street.

entification of liberation and other guerrilla movements. A full report of the meeting is being sent to National Sections. The next IEC meeting will be held April 6-8.

250 ATTEND RECEPTION

Some 250 diplomats, journalists, governmental officials, parliamentarians, representatives of non-governmental organisations, former prisoners of conscience, and friends of *AI* attended a joint reception at the International Secretariat and British Section offices January 19 to inaugurate the new headquarters. Members of the IEC, British Section and IS staff were on hand to greet them and discuss *Amnesty's* work.

STAFF

NIGEL S. RODLEY joined the International Secretariat staff January 1 as Legal Officer with special research responsibilities for North America. Mr Rodley, who is British and a specialist in international law with a Bachelor of Law degree from Leeds University and a Master of Law degree from Columbia University, taught law at Dalhousie University in Canada, and carried out research work at New York University until joining *AI*. He is also a former member of the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

MIDDLE EAST RESEARCH

The IS is still seeking a Middle East Researcher and invites National Sections to submit the names and curricula vitae of interested and suitable candidates who must be prepared to work in London. The researcher would work on all Middle East countries *except Israel*, and would mainly be responsible for constructing biographies of prisoners and drafting papers describing the legal, political, social and economic situations in which political imprisonment occurs. Knowledge of the Middle East area and of Arabic is essential. French would be an advantage. Salary: £1674-£2244 according to age, experience and qualifications.

CHRONICLE OF CURRENT EVENTS

Issue Number 27 will be published later this month. In the January *Newsletter*, the reference to paying Chronicle subscriptions by Giro omitted the name of the bank. Payments can be made to the Midland Bank, 90 Baker Street, London W1, Giro Account Number 53-730-4002.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Information Office is compiling a survey of the activities and growth of National Sections in 1972-73 similar to the one issued last

August in conjunction with the Annual Report. Sections are invited to submit their reports to the IS by April 15. *Maximum* length: 200 words.

COUNTRIES

VIETNAM

Amnesty issued a statement on January 26 noting with concern that the Vietnam ceasefire agreement failed to provide adequate safeguards for the estimated 100,000 civilian detainees in South Vietnam. The statement said the lives of the country's non-communist opposition were in danger. There was already evidence that selective elimination of opposition members in detention had started. The agreement's definition of civilian prisoners excluded all except Vietcong agents and sympathisers. Many of the detainees are in fact Buddhists, students, politicians and other peaceful opponents of the Saigon government. The agreement did not provide for an impartial census of prisoners, merely an exchange of lists between Saigon and the National Liberation Front.

AI said there were disturbing indications that most of the civilians might remain in detention long after the ceasefire and then be slowly forgotten. Some detainees had already had their classification switched from political prisoner to that of common criminal. The statement mentioned *AI's* draft protocol providing for the release, rehabilitation and resettlement of all of Indo-China's estimated 200,000 civilian detainees (December and January *Newsletters*).

It said *AI* had been receiving disturbing reports from South Vietnamese prisoners for some time. Detainees were being transferred to tougher prisons, others were disappearing or were reportedly killed. *AI* said it was essential that all parties to the conflict provide complete and accurate lists of all civilians they now hold in detention. The statement ended with a call for the release of all political prisoners.

On January 29, SEAN MacBRIDE cabled the four countries (Hungary, Canada, Poland and Indonesia) which comprise the International Commission for Supervision and Control which was set up as watchdog of the agreement. He expressed *AI's* concern about the safety of civilian political prisoners and urged them to obtain lists of the persons detained.

TURKEY

Fighting broke out in the Turkish parliament January 25 when Prime Minister FERIT MELEN accused *Amnesty* of telling lies in reporting that prisoners were being tortured in Turkey. He referred to *AI* as "Amnesty what's-its-name International" and said the accusations levelled by the organisation, and by Western newspapers and members of the Council of Europe were part of a slander campaign against Turkey.

