

independence, a district court judge in Pusan ruled in January that a student activist's exchange of faxes with North Korean students and chanting of slogans at demonstrations that echoed North Korean propaganda were not sufficient grounds to convict him of violating the NSL. In July a Seoul District Criminal Court rejected an arrest warrant request for Catholic Priest Moon Chong Hyon, who met with North Korean figures in Poland. The Court ruled that authorities had not presented evidence that Moon's actions undermined freedom or democracy in the South Korea.

The judicial system has local courts presided over by judges who render verdicts in all cases. There is no trial by jury. Defendants can appeal a verdict to a district appeals court and to the Supreme Court. Constitutional challenges can be taken to the Constitutional Court. The Constitutional Court, which began operation in 1988, continued to grow in its role of interpreting the Constitution.

The Constitution provides defendants a number of rights in criminal trials, including presumption of innocence, protection against self-incrimination, freedom from retroactive laws and double jeopardy, the right to a speedy trial, and the right of appeal. When a person is physically detained, the initial trial must be completed within 6 months of arrest. These

dissidents. The Antiwiretap Law and the law to reform the NSP were designed to curb government surveillance of civilians and appear largely to have succeeded. The Antiwiretap Law lays out the conditions under which the monitoring of telephone calls, mail, and other forms of communication are legal. It requires government officials to secure a judge's permission before placing wiretaps, or, in the event of an emergency, soon after placing them, and it provides for jail terms for those who violate this law. Some human rights groups argue that a considerable amount of illegal wiretapping is still taking place and assert that the lack of an independent body to investigate whether police have employed illegal wiretaps hinders the effectiveness of the Antiwiretap Law.

Citizens are not allowed to listen to North Korean radio in their homes or read books published in North Korea if the Government determines that they are doing so for the purpose of helping North Korea. Student groups make plausible claims that government informants are posted around university campuses. Persons with backgrounds as political or labor activists may find it difficult to obtain some forms of employment or advance in such fields as government, broadcast media, and education.

## Section 2 Respect for Civil Liberties, Including:

### a. Freedom of Speech and Press

While most political discourse is unrestricted, under the NSL the Government limits the expression of ideas that authorities consider Communist or pro-North Korean. Broad interpretations of the NSL allow for restrictions on the peaceful expression of dissenting views.

While the Government has abandoned direct control over the news media, it continues to exercise considerable indirect influence. Some officials reportedly lobby journalists aggressively to discourage them from writing stories critical of the Government. In addition, the latent threat of tax investigations against parent media companies is widely believed to encourage newspapers and broadcasters to soften criticism. Moreover, while the Government's anticorruption campaign curtailed politicians' payments of money to reporters, it did not eliminate these payments. Nevertheless, press criticism of the Government is extensive in all fields, and authorities have not used repressive measures to stop media reporting. Although most radio and television stations are state-supported, the stations maintain a considerable degree of editorial independence in their news coverage.

Journalists allege that the libel laws are used to harass publications for articles that are unflattering but not necessarily untrue. In January a Seoul district court ordered the Hangyoreh Sinmun newspaper to pay a libel award of approximately \$500,000 to President Kim's son, Kim Hyun Chul. The court maintained that the paper had not adequately checked its facts before reporting that the President's son had accepted bribes. Many reporters criticized the award, saying that the court had been influenced by government pressure. However, other credible observers noted that Korean journalism suffers from sensationalism and insufficient fact checking, and they argued

that the judge in this case appropriately penalized the reporter for basing serious defamatory charges on a single source whose allegations could have been refuted by checking with other principals involved.

Prosecutors continued to indict dissidents under the NSL for producing, selling, or distributing pro-North Korean or pro-Communist materials. Court precedents allow Koreans to possess these kinds of publications for purely academic use, profit, or curiosity, but not with the intent of subverting the State. Prosecutors are given wide discretion in determining motives for possessing or publishing such material.

The Government continued to allow, within its guidelines, an increase in media coverage of North Korea. Television networks continued to broadcast edited versions of North Korean television programs. The media extensively reported on United States and South Korean talks with North Korean officials.

The Government Censorship Board, which screens movies for sexual or violent content before release, has followed more liberal guidelines in recent years. Consequently, a broader range of films has been released to the public.

In 1994 authorities began investigating eight Kyongsang University professors on the grounds that their textbook on Korean society endorsed North Korean ideology. This investigation was regarded by much of the scholarly community as a serious infringement on academic freedom. However, prosecutors who sought to arrest several of the professors under the NSL were denied warrants by a judge who decided that authorities had not provided evidence of the scholars' pro-Communist activities. This investigation has been closed, and no instances of prosecution for scholarly writing were reported in 1996. However, student groups plausibly report the presence of government informants on university campuses (see Section 1.f.).

#### b. Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Association

The Law on Assembly and Demonstrations prohibits assemblies considered likely to undermine public order. The law forbids outside interference in peaceful assemblies approved by the authorities and requires that the police be notified in advance of demonstrations of all types, including political rallies. Police must notify organizers if they consider the event impermissible under this law. The Government forbade some demonstrations, such as a rally of students at the border of North and South Korea, that authorities believed were orchestrated by North Korea to undermine the State.

In August thousands of student demonstrators, led by the National Federation of Student Councils, occupied buildings on the Yonsei University campus after being denied permission to hold a rally at the border of North and South Korea. Departing from its usual practice of not intervening in protests contained within university campuses, the Government sent a massive police force onto the campus to remove demonstrators. The students resisted using steel pipes, rocks, and firebombs. In the confrontations at the university, which lasted for more than a week, one policeman was killed and scores of students and police were

injured. Some human rights groups alleged that police used excessive violence in quelling the disturbance. However, most observers also acknowledged that the tactics of protesting students were violent and provocative. Associations, except those whose aim is deemed by the Government to be the overthrow of the State, operate freely.

c. Freedom of Religion

The Constitution provides for freedom of religion, and the Government respects this provision in practice.

d. Freedom of Movement Within the Country, Foreign Travel, Emigration, and Repatriation

Most citizens are allowed to move freely throughout the country. However, police may restrict the movements of some former prisoners. Foreign travel is generally unrestricted, but travel to North Korea must be approved by the Government. To obtain approval, potential visitors must demonstrate to authorities that their trip does not have a political purpose--that is, to praise North Korea or criticize the South Korean Government. Travelers to North Korea who do not receive government permission are likely to be arrested upon their return to South Korea. For example, Chong Win Ju, a student at Incheon University, and Lee Hye Jong, a student at Catholic University, were sentenced in the spring to 3 years in jail for visiting North Korea in August 1995 to attend a "unification rally."

