



More Prisoners Sent to Indonesia's Buru Island

Political detainees sent to prison camps on Indonesia's Buru Island so far this year total over 3,000. *AI* sources in Jakarta have confirmed that the transfer of prisoners from the mainland is far greater than the 1,000 figure reported earlier this year (*September Newsletter*).

The sources say that the Indonesian government plans to send a total of 10,000 prisoners to Buru Island over the next two years. This would bring the island population of prisoners to 20,000. The current prisoner population is about 13,000.

All prisoners on the island have been held without charge or trial, many of them for more than 10 years. The Indonesian government has repeatedly stated that it has no intention of trying the Buru prisoners, because it does not have sufficient evidence to do so.

The Indonesian government sees the Buru prisoners as part of a scheme of permanent "resettlement" on the island. But it has failed to persuade the families of prisoners to join them there and only 200 families have gone to the island since the Buru transportations began in 1969. Once there, the families are not allowed to leave.

Living conditions on the island are unsatisfactory and many of the prisoners suffer ill-health.

Prisoners are used as forced labour to produce their own food and that of the soldiers guarding them.

This use of forced labour has been condemned by the International Labour Organization.

The Indonesian government appears to be trying to solve the problem of its 100,000 political prisoners by transporting large numbers of them from prisons in Java to Buru.

AI has consistently condemned the Buru scheme, where prisoners remain on the island indefinitely without charge or trial and without the prospect of regaining their freedom.

• 35 Arrested after Anti-Government 'Plot'

About 35 people were reportedly arrested after the Indonesian government announced on 22 September that it had uncovered a "plot" challenging the authority of President SUHARTO.

The "plot" allegedly involved the signatories of a document critical of government policies. Among those allegedly involved were former Vice President Mohammad HATTA and prominent citizens, including the leaders of the Islamic and Christian communities.

It appears likely that there was no plot, but merely an attempt to produce a joint statement critical of President Suharto's government.

AI is following the cases of the individuals who were reported to have been arrested □

US CONGRESS CUTS MILITARY AID TO URUGUAY

The United States Congress agreed on 20 September to cut off military aid to Uruguay. Its decision ratified a vote by a joint committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives earlier in the month to suspend military assistance, military training and education and arms credits to Uruguay for the coming financial year.

Under article 502b of the US Foreign Assistance Act military aid may be withheld where a country is proven to maintain "a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights".

Congress Representative Edward KOCH, who sponsored the aid suspension, has said, "Since the military actually is responsible for the systematic repression, our provision of military assistance. . . for 'internal security' purposes makes us accomplices in the repression".

On 27 July *AI* researcher Edy KAUFMAN testified at a sub-committee hearing of the House of Representatives on violations of human rights in Uruguay. He reported that

there are approximately 5,000 political prisoners there, giving the country the highest prisoner/per capita ratio in the whole South American continent.

He also cited evidence of the widespread practice of torture in Uruguay and pointed to the 29 cases documented by *AI* of people known to have died as a result of brutal treatment.

Protests from senior ministers and officials in Uruguay came soon after the congress decision. On 27 September, Uruguayan Defence Minister Walter RAVENNA stated that "there are few countries ahead of Uruguay in their approach to human rights. . . because few of them have as old and firm a background of cultural and republican tradition as Uruguay". Earlier, Brigadier Jorge BORAD criticized US congressmen for listening to the allegations of human rights violations from sources which included opposition party members and "an obscure international organization of doubtful objectives which carries out campaigns against our country".

In the last three years, the US congress has passed several amendments limiting aid to countries which consistently violate human rights. However, apart from Chile, where aid has been reduced, Uruguay is only the second country specifically banned from receiving US military assistance □

AI OBSERVER EXCLUDED FROM TRIAL IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

AI observer Henry GOLDMANN was excluded from the trial of four young musicians in Prague on 21 and 22 September.

Mr Goldmann, a lawyer from Austria, attempted in August to observe the trial of 14 musicians from the "Plastic People of the Universe" and "DG 307" rock groups, but the trial was postponed to 21 September (*September Newsletter*).

The four musicians on trial on 21/22 September were Ivan JIROUS, an art

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AI PUBLISHES BRIEFING ON TAIWAN

Several hundred people suspected of opposing the government are currently detained in Taiwan (Republic of China) after trials *in camera* by military courts.

These criticisms appear in an 11-page briefing paper published by *AI* in October.

The briefing paper says that intimidation

of potential opposition to the Nationalist government and arrest of political dissenters have been the prevailing practice in Taiwan since a state of seige was declared in May 1949, in spite of a partial amnesty after the death of President CHIANG Kai-shek in April 1975.

