

# CLAMOR

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"Send an ear to my clamor." (Psalms 88,2)

COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHERN CONE NATIONS OF  
SÃO PAULO'S ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE MARGINALIZED

## EDITORIAL

Thousands of men and women crowded into the political prisons of the Southern Cone, are living in inhuman conditions deliberately designed to destroy them psychologically, to turn them into human wrecks. Many are serving long sentences after patently unfair trials where they were denied proper defence, while others have been imprisoned for years without even the mockery of a trial.

In the prisons of Villa Devoto, Punta Rieles, Libertad and Rawson, many prisoners have already been driven to suicide or mental breakdown. Others, in need of urgent medical treatment for ailments often caused by torture or the unhealthy diet, are denied it. Long periods of solitary confinement are imposed for infringements of prison rules, but these are frequently changed without warning. Prisoners are humiliated, debased and devalued as human beings, feelings fed by "the fear of sanctions and punishments, fear of informers, anguish about the future", in the words of their families.

The authorities make no secret that their aim is to destroy the prisoners: one Villa Devoto administrator said "If it was left to me I would kill them all but we have orders from the military to kill them psychologically".

In the following pages there are more details of these prison conditions and their effects on the prisoners. Clamor believes that a campaign to improve these conditions must become a priority for churches, human rights groups and international organizations in 1981.

"Happy is he whose hope is in the Lord his God, who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the pilgrims, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin." Psalms 146, 5-9.

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## PRISON CONDITIONS IN THE SOUTHERN CONE

Jean-François Labarthe, representative of the Red Cross, visited the Uruguayan prison Libertad and wrote a pungent report for the organization's International Committee describing living conditions and the process of obliteration of the human will carried out by the Uruguayan military authorities.

"The prisoner," Labarthe says, "becomes a walking number."

At the Federal Penitentiary of Rawson, located in the Argentine province Chubut, and 1,600 km from Libertad, Uruguayan citizen Gabriel Manera Johnson, 25, a prisoner for more than five years, describes in a petition the living conditions in Rawson. They are identical to those found by Labarthe in Libertad. The two documents -- by an expert who visited prison institutions in Uruguay, Brazil and Argentina, and by a direct victim of the system -- are devastating evidence of the inhuman conditions under which political prisoners in the Southern Cone live -- or, more accurately, vegetate.

Clamor reproduces basic parts of Labarthe's report and the petition filed by Manera Johnson, eloquent in themselves:

The Red Cross expert begins by defining the characteristics common to "high" or "maximum" security prisoners: separation of prisoners and prohibition of all contact between them; confinement in cells for one or two persons but rarely in groups; a large dosage of ill-treatment and punishments; difficulty or impossibility in communicating with guards -- and more. He concludes: "Libertad, however, is the place where that system is carried beyond the usual limits, not just in security but in the search for all possible means of hurting the prisoners."

### Conditions of Detention

"Two-thirds of the 1,200 prisoners at Libertad live in cells for two people," the Labarthe report continues. "The other one-third are in solitary confinement -- for up to seven years in some cases, and often 24 hours a day, despite the daily recreation hour announced by the authorities."

"All verbal communication with prisoners is forbidden, with a single exception: the announcement of punishments, systematically distributed in accordance with regulations. Each sanction is also always linked to a violation of rules. The problem, however, is that these rules are changed daily, so that the sanctions are unforeseeable. Privileges may suddenly become crimes and result in a punishment. Another form of punishment or ill-treatment: nighttime inspections which may involve



total destruction of the prisoners' personal belongings."

In Rawson, the situation is no different: "For the first time in five years and four months of prison, I'm subjected to total isolation that far exceeds the limit of endurance of even the most resigned spirit," writes Manera Johnson in his petition, presented in June to the Federal Court of Buenos Aires and then sent to the same court in Chubut Province July 1, 1980.

Manera Johnson continues, "Forced confinement for 14 hours a day, plus another hour for meals. Confinement is in an individual cell measuring 2 meters by 1.8 meters, and 2.5 meters high. This cell is always semi-dark because the windows are, inexplicably, painted. So we have to use electric light all day, in the cell and during the seven hours per day when activities are allowed in the cell block."

The punishment system at Rawson is similar to that described by the Red Cross at Libertad: "You have to obey an oral code of more than 100 items (in addition to 150 others included in the prison norms)," Manera Johnson continues. "These rules regulate everything, under threat of punishment, absolutely every one of the most trivial acts, with prohibitions that spell them out and limit them."

#### Humiliation

Labarthe's report on Libertad states: "Whenever a prisoner leaves his cell, he must keep his hands behind him and his eyes looking directly ahead. A glance over his shoulder or at the ceiling and he loses his recreation hour for various days, which means confinement to his little cell 24 hours a day."

This description is in perfect agreement with a complaint made to international groups by the parents of Rawson prisoners. They say, "Verbal acts of submission are required of the prisoners. They must speak to the jailer in a submissive attitude, with hands behind their backs and eyes fixed on the floor, not daring to raise them."

Edgardo Domingo Guerra, a prisoner at Rawson, complained several months ago of this rule, "My father taught me to look my questioner in the face but for five years all I've seen are boots."

Visitors are also humiliated, including even children visiting their imprisoned parents. Labarthe's report says, "The visit will be stopped if the parent makes any gesture of affection. Punishment for that is one or two months without visits. If the parent doesn't make that forbidden gesture, he or she has the right to see the child nine hours per year (Clamor's italics). After each visit, the child is interrogated by the guard."

At Libertad visits by adult relatives or lawyers are held in a small room in which visitor and prisoner are separated by glass and speak through interphones, which, Labarthe observes, makes it possible to tape the conversations.

Manera Johnson complains of the same treatment at Rawson: "I'm forbidden to have any kind of physical contact during visits. I have to speak with my family through a tube and can only see them through glass, which heightens the feeling of sensory and emotional loss and threatens family bonds."

Manera Johnson's right to have visitors is even more restricted because prison rules stipulate one-hour visits per day for a maximum of six consecutive weekdays. This means his family must spend an entire week near the prison, located 1,600 km from their home in Montevideo.

Labarthe confirms in his report that "newspapers and radios are forbidden. Libraries only include books on events before the French Revolution."

At Rawson, Manera Johnson says, "I'm deprived of access to newspapers, radio and television. Only two magazines -- censored -- are allowed each month. ( . . . ) We get one censored copy of the local paper El Chubut for every seven prisoners. The paper has 16 pages and national and international news is censored." The day Manera Johnson sent his petition to the Federal Court, the newspaper's first four pages were censored, he relates.

#### On the verge of madness

The prison regime inevitably leads to serious mental problems, witnessed by both Labarthe and the parents of Rawson prisoners. "The authorities consider ten percent of all prisoners to be mentally ill and thousands of tranquilizers are prescribed every month," the Red Cross representative says.

Parents of Rawson detainees add, "During recent visits to prisoners, family members all had the impression they were on the verge of an emotional crisis as a result of the extreme psychological pressure they are under because of the prison's inhuman -- and worsening -- treatment."

Labarthe describes situations that go beyond the most macabre fiction: "Sometimes one of the two prisoners in a cell is mentally ill. He may be kindly questioned by the prison psychologist during his crises and unwittingly let slip information about his cellmate. The authorities take advantage of these disclosures to resume interrogation of the other and even add on more years of prison to his already long sentence.

"When the sick prisoner returns to his cell, he may be so tortured by

guilt that he attempts suicide," Labarthe adds.

Suicides and mysterious deaths are familiar happenings in Southern Cone prisons. In Rawson alone, four prisoners killed themselves during the last nine months. One of them was Edgardo Domingo Guerra, the prisoner who complained that for five years he had seen nothing but boots. Another, Gabriel Francisco de Benedetti, pronounced a suicide by the authorities, is a strange case. In a letter to his family dated June 21, 1980, he expressed optimism about the efforts underway to win his freedom. Yet days later his family was informed that Benedetti had killed himself. The family had always feared for his life since his brother, Osvaldo Sigfrido, detained since 1975, was taken from the prison and killed in September 1978 "when he tried to flee," according to police.

#### Extermination Plan

As if inhuman living conditions were not enough, the military authorities have found ways to worsen the prisoners' plight, described in a September 1980 letter by family members of Libertad detainees: "They've been telling us since May that they're going to kill our relatives. People who have managed to retain their dignity in conditions worse than those of a Nazi concentration camp. They told us that there was a plan to exterminate them, that perhaps each visit would be the last one, that they are destroying many of the prisoners psychologically through threats, ill treatment, pressures."

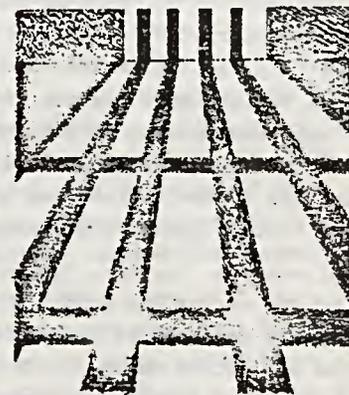
The letter adds that, initially, 33 of the 64 prisoners to be "eliminated" were moved to the first floor of the prison. More were added later, bringing the total to 44 "kidnapped" prisoners on the first floor, family members accused. Their names: Ruben Themes, Jorge Voituret, Luiz Ardisono, Miguel Benitez, Victor Romano, Ariel Poloni, Raul Pittaluga, Dario Arizaga, Alfredo Gomez, Carlos Gropp, Carlos Guimaraens, Oribe Peralta, José Cruz, Hector Degiovangelo, Conrado Gyurkovits, Jesus Batto, Daniel Bidart, Luis Bernier, Juan Quiñones, Daniel Baute, Juulio Etchechury, Fernando Mayans, Carlos Cal, Raul Martinez, Ruben Roja, Victor Tortora, Victoriano Taramasco, Washington Guinovart, Santiago Lungo, Tito Pereira, Hector Alaniz, Mario Tetti\*, Bolivar Escudero, Hugo Sarniguette, Hugo Blanco, Hugo Etchenique, Orlando Pereira, Milton Ramirez, Demetrio Stavrinakis, Miguel Mariño, Luis Hedracueva, Arbondo Figueroa, Claudio Carvajales, Augusto Kenedy and Alfredo Alzugarat.

The families blame Major Mauro Mauriño and Lieutenant-Colonel Fausto Gonzalez for the "extermination plan" and ask international groups to denounce it in order to save the prisoners' lives.

Labarthe's account and Manera Johnson's petition make it clear that

it would be perfectly possible for prison authorities, for whom human life does not have the least value, to come up with that sort of plan. The Red Cross experts says, "Among the freedoms Libertad prisoners are deprived of, one should not forget freedom to speak, to whistle, to sing (the rules impose silence), to choose your friends, to write, to look where you want when leaving your cell."

"The prisoner drowns in the quicksand of an alien robot-like life, in which everything is done in obedience to the ringing of a bell, a signal, a whistle and a nod."



### CÓRDOBA PRISON: A CHAMBER OF HORRORS

"Córdoba, capital of the province of the same name, is one of Argentina's most important cities because of its economic and cultural development. This industrial and student center has been characterized in recent years by the high degree of political participation and consciousness reached by the working class and the people in general. For this reason, the repression imposed in Argentina by the military dictatorship after March 24, 1976, reached unimaginable levels of cruelty and sadism in Córdoba.

The facts and statements in this account can be confirmed by any of the political prisoners who survived the hatred of the soldiers of General LUCIANO BENJAMIN MENENDEZ, commander and main ideologue of the systematic torture applied to the 400 detainees of the penitentiary unit CÓRDOBA ONE (U-P-1-CÓRDOBA) and of the murder of at least 30 of those prisoners. My words can also be corroborated by all those who witnessed the torture and murder without participating directly in it, such as the Head Police Commander GUILLERMO MONTAMAT, director of U-P-1 Córdoba until May 1976. He was removed because he wasn't in favor of murder and torture but he remained part of the Provincial Penitentiary Service as a Prison Unit Inspector. He knows all that happened because he witnessed it on more than one occasion. He spoke with the detainees several times and explained that he had nothing to do with the crimes, which were entirely the military's responsibility, but that he couldn't do anything to stop them.

There were doctors, social workers, lawyers, judges, who were all aware from the first moment of the terror the military imposed on defenseless human beings. When the soldiers of the 4th Air Brigade and the Military Police burst into the prison March 25, 1976, the bloodiest and most brutal repression known by political detainees in an Argentine prison began.

Commander MONTAMAT was replaced as head of Córdoba prison by penitentiary official TORRES, who actively participated in repression and under whom prison staff followed military instruction by torturing us in every way.

Federal Judge ADOLFO ZAMBONI LEDESMA was an accomplice, covering up murder and torture he was well aware of. Not only did he remain silent about the crimes, but he "legalized" them by signing authorizations for "transfer" and "liberty" that ended with the murder, after torture, of prisoners on the pretext that they tried to escape.

Another Justice employee who witnessed all that happened is ROBERTO HARO, official defense lawyer of the Federal Justice Department of

Córdoba. At the end of May 1976, I was taken with other detainees by an Argentine army lieutenant to an audience in the prison's judicial office. During the trip from our cells to the meeting with Dr. Haro we were beaten so violently by the lieutenant and other soldiers that Dr. HARO could plainly see the marks of the blows. The soldier who had threatened us with death if we told anything that went on was present at the interview. Those few minutes were unforgettable: I was trying to convey to Haro through my expression all my terror and despair while he nervously informed me about judicial matters under the watchful eye of the armed soldier whose presence reminded me of my fate if I talked. The soldier was suddenly called away by his superior and I took advantage of his absence to describe to Dr. HARO what they had been doing to us for the past two months.

I told him how a week before, on the night of May 17, 1976, an Argentine army captain and other officials accompanied by a warder took from their cells the prisoners ALBERTO SVAGUZZA, LUIS RAMON VERON, MIGUEL HERNANDEZ, MIGUEL ANGEL MOSSE, ROBERTO JUN and DIANA, whose last name I don't remember. When SVAGUZZA asked where they were being taken, the warder laughed and replied, "To the infirmary." The soldiers beat them, then tied them tightly with telephone cables and handcuffed, blindfolded and hooded them. As we had sensed, at 10 p.m. we heard gun shots near the prison and at 7 the next morning, May 18, 1976, a newspaper appeared in Pavilion 8 of the U-P-1 with pictures of those same prisoners "killed while trying to escape." Who could escape from a double-locked truck while tied up, handcuffed, gagged and hooded? Obviously, no one.