In the past, the Government forbade some Koreans convicted of politically related crimes from returning to Korea, and some citizens still face sanctions if they return. In 1994 the NSP lifted the entry ban on composer Yun I Sang, a dissident who had been living in Berlin for a number of years. However, the Government required that he refrain from any political activity while in Korea and that he give an accounting of his political activities overseas before authorities would allow him into the country. Yun refused these conditions and decided against returning to South Korea.

The Government cooperates with the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian organizations in assisting refugees. Government guidelines provide for offering temporary refuge in the case of a mass influx of asylum seekers (sometimes referred to as "first asylum"). However, the issue of provision of first asylum did not arise in 1996, and there were no reports of forced return of persons to a country where they had a fear of persecution.

Section 3 Respect for Political Rights: The Right of Citizens to Change Their Government

Citizens have the right to elect their own government. The Constitution, as amended in 1987, provides for the direct election of the President and for a mixed system of direct and proportional election of legislators to the unicameral National Assembly. The President serves a single 5-year term and may not be reelected. National Assembly members serve 4-year terms. All citizens 20 years of age or above have the right to vote, and elections are held by secret ballot. Kim Young Sam, who took

office in February 1992, is Korea's first chief executive in nearly 30 years not to have a career military background.

Because of cultural traditions and discrimination, women occupy few important positions in government. In the current and past governments, the only woman in the Cabinet has been the Second Minister for Political Affairs, whose portfolio is Women's Affairs. In addition, in 1995 a woman was elected mayor of Kwangmyong City, and a female legislator chairs one of the special committees of the National Assembly.

#### Section 4 Governmental Attitude Regarding International and Nongovernmental Investigation of Alleged Violations of Human Rights

Several nongovernmental private organizations are active in promoting human rights, and they operate without government restriction. Chief among these groups are the Lawyers for a Democratic Society, Sarangbang, the Human Rights Committee of the National Council of Churches in Korea, the Korean Bar Association, and "Mingahyup," an association of the families of political prisoners. These groups publish reports on the human rights situation in Korea and make their views known both inside and outside the country. Government and ruling party officials generally have been willing to meet with international human rights groups.

#### Section 5 Discrimination Based on Race, Sex, Religion, Disability, Language, or Social Status

The Constitution and equal opportunity statutes forbid discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, disability, or social status, and the Government respects these provisions. However, traditional attitudes limit opportunities for women and the disabled. Ethnic minorities face both legal and societal discrimination.

##### Women

Violence against women remains a problem, and some women's rights groups maintain that such violence, including spousal abuse, has worsened in the past few years. The law does not provide adequate protection to victims of abuse.

Rape remained a serious problem, with 6,173 cases reported in 1994 (the last year for which statistics are available). Many incidents of rape go unreported because of the stigma associated with being a rape victim. The activities of a number of women's groups have increased awareness of the importance of reporting and prosecuting rapes as well as offenses such as sexual harassment in the workplace. According to women's rights groups, cases involving sexual harassment or rape generally go unprosecuted, and perpetrators, if convicted, often receive very lenient sentences.

The amended Family Law, which went into effect in 1991, permits women to head a household, recognizes a wife's right to a portion of the couple's property, and allows a woman to maintain greater contact with her children after a divorce. Although the revisions helped abused women, divorce remains a social taboo,

and there is little government or private assistance for divorced women. These factors, plus the fact that divorced women have limited employment opportunities and have difficulty remarrying, lead some women to stay in abusive situations. The Government has created some shelters for battered women and increased the number of child care facilities, providing women in abusive situations with more options, but women's rights groups say that they fall far short of dealing effectively with the problem.

A conservative Confucian tradition has left women subordinate to men socially and economically. There has been some limited and gradual change in social mores and attitudes affecting women; for example, women have full access to education, and a few have become government officials and hold elected office. Despite the passage of equal employment opportunity legislation in 1988, however, few women work as company executives or leading officials in government. The Women's Affairs Ministry continued its efforts to expand employment opportunities for women, and during the year the air force implemented a program

to encourage women to become pilots and seek other senior positions.

### Children

The Government continued to devote an increasing share of the overall budget to social expenditures, which includes those related to the welfare of children. High quality elementary education is available to all Korean children free of charge, and most obtain a good quality secondary education. High quality health care facilities are widely available to children.

Child abuse does not appear to be a significant problem or policy issue. Child abuse has not been studied extensively, and statistics on such abuse are limited. About 150 cases were reported during the year. Although experts believe that a number of cases go unreported, instances of child abuse still appear to be relatively rare. The Seoul metropolitan government runs a children's counseling center, which investigates reports of abuse, counsels families, and cares for runaway children. In the absence of a specific law against child abuse, however, it is not possible to prosecute and punish child abusers unless they commit a crime punishable under a separate law.

The traditional preference for male children continues, although it is less evident among people in their twenties and thirties. Although the law bans fetal sex testing, such testing and the subsequent termination of pregnancies with female fetuses frequently occur. The Government has expressed concern at the widening disparity between male and female birth rates.

### People with Disabilities

Although new measures aimed at creating opportunities for the disabled have been taken, public facilities for their everyday care and use remained inadequate. However, there is no legal discrimination against disabled persons in employment, education, or in the provision of other state services.

In 1995 the Government expanded job training programs, medical benefits, and welfare facilities for disabled citizens. Since 1991 firms with over 300 employees have been required by law either to hire disabled workers or pay a fee. After human rights groups publicized a survey indicating that most companies either paid the fee or evaded the law, the Labor Ministry announced it would increase the subsidies provided to companies that hire the disabled. New public buildings are required to include facilities for the disabled, such as ramp access to entrances, a wheelchair lift, and special parking spaces.