It outlines in particular:

— arrest and detention of suspected political

opponents on charges of sedition under laws drawn up after the state of seige was declared;

- permanent suspension under these laws of the civil rights provisions of the 1946 constitution;
- trials and appeal reviews conducted by military tribunals and inadequate basic

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AI Observer Excluded from Trial in Czechoslovakia

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historian and artistic director of the Plastic People (sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment on 23 September); Pavel ZAJICEK, a lyricist with both bands (12 months); Svatopluk KARASEK, former Protestant pastor and singer with the Plastic People (8 months), and Vratislav BRABENEC, also a member of the Plastic People (8 months).

All four were charged with "arousing public disturbance and nuisance in an organized manner". The charges related to their non-conformist cultural activities and life style.

Czechoslovak law provides for open trials and AI did not believe that it required special permission to observe the trial.

However, Mr Goldmann introduced himself on 30 August to the chairman of the court, the presiding judge and two of the defence lawyers to ensure that he would not be excluded from the trial through lack of space.

AI also wrote to Czechoslovak judicial authorities introducing Mr Goldmann and requesting his admittance to the courtroom.

Despite these measures, Mr Goldmann was excluded from attending the first day of the trial on the grounds that there was no room for him in the courtroom. He was also denied entry on the second day, even though a relative of one defendant offered to give up his own admission ticket so that an AI observer could be present.

The trial was not completely closed. Some relatives and at least one member of the general public were admitted. But a number of Czechoslovak citizens were unable to attend the trial, although the authorities were aware of the wide interest in the case both in Czechoslovakia and abroad.

On 30 September, AI protested to Czechoslovak judicial authorities about Mr Goldmann's exclusion from the trial □

KURDS ARRESTED IN IRAQ DESPITE AMNESTIES

Thousands of Kurds in Iraq have been arrested and some tortured since hostilities ceased in March 1975, despite the general amnesty announced then and extended on various occasions until October 1975. Many Kurds are known to have been executed.

AI expressed its concern in a letter to President Ahmad Hassan AL BAKR of Iraq on 28 October. It urged that assurances of safe conduct be given to all those who surrender under the amnesty declared on 26 August 1976, originally effective until 15 October but extended for a further month.

AI listed 122 Kurds known to have been arrested or executed over the past year and a half. They included:

- Kurds who had surrendered to the army in accordance with the 1975 amnesty and who were later executed;
- Kurds who had been arrested before hosti-

ilities ceased but who were executed after the ceasefire;

- Kurds who had been arrested or executed for their alleged involvement in political activities. Under this heading are four unnamed schoolboys, aged 14 or 15, who were reportedly arrested for possessing political pamphlets. They reportedly died under torture in July/August 1976.

AI also expressed concern at reports that several thousand Kurds who surrendered to the army and who were suspected of membership of the Kurdish Democratic Party, the Kurdish armed forces or the Kurdish Intelligence Service, were arrested and taken to detention camps in the southern towns of Diwaniya, Nasiriya, Tiqar and Amara.

First hand accounts describe their ill-treatment and torture during interrogation.

The apparent refusal of the Iraqi government to allow international and/or humanitarian organizations to visit detention camps and prisons or to attend trials has made it difficult for AI to evaluate the accuracy and validity of allegations and complaints.

AI told President Al Bakr that it would welcome a positive response to its request to send a mission to Iraq. AI has twice since December 1975 written to the Iraqi authorities requesting permission to send a mission to the country, but no reply has yet been received □

AI CALLS FOR END TO KILLINGS IN THAILAND

AI urged new Prime Minister Thanin KRAIVICHEN of Thailand on 14 October to prevent killings by vigilante groups. It also called for the release from prison of 1,500 students and others reportedly detained.

The police have reportedly allowed bail for 1,400 students, but large numbers are still held in extremely crowded conditions, especially at Bangkok Police Training Center. Reports of police brutality were particularly disturbing.

Political control of Thailand was taken over by the "Administrative Reform Committee" on 6 October after open fighting broke out among students in Bangkok. For several days there were reports of heavy shooting and blood-shed in Bangkok. Police and soldiers seized more than a million alleged communist books and documents from universities and bookshops. The books were subsequently burned at police headquarters.

There have also been reports of large-scale arrests among the large community of Vietnamese refugees in the north □

Prisoner Releases and Cases

The International Secretariat learned in September of the release of 138 AI-adopted prisoners and took up 135 new cases.

BISHOP RECEIVES 10 YEAR SENTENCE IN RHODESIA

A Rhodesian judge sentenced Roman Catholic Bishop Donal LAMONT of Umtali to 10 years' imprisonment with hard labour on 1 October after the bishop pleaded guilty to four charges under the Law and Order (Maintenance) and Criminal Procedure Acts.