Dr. HARO responded that he couldn't carry out his job as official defense lawyer because he was afraid of the soldiers, too. He also told me that the transfer order "legalizing" those crimes was signed by Federal Judge ADOLFO ZAMBONI LEDESMA. There were many meetings between political prisoners and Dr. HARO and many told him of the torture and death. And some of them were murdered later, too. And Dr. HARO eventually became a member of the Federal Chamber of Appeals; Gen. LUCIANO BENJAMIN MENENDEZ was at his inauguration ceremony.

Commander MONTAMAT was replaced as penal director, as I've already said, by prison official TORRES, the celebrated repressor of the Olmos and Villa Devoto jails. The period of unending torture and terror began with him and his accomplices, the doctors and the Hospital director.

I will try in the following account to be as explicit as possible in the details and chronology of events.

One day in April 1976 the most sadistic criminals to enter Córdoba



prison appeared in Pavilions 8 and 6: Lt. LOIS ALSINA, Lt. RUBIO, Lt. SENDOY, Sgt. BRUCHERO and Corp. PEREZ. All members of the Argentine army.

Then Corp. PEREZ shouted, "Attention, prisoners. You killed my brother in Tucumán. From now on, you'll know my vengeance".

And his vengeance began that night. They took us from our cells, forced us to undress and began to beat us brutally with rubber hoses all over our bodies. During that horrible beating, Lts. ALSINA and RUBIO and Corp. PEREZ ordered, "In the back of the neck! Hit them there so they'll end up paralyzed or crazy." We took more than 50 blows, most in the head but also in the stomach and back.

The torture lasted two days and two nights. As a result of those days of terror, our companions PABLO BALUSTRA and ALBERTO SGANDURRA fell into comas. After hours and hours of blows, SGANDURRA couldn't stand up. Then Corp. PEREZ, in front of Corp. GOMEZ of the Penitentiary Service, began to flay the skin on his back with the point of his bayonet. Then they beat him again with the rubber hoses on his raw back. A full day afterward they took him, nearly dead, to the infirmary. He was brought back to the pavilion slightly recovered, 15 days later.

The next week he was taken along with JOSE ANGEL PUCHETA, a worker of about 30, to the INFORMATION DIVISION of the Córdoba Province Police. There they were tortured to death. They gouged out their eyes, broke their spinal columns, and then riddled with bullets the area around the Chateaux Carreras because the prisoners "tried to escape" on May 2, 1976.

PABLO BALUSTRA was another pathetic case. He was paralyzed by blows to the back of the neck, as Lt. ALSINA and Corp. PEREZ wanted. The diagnosis: irreversible hemiplegia (paralysis of one side of the body). BALUSTRA was taken to a hospital emergency room in Córdoba city. He almost died on the way when the soldiers cut off his serum supply. He was brought back to the prison later and remained there until October 10, 1976, when he was "transferred" along with FLORENCIO DIAZ, MARTA DE BARONETTO, PEREZ CEBALLOS and three other companions whose names I don't know. All were shot "while attempting to escape."

The bodies of BALUSTRA and the others -- bound hand and foot, muddy, gagged and hooded -- were turned over to their families. I want to emphasize that when the soldiers took BALUSTRA from the pavilion in September, I could see how he was. He could only move his eyes and one hand; his mouth was rigid. He was almost totally paralyzed. In that state, Gen. MENENDEZ' valiant soldiers went on torturing him physically and mentally until they finally killed him so there would be no living proof of their monstrosity.

Could anyone believe that a paralyzed man who could barely breathe or feed himself had tried to escape? Obviously, no one could.

Another case: Corp. PEREZ stabbed a man named BIRD at the city hall then made him run the 100 yards to a nearby hospital. He arrived nearly dead. His health was broken after he was taken to another hospital and one kidney removed.

One day an army major came to Pavilions 8 and 6 and told us: "It's important for you to know that in the III Army Corps there are those of us who aren't in favor of torture and murder but there are also soldiers who are. I advise you to behave yourselves because if you don't, they're going to kill you all."

The torture and murder and daily sessions of rubber hose blows to the neck went on. I emphasize this: They beat us every day and every night. I endured this torture for 7 months but for others it lasted years. Those of us who suffered under Menendez' men know how far they will go.

We lived crammed together, 7 or 8 people in cells 4 by 5 meters, with the windows closed, no light, often without even water to drink, with only a pail or the floor for our physical necessities. The food was horribly deficient and medical attention non-existent. When we asked to go to the doctor, the soldiers hit us even more, saying, "Whoever goes to the doctor will be hit twice as much."

The doctors were witnesses and accomplices. They refused to give us medication when we asked for it but went on holding their miserably-paid jobs while prisoners became worse and died right in front of them, like BALUSTRA and MOURKARSEL, whose case moved us all. I'm referring to the murder of our companion RENE MOURKARZEL by Lt. ALSINA after a guard caught him receiving a packet of salt. Lt. ALSINA stripped him and beat him, then took him to the yard in full view of everyone and tortured MOURKARSEL for 12 straight hours until he fell into a coma. At the hospital the doctors did nothing to save him and he died. And Lt. ALSINA shouted, "Be happy, soldiers, a subversive has died!"

Another incredible case was that of ROBERTO BAUDUCO, killed during an inspection in yard 6 of U-P-1-Córdoba in full view of the prison staff and the political prisoners of Pavilions 6, 8 and 9. When BAUDUCO was hit on the back of the neck by Sgt. BROCHERO and fell to the ground, an Argentine army officer pulled out his pistol and ordered BAUDUCO to rise. BAUDUCO asked for some time because he had been severely beaten and couldn't get up. The officer threatened him for the last time and BAUDUCO made a supreme effort to pull himself up, digging his fingers desperately into the wall for support. The officer shot him through the head in cold blood. ROBERTO BAUDUCO was the nephew of Admiral MASSERA.



The horrible beating we all got right after this crime lasted 24 hours. It was done by Lt. RUBIO, Sgt. BROCHERO, the Penitentiary Service torturer subofficial ARIZA and Argentine army soldiers, young boys of 18 turned into cruel torturers by the military.

It was also common in Córdoba prison to transfer detainees to concentration camps like LA PERLA a well known extermination camp, LA RIVERA camp and LA OCHOA camp. Prisoners were tortured and interrogated by Argentine army personnel. We know that they kidnapped thousands of people and tortured and murdered them there. There were cases of detainees taken 3 and 4 times to the camps, like our companion HUGO VACA NARVAJA, who was taken 3 times and tortured almost to death, then returned to the prison. It's important to point out that he and many others were interviewed by the III Army Corps' chaplain, Father MACKINON. HUGO VACA told him all that was happening, pleaded with him to intercede for his and everyone else's life, because the military had said that next time they would kill him.

Father MACKINON told him not to worry and said that this would not happen again to any prisoner. One week later, VACA NARVAJA was taken along with ARNALDO TORANZO, GUSTAVO DE BREVIL and ALBERTO DE BREVIL to the Third Army Corp by a group of soldiers including Lt. ALSINA. The soldiers' helmets were inscribed with the identifying word "YUKA". ALSINA told VACA NARVAJA, a lawyer, as he hit him, "Now try presenting a habeas corpus and see if it gets you anywhere." A colonel of the III Corp told VACA NARVAJA that his father, a former Minister of the Interior under the Frondizi government, had been a thief and that they had killed him.

The "YUKA" group took our four companions, tied up and gagged with cotton-wool so they wouldn't shout, to the area around the Chateaux and killed three of them in front of ALFREDO DE BREVIL. They told ALFREDO, who had just seen his brother GUSTAVO murdered, that they were the "LIBERATORS OF AMERICA COMMANDO" and that they would torture political prisoners to madness and then kill them all. They told ALFREDO to recount everything to the prison director, to the lawyers, to the judges, and to all the detainees. They said that not only did they not hide what they did, but they wanted the whole world to know of their crimes. Gen. MENENDEZ not only had human beings kidnapped and murdered in the concentration camps, but he also transformed a legal jail into a torture and assassination camp.

ALFREDO DE BREVIL is detained along with another brother and they have been told they will be killed.

ALBERTO TRAMONTINI and a woman whose name I don't recall were also killed while trying to escape, on August 20, 1976. In July, the soldiers

had rigged an escape in order to kill everyone but their plot was frustrated when a letter of warning was sent to Cardinal PRIMATESTA, preventing the mass murder. But the crimes and torture went on. EDUARDO BERTOLI was transferred to the police INFORMATION DIVISION and tortured almost to death with CLAUDIA YRASUSTA and another detainee, from whom they tried to force a confession by savagely torturing his 50-year-old mother. Afterward they killed them for trying to escape even though none of the three of them was even able to stand up because of the torture.

The North American priest RICHARD WIKS was detained in April 1976 and saw the torture at Information and at the jail.

In relation to the torture used, it's important to point out that while they hit us with the rubber hoses we were made to do violent exercises, the kind military parachutists do, for hours at a time. And the electric cattle prod was applied to the women prisoners in Pavilion 14. They were stripped and subjected to constant humiliations. Their hair was cut off in the best Nazi style. One detainee was staked out for 24 hours. The pregnant women were tortured as well and babies were separated from their mothers and murdered, as happened to MARIA ROSSI DE BARONETTO and CRISTINA ABDON.

One woman undergoing torture at the police INFORMATION DIVISION was placed in a cell and discovered, upon lighting a match, that someone had written on the wall in blood, "We are the CHABROL brothers. They kidnapped us and now they will kill us." The woman who read the message was able to contact the newspaper "La Voz del Interior" ("The Voice of the Interior") and it was published in October 1975. She was murdered by the Argentine army in June 1976.

The so-called "Liberators of America Commando" killed 9 Latin American students of the National University of Córdoba in November 1975. An army officer commented to a relative of a U-P-1 prisoner that the commando was made up of military men and that there would be a military coup in Argentina. He said all prisoners must be killed and that the 9 students had been international terrorists. They had been detained in September 1975 with a Bolivian named FERNANDEZ SALGUEIRO and a Dutch woman.

There are countless examples of sadism by the soldiers. One detainee had a leg eaten up by gangrene. The soldiers tortured him zealously in that leg.

The "glorious" Argentine soldiers were unmoved by the old people and the adolescents among the prisoners tortured. When an old man once complained to Lt. ALSINA, the Lieutenant yelled at him, "I'll hit you, grandfather. Understand? I hit you." And the old man was so badly hurt



that he lapsed into a coma for two months. This is not an isolated case. There were many Lt. ALSINA's and many old people and adolescents were tortured.

Gen. BERNARDO SASIAIN, commander of the IV Brigade and one of the most responsible for the torture, appeared more than once. He hit prisoners and told us that they were going to kill us all.

Others murdered "attempting to escape" were: CLAUDIO ZORRILLA, RUBEN BARRERA, CRISTINA ABDON and another woman prisoner. ALSINA told them at midnight on June 20, 1976 to get ready because they were going to be freed. When Zorrilla asked why they were being taken at that hour, ALSINA threatened him with death. The 4 detainees signed the "liberty" pass issued by Federal Judge ZAMBONIA LEDESMA. More accurately, they signed their death warrants. Early that morning they were murdered inside a car by the military.

In conclusion, I want to stress that the physical and psychological consequences of prolonged periods of systematic torture are irreversible for many prisoners.

In 1978 I was interviewed in an Argentine jail by a member of the International Red Cross, Raimond Chevalier, to whom I said everything I have written in this document. His response was emphatic:

"We know everything that happened in Córdoba."

By a Former Political Prisoner in Córdoba Prison.



# NEWS

## NOBEL PEACE PRIZE FOR LATIN AMERICA

Awarding the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize to the Argentine human rights activist Adolfo Perez Esquivel, in Oslo the President of the Nobel Prize Committee said:

"He is a tireless and active defender of the principle of non-violence in the fight for political and social freedom. He lit a lamp in the darkness, a light that should never be extinguished".

Replying Esquivel said, "I come from a continent that lives between anguish and hope... I am convinced that the liberation of Latin American can be delayed, but not prevented".

Non-violence, according to Esquivel does not imply passivity or conformity, but it is a spirit and a method. It is essentially popular and participative, and therefore not a struggle of the elites or of violent forms of action. It assumes different forms, like boycotts, strikes, non-cooperation, civil disobedience, hunger strikes, etc.

Coordinator of the ecumenical Latin American Service for Justice and Peace, Esquivel said he would use the prize money (over 200,000 dollars) for the work of this organization in trying to trace the thousands of people who have disappeared in Argentina, and the children who have been born in jail.

Esquivel, himself imprisoned without trial for 14 months in 1977-78, said he accepted the prize "on behalf of the poor of Latin America, the peasants and workers, and all those who strive for a more just and human society."

## ARGENTINE MOTHERS WIN PEOPLE'S PEACE PRIZE

Christian groups in Scandinavia are going to award the People's Peace Prize to the "Madres de Plaza de Mayo", the group of Argentine women who have regularly campaigned for their disappeared sons and daughters in Buenos Aires Mayo square. The prize giving will take place in Oslo in February 1981. The organizers, explain that this is not an alternative to the Nobel peace prize awarded to Esquivel, for which the Mothers were also candidates this year, but a solidarity prize.

The mothers' struggle to find their children has brought them world wide sympathy. In 1977 a group of them were themselves kidnapped, and have not been seen again. On December 10th the very day Esquivel received his prize in Oslo, a group of mothers meeting in the Plaza de Mayo to demand news of their relatives was violently broken up by police armed



NEWS

with machine guns and at least twenty were arrested. Before being dispersed one weeping mother shouted: "We want justice. We have been waiting for a reply for four years. Why don't you say where our children are?"

#### BRAZILIAN CONGRESSMAN DENOUNCES KIDNAPPING IN FOZ DE IGUAÇU

On 4th December in the Brazilian Congress Opposition federal deputy Audalio Dantas denounced the kidnapping of Remigio Gimenez, a Paraguayan citizen who had lived for over 20 years in Brazil, married to a Brazilian. Gimenez was seized by Brazilian police in December 1978 when he was visiting relatives in Foz de Iguaçu, and handed over to Paraguayan police on the other side of the "Friendship" Bridge linking Brazil to Paraguay.