## National/Racial/Ethnic Minorities

The Republic of Korea is a racially homogeneous country with no ethnic minorities of significant number. Citizenship is based on blood, not location of birth, and Koreans must show as proof their family genealogy. Ethnic Chinese born and resident in Korea cannot obtain citizenship or become public servants and may have difficulty being hired by some major corporations. Due to legal as well as societal discrimination, many formerly resident ethnic Chinese have emigrated to other countries since the 1970's. Amerasian children are usually able to obtain Korean citizenship, and no legal discrimination against them exists. Informal discrimination, however, is prevalent, making it more difficult for Amerasians to succeed in academia, business, or government.

### Section 6 Worker Rights

#### a. The Right of Association

The Constitution gives workers, with the exception of public sector employees and teachers, the right to free association. There are some blue-collar public sector unions in railroads, telecommunications, the postal service, and the national medical center. The Trade Union Law specifies that only one union is permitted at each place of work and that all unions are required to notify the authorities when formed or dissolved. About 10 percent of workers belong to a union.

In the past, the Government did not formally recognize labor federations that were not affiliated with the country's two legally recognized labor groupings--the Federation of Korean Trade Unions (FKTU) and the Independent Korean Federation of Clerical and Financial Workers. In the past several years, however, the Labor Ministry officially recognized some independent white-collar federations representing hospital workers, journalists, and office workers at construction firms and government research institutes. The courts ruled in 1992 that affiliation with the FKTU is not required to be registered as a legal labor federation. In practice, labor federations not formally recognized by the Labor Ministry exist and work without government interference, unless authorities considered their involvement in labor disputes disruptive. In May the President created a presidential commission to consider additional changes in the labor laws, including granting legal recognition to the dissident Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU). In October, however, in connection with a pending decision on its application for membership in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and in anticipation of specific recommendations from the Commission, the Government pledged to reform its labor legislation so as to achieve greater conformity with internationally recognized labor standards.

In December the National Assembly passed labor reform legislation with provisions designed both to enhance worker rights and increase labor market flexibility. However, last-minute changes to the legislation by the National Assembly delayed the legalization of multiple trades unions by at least 3 years and deleted provisions that would have allowed teachers to form associations, thus limiting the worker rights enhancements. The



new law also maintained certain restrictions preventing unauthorized "third-parties" from becoming involved in labor disputes and did not address organizing rights for white-collar government employees. In contrast, the promanagement changes concerning Korea's labor market flexibility changes (including provisions making layoffs easier, increasing employer flexibility in establishing employee work schedules, and permitting the replacement of strikers) are to become effective March 1, 1997. The bill encountered strong opposition from labor which launched demonstrations and strikes to protest its passage.

The Government arrested and tried unionists it viewed as acting as "third parties" in instigating labor disputes. Cho Myung Lae and Kim Seung Hyun, officers of the Korean Federation of Metalworkers Unions, were arrested in June for their alleged role in fomenting a dispute at the Korea Textile Company. Kwon Yong Kil and Yang Kyu Hun, respectively Chairman and Vice President of the KCTU, both were tried for their role as "third parties" in the 1994 subway and railroad strikes. Authorities charged that they had incited illegal and violent strikes in the public sector. Human rights groups argued that Kwon was arrested for attempting to exercise the legitimate functions of a trade union federation leader. Several dozen workers were arrested for "interference with business" and for committing criminal violence during strikes. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) alleges that over 40 trade unionists were imprisoned for prolonged periods for various trade union activities during the year.

The Government continued the ban on labor union activities by public and private schoolteachers, arguing that the teachers' union (Chonkyojo) is essentially a political organization with radical aims. The Government continued its program of reinstating those among the 1,500 fired teachers who agreed to resign from Chonkyojo.

Only two members are required to form a union. Election and labor laws forbid unions from donating money to political parties or participating in election campaigns. However, trade unionists have circumvented the ban by temporarily resigning from their union posts and running for office on the ticket of a political party or as independents.

Strikes are prohibited in government agencies, state-run enterprises, and defense industries. By law, unions in enterprises determined to be of "public interest," including public transportation, utilities, public health, banking, broadcasting, and communications, can be ordered to submit to government-ordered arbitration in lieu of striking. In practice, however, the Government rarely imposes arbitration. The number of labor disputes has declined in recent years. According to Labor Ministry statistics, 88 strikes occurred in 1995, the last year for which complete data are available. The Labor Dispute Adjustment Act requires unions to notify the Labor Ministry of their intention to strike, and it mandates a 10-day "cooling-off period" before a work stoppage may legally begin. (The cooling-off period is 15 days in public interest sectors.) Labor laws prohibit retribution against workers who have conducted a legal strike and allow workers to file complaints of unfair labor practices against employers.

Both the FKTU and the KCTU are affiliated with the ICFTU. Most of the FKTU's 20 constituent federations maintain affiliations with international trade secretariats, as does the KCTU Metalworkers Council. In response to freedom of association complaints lodged by dissident and independent unions, the International Labor Organization (ILO) Committee on Freedom of Association issued a report at midyear recommending that the Government bring Korean labor law and policy up to international worker rights standards in accordance with the principle of free association.

In recent years, the Government has cultivated a more neutral stance in labor disputes. Authorities rarely sent police to quell labor disturbances, and there were no reports of employer-hired squads assaulting workers in 1996.

Since July 1991, South Korea has been suspended from the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) insurance programs because of the Government's infringements on freedom of association and other worker rights.

#### b. The Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively

The Constitution and the Trade Union Law provide for the right of workers to collective bargaining and collective action. This law also empowers workers to file complaints of unfair labor practices against employers who interfere with union organizing or practice discrimination against union members. Employers found guilty of unfair practices can be required to reinstate workers who were fired for union activities.

Extensive collective bargaining is practiced, even with unions whose federations are not legally recognized by the Government. The labor laws do not extend the right to organize and bargain collectively to government employees, including employees of state or public-run enterprises, defense industries, and public and private schoolteachers.

Korea has no independent system of labor courts. The central and local labor commissions form a semiautonomous agency of the Labor Ministry that adjudicate disputes in accordance with the Labor Dispute Adjustment Law. Each labor commission is composed of equal representation from labor (represented by the FKTU), management, and "the public interest." Local labor commissions are empowered to decide on remedial measures in cases involving unfair labor practices and to mediate and, in some situations, arbitrate labor disputes. Arbitration can be made compulsory in sectors of the economy (e.g., utilities and transportation) that are deemed essential to public welfare.