BULENT ECEVIT, chairman of the opposition Republican People's Party, rose and shouted at the prime minister: "You are lying!" Mr Ecevit was promptly attacked by about 15 of Mr Melen's parliamentary supporters. Curses and punches

were exchanged in the scuffle.

After order was restored, the prime minister said an *AI* representative who had seen several leftist prisoners in Istanbul "has betrayed us". Such a mistake would not be repeated. He did not elaborate further, but presumably he was referring to MUIR HUNTER QC, a leading British barrister, who visited Turkey twice last year on behalf of *AI* (January *Newsletter*), the second time accompanied by two magistrates: his wife DOROTHEA HUNTER and SIR OSMOND WILLIAMS, Vice Chairman of the British Section. They saw only one prisoner on this occasion, and that was in the presence of prison officials. Mr and Mrs Hunter reported the mission's findings at a newsconference at the IS which was widely publicised in the world's press.

AI ACTS ON DEATH SENTENCES

On January 23 *AI* welcomed the decision of Poland's Council of State to commute the death sentence passed on JERZY KOWALCZYK, a 30-year-old locksmith, for trying to blow up part of a technical college in Opole in October 1971 (January *Newsletter*). The sentence was changed to 25 years imprisonment. *AI* cabled the Polish government in December asking for the death sentence to be commuted, and the French Section made similar representations in conjunction with other human rights organisations.

In separate cables to PRESIDENT SUHARTO of Indonesia January 23 and 25, *AI* asked him to commute the death sentences passed on four persons in connection with the 1965 abortive coup. The four (three of whom have only one name) are: ISKANDER SUBBEKTI, MARDJOKO and MOEDIRISMAN, all leading politicians, and Colonel SUDIONO, former Indonesian Air Force Director of Personnel Affairs.

On January 25 and 26 *AI* cabled President IDI AMIN of Uganda urging him to halt the planned public executions of seven alleged supporters of former President MILTON OBO-TE. The seven, who were given summary trials by a military tribunal, were ordered to be shot in their home districts in front of their families and friends.

On January 26 *AI* cabled the SHAH of Iran asking him to exercise clemency and commute the death sentence passed on Dr ABBAS SHEIBANI, a leader of the National Liberation Front in Iran who already has spent 10 years in jail. Dr Sheibani was tried in secret by a military tribunal which found him guilty of complicity in the murder of a police chief.

PORTUGUESE COLONIES

All the detained members of the Presbyterian Church of Mozambique were released from Machava prison on December 29 (January *Newsletter*). The colony's governor general announced the setting up of a judicial inquiry into the death of Pastor ZEDEQUIAS MANGANHELA, president of the Presbyterian church, who committed suicide

just before Christmas while in detention. AI Secretary General MARTIN ENNALS and our researcher on Portugal and Portuguese Africa, EVA BLUMENAU, visited the Portuguese Embassy in London to urge that the inquiry's findings be published soon.

AMILCAR CABRAL, leader of the Portuguese Guinea liberation movement, was assassinated outside his home in Conakry, Guinea, January 20. IEC Chairman SEAN MACBRIDE cabled AI's deep sympathy.

Police broke up a peace vigil attended by 200 people in a small chapel in the centre of Lisbon on New Year's Eve. The authorities claimed that the vigil was a political demonstration against the war in Portuguese Africa.

Some of the more prominent participants were arrested and later released, but 15 of them, who were employed by the state in various capacities, were dismissed from their jobs. AI expressed grave concern to the Portuguese government about the detentions and dismissals.

SOUTH KOREA

The Reverend ON MYUNG-KI, a leading member of the Korean Section of AI, will go on trial February 6 on charges of "instigating persons" and "spreading a groundless rumour". He is the fifth AI official arrested by the South Korean government in just over two months (December and January *Newsletters*).

Three of the other four, including the Chairman of the Korean Section, Dr KIM CHAI-CROON, and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Wonju, Bishop DANIEL TJI, were released in November after AI cabled a protest to President PARK CHUNG-HEE. The fourth was released last month.