"Taken to Assuncion, he was held in the Investigations Department chained and tortured for a month and half. ... to remove the handcuffs from his swollen wrists they had to be sawn off." He was then transferred to the Military HQ in Assuncion where he was not tortured, but his wife was unable to discover what accusations were against him. When she went to the Brazilian consulate in Assuncion for help she was told by one of the consuls "it is better if you don't come back because otherwise they might get you too." Alleging that Gimenez was a Paraguayan citizen, the consulate washed their hands of the case.

Concluded Dantas "We want to know, in view of such an absurd and shameful situation, to whom to appeal in this country where so much is said about national security but so little importance is attached to national sovereignty. We demand an explanation of this kidnapping."

Two years after his kidnapping on Brazilian soil, Remigio Gimenez is still detained in Paraguay, uncharged.

#### PARAGUAYAN EXILES DETAINED IN ARGENTINA

Three Paraguayan exiles, Antonio Maidana and Alfredo Alcorta, both long time leaders of the outlawed Paraguayan Communist Party, and Emilio Roa, ex-general secretary of the Paraguayan Workers Confederation were arrested in Buenos Aires between the end of August and October.

Maidana and Alcorta both served twenty years in Paraguayan prisons before going into exile. Roa has resided legally in Argentina for the last twenty-five years.

#### KIDNAPPED URUGUAYANS TO BE TRIED FOR CRIME THEY DID NOT COMMIT

In November 1978 thirty-year old Lilian Celiberti, a Uruguayan citizen, and her two small children, were captured in Porto Alegre and taken over the border by a Uruguayan intelligence commando, aided by Brazilian political police. Fellow Uruguayan exile Universindo Diaz was also kidnapped, and both were tortured and held incommunicado for months in Uruguayan army barracks before being transferred to the Montevideo prisons, Punta Rieles and Libertad.

In protest at her illegal detention Lilian began a hunger strike on November 17th, the second anniversary of her kidnapping. Weakened and dehydrated, she was then transferred to the prison infirmary and is now serving 45 days punishment in the "calabouço", the solitary confinement cell.

Lilian's mother, Lilia Celiberti came to Brazil to raise support for her daughter's case. The São Paulo Archbishop, Cardinal Arns, agreed to intercede with the Pope on her behalf. In Brasilia the Ministers of Justice and Foreign Affairs refused to see her, alleging it would be "an interference in Uruguay's internal affairs". A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Brazil had already done all that was possible by punishing Brazilian policemen involved in the kidnapping. (Two were given minor sentences by a Porto Alegre court.)

Brazilian opposition parties immediately protested at the government's attitude, saying that "Brazilian co-responsibility does not end with the sentencing of the two policemen Didi Pedalada and João Rosas", and called for a profound investigation into the activities of the joint forces that carried out the kidnapping. "The country expects that the President of the Republic will demand a reciprocal gesture from the Uruguayan government, punishing those responsible for the invasion of national territory in the operation to kidnap Lilian Celiberti and Universindo Diaz, and returning them to their families", said the Opposition note.

Now, after being held two years without trial Lilian and Universindo are to be tried for illegally entering Uruguay carrying arms and subversive material. The public prosecutor is asking for a minimum sentence of ten years, and the trial is expected to take place by February 1981. As the kidnapping was proved in a court of law, seen by eye-witnesses, and confirmed by a Uruguayan soldier, Hugo Garcia Rivas, who took part in the operation and later defected abroad, this trial will be pure farse. Lilian's mother is appealing for international pressure to prevent her daughter being sentenced for a crime she did not commit.



#### URUGUAYANS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN FOR IMPRISONED GENERAL

A campaign for the freedom of General Liber Seregni, who was the presidential candidate of the leftwing coalition Frente Ampla and has been in prison since 1974, has been launched by Uruguayan exile groups. Seregni is serving a 14 year sentence in Montevideo Police HQ.

Recently an army lt colonel, Rodolfo Gonzalez Diaz was submitted to a Court of Honour for the crime of naming his son "Liber" a name, according to the accusation "linked to persons of incompatible ideologies with the Uruguayan democratic-republican system". For this and for refusing to express open support for the present regime, Diaz was compulsorily retired and has now gone into exile in Mexico.

#### GOOD NEWS

#### URUGUAYAN FREED IN ARGENTINA

Sigifredo Alberto Arostegui, a Uruguayan citizen detained by Argentine authorities since 21st October 1979 without trial, was freed on 3rd September 1980 and flew into exile in Switzerland. 29 year old Arostegui who lived in Buenos Aires, had actively collaborated with Uruguayan families who went to the Argentine capital to present denunciations to the O.A.S. mission in September 1979. He disappeared in Puerto Iguazu when returning from Brazil, but a lawyer sent by Clamor to try and trace him, discovered he was being held by the military in Pousadas.

After a year's intensive campaign by his wife, Filomena and interventions by the São Paulo archbishop, Amnesty International, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the Swiss Government and others, Arostegui who had been accused of "carrying publications considered illegal", was freed.



## CHURCHES

#### THE POPE IN BRAZIL

In July Pope John Paul II spent 11 days in Brazil, visiting thirteen cities and speaking to millions of people. Writing about the visit Father José Comblin said:

"In a way the Pope's visit does not change anything, the challenges are the same, the problems remain. But in a way, many things are changed: the Church emerged stronger, more united in a very clear task. The Church is confirmed in its anxiety to bring the Gospel into today's society, amongst the men of today, amongst the conflicts, the hopes, the exploitation of man all the forms of domination. The preferential option for the poor, this option that consists in taking as the core of the pastoral the message of liberation of the poor, is strengthened and much clearer."

"What was interesting was that the Brazilian people in their vast majority, understood the visit of the Pope as a visit to the people, to themselves. They did not see it as a visit to the priests, the bishops, the Catholic Church as an institution, much less to the national or local authorities."

During the visit the Pope explained to the Bishops what he called "the duty to denounce". Speaking to bishops from all over Latin America, including many from the Southern Cone countries, meeting for the CELAM congress in Rio, the Pope said:

"Serving the cause of justice, the Church does not intend to provoke or deepen divisions, to exasperate conflicts or lend them power. On the contrary, with the force of the Gospel the Church helps to see and respect in every man a brother, inviting persons, groups and peoples to dialogue, to safeguard justice and preserve unity. In certain circumstances the Church even serves as mediator. This is also a prophetic service."

This is why, when in the exercise of its own mission it feels the duty to denounce, the Church adjusts itself to the demands of the Gospel and the human being, without serving the interests of economic or political systems, or the ideologies of conflict. But above groups or social classes, it denounces incitation to any form of violence, terrorism, repression, class struggle, wars, with all their horrors."

In Porto Alegre the Pope stopped to greet a group of Mothers from the Plaza de Mayo who had come from Argentina to try and speak to him. In São Paulo, he promised the Archbishop, Cardinal Arns, who handed him documents and letters concerning the disappeared of the Southern Cone countries, he would give priority to the subject on his return to Rome.



THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO DENOUNCE TO THE POPE:  
TERRORISM OF THE STATE THREATENS ARGENTINE FAMILIES

To coincide with the October Synod in Rome dedicated to the Family, the Plaza de Mayo mothers sent Pope John Paulo II a letter denouncing the harrowing situation in which thousands of Argentine families with disappeared sons and daughters find themselves.

The mothers say that the methods of repression used by the Argentine military regime -- kidnappings, torture, humiliations, looting, the murder of prisoners and the denial of information to the families and public opinion in general -- constitutes terrorism of the state, and has produced traumatic consequences in Argentine homes.

"Parents left in a situation of total uncertainty: children and adolescents who find no answer when they want to know what has happened to their parents, educated and brought up with great difficulty by aging grandparents or distant relatives: fathers and mothers who incubate serious psychological and physical problems that derive from this torment. Insecurity, hatred, conflicts, aggressions, degradation and grief.

"Another aspect of this problem that must be considered," say the mothers, "is the question of the children where both parents have "disappeared". The methods of repression adopted by the Argentine authorities have reached the peak of separating children detained with them, or born in captivity, from their parents. These children are given in adoption, to make them lose their identity, to other families, especially military families."

For the children who are left in the care of their grandparents the effect is damaging. There are thousands of such children, deprived of their loved ones.

The mothers also tell the Pope about the traumatic problem of grief suffered by the families of the "disappeared" with all the uncertainties that arise from the situation. How to cope with the loss of someone who is alive but is not here? Of someone who is no longer registered in the world but is not dead? How to wait for a return without knowing if this is possible? How to live with the fact that a human being, a loved one can exist, without the family knowing the least details of his existence?...

Finally in their letter the mothers ask the Pope to intercede with the Argentine Episcopate because, they say "very few members of the Church have taken up our problem; in most cases we have suffered from an attitude of rejection."

CHILDREN

"Forgive us if these words are hard. But we mothers compare the attitude of our Church with that of other countries."

"The cause of the disappeared," the mothers conclude, "is the cause of justice, truth, of the Church and of God."

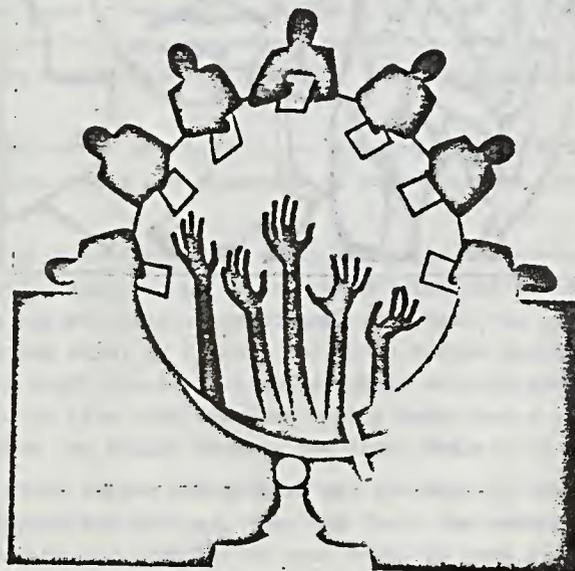


## URUGUAYAN FAMILIES WANT A JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION

In a document sent to the Uruguayan Episcopal Conference in November, mothers, fathers, wives, children and brothers and sisters of political prisoners in the Libertad jail appeal for the setting up of a Justice and Peace Commission in Uruguay, to "guarantee the right to life, respect for dignity, for Peace, against psychological and physical tortures and against all the different forms of violence."

They also ask the Bishops to celebrate Mass inside the Prison, and to support their appeal to the Pope to come to Uruguay "because we have deposited our hope in him".

In a letter to the Pope, dated 25th October the families explained they are not asking for an amnesty for their imprisoned sons and husbands, but the right to life, as they believe they are threatened by a plan to exterminate them physically and psychologically: "With great hope we appeal for the presence of the Holy Father in Uruguay so that he may go to the prison and bless them."



# CHILDREN

## A N A T O L E

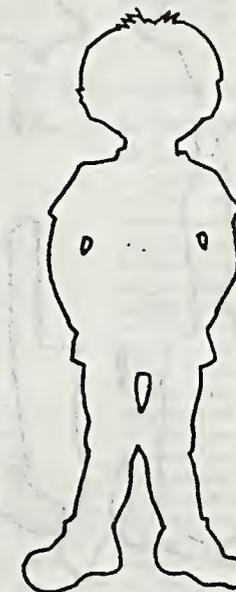
Anatole Boris Julien Grisona who was located in Valparaiso, Chile in July 1979, together with his sister Victoria Eva, returned to Uruguay for the first time since his kidnapping in September 1976. In the company of his Chilean protector Anatole spent the holidays with his grandparents, uncles, aunts and relatives in Montevideo.

As will be remembered, Anatole and Victoria Eva were abducted in Argentina during a joint action by Argentine and Uruguayan military forces, and taken back to Uruguay with their parents.

In December of the same year, 1976, the children, respectively 4 and 1 1/2 years old, were taken by Uruguayan police to Chile and abandoned in the O'Higgins square in Valparaiso just before Christmas. Later they were adopted by a Chilean couple.

Talks between lawyers, the legitimate grandparents, and the adoptive parents, to decide the children's future continue.

So far not one of the three governments involved (Argentina, Uruguay and Chile) has commented on this joint abduction operation.

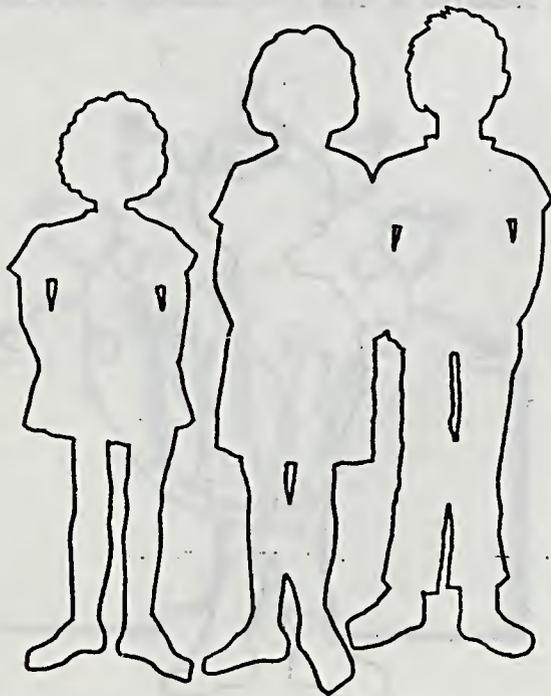


CHILDREN ACCUSED OF SUBVERSION IN PARAGUAY

In spite of being illiterate, under age and able to speak only guarany, 13-year old Apolonia Flores was detained for five months in Asunción, accused by the Investigations Department of taking part in subversive meetings where such topics as the Trilateral Commission were discussed. She is also accused of being involved in armed robbery, attempted homicide, illegal possession of arms, usurpation of authority and theft.

Apolonia, together with another young girl, Apolinaria Gonzalez, 15 years, and her brother Arnaldo Flores, also 15, was arrested in March 1980 after a group of peasants hi-jacked a bus to take them to the capital where they wanted to denounce the misery in which they lived. Both girls were sent to the Bom Pastor Women's Prison, run by nuns.