The Trade Union Law and Labor Dispute Adjustment Law forbid third-party intervention in union and labor disputes by federations not recognized by the Government (such as the dissident federation, the KCTU), but they allow recognized labor federations, principally the FKTU, its affiliates, and some independent white-collar federations, to assist member unions. The ban on third-party intervention also applies to mediation efforts by lawyers, experts, and others who have the consent of both labor and management.

Enterprises in Korea's two export processing zones (EPZ's), had been designated by the Government as public interest enterprises. Workers in these enterprises, whose rights to organize were formerly restricted, have gradually been given the rights enjoyed by workers in other sectors of the economy.

c. Prohibition of Forced or Compulsory Labor

The Constitution provides that no person shall be punished, placed under preventive restrictions, or subjected to involuntary labor, except as provided by law and through lawful procedures. Forced or compulsory labor is not condoned by the Government and is not practiced.

d. Minimum Age for Employment of Children

The Labor Standards Law prohibits the employment of persons under the age of 13 without a special employment certificate from the Labor Ministry. Because there is compulsory education until the age of 13, few special employment certificates are issued for full-time employment. Some children are allowed to hold part-time jobs such as selling newspapers. To gain employment, children under 18 years of age must have written approval from their parents or guardians. Employers may require minors to work only a limited number of overtime hours and are prohibited from employing them at night without special permission from the Labor Ministry. Child labor laws and regulations are clear and usually enforced when violations are found, but the Government employs too few inspectors to carry out regular inspections.

e. Acceptable Conditions of Work

The Government implemented a minimum wage law in 1988. The minimum wage level is reviewed annually. In September the minimum wage was raised to approximately \$1.70 (1,400 won) per hour. Companies with fewer than 10 employees are exempt from this law. Due to Korea's tight labor market, however, most firms pay wages well above the minimum to attract and retain workers. The FKTU and other unions continue to claim that the current minimum wage does not meet the minimum requirements of urban workers. In fact, a worker earning the minimum wage would have difficulty in providing a decent standard of living for himself and his family, despite the fringe benefits such as transportation expenses with which Korean companies normally supplement salaries. (The Government notes that the money an average blue-collar worker takes home in overtime and bonuses significantly raises the total compensation package.) According to the Ministry of Labor, 3.3 percent of the population lived below the poverty level in 1995.

Foreign workers, most of whom come from China, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan, often face difficult working conditions. The Government has sought to ameliorate the problems of illegal workers by creating a program whereby about 60,000 foreign workers were allowed to enter Korea legally to work at established wages and with legal safeguards. Illegal foreign workers, who probably number more than 100,000, still suffer significant hardships in the workplace. It is difficult for illegal workers to seek relief for loss of pay or unsatisfactory

living and working conditions because they always face the threat of being deported. The Government has, however, established counseling centers that hear complaints from illegal foreign workers facing deportation proceedings about such issues as overdue wages and industrial accidents. Other foreigners working as language teachers have complained that language institutes that hired them frequently violated employment contracts and that the legal system provided insufficient redress for such abuses.

Amendments to the Labor Standards Law passed in 1989 brought the maximum regular workweek down to 44 hours, with provision for overtime to be compensated at a higher wage. The law also provides for a 24-hour rest period each week. However, labor groups claim that the Government does not adequately enforce these laws, especially with regard to small companies.

The Government sets health and safety standards, but South Korea suffers from unusually high accident rates. The accident rate continues to decline gradually, due to public and union pressure for better working conditions. However, the number of deaths resulting from work-related accidents remains very high by international standards. The Labor Ministry has improved enforcement of safety standards but still lacks enough inspectors to enforce the laws fully. The Industrial Safety and Health Law does not guarantee job security for workers who remove themselves from dangerous work environments.

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SOUTH KOREA

# At the End of Their Rope

The prosecutor seeks death for Chun, life for Roh



Justice for Kwangju: Students have been demanding tough punishment for the ex-presidents

BY JEFFREY BARTHOLET  
 AND LEE PYUNG CHONG

**S**OUTH KOREANS ARE NOW ACCUSTOMED to the spectacle of their last two presidents in prison-issue pajamas. Every week since December, these once fearsome generals have been paraded into a Seoul courtroom, their alleged sins pronounced for all to hear: mutiny for staging a 1979 coup within the military, treason for the massacre of 200 or more people in a civilian uprising five months later, corruption for amassing hundreds of millions of dollars in bribes. Last week many Koreans were thrilled to hear the prosecution demand the death penalty for President Chun Doo Hwan, life in prison for President Roh Tae Woo and long jail terms for 14 cronies. The two former leaders had committed "a crime against the nation which plunged the wheels of history into an abyss of disgrace and retrogression," declared chief prosecutor Kim Sang Hee. And, he concluded, they deserved "severe punishment."

The country has pursued its disgraced old leaders with a vigor unparalleled among emerging Asian democracies. But is South Korea's chase leading to justice,

or simply revenge? President Chun didn't flinch when prosecutors called for him to be hanged, declaring calmly: "I don't think it's desirable to make an arbitrary judgment on history and the legitimacy of past governments." Of course, Chun would have preferred to live peacefully on what's left of the \$700 million he had secreted away in a political slush fund, and to leave unexamined his role in the 1980 massacre at Kwangju, where troops used guns and (some say) flamethrowers on protesters. But even so, he has a point: this trial was less a hearing on specific crimes than a ritual to exorcise bitter memories of military dictatorship—and a critical step toward establishing the rule of law.



Defiant: Chun

It was not an easy step. How do you apply the law against men who so recently were the law? The defense attorneys argued that you can't. They howled in protest when the ruling party extended the statute of limitations for mutiny and treason in order to charge Chun and Roh with these capital crimes. They said the checks and bags of cash Chun and Roh collected from businessmen were not bribes but political donations—and, at the time, an accepted fact of political life. The lawyers

similarly dismissed the more serious charges as the byproduct of tumultuous times. The alleged coup? Chun's rise to power followed "naturally" in the aftermath of the October 1979 assassination of President Park Chung Hee. The bloody crackdown in Kwangju? Necessary to prevent "anarchy."