Bishop Lamont admitted failing to report the whereabouts of African nationalist guerrillas on two occasions, and advising a Roman Catholic nun to do the same.

During his three-day trial, Bishop Lamont made it clear that he had purposely defied the law to focus international attention on the dilemma facing civilians living in the Rhodesian war zone. They must either report guerrillas and face nationalist recrimination or remain silent and risk criminal prosecution by the Rhodesian authorities.

Bishop Lamont said that this situation was the natural consequence of the repressive and discriminatory policies of the illegal Rhodesian Front regime. He asked, "How can I, or any other bishop for that matter, remain indifferent to the gross injustice which exists all around me and which especially has to be borne by the vast majority of the Rhodesian population?"

The bishop has been released on bail pending an appeal.

The trial was observed for AI by American jurist Bruce SUMNER.

• Rhodesia Report Published

Detailed criticisms of Rhodesian government policies, particularly the activities of the regime's security forces, are contained in a report published in October by the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Rhodesia. Called *Civil War in Rhodesia*, the report documents the widespread detention, torture and killing of African civilians by Rhodesian security forces.

It is available from the Catholic Institute for International Relations, 4 Cambridge Terrace, London NW1, England, price £1.00 (US \$2.00) □

AI URGES EGYPT TO COMMUTE DEATH SENTENCE

AI urged President Anwar SADAT of Egypt on 12 October to commute the death sentence passed on Emadeddin ABU RAKIK on humanitarian grounds.

Mr Abu Rakik was sentenced to death by a military court on 11 October for planting two bombs in a government office block in August. □

174 DETAINED IN JAMAICA

AI wrote on 7 October to Prime Minister Michael M. MANLEY of Jamaica urging the trial or release of 174 people detained without trial under the state of emergency declared in June □

Prisoners of the Month Campaign

Participants in the campaign are reminded that appeals must only be sent to the officials named at the end of each case. In *no* circumstances should communications be sent to the prisoner. It is important for the prisoner that messages to the authorities are worded carefully and courteously and that they are never sectarian.

Malebelle Joseph MOLOKENG, *South Africa*

Malebelle MOLOKENG, former president of the National Youth Organization (NAYO), was detained under South Africa's new Internal Security Amendment Act on 2 September 1976. This act, provides for preventive detention for an indefinite period. There seems little likelihood therefore that Mr Molokeng will be charged or brought to trial.

Mr Molokeng was president of NAYO, a leading "black consciousness" organization, until July 1975 when he was detained under section 6 of South Africa's Terrorism Act. After several months in detention incommunicado, he and six other NAYO members were charged under the Terrorism and Suppression of Communism Acts.

The case came to trial in Johannesburg in March 1976 but was transferred to the Pretoria Supreme Court following mass demonstrations in support of the seven defendants on the first two days of the trial (June *Newsletter*). Two defendants were convicted when the trial ended on 21 May and received the minimum mandatory sentence under the Terrorism Act of 5 years' imprisonment. Mr Molokeng and the remaining four accused were each acquitted on all counts and discharged.

Since the outbreak of disturbances in the black township of Soweto last June, the South African security police have conducted a series of raids in which most of the leaders of the "black consciousness" movement have been arrested or detained.

At least two of those detained, Mapetla MOHAPI and Luke MAZWEMBE, both young men, have died in mysterious circumstances while being held in detention incommunicado. There are, naturally, fears for the safety of all those like Malebelle Molokeng who remain in detention at this time.

Please write courteously worded letters appealing for the release of Malebelle Molokeng to: The Honourable B.J. Vorster, Prime Minister, Union Buildings, Pretoria, South Africa; *and to:* The Honourable J.T. Kruger, Minister of Justice, Union Buildings, Pretoria, South Africa.

Jesus PU Santos, *Guatemala*

Jesus PU Santos is one of 16 Indian peasants who were detained on 9 March 1976 in the municipality of San Miguel Uspantán, in Quiché Department in northern Guatemala. They are all rural subsistence farmers, owning small plots of land jointly with their community. As members of an ethnic and economic group with only limited access to

the legal remedies provided by the law, they are vulnerable to persecution by local authorities.

Señor Pu and his companions were accused by the large agricultural enterprise *San Francisco Cotzal* of usurpation of land and damage to property. This enterprise was allegedly blocking the access to lands held legally by the peasant farmers and its agents had burned their crops.