According to medical exams requested by the girls' lawyer, Heriberto Alegre, both Apolonia and Apolinaria, were in a bad emotional state, because neither knew why they had been detained. They saw the bus being hi-jacked in Caaguazu and fled with the peasants, without knowing what it was all about. In November Apolonia was released, but Apolinaria who is mentally retarded, remains in detention.



THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE "DISAPPEARED" IN THE SOUTHERN CONE

More cases of babies, small children and adolescents who have "disappeared" for political reasons have become known. Below we publish an up-to-date list of abducted children and pregnant mothers.

I. Small Children

(in chronological order of abduction)

<u>Names</u>	<u>Nationality</u>	<u>Date of Abduction</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Country Where Abducted</u>
1. Amaral García Hernández	Uruguayan	08.11.74	3 years	Argentina
2. Pablo Laschan Mellado	Chilean	03.76	6 months	Argentina
3. Astrid Patiño	Argentine	20.04.76	3 years	Argentina
4. Simón Antonio Riquelme	Uruguayan	13.07.76	20 days	Argentina
5. Carla Rutilo Artes	Peruvian	29.08.76	13 months	Bolivia/Arg.
6. Juan Pablo Schaege	Argentine	10.09.76		Argentina
7. Mariana Zaffaroni Islas	Uruguayan	27.09.76	18 months	Argentina
8. Clara Anahi Mariani	Argentine	24.11.76	3 months	Argentina
* 9. Carlos Santillan	Argentine	11.76	2 years	Argentina
*10. María Lucia Santillan	Argentine	11.76	4 years	Argentina
11. Gabriel Matias Cevalco	Argentine	11.01.77	3 months	Argentina
12. Sabino José Abdala	Argentine	16.03.77	2 years	Argentina
13. María Eugenia Gatica Caracoche	Argentine	16.03.77	1 year	Argentina
14. Felipe Oscar Gatica Caracoche	Argentine	04.77	4 months	Argentina
15. Sebastian Marques	Argentine	05.77	4 years	Argentina
16. Jorgelina Planas	Argentine	05.77	3 years	Argentina
*17. Andrea Viviana Hernández Hobbas	Uruguayan	13.07.77	2 years	Argentina
18. Matias Brugnone	Argentine	12.12.77	8 months	Argentina
19. Carmen Sanz	Uruguayan	31.12.77	4 days	Argentina
20. Paula Eva Logares	Argentine	18.05.78	2 years	Uruguay
21. Mariano Goicoechea	Argentine	15.09.79	3 years	Argentina

II. Adolescents (under 18 yrs old)

(in chronological order of abduction)

22. José Manuel Lopes	Argentine	07.11.74	17 years	Argentina
23. Floreal Avellaneda	Argentine	15.04.76	15 years	Argentina
24. Elsa Mónica O'Kelly	Argentine	21.04.76	17 years	Argentina
25. Geraldo Serson	Argentine	05.76	16 years	Argentina
26. Gustavo Alejandro Cabezas	Argentine	10.05.76	17 years	Argentina
27. Gustavo Daniel Torres	Argentine	11.05.76	16 years	Argentina
28. Liliana Teresa Certo	Argentine	13.05.76	17 years	Argentina
29. Ana Cristina Corral	Argentine	08.06.76	17 years	Argentina
30. Pablo Andres Dubcovsky	Argentine	07.07.76	17 years	Argentina
31. Hugo Osvaldo Toso	Argentine	07.07.76	17 years	Argentina
32. Ana María Gallardo	Argentine	08.07.76	15 years	Argentina
33. Rudyar Eduardo García	Argentine	09.07.76	15 years	Argentina
34. Betina Tarnopolsky	Argentine	15.07.76	16 years	Argentina
35. Alicia Marina Mingorace	Argentine	23.07.76	16 years	Argentina
36. David Guillermo D'Amico	Argentine	10.08.76	17 years	Argentina
37. Manuel Carlos Cuevas	Argentine	13.09.76	14 years	Argentina
38. Claudio de Acha	Argentine	15.09.76	17 years	Argentina
39. María Claudia Falcone	Argentine	16.09.76	16 years	Argentina
40. Horacio Angel Ungaro	Argentine	16.09.76	17 years	Argentina
41. Graciela Mónica Petracchiola	Argentine	08.10.76	17 years	Argentina
42. Pablo Enrique Fernández Meijide	Argentine	23.10.76	17 years	Argentina
43. Eduardo Oscar Muniz	Argentine	23.10.76	17 years	Argentina
44. Leonora Zimmerman	Argentine	23.10.76	17 years	Argentina
45. Claudio Norberto Braverman	Argentine	29.10.76	17 years	Argentina



46.	Alejandra Inés Sierra	Argentine	09.11.76	16 years	Argentina
47.	Mario Oscar Paluci	Argentine	08.12.76	17 years	Argentina
48.	Luis Alberto Segovia	Argentine	14.12.76	17 years	Argentina
49.	Roberto Gustavo Lescano	Argentine	09.02.77	17 years	Argentina
50.	José Luis Cabanas	Argentine	16.02.77	16 years	Argentina
51.	María Paula Caceres Simonetti	Paraguayan	16.02.77	17 years	Argentina
*52.	Adriana Gatti Casal	Uruguayan	08.04.77	17 years	Argentina
53.	Claudia Alejandra Calcagno	Argentine	15.04.77	17 years	Argentina
54.	Pablo Marquez	Argentine	13.05.77	13 years	Argentina
55.	María Elena Fernández	Argentine	05.77	17 years	Argentina
56.	Hugo Ruben Lencina	Argentine	05.06.77	16 years	Argentina
57.	Fabian Haroldo Logiurato	Argentine	13.06.77	16 years	Argentina
*58.	Ana María Canega	Paraguayan	13.06.77	16 years	Argentina
59.	Pablo Antonio Miguez	Argentine	12.07.77	14 years	Argentina
*60.	Beatriz Lourdes Hernández Hobbas	Uruguayan	13.07.77	14 years	Argentina
*61.	Washington Fernando Hernández Hobbas	Uruguayan	13.07.77	13 years	Argentina
62.	Daniel Rus	Argentine	20.07.77	17 years	Argentina
63.	Dagmar Ingrid Hagelin	Sueca/Argentine	21.07.77	17 years	Argentina
64.	Juan Angel Nughes	Argentine	11.08.77	15 years	Argentina
65.	Alfredo Narciso Agüero	Argentine	28.08.77	17 years	Argentina
66.	Jorge Luis Fernández	Argentine	19.09.77	16 years	Argentina
67.	Juan Alejandro Fernández	Argentine	19.09.77	17 years	Argentina
*68.	Alicia Elena Alfonsin de la Bandie	Argentine	23.11.77	17 years	Argentina
69.	María Gabriela Leguizamón	Argentine	12.02.78	16 years	Argentina
*70.	Amado Nelson Caceres	Paraguayan	23.02.78	17 years	Argentina
*71.	Arnaldo Dario Caceres	Paraguayan	23.02.78	17 years	Argentina
72.	Fabian Resta	Argentine	15.04.78	13 years	Argentina
73.	Juan Carlos Martire	Argentine	15.04.78	17 years	Argentina
74.	Paula Margarita Bravo	Argentine	07.10.79	17 years	Argentina
75.	Jorge Oscar Benítez	Argentine	03.80	16 years	Argentina
76.	Verónica María Cabilla	Argentine	03.80	16 years	Argentina

### III. Women abducted while pregnant

(in alphabetical order according to surname)

Names	Nationality	Date of Abduction	Age	Mths Preq	Country	
					Where Abducted	
77.	Acuña de Gutiérrez, Liliana Isabel	Argentine	26.08.76	24	5	Argentina
*78.	Alfonsin de la Bandie, Alicia Elena	Argentine	23.11.77	17	8	Argentina
79.	Altmann, Blanca Haydée	Uruguayan	19.07.77	26	3	Argentina
80.	Argañaraz de Fresneda, María Mercedes	Argentine	08.07.77	34	5	Argentina
81.	Artigas de Moyano, María Asunción	Uruguayan	30.12.77	26	2	Argentina
82.	Baravalle de Gallizi, Ana María	Argentine	27.08.76	28	4	Argentina
83.	Barragán, Mirta Mabel	Argentine	06.12.77	24	6	Argentina
84.	Belaustegui, Valeria	Argentine	13.05.77	24	2	Argentina
85.	Bermejo, Azucena	Argentine	02.11.76	24	4	Argentina
86.	Bojanic Abad, Cecilia Miquelina	Chilean	02.10.74	4	4	Chile
87.	Bonoldi, Adriana	Argentine	01.12.76	32	5	Argentina
88.	Caimi de Marizurrena, Liliana Beatriz	Argentine	11.10.76	21	5	Argentina
89.	Calvo, Adriana Lelia	Argentine	04.02.77	29	3	Argentina
90.	Canдела de Lanzillotto, A.E.	Argentine	24.04.77	24	3	Argentina
*91.	Canega, Ana María	Paraguayan	08.04.77	16		Argentina
92.	Carlotta, Laura Estella	Argentine	26.11.77	23	3	Argentina
93.	Carrieri de Velázquez, María Inés	Argentine	18.05.77	34	5	Argentina
94.	Carriquiriborde de Repetur, Gabriela	Argentine	30.09.76	20	6	Argentina

95.	Casado, María Segunda	Argentine	22.11.77	5		Argentina
96.	Casco de D'Elia, Yolanda Iris	Uruguayan	22.12.77	29	9	Argentina
97.	Castellini, María Eloisa	Argentine	11.11.76	22	3	Argentina
98.	Castillo, Barrios de Ovejero, Lilliana Graciela	Argentine	05.05.77	22	5	Argentina
99.	Castro de Dominguez, Gladis Cristina	Argentine	09.12.77	27	6	Argentina
100.	Cicero, Elsa	Argentine	30.11.76	3		Argentina
101.	Cournour de Grandi, María Cristina	Argentine	22.06.76	28	4	Argentina
102.	De La Cuadra de Baratti, Elena	Argentine	23.02.77	22	5	Argentina
103.	Delard de Cristi, Gloria Ximena	Chilean	17.01.77	22	3	Argentina
104.	Drouilly Jurich, Jacqueline Paulette	Chilean	30.10.74	3		Chile
105.	Fonrouge, Adela Esther	Argentine	11.10.77	25	5	Argentina
106.	Fontana Deharbe, Lilliana Celia	Argentine	01.07.77	20	2	Argentina
107.	Galeano, Celina Amalia	Argentine	11.08.78			Argentina
108.	Garaguso, Elena Delia	Argentine	18.09.76	21	3	Argentina
109.	García Iruretagoyena, María Claudia	Argentine	24.08.76	19	7	Argentina
110.	Garin de De Angeli, María Adela	Argentine	13.01.77	29	2	Argentina
111.	Garofalo de Placchi, Alba Noemí	Argentine	08.12.76	23	4	Argentina
*112.	Gatti Casal, Adriana	Uruguayan	08.04.77	17	7	Argentina
113.	Gersber, Esther	Argentine		23	8	Argentina
114.	Godoy de De Angeli, Laura Adhelma	Argentine	28.11.77	20	3	Argentina
115.	Goeytes de Carranza, Marcela	Argentine	19.08.76	24	4	Argentina
116.	Greca, Graciela Alicia	Argentine	31.12.76	25	3	Argentina
117.	Isabella Valenzi Silvia Mabel	Argentine	22.12.76	20	4	Argentina
118.	Islas de Zaffaroni, María Emilia	Uruguayan	27.09.76	23	5	Argentina
119.	Jansenson de Arcushin, Noemí	Argentine	13.09.76	19	3	Argentina
120.	Jiménez de Soldati, María Isabel	Argentine	28.05.77	39	5	Argentina
121.	Kazgudeian, Rosa	Argentine	01.77	24	4	Argentina
122.	Labrin Sazo, María Cecilia	Chilean	12.08.74	3		Chile
123.	Lagos Nilsson, Gloria Ester	Chilean	27.08.74	2		Chile
124.	Landaburu de Catnich, Leonor Rosario	Argentine	31.08.77	25	7	Argentina
125.	Lanzillotto de Menna, Ana María	Argentine	19.07.76	30	8	Argentina
126.	La Spina de Cena, Nora Susana	Argentine	14.08.76	28	9	Argentina
127.	Lemos de Lavalle, Mónica María	Argentine	20.07.77	26	8	Argentina
128.	López Guerra de Belaustegui, María Cristina	Argentine	26.07.76	21	2	Argentina
129.	Manchiola de Otaño, Mirta Graciela	Argentine	05.11.76	23	5	Argentina
130.	Mancuso de Rosenfeld, Cristina	Argentine	07.10.77	21	4	Argentina
*131.	Marrocco, Cristina	Argentine	18.04.77	2		Argentina
132.	Martínez Pérez, Adriana	Argentine	06.77	28	5	Argentina
133.	Masri de Roggerone, Mónica Susana	Argentine	12.04.77	22	2	Argentina
134.	Mena Alvarado, Nalvia Rosa	Chilean	29.04.76	3		Chile
135.	Molina de Nicola, Lúcia Esther	Argentine	21.04.77	21	4	Argentina
136.	Montesano de Ogando, Stella Maris	Argentine	16.10.76	29	8	Argentina
137.	Moyano, María del Carmen	Argentine	04.05.77	23	8	Argentina
138.	Muñoz, Nelly Beatriz	Argentine	08.04.78	18	3	Argentina
139.	Neuhaus de Martinis, Beatriz Haydée	Argentine	16.03.76	24	4	Argentina
140.	Olaso de Ford, Mónica Edith	Argentine	11.05.77	19	2	Argentina
141.	Olmedo, Graciela	Argentine	08.10.76	23	3	Argentina
142.	Ortega de Fossatti, María Inés	Argentine	21.01.77	7		Argentina
143.	Ortolani, Violeta Graciela	Argentine	14.12.76	23	8	Argentina
144.	Ossola de Urra, Susana Elena	Argentine	22.05.76	22	3	Argentina
145.	Palacin de Toranzo, Patricia Dina	Argentine	05.04.78	27	3	Argentina
146.	Parodi de Orozco, Silvina Mónica	Argentine	26.03.76	25	6	Argentina
147.	Pegoraro, Susana Beatriz	Argentine	18.06.77	21	5	Argentina
148.	Peña Herreros, Michelle	Chilean	25.06.75	8		Chile



# COUNTRIES

## ARGENTINA: THE CASE OF FERNANDO PIEROLA

Twenty four year old Fernando Gabriel Pierola and his wife Maria Julia Catalina Morresi were detained in Pousadas at the end of November 1976.