At first even President Kim Young Sam resisted prosecuting his predecessors, saying, "History should judge them." Kim had been an opposition leader for decades when he defected to Chun and Roh's ruling camp in 1990, setting himself up for national office. So he had reason not to throw his new allies in the dock. Public outrage forced Kim to set loose the prosecutors on Chun and Roh, after revelations last year about the stunning size of their political slush funds.

Even before the trial reached its climax last week, most of the defense lawyers had quit, claiming the trial was "a mere formality." They accused the judge of hurrying the case toward a preordained guilty verdict, refusing to hear important defense witnesses—in short, denying their clients "the basic right to defend themselves."

Chun was unyielding and defiant, challenging the court's authority to try him at all. Before his arrest for bribery, Roh had offered a tearful apology to the nation; but in court, neither Roh or Chun showed any emotion.

By then Chun and Roh had already been convicted in the court of popular opinion, where a spate of new books and TV shows have cast Chun as the villainous strongman, Roh as his weaker sidekick. As they were hauled in to court each Monday this summer, student demonstrators were hitting the streets of Seoul, demanding stern punishment for the former strongmen, and "justice for Kwangju." The verdicts in South Korea's "trial of the century" are due next week, and they will likely be followed by appeals. The conventional wisdom in Seoul is that the three-judge panel trying the case will hand down heavy penalties—and that Kim will hand down pardons before the presidential election late next year. By then, the ex-presidents may have suffered enough humiliation to satisfy the public's demands for punishment. But Kim won't have to worry about losing votes. To avoid another long string of all-powerful leaders, South Korea now limits presidents to one term. His concern is the judgment of history. And that, he now knows, can be rather rough on South Korea's leaders. ■

# 항의 편지

일련 번호	항의 내용	처리 일자	처리 결과
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CBF

CBF

Int. Law

Int. Law

# LETTERS OF INQUIRIES/ SOLIDARITY AND URGENT APPEAL TO KOREAN GOVERNMENT

date	subject	sent to	from (org, country)
95	김 선명, 안 학섭 석방촉구		Joaine MENARD, France Amnesty International
95/01/09	김 선명, 안 학섭 석방촉구		Andre Devillers, FRANCE
95/01/11	김 선명, 안 학섭 석방촉구	KIM Young-sam KIM Doo-hee Correction Bureau director Taejon Prison director	Kari Flo, Norway Amnesty International
95/01/22	김 선명, 안 학섭 석방촉구	KIM Young-sam	Karola Glasmann, Germany Amnesty International
95/01/24	김 선명, 안 학섭 석방촉구	KIM Doo-hee (Minister of Justice)	Horst Eichblatt, Germany
95/01/26	김 선명, 안 학섭 석방촉구	사랑방	Amnesty International
96/05/16	abolish death panalty/ capital punishment	사랑방	Pascal ROCHE
96/05/	abolish death panalty	KIM Young-sam AHN Woo-mahn	Amnesty International, Italy

We are members of a group of Amnesty International, the non governmental organization which works on behalf of human rights all over the world. We are deeply concerned about the use of the death penalty in your country because we are convinced that it is a violation of article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states that "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

We believe that the death penalty has never been shown to have any special deterrent effect and it can be inflicted on the innocent. Moreover the imposition and execution of the death penalty is brutalizing to all are involved in the process.

The UN has demonstrated its commitment to the abolition through the Declaration, in July 1981, of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

We respectfully urge the Korean Government to ratify the Second Optional Protocol or at least to introduce legislation to further reduce the number of crimes punishable with the death sentence.

We confide in Your commitment to cooperate in supporting our request in the Government.

While thanking You for Your kind attention, we remain

Sincerely Yours

*Handwritten signatures and notes:*

*Francis P. Dowd, Maria Ann Pae, Monica Marmigosa, Rocio Trujillo, Marco Puddu, Giuseppe...*

*A: letter received. Pop, Fabio Cucchiari, Alfonso Conti, Gianni Pagan, Daniela Caracciolo*



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL  
GRUPPO ITALIA 128  
Via Millelire, 9 - CAGLIARI  
Tel. 070/654114

Mr AHN Woo-mahn  
Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice  
1 Chungang-dong  
Kwachon-myon  
Shihung-gun  
Kyonggi Province  
Republic of Korea

COPY TO: Human Rights Committee  
Korean National Council of Churches  
Room 706, Christian Building  
136-46 Yonji-dong, Chongno-gu  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

COPY TO: Sarangbang  
3/F Choyang Bldg 71-12  
Galwoldong  
Yongsan-ku  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

COPY TO: Embassy of the Republic of Korea  
Via Barnaba Oriani 30  
00197 ROMA (Italy)

Dear Minister,

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Sincerely Yours

Franca Mello

Manco Offo

Belene Adh

Roberto U.

Salvatore Piro

Marieuse Fisei

monica mami gas

Roxia King

Maria Pudd

Giuseppe Cardillo

Laura Marile

Paolo Cucunesth

Milena Conti

Stara Pender

Daniela Carbon

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL  
GRUPPO ITALIA 428  
Via Millelire, 9 - CAGLIARI  
Tel. 070/654114

Mr KIM Young-sam  
The Blue House  
1 Sejong-no  
Chongno-gu  
Seoul  
Republic of Korea

COPY TO: Human Rights Committee  
Korean National Council of Churches  
Room 706, Christian Building  
136-46 Yanji-dong, Chongno-gu  
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3/F Choyang Bldg 71-12  
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Sincerely Yours

*Francesca Nelson*

*Mariahue Pire*

*Laura Maitze*

*Monica Offo*

*monica mamigas*

*Robb Cucumeth*

*Belere*

*Marie Truinf*

*Mfenu Conk*

*Kawell Use*

*Mares Pudd*

*Dawela Carben*

*Salvatore Bue*

*Steno Penu*

*Giuseppe Ceredolo*

So. Sarabang,  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kiwon Building  
Yongsan-Ku Seoul.  
Republic of KOREA.

26.1.95.

Dear Sir, I am the secretary of the Dorset  
Group of Amnesty International, we have sent  
many letters to your country over the years, our  
current campaign is for Kim Sun-myung and  
Kim Hak-sop, who have been in prison for over  
10 years.