The value of the land has increased as a result of the high price of basic grains, the possibility of petroleum deposits in the region and the planned building of a major highway into the area. Outsiders or large local landowners have been acquiring the titles to peasant smallholdings which were formerly nationally owned. In this case, the disputed land was registered in 1899 in the name of the Indian community of Patinamit, of which the peasants are members.

On 27 April, member of congress Fernando Tezaguic Tohón asked congress to solicit the release of the 16 peasants, but the authorities subsequently denied that they were in detention.

The governor of Quiché Department, Colonel Manuel de Jesus Arana Mansila, had been instructed by the minister of government to investigate the allegations that peasants in that region had been persecuted. In May he denied that such persecution occurred, as only three agents of the National Police were stationed there. However, local authorities can name an unlimited number of civilians as law enforcement agents, and many private landholdings qualify as administrative units, with armed bodies for law enforcement. These para-police forces are reported to be responsible for many of the detentions and "disappearances" in the countryside.

It is highly probable that the law enforcement agents that detained Señor Pu and his companions were attached to the commercial farm *Empresa Agricola San Francisco Cotzal* which had brought the accusation against members of the community of Patinamit over land disputes.

Please send courteously worded letters appealing for news of the whereabouts and for the release of Jesus Pu Santos to: President Kjell Eugenio Laugerud Garcia, President of the Republic, Palacio Nacional, Zona 1, Guatemala, Guatemala C.A. Send copies to the Guatemalan Embassy in your country.

Saiyid Abdul Hadi Shihab, *People's Democratic Republic of Yemen*

Saiyid Abdul Hadi Shihab has been held without charge or trial in Al Mansura prison in Aden since late 1967 or early 1968. Now

in his late 40s, he was a senior officer in the Adeni police force before the country gained independence in November 1967. For a short time before his arrest he was commissioner of internal security.

The exact reasons for his arrest and continued detention are not known, and neither he nor his family has been informed of the charges. But he had been a senior officer in the British-trained Adeni police force and would be considered as having been associated with the pre-independence government. He would therefore be open to suspicion and as such liable to arrest. (A number of ministers and officials of the pre-independence government have also been in prison since 1967).

Conditions in Al Mansura prison are satisfactory, and some members of his family had been allowed to visit him on a regular basis, but in February 1975 these visits were stopped and there were rumours that he might have been moved to the island of Socotra. Representatives of *AI* visiting Aden in May 1975 were told that Abdul Hadi Shihab had been released from Al Mansura prison the previous February, but they were not allowed to meet the "released" prisoner. More recently information has been received that Abdul Hadi Shihab's family are once again being allowed to visit him in Al Mansura prison.

Abdul Hadi Shihab is married with six children. His wife is now living in the Yemen Arab Republic.

Please write courteously worded letters appealing for the release of Saiyid Abdul Hadi Shihab to: His Excellency Salem Rubia Ali, Chairman of the Presidential Council, Aden, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

News of Past Campaigns

AI-adoptee Khan Abdul GHAFFAR KHAN, the 86-year-old political leader of the Pakhtoons in Pakistan, was released from prison on 29 August. He had been held in detention for 16 months (*Prisoner of the Month*, July *Newsletter*).

Earlier this year, he had been transferred from Kohat Jail to Kohat Military Hospital with heart trouble and a serious eye disease.

Prime Minister Zhulfikar Ali BHUTTO of Pakistan reportedly ordered Mr Ghaffar Khan's release "in consideration of his old age and in view of the start of the holy month of *Ramadhan*" □

AI CALLS FOR RELEASE OF TRANSKEI POLITICAL PRISONERS

More than 30 people are reportedly still detained incommunicado in the Transkei, which gained independence on 26 October 1976. It was the first bantustan to be given independence under South Africa's *apartheid* policy.

In a cable to the new Transkei Prime Minister Kaiser MANTANZIMA on 25 October, *AI* urged the government to mark its independence by releasing all political detainees. It called on Chief Mantanzima to assert the new status of the Transkei by repealing all repressive South African laws still in force in the new republic □

AI MEMBER HARASSED IN SOVIET UNION

Two members of *AI*'s group have complained that state security personnel harassed acting group secretary Vladimir ALBRECHT and threatened his life.

AI had invited Mr Albrecht and group chairman Valentin TURCHIN to attend its annual International Council meeting in Strasbourg on 24/26 September.

Mr Albrecht, a mathematician and physicist, applied to the Soviet authorities for permission to travel to France. On 30 August he was summoned to the Ministry of Internal affairs and informed that he would not be given such permission. At the same time he was asked to meet alone with an official who refused to give his name. Mr Albrecht refused to meet the official under these conditions.