In December Pierola's mother was told by military authorities that her son and another four prisoners had escaped when they were being transferred to another prison and the vehicle was ambushed. Pierola was officially declared an "escaped prisoner". However when his wife applied for an official permit later on, the official document described her as "widow".

All the available evidence indicates that, far from escaping, Pierola and the other prisoners were cold bloodedly murdered and the "ambush" story was just a clumsy cover up. It is known that immediately after his arrest Pierola was brutally tortured, leaving his feet scarred and deformed after being hung by them for three days. Then he was transferred to the Police Investigations Dept in Resistencia, and later taken to a prison called the Alcaidia. At midnight on 13th December 1976 he was taken from his cell with another 12 prisoners, allegedly for transfer to another prison.

Instead investigations indicate they were so badly tortured that one of them died. The others were then taken from the building chained and hooded. The same night the administrator of the local cemetery was ordered to have twelve graves dug.

Days later an Army note spoke of an ambush during which some prisoners had escaped. The place where the "ambush" is supposed to have taken place is an open treeless area making such an operation impossible. Three of the specially dug graves were occupied with the bodies of two men and a woman, while other bodies were sent for burial to other cities.

Fernando Pierola's family are still searching for his grave.



# COUNTRIES

were accompanying the Argentines. Only when the Interior Minister, General Iglesias intervened, did he do so.

The next day, 13th June, armed men surrounded the building where Mrs. Molfino lived, and she was detained. The three kidnapped, plus Federico Frias were then taken to a recreation centre for Peruvian Army officers' families, located at Hondable beach, north of Lima. There they were said to have been brutally tortured. Maria Ines was beaten, undressed and held under the water for long periods; she was tied to a vehicle and dragged behind it, and given electric shock torture with machines brought especially from Argentina. There are unconfirmed reports that both she and Federico died from their tortures here.

With the discovery of the operation, denounced by the Peruvian and international press, the Peruvian military tried to cover it up by saying that the three Argentines who had "disappeared" had been expelled to Bolivia by the authorities for not having their papers in order. The Bolivian government of the time, presided by Lydia Gueiler, denied that the three had entered Bolivia. There is no proof that the Peruvians expelled them over the Bolivian border, and after taking power on 28th July President Belaunde Terry announced an investigation into the disappearances.

On 21st July the body of Mrs. Molfino was found in a flat in Madrid. The local press demanded explanations. The Argentine embassy in Spain, and the Argentine government itself hurriedly declared that her death had been from natural causes, and that there was a campaign underway to demoralize the Argentine authorities.

The first autopsy of the body carried out by Spanish authorities showed the presence of "external causes" for her death.



MEMBERS OF THE ARGENTINE PRINTERS UNION IN DANGER

The Union Congress for Workers Rights in Argentina and Latin America has called upon unions and democratic political organizations, on human rights and workers' rights groups on Churches and humanitarian bodies, to ask the military government for the life and liberty of 34 members of the printers' union, 27 of whom are missing and 7 in prison.

Missing:

Santiago Ryam - union leader, married, two daughters; arrested-missing since 7/4/76.

Ernesto Magariños - union leader, arrested-missing since 24/1/74.

Jorge Luis Molina - union leader, arrested-missing since 15/7/77.

Gerardo Sandoval - union leader, married, one child; missing since 4/1/78.

Florencio Areas - union leader, kidnapped in November 1976.

Josefina Villaflor - one daughter; kidnapped with her husband, Julio Hassar on 3/8/79. On the following day, her brother Raimundo Villaflor and his wife, Maria Elsa Martinez, both workers, were kidnapped.

Oswaldo Domingo Bringas - kidnapped 7/3/77.

Marcelo Fernando Drucker - missing since 15/10/76.

Hernan Fernandez - kidnapped 6/6/76.

Julian Francisco Hernat - kidnapped 16/5/77.

Alicia Cecilia Martinez Pardo - missing since 2/6/76.

Juan Enrique Reggiardo - kidnapped 9/2/77.

Alcides Lujan Sosa - Uruguayan, kidnapped in Buenos Aires 23/4/77.

Ricardo Manuelle - kidnapped 6/6/76.

Oscar Martinez - kidnapped 6/6/76.

Ricardo Alfredo Nicotera - kidnapped 21/7/76, the same day as his wife, Alicia Marchini de Nicotera.

Alejandro Ruben Fatalla - arrested in Buenos Aires, data unknown.

Miguel Ramella - kidnapped 10/11/77.

Julio Cesar Rodriguez - kidnapped 13/6/76.

Hugo Ramon Sanchez - kidnapped 24/4/77.

Celso Cruces - kidnapped November 76.

Gerardo Gatti - Uruguayan, one of the founders of the central union headquarters in his country; missing since 9/6/76; his daughter Adriana Gatti was also kidnapped.

Hugo Reinaldo Sattinson - kidnapped in Buenos Aires, date unknown.

Dario Cogorno - kidnapped in Buenos Aires, date unknown.

José Luis Collauto - kidnapped in Buenos Aires in 1976.

In prison:

Francisco Cesar Tineo Bracco - arrested 6/3/76, imprisoned in U.9 Prison in the city of La Plata, in Buenos Aires province.

Gustav Leopold - held at the disposition of the Executive Power in Unidade 7 de Resistencia, Buenos Aires province.

Heriberto Macedo Maidana - arrested 23/12/75, imprisoned in U.9 in La Plata.

Angel Diaz - arrested 7/5/75, held at the disposition of Executive.

Luis Ernesto Sabini Fernandez - Uruguayan, arrested 16/12/75, imprisoned at Olmos Prison.

Eduardo Perez - tried and convicted in 1975, his sentence ended in 1980, but his request to leave the country was turned down; held at the disposition of the Executive in U.9 in La Plata.

..... Sbarra - first name unknown; arrested November 1976, imprisoned in U.9 in La Plata.



BOLIVIA: WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES DENOUNCES COUP

Immediately after the military coup of 17th July, the World Council of Churches sent a representative to Bolivia to investigate the human rights situation. Later the WCC sent a letter to member churches denouncing that the coup led by General Garcia Meza had "brutally interrupted the positive process of democratization in Bolivia."

"Reliable reports describe an alarming panorama and show that fundamental human rights are being violated in a massive and serious manner:

1. The attack on the HQ of the Bolivian Trades Unions Congress (COB) by paramilitary security forces.
2. The massive and arbitrary detention of citizens, held in degrading conditions, without receiving food or water for long periods.
3. The disappearance of people, including many members of the Christian community.
4. The generalized application of torture.
5. The murder of hundreds of people, including entire families in the altiplano mining regions.
6. The persecution of leaders of churches, political parties, unions as well as human rights organizations.
7. Censorship of the press and the detention and expulsion from Bolivia of foreign journalists.

All this indicates that the Bolivian people are enduring suffering and hardship on a scale and degree without precedent in Bolivian history.

The World Council of Churches laments this tragedy and deplors the events that have caused such a loss of lives, such destruction and introduced such restrictions on the Christian vocation to help people whose rights are being violated.

We therefore exhort the member Churches of the World Council of Churches to express their full Christian solidarity with our Bolivian brothers and sisters in the following way:

1. We invite the Churches to inform their members about the critical situation existing there and dedicate prayers for the victims, their families and communities.
2. We exhort member Churches to comfort the Bolivian churches through letters and pastoral visits, above all because they continue to provide pastoral and prophetic assistance in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We encourage generous support for the programmes destined to meet the

great humanitarian needs that present themselves.

3. We ask member churches to request that their governments, inter-governmental organizations and other organs exercise influence in favour of support and recognition of the Government of National Unity of Bolivia, democratically elected, as a concrete measure to defend the legitimate aspirations of the Bolivian people and to facilitate through the application of the corresponding diplomatic economic and other measures, the reestablishment of the different democratic and political institutions of Bolivia.

In the name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who announced the Good News to the poor, the freedom for the prisoners and justice for the oppressed, we send you our greetings."

FATHER JULIO TUMIRI

In November the military government announced the release of all political prisoners including trade union leader Juan Lechin. However it is believed that many people are still being held and according to Amnesty International, Father Julio Tumiri, president of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, who had been released, was rearrested on October 23rd with his nephew Alberto Tumiri.



## CHILE: NEW WAVE OF REPRESSION FOLLOWS COLONEL'S DEATH

The assassination of Colonel Roger Vergara Campos, Army intelligence director, shot dead in his car by three gunmen on July 8th, 1980, in Santiago unleashed a new wave of violence against the Chilean people.

The government immediately accused the outlawed left-wing organization MIR of the shooting, but soon after General Odlanier Mena, director of the National Intelligence Agency - CNI (ex-DINA) resigned, saying that the murder did not follow usual MIR methods, and that there was "a clue" that could lead to the truth.

Following Vergara's death scores of people were kidnapped and tortured, and at least two died, all victims of a mysterious right wing organization that suddenly appeared called the Martyrs Revenge Command (COVEMA).

For Chilean human rights, political, and trades union organizations however, COVEMA is no more than a front for the security organs themselves, carrying out a carefully elaborated plan to spread terror and insecurity and so frustrate Chileans' attempts to guide their country back to democracy and a state of law.

COVEMA's first fatal victim was student José Eduardo Jara Aravena, kidnapped on 23rd July, in broad daylight, from a collective taxi on his way to the university. A C-10 station wagon intercepted the taxi and five armed men seized Jara. On 2nd August he died as a result of torture.

On 30th July journalist Guillermo Hormazabal head of the Archbishopric's Public Opinion department who worked for Radio Chilena, and Mario Romero of Radio Presidente, were intercepted in the street and forced into a C-10 station wagon by five armed men.

The government denied they had been arrested by security forces, and radio stations began an intensive campaign calling on the population to help find them. The next day they were freed. Among the many other people arrested at the same time and held for longer periods during which they were tortured were Cecilia Alzamora, Nancy Ascueta Quezada, Gonzalo Romero, Claire Wilson (Anglo-Chilean) and José Miguel Benado Medvinsky, who nearly died as a result of torture.

In a document dated 7th August the Group of Relatives of the Detained-Disappeared denounced the government's complicity with the torturers, the existence of secret prisons, the use of terrible forms of psychological and physical torture and the power of life and death over the prisoners shown by their kidnapers.

"All these repressive practices," says the document, "are carried out in complete anonymity by agents using a very expensive infrastructure of

houses, vehicles without number plates, electronic equipment for following people, instruments and drugs for torture. Psychologists, doctors and nurses participate directly and indirectly in the tortures and subsequent treatment to recuperate the victims and enable them to be submitted to savage new interrogations." The document concludes that in the case of the student Eduardo Jara's death CNI/DINA was in action.

These conclusions were born out by what happened when General Mena's replacement, General Humberto Gordon, took over the CNI. Innumerable citizens were detained in their homes or in the street, and given as "disappeared". However in most cases the CNI later claimed responsibility. According to the Catholic Church newspaper Solidariedade the same method was used in 1977 when the then DINA was headed by General Manuel Contreras, wanted by the United States Government for his role in the assassination of ex-chancellor Orlando Letelier.

There is other proof that the so-called COVEMA is no more than the CNI if not the CNI itself, working under its orders and protection. In an open letter to the nation, Chilean political prisoners denounced that Eduardo Jara had been detained by CNI agents, tortured and held in former Health offices in the Santa Maria Avenue in Santiago. He was seen by other prisoners here, being tortured.

The prisoners also denounced that Santiago Rubilar Salazar, who according to the police was shot dead during a bank raid could not have taken part in this raid, because he had been arrested and wounded on 26th July, two days beforehand by the CNI. "He was later killed in the Barros Lucas Hospital to prevent the truth being known".

### The Decalogue of Resistance

In view of this new wave of terror, the Archbishopric of Santiago felt it necessary to publish a list of instructions to the population on how they should proceed in cases of arrest, kidnapping or attacks. Here it is:

I. If you are a victim or witness of kidnappings or attacks like those that have been happening lately:

Try to keep calm. Losing control will not improve the situation. React decisively but with a cool head.

II. As a witness or victim: pay attention, register and remember the greatest number of details possible, for example: the exact place where the events took place; physical characteristics, the faces and clothes of the participants; details of the vehicles used, colour, mark, number plates; the exact time; the number of people affected, arrested or kidnapped; the number of agents, kidnapers or aggressors, the names and nicknames used;



III. If you are the victim: identify yourself in a loud voice, shout, and protest, give the names of your family or where you work, so that witnesses can tell your relatives, the police station, radios or newspapers, the Church Vicariate of Solidarity, the nearest church or a judge.

IV. Always remember that -- according to the law -- the security services should strictly obey certain rules: demand an explanation, demand that the agents show their identity, demand the arrest warrant or the search warrant that should be issued and signed by an appropriate authority.

V. If you live alone and a search of your house is made in the middle of the night, try and warn the neighbours. Demand that those carrying out the search identify themselves clearly. If they refuse, do not open the door. Wait for them to break it down. In this way it will be obvious that you were detained against your will.

VI. If you are witness to an event of this nature: intervene calmly but energetically. Encourage other witnesses to do the same. Remember that if you or a member of your family were the victim, you would not want the witnesses to remain impassive.

VII. If you are arrested irregularly or kidnapped, try to calculate the distance and the localization of the place to where you are being taken. Memorize such characteristics as: the noises, the captors, the routine, the number and details of other prisoners. Tell the others your name. If you are taken before a judge do not hesitate to denounce any ill treatment or torture you might have suffered; demand a medical examination; demand that the events be investigated, that responsibilities be ascertained.

VIII. If you witness facts of this nature -- at any stage -- observe carefully and responsibly any details such as: people being taken away blindfolded in vehicles; note all the details mentioned above, especially the direction in which the vehicle goes. Denounce everything immediately. If you notice a house or any installation where blindfolded people are being taken or where vehicles enter in the middle of the night (during the curfew hours), denounce it.