In the past week we have written to  
President Kim Yung-sam, the Minister of Justice,  
the Head of the Correction Bureau, and the  
Director of Taejon Prison.

We have reminded them of Article 19  
of the Constitution of the Republic of KOREA,  
which states "All citizens shall have freedom  
of conscience", and also of the Article 18 (1) of  
the International Covenant of Civil and Political  
Rights which states "Everyone shall have the  
rights to freedom of thought,  
conscience and religion."

We have said them that we are most

Republic of Korea

Seoul

Yongsan-Ku

401 Hankyong 2-Ka

4th Floor, Kiwon Building

Sorobong



By air mail Air letter  
Par Avion Aerogramme

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An air letter should not contain any enclosure  
Form approved by the Post Office (United Kingdom) A4/1  
McCorquodale Envelopes Ltd.

2 HR 11 N

Democratic

People's

High

Mrs. H. Machikan

Sender's name and address

First fold here

First fold here

concerned that the lawyers have been denied  
access to them, and also that we believe that  
Kim Sun-myung and Ahn Hak-sop are prisoners  
of conscience, and we have urged all the  
authorities to grant them an immediate  
release.

We send to you our greetings and  
best wishes.

Yours sincerely, Hana Machikan

To your knowledge

I send you the copy  
of a letter I wrote  
to the Minister of  
Justice

Mr. Kim Doo-hee  
Minister of Justice  
Shihung-gun, KYonggi Province  
Republic of Korea

24.1.1995

Dear Mr. Kim Doo-hee,

I am a citizen of the Federal Republic of Germany and engaged in the work and aims of Amnesty International. This organisation is worldwide acting for human rights and is independent of any political or ideological group.

This month I was informed about the destiny of two prisoners, who are held more than 41 years in the Taejon Prison. Their names are Kim Sun-myung and Ahn Hak-sop. I believe that both are prisoners of conscience and that the long-during imprisonment violates international human rights treaties. Also the Government of South Korea has ratified the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights which guarantees in Article 18(1): Everyone shall have the rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. In Article 19 of the Constitution of the Republic of Korea is said: "All citizens shall enjoy freedom of conscience."

In consideration of these agreements and laws the Korean Government cannot demand of the both prisoners to sign a statement of conversion.

Therefore, dear Minister, I ask for the immediate and unconditional release of Kim Sun-myung and Ahn Hak-sop. The release will be a sign of humanity which will bring a lot of reputation to the Republic of Korea.

I hope you will support my request. Thank you very much.

Sincerely Yours



GROUPE N°: 275

MENARD Josiane  
2 rue du Muguet  
71190 ETANG sur ARROUX  
FRANCE

Monsieur,

Veillez trouver ci-joint pour information la copie de la lettre que j'ai adressée à Monsieur le Directeur de la prison de Taejon concernant les cas de Messieurs:

KIM SUN-MYUNG et AHN HAK-SOP

en espérant que mon interventoin en tant que membre d'Amnesty International conjuguée à vos actions puisse un peu améliorer le sort de ces deux prisonniers. Sachez, que vous pouvez compter sur notre soutien dans votre défense des droits de l'homme.

Recevez, Monsieur, mes sincères salutations.

Josiane Ménard



GROUPE N°: 275

MENARD Josiane  
2 rue du Muguet  
71190 ETANG sur ARROUX  
FRANCE  
à  
Monsieur le Directeur  
TAEJON PRISON

Monsieur le Directeur,

Membre d'Amnesty International, je me permets de vous écrire pour vous exprimer ma vive préoccupation au sujet de la détention de Monsieur KIM SUN-MYUNG et de Monsieur AHN HAK-SOP, prisonniers d'opinion depuis plus de 40ans. Nous demandons la libération immédiate et inconditionnelle de ces deux hommes. Cet emprisonnement prolongé semble être dû à leur refus de signer une déclaration de " conversion " à l'anticommunisme. Pourtant, d'après la Constitution de la République de Corée: Article 18: Tous les citoyens jouissent de la liberté d'opinion.

Je suis également préoccupée par le fait que des avocats n'ont pas été autorisés à se rendre auprès de ces prisonniers qui sont pratiquement coupés du monde extérieur. Toute personne détenue ou emprisonnée doit être autorisée à communiquer avec son avocat et à le consulter: Article 18 de l'Ensemble de principes pour la protection de toutes les personnes soumises à une forme quelconque de détention ou d'emprisonnement.

Les détenus doivent être autorisés, sous la surveillance nécessaire, à communiquer avec leur famille et ceux de leurs amis auxquels ont peut faire confiance, à intervalles réguliers tant par correspondance qu'en recevant des visites: Article 37 de l'Ensemble de règles minima pour le traitement des détenus.

En espérant votre aide pour améliorer le sort de ces deux prisonniers, je vous remercie de m'avoir accordé votre attention. Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Directeur, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

*Josiane Menard*



Le 9 janvier 1995.

Monsieur,

Je demande la libération immédiate et sans condition de:  
Kim Sun-myung, âgé de 69 ans et de Ahn Hak-sop, âgé de 64 ans.  
Ils sont prisonniers depuis plus de quarante ans sans aucune  
preuve de culpabilité.

Ils ont été torturés parce qu'ils ont refusé de changer d'idées  
politiques.

Kim Sun-myung et Ahn Hak-sop sont à Taejon Prison.

Leur maintien en prison est une violation de la Constitution de  
la République de Corée et des accords internationaux pour la  
sauvegarde des Droits de l'Homme.

Constitution de la République de Corée. (article 19): Tous les  
citoyens doivent jouir de la liberté de conscience.

Pacte international sur les Droits Civils et Politiques: (ratifié  
par le gouvernement de la Corée) Article 18 (I) Chacun doit avoir  
la liberté de penser, de conscience et de religion.

J'exprime mon inquiétude du fait que les avocats n'ont pas pu  
rencontrer les prisonniers qui sont ainsi isolés du monde.

Respectueusement.