The same day Mr Albrecht noticed that he was followed by several men whom he assumed were agents of the Committee for State Security (KGB). These men did not conceal their presence and engaged Mr Albrecht in conversation. One man warned Mr Albrecht that he would "throw him onto the tracks of the Moscow Metro". Another threatened to beat him and a third said, "If they order me to, I will kill you". Mr Albrecht was followed for at least four days.

AI received this information in a letter of greeting addressed by Mr Turchin and Mr Albrecht to the meeting in Strasbourg. The letter was dated 3 September, but continuing disruption of correspondence between *AI*'s London headquarters and the Moscow group prevented its arrival in London until early October.

AI asked Soviet Union justice authorities on 18 October to investigate Mr Albrecht's complaint.

Mr Albrecht has been acting secretary of the Moscow *AI* group since the arrest of group secretary Andrei TVERDOKHLEBOV in April 1975. Mr Tverdokhlebov is currently serving a sentence of exile in Siberia.

Another member of the group, Dr Sergei KOVALYOV, is serving a sentence of 7 years' strict regime imprisonment on a conviction for "anti-soviet agitation and propaganda" □

AI URGES VIETNAM TO COMMUTE DEATH SENTENCES

Three members of a Roman Catholic opposition group in Vietnam have been sentenced to death by a people's tribunal in Ho-Chi-Minh City (formerly Saigon). A report in the Vietnamese newspaper *Saigon Giaiphong* on 21 September announced the sentences against NGUYEN Duc Hung, NGUYEN Huu Nghi and NGUYEN Suan Hung.

The three men were among 14 people arrested in February following a gun battle with police around the Roman Catholic church of Vin-Son where they had taken refuge. They are allegedly members of the People's Army for National Recovery, a resistance group.

According to some reports the sentences have to be confirmed by the president, but no further information was available as the Newsletter went to press.

On 28 September, *AI* appealed to President TON Duc Thang of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to commute the sentences on humanitarian grounds □

AI CONDEMNS EXECUTIONS IN SYRIA

AI wrote to President Hafez ASSAD of Syria on 6 October deploring the execution of Jabbar DARWISH, Muhammad BARQAWI and Mutasem JAYYOUSHI. They were hanged in public on 27 September.

The three men were involved in an attack on the Semiramis Hotel in Damascus on 26 September, during which four people were killed and 34 wounded.

The letter said: "While Amnesty International wholeheartedly condemns acts of violence such as that which took place in the Semiramis Hotel, it equally opposes capital punishment unreservedly. . . *AI* particularly deplores the fact that these men were denied the right to an open trial or to any form of defence, in contravention of the Syrian Constitution (article 28, 4)".

• Syria Releases AI Prisoner

AI heard in October that adopted prisoner Suhel HASSAN has been released from prison in Syria.

A former army officer and civil engineer, Mr Hassan was first arrested when President Hafez ASSAD seized power in 1970. He was detained for three months and then re-arrested in November 1972, allegedly for failing to inform the Syrian authorities of a planned revolt against the government by a group of army officers.

He was never formerly charged or tried and had been detained in Al Mezze prison, Damascus □

INDIA RELEASES AI ADOPTEE

AI adopted prisoner Pилоo MODY was released by the Indian authorities on 6 October after being held in detention for 14 months under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act.

Mr Mody is general secretary of the *Bharatiya Lok Dal* (People's Party) and president of the Swatantra Party.

The *Bharatiya Lok Dal* was formed in 1974 in opposition to the ruling Congress Party. It is a coalition of seven small opposition parties, including the free enterprise Swatantra Party.

Mr Mody intends to continue his previous involvement in opposition politics.

He was arrested on 26 June 1975, along with other opposition leaders, after the Indian government proclaimed a national emergency.

Mr Mody is only the fourth major opposition leader to be released since the emergency was imposed last year.

Opposition leaders still detained under the emergency laws include Morarji DESAI, leader of the Congress Opposition Party, and Jyotirmoy BOSU, deputy leader of the Communist Party of India (Marxist).

At least 40,000 people have been detained under the Indian emergency □

Amnesty International requires

Deputy Secretary General

for its International Secretariat based in London.

The successful candidate will be responsible to the Secretary General and the International Executive Committee for maintaining the highest standards of accuracy, impartiality and judgement in Amnesty's action for the protection of specific human rights.

The post requires an experience of international affairs and organizations and a broad knowledge of political, economic and legal situations in different parts of the world, together with a good record of administrative and organizational ability.

Fluency in at least one language other than English and willingness to travel essential. Salary approximately £5,400 p.a.

Letters of application enclosing comprehensive *curriculum vitae* should be forwarded before 15 November 1976 to the Secretary General, Amnesty International, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England.