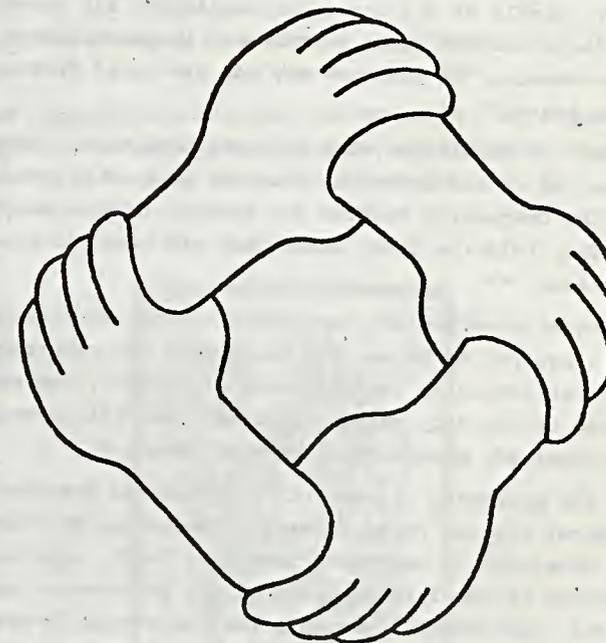
IX. If you are called as a witness in court hearing where such facts are being investigated, do not hesitate, do not be afraid. Tell the strict truth, demand protection if necessary, take advice from a lawyer.

X. If you are involved in any event of this type and you come into contact with the press, ask the journalists to identify themselves. Tell them about the events objectively. Demand that the press inform correctly.

XI. If you have been through an experience of this type or are concerned about the subject: discuss it with your community, your trade union, student,

or community organization. Analyse, together with other people, what is happening: propose and assume measures in common, out of solidarity.

Show solidarity for what is every Chilean's problem!



## PARAGUAY: PURGE OF FOREIGNERS FOLLOWS SOMOZA'S DEATH

The following press bulletin was released by Clamor on 9th October:

As a result of information received from Paraguay, Clamor denounces that the death of ex-dictator General Anastasio Somoza on 17th September in that country has led to a wave of fear and terror, with arbitrary arrests of hundreds of people, summary expulsions and press censorship.

1. Several hundred people have been detained for weeks or days in sub-human conditions in the Police Investigations Department and local police stations in Asunción. According to one man, freed after five days, "74 of us were locked into a room five metres by six, among us there were men, women and a 2 year old child." Another man said that he was held in a small cell with fifty people of different nationalities, all standing, without any room to sleep. Now and again a policeman in plainclothes came and said to the prisoners, "Do you know why you are here? Because you came here to disturb our peace."

2. At least 160 foreigners, the majority Argentines, have been expelled: many were deported to the Argentine frontier town of Formosa, where they were held in the Centenario Stadium for further investigation by the local authorities. They told the local press they had been ill treated by the Paraguayan police. \*\*

3. Among those expelled are many Argentine men married to Paraguayan women, with Paraguayan children. The Paraguayan Interchurches Committee, in a communiqué distributed at the beginning of October, expressed its "grave concern in view of the very serious problems that this measure has caused among those concerned, provoking so much suffering."

4. Among the prisoners is opposition leader and president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, Domingo Laino, detained under Article 79 of the National Constitution soon after Somoza's death, apparently for having made declarations to the foreign press on the connections between Somoza and the drugs mafia. His lawyers' requests that he should be presented to the Supreme Tribunal of Justice were ignored and he continues incommunicado. Laino's house was invaded and at least 17 files of documents removed by police. \*

5. Previously unknown measures of repression were introduced into Paraguay after Somoza's death. On the pretext of looking for the alleged assassins, army troops and police are conducting "rastrillos" (house to house searches in blocked off areas) all over the country, and demanding identification in the streets and at highway roadblocks.

6. The weekly paper "El Pueblo" was closed, accused of infringing

Article 71 of the National Constitution for having questioned the official methods of investigation into the crime. The Itapiru radio station in Puerto Stroessner was suspended for having broadcast interviews with members of the Nicaraguan Government, and according to a Congressional deputy foreign publications containing material "unfavourable to the person of Somoza" were forbidden to circulate.

All these violations of human rights are being practised in the search for the murderers of General Somoza, whose death seems to have served as a pretext for repression not only against foreigners but also against Paraguayans themselves, the majority of whom never agreed with the presence of the ex-dictator in their country.

\* Domingo Laino was freed on 15th October after being held 15 days incommunicado.

\*\* Expulsions of foreigners continued into November: two Argentine couples, Pedro Igon and his wife and Albert Tinant and his wife, were expelled on 3rd November and are now in prison in Argentina.



## URUGUAY: POLITICAL PRISONER MURDERED

Jorge Antonio Dabo Rabelo, a political prisoner in Libertad prison, died because he wrote in the prison bulletin that the "no" vote had won the plebiscite.

Jorge Dabo, 35 years old, was a former South American swimming champion, and his family were surprised when they were called to the Military Hospital and told he had died of heart failure. Defying orders, they opened the coffin and found his body covered in injuries, with blood on his face. His death occurred about the 9th or 10th December.

Gladys Yañez, a political prisoner in Punta Rieles women's prison, aged 32, died in the Military Hospital in September.

She served three years without trial, was released and re-arrested in 1978. She lost a kidney as a result of torture and developed a serious renal infection and severe anemia after being submitted to forced labour. Her family's pleas to allow her to spend her last days at home were refused.

### Sick prisoners

Selva Brasselli, an ex-deputy for Montevideo, arrested in 1975 is semi-paralysed with heart problems, and has been transferred to the Military Hospital.

Raul Cariboni, founder of the National Teachers' Federation, arrested in 1973 is seriously ill in Libertad prison. As a result of tortures he has had three heart attacks and urgently needs heart surgery. In spite of medical reports indicating that his permanence in Libertad could provoke his death, permission for the operation has so far been refused.

According to an Armed Forces heart specialist, Dr. Adolfo Fabius, Cariboni should have been operated on before he was 50. Cariboni was 50 in December.

The only accusation against Cariboni is that he carried out tasks "of an ideological character". In 1977 his original sentence was increased from nine to fifteen years. Having served seven and a half years, he is eligible for conditional freedom.

Professor Cariboni also has Italian citizenship.

## Hunger strikes

Forty prisoners began a hunger strike in Libertad on 26th November, demanding the reappearance of fellow prisoners Mario Tetti Izquierdo and Raul Martínez, the removal of the prison administrators, Major Mauro Mourino and Lt colonel Fausto Gonzalez, and the permanent presence in the prison of a Red Cross or United Nations mission to prevent the death or disappearance of more prisoners.

There is serious concern over the fate of Mario Tetti, one of a group of prisoners that families fear are due for "extermination". Shortly before the plebiscite a Uruguayan army chief denounced the discovery of an alleged "invasion" plan said to have been discovered from interrogating Tetti. Raul Martínez is believed however, to be in solitary confinement.

### Families Appeal

The families of prisoners in Libertad -- mothers, wives and children -- have appealed to international organizations to help save the prisoners' lives.

They say "For the simple fact of being relatives of political prisoners, we have been persecuted, sacked from work, prevented from exercising our professions, or entering schools or universities.

"During these years the children of the political prisoners have grown up in an atmosphere of fear, with the image of their fathers distorted by the conditions in which they see their father, for only 40 minutes a month. In the schools they are made to feel their fathers are delinquents, criminals of the worst type.

"... now, when we open our arms to receive our sons, husbands, fathers, brothers, the nightmare of a threat of death brings despair to our families.

"We ask sensitive men and women all over the world to show solidarity with our suffering, to understand the meaning of our appeal and to unite with us to defend the lives of our beloved ones."



URUGUAY: MAYDAY DETENTIONS

After the bankworkers and building workers' strikes on May Day, many people were arrested. One of them tells her story:

"The dozen men in civilian clothes who took me away May 5, 1980, didn't identify themselves as being from the military. I don't know where they took me but it was a short trip and the sound of traffic was loud so it may have been downtown. From the little light that entered the hood they had put over my head, I could tell the place was a basketball court. There were nearly 30 prisoners, all union members.

Between themselves, the guards called each other by numbers and a few by nicknames. The man in charge, "The Boss" ("El Jefe") was there and so was "The Old Man" ("El Viejo"), who was responsible for torture.

All of the prisoners slept on the floor, fully dressed and covered only by a blanket. Only those who had been severely tortured had pillows -- most of them couldn't even stand. When the soldiers played basketball, we were moved and taken to a garage, from where we could clearly hear the interrogation, the blows, and the screams of the tortured. We stayed there five days, from May 5 to 10. Every day there was torture and we were each called by a number to be interrogated. Even though there were about 30 prisoners, the highest number was 240 so I think others must have been detained elsewhere.

In the morning they gave us coffee with milk and a little bread; at midday, cold stew and at night, cold stew again. We were taken to the bathroom, hooded and never alone and with the door left open. The whole month I was detained, I was only allowed to bathe three times and I had to keep wearing the same clothes the entire month because none of the things my family sent reached me. They were finally given to me the day six of us were released, June 6. The six of us freed were called "perejiles," the word used to describe those who aren't directly implicated in anything and have no information to give.

"El Viejo," the head torturer, came around to talk with us at night and when no one was being tortured and passed out cigarettes in a friendly way. Even though all the detained were union members rather than part of any political party, the soldiers always insisted we were members of the "Communist Party" and the "Party for the People's Victory."

The kinds of torture used were blows and kicks and "The Hook" ("El Gancho"), which consisted of hanging the prisoner by his arms and giving him electric shocks with the Electric Cattle-prod ("La Picana Electrica") or "The Machine" ("La Máquina").

"El Viejo" told me: "What they say about us, that we torture and rape,

is true, but we don't kill. The "disappeared" are people who have fled the country and no one knows where they are." But later they told another prisoner angrily that if he didn't talk, they'd kill him from behind when they turned him loose in the street.

They threatened to rape me when I insisted I didn't know about certain people or events. They beat me and gave me electric shocks on my hands but my torture was mostly psychological -- threats, constant pressure, sleeping on the floor, the cold, the never-ending hunger, and the screams of the tortured.

At first they told me I'd be condemned to six years. Then, they said they would ask for my release because they knew I knew nothing and had only been used by "the communists." But I was never tried by a judge. Fifteen days after I was released, the other prisoners were tried and all sentenced to "3 to 18 years" plus an extra sentence of "2 to 6 years" of prison.

I was freed June 6 along with the other five "perejiles." That day, they gathered us together and told us that the next time we were named, we would be tried. They said we had been used and that they were letting us go because they tried to do things the right way. We were piled into a truck and each let loose in a different spot."

Five of the people arrested at the same time were given sentences of 3 to 18 years, with 2 to 6 years security measures on top, for the crime of belonging to S.U.N.C.A., the National Construction and Allied Trades Union. They are: Manuel Priegue, Carlos Cunha, Gerardo Riet, Gaston Sica and José Lopez, now in Libertad Prison.



BRAZIL: GOVERNMENT IMPOSES NEW FOREIGNERS' STATUTE

Ignoring vehement protests by every sector of Brazilian society, the Brazilian Government forced a new Foreigner's Statute through Congress in August, causing fear and apprehension among the country's large communities of immigrants and exiles.

The new law was condemned by the churches, lawyers and scientists associations, students unions, trade unions, human rights groups and the foreign communities themselves.

The Pope appealed to the Government not to spoil the generous Brazilian tradition of hospitality to foreigners. In Congress the opposition voted solidly against it, while the government party abstained. But the Government steamrollered the bill through, after promising Catholic church leaders that a second bill removing some of the harsher aspects would immediately be introduced. This has not happened yet.

Meanwhile the bill is now law, and thousands of Latin American exiles both political and "economic" live in fear of being deported back to their countries.

In an article published in O São Paulo a member of Justice and Peace Commission analysing some aspects of Law Nº 6815, The Foreigners' Statute, wrote:

"What will be the situation of these foreigners under the new law?

"Considering the internationalist policy of the National Security doctrine, the first obstacle to their permanence here comes in Articles 2 and 3 of the Law:

"Art 2: In the application of this law the first consideration will be national security, institutional organization, Brazil's political socio-economic and cultural interests, and the defence of the Brazilian work force.

"Art 3: Concession of visas, their prorogation or transformation will always be conditioned to national interests."

Considering that the refugee may have entered the country with a tourist visa, for example, the next obstacle comes in Art 37: Legalization of the state of irregularity or clandestinity is forbidden, as well as the transformation of transit, tourist, temporary or courtesy visas into permanent visas.

It is obvious that in the present context many Latin Americans try to enter the country clandestinely or remain here irregularly.

The new Law lays down expulsion for the foreigner who practices fraud in order to obtain his entry or permanence in Brazil.

It also obliges landlords, hotels, and apartment block janitors to inform the police of foreigners on their premises.

... It must be emphasized that the new law affects several international treaties, either related to the condition of the foreigner (Havana 1928), or to the institution of territorial asylum (Caracas 1969) or to the question of human rights (Universal Declaration 1948).

... With regard to the situation of Latin American refugees it seems important to emphasize the question of territorial asylum in the light of the principles of freedom, justice and peace which have inspired the action of the Justice and Peace Commission since its creation, the reason for our concern with the guarantees we can offer the victims of other authoritarianisms. Territorial asylum consists in the refuge or protection conceded by a state, within its own territorial sphere, to individuals who enter its territory to flee from determined situations in which their lives or freedom are threatened because of their beliefs, opinions or political affiliations.

... In the UNO Declaration on Territorial Asylum of 14/12/67 it is explicit that "the concession of asylum by a state to persons entitled to invoke Art. 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a pacific and humanitarian act, and as such, cannot be seen as hostile by any state."

This perspective is also expressed in the Caracas Convention of 28/3/54 made law in Brazil by Decree 55929 of 14/4/65.

However it was the Geneva Convention that made a significant advance by recognizing the right to provisional refuge for the aspirant to territorial asylum (art. 31).

... The new Foreigners' Statute, however is imprecise in its treatment of the subject, submitting its appreciation to the discriminatory criteria of the Executive Power, a characteristic predominant throughout the text."