Copie de la lettre adressée par les membres du Groupe I5 de la Section  
française de Amnesty International à

Monsieur le Président Kim Young-sam

Monsieur Kim Doo-hee Ministre de la Justice

Secrétariat:  
André Devillers.  
100 Boulevard d'Orléans  
76100 Rouen FRANCE



Dipl. Ing. Karola Glasmann  
Bennrather Schloßallee 107  
40597 Düsseldorf  
Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Sarangbang  
4th Floor, Kiwon Building  
404 Hankangro 2-ka  
Yongsan-ku  
Seoul  
Republic of Korea

22 January 1995

Dear Sir,

I send you a copy of my letter to Kim Young-sam, President of the Republic of Korea.

I am working with a group of amnesty international in Germany. At the moment we are campaigning for Ahn Hak-sop and Kim Sun-myung. On this behalf I sent another copy of my letter to the Correction Bureau and one letter to the Director of Taejon Prison. One of my amnesty friends, Mr Eichblatt, wrote a letter to the Minister of Justice, Kim Doo-hee. We are also going to send postcards to the prisoners themselves in Taejon Prison. I hope this information will be helpful for your own efforts.

With best wishes for the success of your work

Yours

*Karola Glasmann*

copy!

Dipl. Ing. Karola Glasmann  
Benrather Schloßallee 107  
40597 Düsseldorf  
Bundesrepublik Deutschland

President Kim Young-sam  
President of the Republic of Korea  
The Blue House  
1 Sejong-no  
Chongno-gu  
Seoul  
Republic of Korea

16 January 1995

Dear President Kim!

I venture to approach you in the matter of two prisoners of conscience:

Kim Sun-myung and Ahn Hak-sop

asking for their immediate and unconditional release.

According to information I received by amnesty international, Kim Sun-myung is now 69 years old and he has been held in prison for the last 43 years. Ahn Hak-sop is 64 and he has been held for more than 41 years. A continued imprisonment of this length is in contradiction to international human rights treaties including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which was ratified by the Government of the Republic of Korea.

Kim Sun-myung as well as Ahn Hak-sop refused to sign a statement of conversion to anti-communism. Apparently this is the reason for their prolonged imprisonment. May I refer to the Constitution of your country which says in Article 19:

All citizens shall enjoy freedom of conscience.

I am very much concerned, Excellency, about reports that lawyers who tried to represent the two men in legal proceedings have been widely hampered. They were denied copies of trial documents in spite of their request at the Ministry of Justice. Lawyers also were denied access to these prisoners. After waiting four hours one of them was told he had to have a "power of attorney" signed by the prisoner. However, when this document was brought along to Taejon prison the prison authorities refused to accept it.

Once more I refer to international human rights conventions. Article 18 of the UN Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment says:

A detained person shall be entitled to communicate and consult with his legal counsel.

Concluding I would like to express my opinion that beyond any question of justice it is a matter of pure humanity to grant freedom to persons of that age who have passed the greater part of their lives in prison. I can hardly imagine that a person be dangerous for a modern society after such a long period of imprisonment.

Hoping for your positive decision,

Yours sincerely



Kari Flo  
Sommerlystveien 7a  
9012 Tromsø NORWAY  
Norway

Tromsø 11-95

**SARANBANG**  
4th Floor, Kiwon Building  
404 Hankangro 2-ka  
Yongsan-ku, Seoul  
Republic of Korea

Dear Sir

As a member of Amnesty International I am working with the case of **Kim Sun-myung** and **Ahn Hak-sop** who have been held in prison for over 41 years. Copies of the following letter have been sent to the President of the Republic of Korea, the Minister of Justice, the Director of the Taejon Prison and the Correction Bureau (Ministry of Justice).

As a member of Amnesty International I am working with the case of **Kim Sun-myung** and **Ahn Hak-sop** who have been held in prison for over 41 years. Copies of the following letter have been sent to the President of the Republic of Korea, the Minister of Justice, the Director of the Taejon Prison and the Correction Bureau (Ministry of Justice).

Yours sincerely  
Kari Flo.



International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 18 of which provides for the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion.

Further, I am concerned that the lawyers being denied access to the prisoners can hardly quote the following

The Study of Principles for the Treatment of All Persons who are Deprived of their Liberty. Article 17 of which states that imprisonment shall be subject to governmental control and shall be subject to legal control.

UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, Article 10 of which states that prisoners shall be allowed regular contact with their families and reputable friends at regular intervals.

Yours sincerely  
Kari Flo

Kari Flo  
Sommerlystveien 7a ,  
9012 Tromsø, NORWAY

Tromsø 110195

President Kim Young -sam  
The Blue House  
1 Sejong-no, Chongno-gu  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Dear Sir

Dear Sir  
As a member of Amnesty International (AI) I am deeply concerned about the imprisonment of Kim Sun-myung and Ahn Hak-sop. They are both prisoners of conscience, Kim Sun-myung has been held in prison for 43 years, and Ahn Hak-sop for 41 years. As a member of AI I call for their immediate and unconditional release. Continued imprisonment of these two prisoners violates international human rights treaties, which safeguard the rights to freedom expression and association. These include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified by the Government of Republic of Korea.

The continued imprisonment of these two prisoners appears to be a result of their refusal to sign a statement of "conversion" to anti-communism. In this connection I quote the following:

*Constitution of the Republic of Korea*, Article 19: All citizens shall enjoy freedom of conscience.

*International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, Article 18(1): Everyone shall have the rights to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

quote the following

Further, I am concerned about the lawyers being denied access to the prisoners, and hereby quote the following:

*UN Body of Principles for the Protection of all Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment*, Article 18: A detained or imprisoned person shall be entitled to communicate and consult with his legal counsel.

*UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners*, Article 37:

Prisoners shall be allowed under necessary supervision to communicate with their family and reputable friends at regular intervals, both by correspondence and by receiving visits.