AI Publishes Briefing on Taiwan

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- legal safeguards;
- use of torture in some instances during interrogation;
 - use of the death penalty as punishment for certain criminal and political offences.

AI's briefing paper criticizes the practice of holding political detainees incommunicado for an indefinite period before bringing them to trial. It points out that it is not unusual for prisoners to claim during their trial that a confession has been extracted from them by force. Frequently, the confession is the sole evidence for conviction.

The briefing paper details average prison conditions and lists prisons known to be used for political detainees. Long term detainees are generally held in Green Island New Life Camp, a totally isolated prison on an island off the southeast coast of Taiwan.

The paper also says that past appeals to the government on behalf of several prisoners requiring medical treatment have been ignored.

One prisoner in particular is HSIEH Ts'ung-min, a Taiwanese editor imprisoned for the second time in 1971, who reportedly suffered torture during interrogation. Mr Hsieh has spent several years in solitary confinement. He suffers from asthma, arthritis and an allergy and has undertaken three hunger strikes recently to protest against the lack of proper medical attention.

Amnesty International Briefing on Taiwan (Republic of China): 11 pages, published by Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England. Price 40 pence (US \$1.00) plus 20 pence (50 US cents) postage and handling. Annual inclusive subscription price for 10 individual country briefing papers: £6 (US \$15.00) post paid □

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Athens Torturers Receive Light Sentences

The trial of seven officers and one policeman of the Athens Security Police (*Asfaleia*) on torture charges ended on 12 October with two acquittals, three sentences of under 1 year and three sentences of between 1 and 2 years.

The policemen were charged with causing injuries to some 100 prisoners at the Bouboulinas Street headquarters of the civilian security police between April 1967 and August 1973.

Six of the eight security police on trial had been named as torturers in *AI's* 1968 report on Greece, which found torture to be a systematic and officially condoned practice in the junta's police stations.

At the end of the trial, former Athens Security Police Chief Vassilis LAMBROU walked away a free man. He had been named as a torturer both by *AI* and by the Council of Europe in its 1969 report. Mr Lambrou received a sentence of only 10 months, and under Greek law sentences of under one year can be met by payment of a fine.

Another trial ended on 14 October with five high-ranking gendarmerie officers receiving sentences of up to 6 years. They included two lieutenants-general.

A year ago the Greek press reported that 150 security police and gendarmerie officers and men from the Athens area would be tried on torture charges. Of the 150 only 28 were recommended for trial.

The Court of Appeal then dismissed charges against all but 16 of these without any trials taking place, and reduced the charges against the 16 from felonies to misdemeanours. A further three security policemen were released by the court before their trial began. Only eight security policemen and five gendarmerie officers of these 150 in Athens have been brought to trial.

The government's failure to pursue a centrally coordinated policy of investigating alleged torture has led some prosecution witnesses to refuse to testify at trials they believe to be biased in favour of the torturer defendants.

Torture victim Professor Dionysios KARAGIORGAS was summoned to appear as a prosecution witness after refusing to attend a trial voluntarily. He told the court: "I appear under compulsion. I do not come voluntarily because both the Greek people and I believe that the prosecution of the torturers is the duty of the state. I am not interested in the present accused—those worms. We denounced the torturers to the courts-martial and the Council of Europe. After this I shall not testify. The torturers are still serving in the Security."

Professor Karagiorgas' statement refers

to the fact that all the torture trials in Greece during the last 15 months have resulted from private lawsuits by torture victims.

In each case only the accumulation of these lawsuits has forced the public prosecutor to investigate and prosecute the torturers in the criminal courts□

AI REPEATS CALL FOR INQUIRY INTO DETAINEES' TREATMENT IN ISRAEL

AI has repeated its request for an independent inquiry into the treatment of detainees by the Israeli police and security forces. The original request was made in a letter to Prime Minister Yitzhak RABIN on 28 May (July *CAT Bulletin*) which was acknowledged by Mr Rabin's office in August.

Writing to the prime minister on 12 October, *AI* referred to further allegations of ill-treatment and torture of detainees in Israel, which have been reported in the Israeli press.

Israel COHEN, a Jewish common law detainee suspected of burglary, was released by a judge in June on the grounds that his confession of guilt in April had been extracted under torture.

The police of Natania had subjected Mr Cohen to electric shocks, inserted teargas into a gasmask attached to his face and pressed handcuffs on to his wrists so as to cut the skin. Mr Cohen's claims were corroborated by a medical examination.

The district judge refused to accept police denials and said, "This court of justice will not give its consent to such methods of investigation. I therefore decide to accept the appeal and order immediate release."