Reverend On, a Presbyterian minister, was arrested December 13 after leaving a prayer meeting. He is known to have expressed his opposition to the South Korean government's proposal to amend the constitution while the country was under martial law. MARTIN ENNALS cabled President Park expressing AI's grave concern at the arrest and asking that Reverend On be released as quickly as were the other four AI officials.

GREECE

AI and the International Commission of Jurists sent CHRISTIAN GROBET, a prominent Swiss lawyer, to Athens January 17 to observe the trial of STATHIS PANAGOULIS and 12 other persons accused of conspiring to obtain the release of political prisoners in Greece. Stathis Panagoulis, 26, was sentenced to 4½ years imprisonment, four persons, including Signora LORNA CAVIGLIA of Italy, were sentenced to terms varying from 15 months to 2½ years imprisonment, seven others received suspended sentences of 6 to 12 months, and one defendant was acquitted. Stathis Panagoulis is the younger brother of ALEXANDROS PANAGOULIS, who was sentenced to death after trying to assassinate Prime Minister GEORGE PAPADOPOULOS in 1968.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN

The Secretary General, MARTIN ENNALS, wrote to Prime Minister INDIRA GANDHI of India and President BHUTTO of Pakistan expressing AI's concern about the civilians detained in both

countries. In India, some 10,000-15,000 Pakistani civilians are detained in prisoner of war camps. In Pakistan 1,000-2,000 Bengali civilians are imprisoned for attempting to cross the border to reach Bangladesh.

One of AI's adopted prisoners in Pakistan, AGHA SHORISH KASHMIRI, a journalist, was released on January 14 after a four-week hunger strike in protest against his detention order being extended for a third time. AI had cabled President Bhutto on Mr Shorish Kashmiri's behalf and had also sought help from the International Federation of Journalists.

BRAZIL

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) on January 18 published the text of a letter sent to Brazilian Minister of Justice ALFREDO BUZAID last October. The letter, signed by ICJ Secretary General NIALL MACDERMOTT, asked if Brazil had set up an inquiry into allegations of torture, abuse and maltreatment of detainees in Brazil as recommended in May 1972 by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organisation of American States. The letter also proposed the early restoration of habeas corpus in Brazil. The ICJ said it decided to make the letter public because the Brazilian government had not replied to it.

AI has compiled a summary of reactions to our *Report of Allegations of Torture in Brazil*. Copies of the document are being sent to all National Sections.

AMERICAN GROUPS working for Brazilian prisoners should contact Secretary of State WILLIAM ROGERS directly when writing to US authorities. The State Department has been very helpful in the past in replying to queries about particular prisoners in Brazil. American Groups should also contact the US Embassy in Brasilia (Embaixada Americana, Brasilia DF, Brazil) for details of officials who should be approached for more information.

POSTCARDS FOR PRISONERS

NEWS OF EARLIER PRISONERS

Father Istvan TABODY, *Hungary* (May 1968): He was suddenly released on New Year's Day, a few months before the expiration of his 12 year sentence. * * *

Salih bin Abdullah AULAG, *People's Democratic Republic of Yemen* (July 1972): Recent reports say he and his three younger brothers were shot and killed on October 31 1972.

THIS MONTH'S PRISONERS

Joel NDLOVU - Rhodesia

Joel Ndlovu, a Rhodesian African, is one of 2,000 opponents of the IAN SMITH regime who were detained or restricted under emergency regulations after Rhodesia unilaterally declared independence in 1965. He was issued with a restriction order confining him to Gonakudzingwa, which has since been declared a detention camp. The detainees have never been informed of the charges against them or brought to trial. They are held at the discretion of the Minister of Law and Or-

der. Mr Ndlovu believes he is being detained because he advocates the right of Africans to rule themselves.

Gonakudzingwa is in a remote part of Rhodesia near the Mozambique border. Mr Ndlovu has six children but is now divorced. His children, who are looked after by his sister, are not allowed to visit him and he suffers intensely from loneliness. Like many other detainees he feels he has little hope that the present regime will release him in the near future.