With this discriminatory criteria of the Executive based on a vague and undefined concept of "national interest" the new law clearly opens the door to arbitrary decisions regarding the fate of foreigners, as already shown by the expulsion of the Italian priest, Vito Miracapillo. In the words of Congressman Marcelo Cequeira, even more than national security the new law seems concerned with protecting "the collective security of the Southern Cone dictatorships.



#### BRAZIL: COUPLE COMMIT SUICIDE ON FERRY BOAT

The Argentine police are in action on Brazilian territory.

This is the conclusion to be drawn from an incident on August 3, which ended in the suicide of a young Argentine couple, aboard the ferry that crosses the river Iguacu between Porto Meira and Puerto Iguazu on the Argentine side.

Eduardo Gonzalo Escabosa (30 years old) and Lilitiana Inés Goldemberg (27) boarded the ferry "Caju 4" at Porto Meira about one o'clock on the afternoon of August 3. On arrival at the Argentine side of the river, two Argentine police, who were among the passengers, arrested the young couple, according to eye witnesses.

While one of the police went to look for reinforcements, the other held the couple at gunpoint. The couple tried to persuade the ferry pilot, Antonio Alves Feitosa to take the ferry back to the Brazilian side of the river. But the police officer intervened to stop him. Eduardo and Lilitiana asked the other passengers, including a priest and six Carmelite nuns, to intervene, but nobody did anything.

On realizing they could not escape from the hands of the Argentine police, Eduardo and Lilitiana swallowed cyanide pills. Before dying, they embraced each other, and Eduardo asked the priest to note their names and the address of their family. The priest, Luiz Sebastiano de Roma gave extreme unction to the couple while the nuns cried.

After the death of the couple, their corpses were taken aboard an Argentine Naval launch. An Argentine Army note later said that Eduardo and Lilitiana were members of the Montonero organization and wanted by the police.

Furthermore, the subcommandant of the Naval administration at Porto Iguacu, Arturo Garcia admitted to Brazilian journalists that the Argentine police regularly exchange information with the Brazilian police in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo.

#### The Eyewitness

A young woman who was a passenger on the ferry made the following statement to the press.

"On the boat, there was me and my fiancé, six Carmelite nuns and an Italian priest as well as a few other people, the Argentine couple and two Argentine police officers. I know they were police because one of them showed his papers at the ferry office and did not pay the fare. When the ferry reached the Argentine side, one of the police took the young woman by the arm and told the ferry pilot to stay where he was. The other policeman disembarked in search of reinforcements. I heard the couple

ask the priest to help them to return to Brazil because they were Montoneros and would be tortured to death if they fell into the hands of the Argentine police. The priest did nothing. They then started to chew something that looked like a sweet. To help them swallow, they gulped water from the river with their hands. They gave the priest the addresses of their families and told him they were committing suicide. The priest tried to stop them but they had already swallowed the drug. The priest gave them extreme unction. Before collapsing, the couple embraced. The nuns, horrified, began to cry. The police officer told them not to worry because the couple were terrorists. We all got into another boat and the police went upriver with the two bodies and met an Argentine Naval launch."

#### OTHER ARGENTINE EXILES DISAPPEAR IN BRAZIL

Earlier in the year another Montonero couple disappeared somewhere on the route between Caracas and Rio de Janeiro.

Horacio Campiglia and Susan Pinus de Binstock, travelling under the false names of Jorge Pinero and Mrs. Prinsott arrived in Caracas on March 11th aboard VIASA flight 866. There they were due to change to VIASA flight 944 for Rio de Janeiro. There is no record of their arrival in Rio de Janeiro, and in spite of protests from many international organizations, there has been no news of what happened to them, or where exactly they disappeared.

#### BRASIL: MISSING PRIEST

Jorge Oscar Adur, Argentine, 48 years member of the order of Assumptionist priests, co-founder of the organization Independent Christian Youth (JIC) in Argentina in 1970, became chaplain to the Montoneros organizations, and after the coup in 1976 lived in Paris.

In June 1980 he came to Brazil and travelling under the false name of Pedro Ramon Altamirano, entered Argentina. In a letter written from Buenos Aires on 17th June he told friends he would leave Argentina on 26th June to be in Porto Alegre during the Pope's visit. He never appeared and so far it has been impossible to determine whether he disappeared in Argentina or in Brazil.



### THIRTEEN BRAZILIANS MISSING IN ARGENTINA

Denunciations of the disappearance of thirteen Brazilians in Argentina between September 1973 and February 1980 were made during the visit to Brazil by the Argentine president Jorge Videla in August.

They are:

1. João Batista Rita, student, banned from Brazil in 1971, detained by a group of armed men on 11/9/73 together with
2. Major Joaquim Pires Cerveira, National Liberation Front militant in Brazil detained 11/9/73.
3. Daniel José de Carvalho, Popular Revolutionary Vanguard militant, banned from Brazil in 1971, disappeared since December 1973 when he tried to return clandestinely to Brazil together with other VPR militants:
4. Edmur Pericles Camargo,
5. Joel José de Carvalho,
6. José Lavechia.
7. Sidney Fix Marques dos Santos, exiled in Argentina since 1972, kidnapped in 15/2/76 by Federal security agents in Buenos Aires.
8. Francisco Tenorio Junior, musician playing with Vinicius de Moraes band, disappeared in 18/3/76 in Buenos Aires.
9. Jorge Alberto Basso, exiled from Brazil, detained 15/4/76 in Buenos Aires, seen in captivity
10. Maria Regina Marcondes Pinto, kidnapped in April 1976 together with Chilean MIR militant Edgardo Enriquez Spinosa.
11. Walter Kenneth Nelson Fleury, disappeared since 9/8/76.
12. Roberto Rascado Rodrigues, 2nd year engineering student at Buenos Aires Federal University, kidnapped by six men in Naval uniform in February 1977.
13. Luis Renato do Lago Faria, 6th year medical student in Buenos Aires, disappeared 7/2/1980.

## WHERE ARE THEY?

In October in Buenos Aires relatives of 41 engineers, architects and a geologist who have disappeared appealed to the Argentine military junta to order an urgent investigation into their whereabouts and their physical and legal condition.

The families denounced the violent and arbitrary way in which their relatives had been detained, at work, in their homes or even in the street, by groups of men, sometimes in civilian clothes, sometimes in police uniforms. They all carried automatic weapons of Army or police issue and travelled in vehicles without number plates, with radio transmitters and sirens.

The families also denounced that all their efforts to obtain information from government, military or justice authorities have so far been in vain.

Clamor continues to receive inquiries about people who have disappeared over the last few years. Here is the latest list in chronological order of disappearance:

1. Maria Beatriz Diaz - Argentine, 29 years, social worker. Kidnapped from her home in Lanus, Buenos Aires, by a group of 10 armed men on 5/3/76. In December 1974 her brother, Jorge Julio Diaz, 20 years old, was tortured and assassinated by the rightwing paramilitary organization AAA.
2. Amado Berardo - Argentine, bank employee, ex-Catholic leader. Kidnapped in the street 17/7/76 in Buenos Aires, a month after his house had been invaded and searched. His brother Remo (20) was also abducted while trying to discover Amado's fate.
3. Washington Cram Gonzalez - Uruguayan, 31 years. On 28/9/76 he left home to meet his wife in Buenos Aires. They were never seen again. Their son Marcos one-year old at the time is being brought up by his grandparents.
4. Cecilia Susana Trias Hernandez - Uruguayan, born 24/8/54, living in Argentina since 1974. Disappeared together with her husband (3) on 28/9/76 in Buenos Aires.
5. Carlos Alfredo Rodriguez Mercader - Uruguayan, born on 24/2/50, resident in Argentina since 1972. He disappeared on 1/10/76 in unknown circumstances. His wife, Ivonne Irma Trias, the sister of (4) began a 22 year prison sentence in Punta Rieles, Montevideo in 1972.
6. Maria Isabel Hargouas - Argentine. Kidnapped from her parents' house, in their presence, about 20/11/76 in La Plata.
7. Carlos Alberto Abadi - Argentine, student, student delegate for B.A University Psychology Centre. Kidnapped 6/5/77 on the corners of Moreno

and Matheu streets in Buenos Aires, when he was returning from work. There is information that he was seen alive four days later, in a clandestine detention camp of the Argentine Navy, located on Paseo Colon and Independencia streets in Buenos Aires. There has been no more news of him.

8. Liliana Clecia Fontana Deharbe - Argentine, born 21/12/56. Abducted from her home in Buenos Aires, together with her husband, on the night of 1/7/77, by four armed men in civilian clothes. She was three months pregnant at the time.

9. Carlos Augusto Cortinas - Argentine, married, born 11/5/52. Disappeared when going to work in Buenos Aires on 15/4/77. The same night his house was searched by armed men in civilian clothes who identified themselves as policemen. His mother wrote "I cannot accept the idea that I will never again see his clear and honest look, full of love and humility, I look for him, I wait for him."

10. Maria Seone Toimil - Kidnapped from her home in Buenos Aires on 12/5/77 by armed and hooded security force men.

11. Julian Roman Vera - Argentine, workman. Detained at the transport company where he worked on 18/5/77 by a group of heavily armed people who identified themselves as security force agents.

12. Mario Alberto Fernandez - Argentine, metalworker. Detained in his home in Castelas, Buenos Aires on 18/5/77 by an unidentified heavily armed group. He was beaten in the presence of his wife and mother and taken away blindfolded.

13. Lidia Delia Fernandez - Argentine, born 27/2/50. Kidnapped by a group of armed men, in civilian clothes, in the presence of her mother, on 15/6/77 from her home in La Plata.

14. Atilio Cesar Martinez Lagrava - Argentine, born 10/9/53, soldier. Disappeared on 21/6/77 when he was sent by his commanding officer Colonel José Martinez to deliver a letter to the 7th Infantry Regiment in Buenos Aires. In spite of his elderly mother's appeals to the Armed Forces, he has not been heard of again.

15. Stella Maris Giourgas - Argentine, born 31/3/54. Kidnapped from her parents' home in La Plata during the early hours of 22/6/77 by a group of armed men in civilian clothes, who said they belonged to the Armed Forces.

16. Amilce Magdalena Trucco - Argentine, born 18/11/54, psychology student. Disappeared September 1977 in Buenos Aires or Mar del Plata.

17. Pedro Alfaro Vasquez - Uruguayan, born 31/12/46. Detained in his home in Buenos Aires on 17/8/77 by heavily armed men in civilian clothes,

supported by a military blockade around the area. Another Uruguayan citizen was detained at the same time, but released a few days later. Reliable reports say he was later transferred to Uruguay at the request of authorities there. Uruguayan authorities however, deny knowledge of the case, or that he is in prison there.

18. Lilian Nilda Fernandez Memrielle - Argentine, psychologist, born 15/11/47. Kidnapped 6/12/77 in Buenos Aires by armed men in civilian clothes.

19. Eduardo Emilio Azurmendi - Argentine. Kidnapped together with his wife Ana Maria Bonatto on 6/12/77 from their flat in Buenos Aires apartment. Their two small children, only 2 years, and 9 months old at the time, were left with the janitor. The older child, now five years old, still calls for her parents.

20. Remo Carlos Berardo - Argentine, well known artist, born 1935. Kidnapped in Buenos Aires on 8/12/77 with another twenty people, including two French nuns, when they demanded news of their kidnapped relatives, including Remo's brother, Amado (2).

21. Adriana Leonor Tasca - Argentine, born 20/4/55, law student. Kidnapped between 10 and 15/12/77 near the Plaza de Flores in Buenos Aires, by a group of armed men. She was later seen in a prison near La Plata. She was five months pregnant when she disappeared.

22. Juan Alberto de Leon Scanziana - Uruguayan, born 31/10/54, dairy technician. Disappeared 16/2/78 after leaving home in Buenos Aires.

23. Patricia Ayerbe - Argentine, born 2/10/57, philosophy student. Kidnapped 24/2/78 probably in Buenos Aires.

24. Raul Oliveira Canceda - Uruguayan, kidnapped 6/6/78 in Buenos Aires near the Liniers railway station, by three men who identified themselves as Federal Police agents. They forced him into a Ford Falcon car in the presence of several witnesses.

25. Ricardo Soria - Detained in his home in Buenos Aires on 17/3/80.

26. Angel Servando Benitez - Detained 20/3/80. His house was searched the same day. His wife was told he was dead.

27. Jorge Oscar Benitez - Born 23/7/63. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.

28. Angel Horacio Perez - Born 6/7/51, widower. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.

29. Julio Cesar Genoud - Argentine, born 16/8/54. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.

30. Raul Milberg - Born 17/6/54. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.



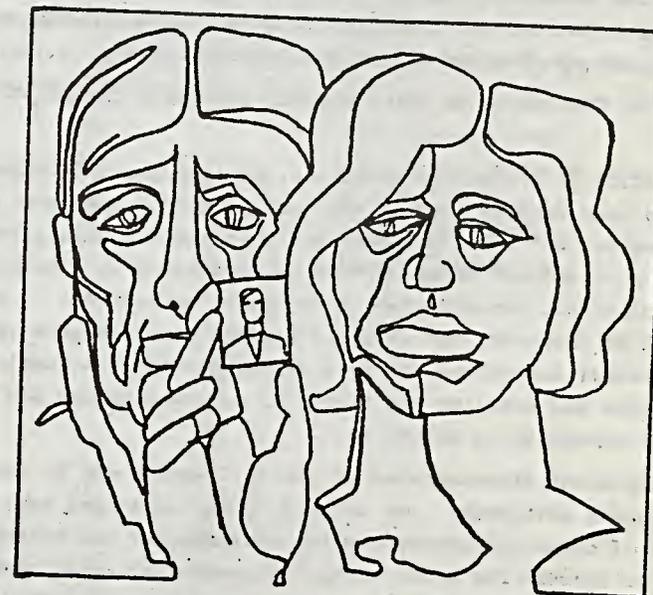
31. Ricardo Marcos Zucker - Born 25/2/55. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.
32. Matilde Adela Rodriguez Carbajal - Born 25/2/52. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980 together with her husband (33).
33. Angel Carbajal - Born 15/2/48.
34. Miriam Antonia Fuerichs - Swiss, born 26/10/55. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.
35. Marta Elina Libenson - Born 13/12/57. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.
36. Lia Mariana Ercilia Guanciroli - Born 30/1/58. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980 together with her husband (29).
37. Ernesto Emilio Ferre Cardozo - Born 15/3/55. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.
38. Veronica Maia Cabilla - Born 29/10/63. Disappeared in Buenos Aires in March 1980.
39. Federico Alberga Frias - Argentine, 29 years, metalworker. Kidnapped in Buenos Aires in March 1980 and taken to Peru to identify Argentines resident in that country (see p. ). There are unconfirmed reports that he died in Peru as a result of torture.
40. Antonio Luis Tovo - Argentine, born 25/8/52, married with two children. Kidnapped on 4/6/80 in the town of Rosario when driving to work. His car was intercepted by a Ford Falcon without a numberplate, and he was forced into an Army vehicle parked nearby. His car was taken by agents. All his family's efforts to find him have been in vain so far. He had returned to Argentina from Spain in March.
41. Alicia Sassarini - Uruguayan, 21 years, medical student. She was taken from her class in the Montevideo University Hospital on 3/6/80 by hospital security agents and other men who said they were taking her to Police HQ to act as witness in a case of theft. Police HQ later denied that Alicia was there. The hospital director's assistant later said that the men who took Alicia were Army personnel. Her disappearance was denounced by her colleagues to the Archbishop of Montevideo.
42. Martin Gervasio Guadix - 26 years, architecture student. Disappeared on 24/8/80 when he left his house in Buenos Aires. His wife Edith Aixa Bona Estevez, 26 years, was detained the next day, together with her 18 months old daughter. The child was returned to its grandparents three days later.