Following a police appeal against this verdict, a high court judge ordered Mr Cohen to be re-detained.

Several similar cases were reported from Natania. One was the subject of a police investigation following a complaint by a member of parliament. In June the minister of police stated that the investigation had concluded that four policemen had used illegal force and that disciplinary action was being taken.

On 15 October a military court in Tel Aviv sentenced a major to 2 years' imprisonment, with demotion to the rank of private, for

contributing to the death of an Arab civilian arrested as a suspected agitator in the West Bank territory.

The court held the officer responsible for beating suspected agitators so severely that he died.

AI's October letter to the prime minister said, "The conclusion seems unavoidable that abuses in the past, directed mainly against Arab detainees, have had a brutalizing effect on the conduct of the law enforcement agencies, and strong counter-measures by your government are clearly a matter of great urgency, especially now that relevant authorities, including the minister of police and the courts, have admitted that 'unnecessary force' had in at least some cases been used during interrogation. Amnesty International therefore respectfully repeats its request for an independent inquiry into all aspects of this problem"□

ARRESTED POLICEMEN "COMMIT SUICIDE" DURING INTERROGATION IN ARGENTINA

Two brothers serving as inspectors in the Argentinian police forces reportedly "committed suicide" after their arrest in September for suspected contact with illegal leftwing organizations.

Official communiques state that Julio Anibal BADELL jumped from a third floor window on 29 September. His brother Benito Esteban Badell is said to have hanged himself in his cell on 3 October. They had been held for interrogation at the Central Police Station in La Plata City.

On 14 October *AI* wrote to Head of the Military Chiefs of Staff Roberto VIOLA, expressing its concern about the circumstances that could have led to the brothers' alleged suicide.

• Smuggled Torture Dossier:

Torture during interrogation is widely reported to be routine in Argentina. A 100-page dossier detailing human rights violations from January to June 1976 has recently been smuggled out of Argentina.

The document was compiled by an Argentine Commission for Human Rights and gives detailed information about the use of torture, including individual testimonies. The document describes sub-human prison conditions, detention camps for prisoners held extra-legally and the names of dozens of people who have fallen victim to political assassination or who disappeared after arrest.

The information contained in the dossier is consistent with numerous testimonies and other evidence received by *AI*□

appeals

Pyotr STARCHIK, *Soviet Union*

Pyotr STARCHIK, aged 38, worked as a storehouse supervisor at the Institute of Psychology in Moscow until his first arrest in April 1972 on suspicion of distributing *samizdat* underground literature and leaflets critical of the Soviet government.

Despite numerous testimonies to his exceptional moral and spiritual health, he was diagnosed by a psychiatric commission in December 1972 as suffering from "creeping schizophrenia" and was sent to the special prison hospital in Kazan. He is a devout Christian, and his crucifix and bible were confiscated by the investigators.

At Kazan, Mr Starchik was reportedly "treated" with haloperidol, a tranquillizer which can cause listlessness and depression when administered in excess. He told his wife, "it is as if nothing of myself remains".

After his release in February 1975 he became a "group two invalid" because of his "illness". This meant that he could not find work and received only a very small state pension. He gave weekly recitals at his Moscow flat of his own musical settings of works by Soviet poets, which often attracted large audiences.

Following several summonses by the police, he was called to a Moscow psychiatric hospital on 26 August 1976 where he was advised to "stop singing songs, (for) the continuation of this activity would testify to the worsening of his illness".

Five days later, police entered his flat during a recital, took the names of all those present and detained about 15 of them as they were leaving.

On 15 September, Mr Starchik was again called to the police station, where he was met by doctors and officials from the Committee for State Security (KGB). He was taken to

the Stolbovoya (civil) psychiatric hospital just outside Moscow.

The citizens' group set up in Moscow monitor Soviet observance of the 1975 Helsinki agreement in the field of human rights reported on 12 October that psychiatrists had again begun giving Mr Starchik injections of haloperidol.

There is no reason to believe that Mr Starchik is mentally ill, or a danger to society or himself. There certainly does not appear to be any legitimate reason for his forcible confinement in a psychiatric institution. He has not yet been formally arrested and before he can be confined to a prison psychiatric hospital, an official investigation must be held. This would include examination by a psychiatric commission.

Please write courteously worded letters, expressing the view that there appear to be no grounds to consider Mr Starchik mentally ill, requesting that any treatment with drugs be ended immediately, and that he be released as soon as possible, to: SSSR, RSFSR, Moskovskaya oblast, st. Stolbovoya, Psikhiatricheskaya bolnitsa no. 5, Glavnomu Vrachu: V. Kosyrevu (chief doctor of the hospital); and to: SSSR, RSFSR, Moskva, Rakhmanovsky Pereulok 3, Ministerstvo Zdravookhraneniya SSSR, Ministru Borisu Petrovskomu (Minister of Health).