Please send your cards to: The Hon. Ian Smith, Prime Minister, Causeway, Salisbury; *and to:* The Hon. D.W. Lardner-Burke, Minister of Law and Order, Private Bag 7703, Causeway, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

Tran Huu KHUE - South Vietnam

Born in about 1915, Professor Khue taught English in several private schools in Saigon. Between 1953 and 1965 he was Scout Commissioner for the Saigon District. He was married, and had nine children. In February 1964 he became Assistant Secretary General of an organisation called "The Movement of the Free Choice of the People". Coming at a time of particularly marked political instability in the cities of South Vietnam--President NGO DIN DIEM had been assassinated only a few months before--the Movement was one of several that sprang up advocating peace and reconciliation with the Communists.

Some time after its formation, the Movement attempted to hold a press conference jointly with various other groups of students, workers and intellectuals in Saigon. The object of the conference was apparently to put forward a petition in favour of peace to both the Saigon Government and the National Liberation Front (Vietcong). All the organisers of the Movement were arrested, even though they had accorded with South Vietnamese regulations by submitting the Movement's statutes and a list of office-holders to the appropriate authorities.

In August 1965 Khue was tried by a military court in Saigon and sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment. He was charged with impairing the morale of the South Vietnamese army, a standard charge against intellectual dissidents. In 1968 his sentence was cut by half, and he was offered his release on condition that he sign an application for a pardon. This he refused to do, and therefore remained in Chi Hoa National Prison in Saigon. In 1972 his sentence was cut by a further two years, making him eligible for release this year.

In May 1972 Khue received a severe set-back by being deported to the long-term penal camp on Con Son island, notorious for its poor conditions and bad treatment of prisoners. During the past two years his health has been deteriorating quickly, and he stands little chance of surviving the rigours of Con Son unless he is released without delay.

Courteously-worded cards asking for his release should be sent to: President Nguyen Van Thieu, Independence Palace, Dinh Doc Lap, Saigon, Republic of Vietnam; *and to:* Colonel Pho, Warden of Con Son Re-education Centre,

Con Son, Republic of Vietnam.

In your card you should mention that this month *Amnesty International* is appealing for the release of a prisoner of conscience from both North and South Vietnam.

Nguyen Huu DANG - North Vietnam

The son of a farmer in North Vietnam, Dang joined the French colonial administration there in the 1930's and soon afterwards he started his literary career by contributing to Hanoi magazines and journals. In the late 1930's he became interested in Marxism, and soon resigned from the colonial administration to eke out a living teaching workers. Despite his strong sympathies towards it, he did not join the Communist Party, and remained in Hanoi during the Japanese occupation of World War II. This led to his arrest and torture for his political views.

After the defeat of the Japanese, Dang became a Secretary of State in the first Vietminh Government. On the outbreak of war between the Vietminh and the French, he worked with the resistance, writing and teaching, and continued in this work after a Communist Government had been established in Hanoi in 1954.

In 1956 he and a number of other writers and intellectuals published articles criticising the Government and Communist Party, largely as a result of the excesses of the land reform movement that had just been taking place. In January 1958 he was sent on a political re-education course, but unlike most of the others who attended the course he did not agree to change his ideas. He is then said to have been interrogated for 21 months before being brought to trial in 1960 before a People's Court in Hanoi. The charge against him was that of spying for the Americans and the Government of NGO DINH DIEM in Saigon although, there seems to have been no basis for this allegation. He was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment followed by 5 years' loss of civil rights. In spite of several interventions on his behalf, there has been no news of him for several years, but he is presumed to be serving out his sentence in or near Hanoi.

Courteously-worded cards appealing for his release should be sent to: Ton Duc Thang, President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Presidential House, Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam; *and to:* Pham Van Dong, Prime Minister, Office of Prime Minister, Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

On your card you should mention that this month *Amnesty International* is appealing for the release of one prisoner of conscience from both parts of Vietnam.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

REMINGTON, Robin Allison. *The Warsaw Pact: case studies in Communist conflict resolution.* 1971. Cambridge, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 126 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1. £4.65.
TORELLI, Maurice and BAUDOIN, Renée, *Les Droits de l'Homme and les Libertés Publiques par les Textes.* 1972. *Les presses de l'université du Québec, Case Postale 250, succursale N., Montréal 129, Québec, Canada.* \$14.