In all these cases, the families of the disappeared presented habeas corpus writs and denounced the disappearance to government authorities

and international bodies, but without result. All those who disappeared in March 1980 had returned to Argentina from abroad (25-39).

The mother of one of the disappeared wrote in a letter:

"The only hope that our beloved absent ones can have is that we have not forgotten them and we shall go on fighting until we know the Truth."



UNITED NATIONS WORKING GROUP EXAMINES DISAPPEARANCES

In March the United Nations Commission on Human Rights decided to set up a five man working group to look into "enforced or involuntary disappearances". The group, consisting of representatives from Costa Rica, Ghana, Yugoslavia, the United Kingdom and Iraq (who later resigned) has already received extensive information on cases of disappearances in different countries. The response of governments however, has been poor, although the Group is empowered by the United Nations to demand explanations from them following reported abductions. The Group has come to the conclusion that the disappearances reported to them "warrant the deepest concern, in particular for the danger to life, liberty and physical safety of the persons subjected to enforced or involuntary disappearance and for the anguish and sorrow caused to the relatives of those persons".

The decision to create this special Working Group was largely a result of pressure by organizations directly involved in human rights work, like the World Council of Churches and Amnesty International.

At the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, the World Council of Churches stated:

"The practice of arbitrary abduction and subsequent disappearance is most often used against real or imagined political opponents of a particular regime, but it is directed not only against this category of persons, but also against those opposed to repression as such and who act out of non-political, humanitarian or religious motivations... For the World Council of Churches, the struggle against disappearance is not only one with political dimensions, it is a profoundly human struggle which should galvanize and mobilize the resources of the churches and of the international community to combat it.

"The unexplained disappearance of people, carried out by security forces of a given government, can be said to be, in a real way, the subtle accomodation of those governments to international -- and national -- expressions of concern for human rights. Whereas most other means of repression affect victims who constitute evidence of human rights violations, disappearance, by definition, does not constitute evidence... disappearance is tidier than torture... offending governments deny knowledge or blame for the institutional practice of disappearances, ascribing such practices to political parties, marginal movements or delinquent groups. The overwhelming experience of the churches in this regard contradicts such assertions, as being inaccurate and self-serving.

"Disappearances represent, in the final analysis, the ultimate negation

of the individual human identity. In this regard even those who die are deprived of honourable and appropriate funeral services, a fact which affects their families as a brutal denial that the person has ever been alive at all..."

"There is a further and intolerable ramification of this characteristic: that of the planned disappearance of children -- and therefore of generational disappearance." (See list on page )

"It strikes us as inadmissible that such attempts to wipe out and erase the history of two or three generations, should be allowed to continue, and that such patently innocent victims of adult inhumanity should be deprived of identity and effective, lasting protection."

The UN Working Group holds its third session in December and has until March 1981 to conclude its examination of evidence and prepare a report. It accepts information from governments, intergovernmental organizations, humanitarian organizations and other reliable sources. Anyone wishing to supply information on cases of disappearance should send it as soon as possible, to:

U.N. Working Group  
Division of Human Rights,  
U.N.O.  
Palais des Nations,  
Geneva, Switzerland.



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Conclusions

1. In view of the information contained in this report, the Commission has concluded that in the Argentine Republic, by action or omission of public authorities, numerous and serious violations of fundamental human rights recognized in the American Declaration of Man's Rights and Obligations were committed during the period 1975 to 1979 covered in this report. In particular, the Commission believes these violations have affected:

a) The right to life, given that persons belonging to the Government security organisms or linked to them have detained and killed many men and women. The Commission is particularly concerned about the situation of the thousands of disappeared prisoners, who there is good reason, based on the information in this report, to believe dead.

b) The right to personal freedom, in indiscriminately and with no reasonable criteria detaining numerous persons and placing them at the disposal of the National Executive Power. And by prolonging the arrest of these persons, which becomes a sentence in itself. This situation has been worsened by the severe restrictions placed on the right of option (to leave the country) foreseen in Article 23 of the Constitution, counteracting the true purpose of this right. Prolonged periods of exile are equally affronts to personal liberty and are truly a sentence.

c) The right to personal safety and integrity, through systematic tortures and other inhuman and degrading treatment.

d) The right to justice and due process, because of the limitations on the court system in carrying out its role, the lack of rightful guarantees in processes before military tribunals, and the total ineffectiveness of the habeas corpus, in practice and in general, in Argentina. All of the above practices are worsened by the serious problems encountered professionally by the detainees' defense lawyers, some of whom have died, disappeared or been jailed for having taken on their defense.

2. In regard to the other rights established in the American Declaration of Man's Rights and Obligations, the Commission points out that although the lack of observance has not been as serious as in the cases mentioned above, the limitations do affect the full exercise of human rights in Argentina. In relation to those rights, the Commission observes:

a) The full exercise of freedom of opinion, expression and information has been limited, in different ways, by regulations which have contributed

to the creation of a climate of uncertainty and fear among those responsible for the communications media.

b) Labor rights have been affected by the formulation and application of certain rules, which have fallen particularly heavily on the right to union association, through military intervention and enactment of statutes which jeopardize the rights of the working class.

c) Political rights are suspended.

d) In general, the freedom of religion and cults is not limited. However, the Commission verified that severe restrictions have been placed on the religious activities of Jehovah's Witnesses and, although there is no official policy of antisemitism, in practice there has been discriminatory treatment against Jews in some cases.

3. The Commission considers that human rights organizations have encountered and encounter unjustified obstacles to carrying out their work.

4. The Commission notes that since its visit to Argentina, in September 1979, there have been fewer violations of the rights to life, liberty, safety and personal integrity and of the right to justice and due process. Notably, no new disappearances have been reported since October of this year.

B. Recommendations

Based on the above conclusions, the Commission considers it fitting to make the following recommendations to the Argentine government:

1. In relation to the deaths attributed to public authorities and their agents: Open the corresponding investigations and judge and sanction, with all the force of the law, those responsible for those deaths.

2. Concerning the disappeared: Carry out the preliminary recommendations the Commission made on this subject to the Argentine Government 20 September 1979, giving in detail the situation of these people.

3. To avoid new cases of disappearances: Create a central register of the detained to allow their families and other interested parties to find out, quickly, what detentions have been made. Also, order that these detentions be carried out by duly identified agents and issue instructions that the detained be transferred without delay to places specifically designated for this purpose.

4. Consider the possibility of lifting the state of siege, in view of the fact that, as the Argentine government has repeatedly declared, the reasons that caused it to be imposed no longer exist.

5. Adopt the following measures concerning prisoners now at the disposition of the National Executive Power and the right of option to leave the country:

a) Subject to a reasonable criteria the authority granted to the Chief of State by Article 23 of the Constitution to detain persons under the state of siege, and do not extend the detentions indefinitely.

b) Free the following detainees now at the disposition of the National Executive Power:

i. Those who have been detained without reasonable cause or for a prolonged period of time;

ii. Those who have been acquitted or have already served their terms.

iii. Those who are eligible for conditional liberty.

c) Re-establish fully the exercise of the right of option to leave the country in order that delays in the solicitation procedure do not block recourse to this right.

6. Investigate thoroughly the accusations regarding use of torture and other illegal acts of compulsion, and sanction those responsible for such acts with all the force of the law.

7. Instruct all employees, officials and agents of the groups charged with public order, state security and custody of prisoners about the rights of the detainees, particularly in regard to prohibition of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and make them aware of the sanctions to which they are liable if those rights are violated.

8. Give humanitarian treatment to persons detained for reasons of security or public order. This treatment should never be less than that accorded to common prisoners, bearing in mind in both cases the minimum and internationally accepted standards and treatment of persons deprived of liberty.

9. Adopt the following measures in regard to procedural guarantees and trial defense:

a) Insure the guarantees of due legal process -- especially the right to defense by a lawyer chosen by the defendant -- to persons brought to trial before military tribunals.

b) Designate a commission of qualified jurists to study the processes carried out by military tribunals while the state of siege was in effect and to make suitable recommendations in the cases in which the guarantees inherent to due process have not been observed.

c) Give judges the facility and security to investigate effectively the cases of persons detained under the security laws.

d) Grant detainees' lawyers the guarantees indispensable to an effective defense of their clients.

10. Give the Judicial Power full cooperation to insure the effectiveness of recourse to the Habeas Corpus and to protection (Amparo).

11. Revoke or modify the laws -- 20,840 and others -- that limit the exercise of the right to opinion, expression and information.

12. Take the measures necessary to insure observance of labor rights, and in regard to union association, guarantee the rights of workers' organizations, revoking or modifying the legal decrees preventing their normal development.

13. Concerning political rights, take the necessary steps to re-establish the activity and participation of political parties in the nation's public life, as well as guarantee the political rights of its citizens.

14. In relation to freedom of religion and cults, revoke Decree N° 1867 of 31 August 1976 prohibiting any kind of activity by the Jehovah's Witnesses and investigate and sanction any and all discrimination against Jews.

15. Give the organizations defending human rights the guarantees and facilities they need to contribute to the promotion and observance of human rights in the Argentine Republic.

# LETTERS

Gothenberg, Sweden

Present and accompanying you from here we send you our modest support for your struggle. We believe your voice is very important today, because it signifies the denunciation of constant violations of human rights, practised by the dictatorships of the Southern Cone as a normal method. We believe your effort is worthwhile. We greet you fraternally and desire you good luck in your task, part of the struggle of the Latin American people against imperialist oppression. And we are with you.

Gladys Balião Balião

Brazil

I very much appreciate the Clamor bulletin which is both denunciation and clamour in favour of the oppressed and those cheated of their rights. I have been able to use your information, not only for personal information, but for my community and meetings of base groups. In our prayers we place the facts, sharing, in this way, through faith in the suffering of so many, and asking God to strengthen those who suffer.

Continue firm in the struggle!

Fraternally,

Sister Maria do Carmo Bairão

Florianopolis, 3rd October

Yesterday I received Clamor (on Bolivia). What excellent work! it is a precise, serious, responsible document -- striking! How Meza would like to destroy all this arsenal of truth which is raised against him and his followers. Many thanks for the work that you and the Archdiocese of São Paulo are doing for human rights. I was shocked by what happened in Caracoles and I am going to use this document as part of my Sunday message during the Holy Supper service on the Sunday of Universal Communion.

William Schisler Filho  
Methodist Church minister

Juiz de Fora, 26th August 1980

Congratulations to all of you in Clamor ... it is a call to denounce that sees far beyond the national boundaries and makes us see always more clearly the paths and the mistakes of the countries that follow capitalism and whose only intention, as a result of this ideology, is a South American hegemony based on terror, and political and economic oppression.

It takes time to understand properly these involvements. This is your merit, that for some time you have been discovering the threads and mysteries of terrorist activities that obey no frontiers. Today encouraged by you, other press media have also begun courageously denouncing cases of international right wing terrorism as well as the links between South American governments especially the governments that arisen from generals' coup d'etats.

We are Christians. Our strength resides in our faith that sends us to discover the injustices and errors of men. Wherever someone is being persecuted because of their clear position in favour of justice and equality, of respect for the human being, it is Christ himself who is being persecuted. And it is very stimulating that the Christian Church in Brazil is discovering this ever more. She that for so long refused to see the need to place herself on the side of the poor and abused, today assumes her task of true missionary of Christ, raising her prophetic voice so that men will recognise the Lord's true will: the right of all to life.

Dario G. Schaeffer  
Minister of the Evangelical Church  
of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil

Our address: CLAMOR  
Avenida Higienópolis 890, sala 19  
01238 - São Paulo, SP  
Brasil



# LETTERS

1874

Dear Sir,  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter mentioned therein. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation. I have, however, done my best to ascertain the facts of the case, and I believe that the result is as fair as possible under the circumstances. I am sure that you will understand my position in this matter. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. H. [Name]

I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst. in relation to the same matter. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation. I have, however, done my best to ascertain the facts of the case, and I believe that the result is as fair as possible under the circumstances. I am sure that you will understand my position in this matter. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. H. [Name]

I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst. in relation to the same matter. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation. I have, however, done my best to ascertain the facts of the case, and I believe that the result is as fair as possible under the circumstances. I am sure that you will understand my position in this matter. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. H. [Name]

I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th inst. in relation to the same matter. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation. I have, however, done my best to ascertain the facts of the case, and I believe that the result is as fair as possible under the circumstances. I am sure that you will understand my position in this matter. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. H. [Name]

I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th inst. in relation to the same matter. I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation. I have, however, done my best to ascertain the facts of the case, and I believe that the result is as fair as possible under the circumstances. I am sure that you will understand my position in this matter. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
J. H. [Name]