NEW WAVES OF DISAPPEARANCES IN CHILE

New waves of arrests followed by numerous disappearances have curbed hopes that a trend towards the restoration of civil and human rights might be emerging in Chile.

While news of the release of around 400 people in May-June 1976 was welcomed by international opinion, a further 385 people were detained during the same period. Many appeared later in Tres Alamos detention camp, while others remained disappeared and their arrest was denied.

The detentions continued in the following months. Recent reports include the names of 27 people arrested or disappeared in September. Among them are Luis RODRIGUEZ RADDATZ, reportedly held by DINA agents at the airport while he was waiting to leave the country on 23 September; Raul FARIAS JARA, a 73-year-old trade union official disappeared on 3 September; Gonzalo PIWONKA FIGUEROA, a former university professor detained by DINA at his office on 16 September; and two sociology students.

Further concern was caused when the body was found in July of Carmelo SORIA, an official of the United Nations Latin America Center for Demography and former supporter of the Allende government's agrarian reform program. The body of Marta UGARTE ROMAN, a teacher and former official in the previous government's prices control committee, was found bearing marks of maltreatment in September after her reported arrest.

The authorities claimed that Señor Soria had died in a car accident and that Señora Ugarte had been the victim of a common law crime. However, several sources have strongly argued that they were victims of political executions.

The renewed persecution affects a wide range of social groups, particularly peaceful opposition and lawyers, social workers and others working to assist political prisoners and their families.

Please write courteously worded letters expressing concern over continuing arrests and disappearances and requesting the full implementation of legal proceedings for arrest and detention to: General Augusto Pinochet, Presidente de la República, Edificio Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile; and to: Señor Jorge Alessandri, Presidente del Consejo de Estado, Edificio Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile.

AI PUBLISHES BOOKLET ON PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND TORTURE

AI published a 32-page booklet in October on professional ethics in relation to torture. The booklet contains essays by two Dutch members of AI.

The first essay, *Professional Codes of Ethics against Torture*, is by Alfred HEIJDER, professor of criminal law at Amsterdam University and member of AI's International Executive Committee (IEC). Professor Heijder elaborates the need for such codes and outlines the criteria they should meet. The essay is based on a paper Professor Heijder gave to an AI seminar at the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders held in Geneva in September 1975.

The second essay, by Herman van GEUNS, a Rotterdam physician, former IEC member and chairman of the medical commission at the AI Conference for the Abolition of Torture held in Paris in December 1973, discusses *The Responsibilities of the Medical Profession in Connection with Torture*.

Attached as appendices to the booklet are the texts of a draft code for law enforcement personnel prepared by the United Nations Committee on Crime Prevention and Control in June/July 1976

(August *CAT Bulletin*), the Declaration of Tokyo of the World Medical Association and a pertinent resolution of the International Council of Nurses (November 1975 *CAT Bulletin*).

The booklet also contains draft principles of a code of ethics for lawyers relevant to torture prepared by AI in consultation with the International Commission of Jurists.

Professional Codes of Ethics, Alfred Heijder and Herman van Geuns, 32 pages, October 1976: published by Amnesty International Publications, 53 Theobald's Road, London WC1X 8SP, England. Price 40 pence (US \$1.00) □

TORTURE ALLEGATIONS INVESTIGATED IN PERU

Students in Peru who alleged they had been tortured by security police after their arrest in September have been promised an official inquiry into their allegations.

But, at the same time, Minister of Interior Luis CISNEROS VIZQUERRA warned the engineering students that they would have to provide evidence to support their allegations. He said it was "too easy to make such allegations and blame the

police" and that "nobody had the right to play with the names of institutions and individuals".

AI wrote to General Cisneros Vizquerra on 15 October to express its support for the investigation but also its concern that the minister's warning might intimidate the alleged victims for fear of legal action against them.

AI further noted that it is generally impossible for the victim to present conclusive evidence of torture and stressed that the serious nature of the allegations warranted a thorough and impartial investigation by the state □

MORE DEATHS UNDER TORTURE ALLEGED IN SYRIA

Two more deaths of political prisoners in Syria, allegedly as a result of torture, have been reported to AI (October *CAT Bulletin*).

Abdel Wahab AL TAYEB, a Palestinian living in Syria, reportedly died in Al Mezze Prison in Damascus early in 1976.

Another Palestinian, Mr AGGAB (first name unknown) reportedly suffered the same fate in Al Mezze prison in April 1976, following his arrest in March □