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RECOMMENDED BOOKS - continued

SIHANOUK, Norodom and BURCHETT, Wilfred. *My War with the CIA: Cambodia's fight for survival.* 1973. Penguin Books Ltd., Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England. 55p.

MIDDLETON, Neil. *The Best of I. F. Stone's Weekly: Pages from a radical newspaper.* 1973. Penguin Books Ltd., Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England. 55p.

VILE, M.J.C. *Politics in the USA.* 1973. Penguin Books Ltd., Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England. 55p.

FAWCETT, J.E.S. *The Law of the Nations.* 1971. Penguin Books, Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England. 55p.

An excellent short introduction to the development, scope and application of international law. A member of the European Commission of Human Rights, the author's wide theoretical knowledge is combined with practical experience of the workings of the European Convention. The Text is concise, well written and unusually readable. The book is strongly recommended to anyone who is curious about international law but is usually intimidated by the inscrutability of most writing on the subject.

BERNARD, Suzanne. *Quand les vautours... Récit d'une Québécoise emprisonnée en Equateur.* 1971. Editions du Jour, 1651 rue St. Denis, Montréal 129, Québec, Canada. \$3.00.

A very real and moving account of the rigours endured in detention in Ecuador. As the authoress, a native of Quebec, writes: these events took place in Ecuador but could just as easily have occurred in Guatemala, Brazil or Haiti.

The Policies of Apartheid of the Government of South Africa: Maltreatment and torture of prisoners in South Africa. Report of the Special Committee on Apartheid. September 1972. Document A/8770, agenda item 38 of the 27th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. Also published in a condensed version under its subtitle: Maltreatment and Torture of Prisoners in South Africa. November 1972. Unit on Apartheid, Department of Political and Security Council Affairs. Volume Number 22/72. Both obtainable from the information section of the nearest UN office or from UN headquarters in New York. Amnesty International is one of the organisations mentioned in both publications as having played a part in the campaign for the release of political prisoners in South Africa. The Special Committee on Apartheid report provides a useful summary of the security laws under which prisoners are held in South Africa and an appraisal of the laws in operation. Included are police attitudes, methods of interrogation under the detention clauses and the role of the judiciary. The longer version lists the detainees and prisoners who allegedly were tortured or maltreated during detention.

FITZGERALD, Francis. *Fire in the Lake.* 1973. Macmillan and Company, 4 Little Essex Street, London WC2, England. £5.85.

Attempt by a young woman journalist with experience of Indochina to give a broad cultural and political perspective to America's mistake in South Vietnam. Fascinating, comprehensive and idealistic, the conception of this book is the last monument to America's Asian dream. Particularly good chapters on the politics of Saigon.

BROWN, Holmes and LUCE, Don. *Hostages of War.* 1973. Indochina Mobile Education Project. Copies must be ordered individually from Don Luce, Indochina Mobile Education Project, Box 39013, Washington DC 20016, USA. \$1.50.

The most comprehensive compilation so far about South Vietnam's political prisoners. It was Don Luce who publicised the "tiger cages" punishment cells on Con Son Island. The cages, and many other forms of torture and degradation, are fully described. There are also sections on the law, the Phoenix programme and police. Essential reading for all groups with South Vietnamese prisoners.

INDEX: *On Censorship. Autumn/Winter 1972. Volume 1 Numbers 3-4. Index, Writers and Scholars International, 35 Bow Street, London WC2R 7AU, England. 75p. Also available on subscription: £2 for one year, £5 for three years; published quarterly.*

An excellent publication, strongly recommended. Of particular interest is the article "Information Control in Brazil" which gives details on numerous cases and the text of much relevant legislation. We should like to make it clear that although people were tried in Rio, May 1972 for sending material to *Amnesty*, as this article states (page 141), they did not in fact send any material.