Yours sincerely,  
Kari Flo

Kari Flo  
Sommerlystveien 7a ,  
9012 Tromsø, NORWAY

Tromsø 110195

Mr Kim Doo-hee  
Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice  
1 Chungang-dong, Kwachon-myon  
Shihung-gun, Kyonggi Province, Republic of Korea

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Yours sincerely,  
Kari Flo

Kari Flo  
Sommerlystveien 7a ,  
9012 Tromsø, NORWAY

Tromsø 110195

Director, Correction Bureau  
Ministry of Justice  
1 Chungang-dong, Kwachon-myon  
Shihung-gun, Kyonggi Province, Republic of Korea

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Yours sincerely,  
Kari Flo



January 1995

Amnesty International  
3-16-12

LA 85/93

Fear of torture/ arbitrary detention

INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR

Kari Flo  
Sommerlystveien 7a,  
9012 Tromsø, NORWAY

Tromsø 110195

Director  
Taejon Prison  
Taejon-dong 36  
Yusong-ku, Taejon-shi  
Republic of Korea

Dear Sir

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*UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, Article 37: Prisoners shall be allowed under necessary supervision to communicate with their family and reputable friends at regular intervals, both by correspondence and by receiving visits.*

Yours sincerely,  
Kari Flo

- expressing concern at the reports of fear of torture/ arbitrary detention
- urging the authorities to clarify the identity and whereabouts of the 24 and of police detention;
- urging that the authorities allow access for those in detention to the International Committee of the Red Cross, lawyers and their families,
- urging that the authorities immediately and unconditionally release those who are being held for the peaceful expression of their beliefs.

11 January 1995

UA 05/95

Fear of torture/arbitrary detention

Rm 205  
3-16-12

Kita Osaka, Amnesty International  
Toshima ku,  
Tokyo, JAPAN

## INDONESIA/EAST TIMOR: Jose Antonio Belo and 23 others

Twenty-four East Timorese youths have been detained during a pro-democracy demonstration at the University of East Timor in Dili. Two were reportedly badly beaten on arrest, heightening fears that the detainees may be ill-treated or tortured in custody. Amnesty International is also concerned that some of the 24 may have been detained solely for the peaceful expression of their beliefs.

On 9 January 1995, about 30 East Timorese youths began a pro-independence demonstration around the university. Details of the demonstration are still unclear, but eyewitnesses reported that a group of about 30 youths held banners and shouted slogans denouncing East Timor's integration into Indonesia. Shortly after the protest began, riot police and plainclothes security forces arrived and arranged for the departure of up to 100 students who were inside the campus at the time of the demonstration.

Eyewitnesses then saw at least two of the demonstrators being forced by plainclothes officers into security forces' vehicles. One of the youths has been identified as Jose Antonio Belo. The witnesses claim that the two were beaten inside the vehicles before being driven away.

After dispersing the demonstration, a regional military spokesman for East Timor acknowledged that 24 East Timorese were being held for questioning while an investigation is conducted into the demonstration.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since November 1994, there have been increased, and sometimes violent, demonstrations against Indonesia's occupation of East Timor. The authorities have responded to the demonstrations with arbitrary detention, including detention of peaceful protesters, and beatings and torture. Over 100 East Timorese were arrested following November demonstrations and some 25 to 30 are believed to be still detained and may face trial. Concern for those detained on 9 January is heightened by reports that some of those detained following the November demonstrations were beaten in military detention and several were allegedly subjected to electric shocks. They were also reportedly denied access to lawyers and their families.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in Bahasa Indonesia or in your own language:

- expressing concern that 24 East Timorese, arrested during a demonstration at the University of East Timor in Dili on 9 January 1995, appear to have been detained for the peaceful expression of their beliefs;
- expressing concern at the reports of two of those detained being beaten on arrest, and seeking assurances that the 24 are now being treated humanely in accordance with international standards;
- urging the authorities to clarify the identity and whereabouts of the 24 under police detention;
- urging that the authorities allow access for those in detention to the International Committee of the Red Cross, lawyers and their families;
- urging that the authorities immediately and unconditionally release those who are being held for the peaceful expression of their beliefs.

APPEALS TO:

Chief of Police for East Timor:  
(covers  
Timor)

Lt. Col. Sugianto Andreas  
[Salutation: Dear Lieutenant-Colonel]  
Kapolda Timor Timur  
Dili  
East Timor  
Indonesia  
Telegrams: Kapolda Timor Timur, Dili, East Timor  
Denpasar,

Military Commander for IX/Udayana:  
Bali, Lombok, Nusa Tenggara and East

Brig. Gen. R. Adang Ruchiatna  
[Salutation: Dear Brigadier-General]  
Pangdam IX/Udayana  
Markas Besar KODAM IX/Udayana  
Denpasar  
Bali, Indonesia  
Telegrams: Pangdam IX/Udayana,  
Bali, Indonesia

PLEASE SEND COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO: (In Australia) His Excellency Mr Sabam Siagian, Embassy of Indonesia, 8 Darwin Ave, YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

AND, IF POSSIBLE, TO THE FOLLOWING:

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Chair of the National Commission on Human Rights:

Ali Alatas SH  
Menteri Luar Negeri  
Medan Taman Pejambon No 6  
Jakarta Indonesia  
Faxes: 01062 21 36 0517

Ali Said SH  
Ketua Komisi Nasional Hak Azasi Manusia  
Jalan Veteran No 11  
Jakarta Indonesia  
Faxes: (c/o Ministry of Justice) 01062 21 314 1625

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Please do not send appeals after 26 February 1995.

If you have any queries about this Urgent Action or about the UA scheme in general, please contact:  
Ray Mitchell, Amnesty International British Section, 99 - 119 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4RE.  
email: [rmitchellai@gn.apc.org](mailto:rmitchellai@gn.apc.org)

\* PLEASE SEND COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO: (IN JAPAN)

EMBASSY OF INDONESIA,

5-2-9 HIGASHI GOTANDA, SHINAGAWA

TEL. (03) 3441-4201

IN SEOUL

Dear friend of East Timor,

You have probably already heard through the media that on Monday (January 9) in Dili, East Timor, a peaceful demonstration outside the University elicited a brutal military response from Indonesian military who outnumbered the demonstrators by at least four to one. Approximately 24 young East Timorese were seized by police and soldiers and their whereabouts or wellbeing are as yet unclear.

However, the identity of one of the young people detained, a man whose life is probably the most in danger, is known to the outside world. Enclosed is a picture of **Mr José Antonio Belo**, a 22 year old East Timorese who was brutally beaten by Indonesian security forces in front of an Australian tourist from Darwin. This eye-witness saw José, an English student at the University of East Timor, being ferociously attacked by soldiers before he was dragged in much pain and distress to a military 4WD vehicle and thrown into the back. Three large Indonesian security men then climbed into the back of the van and continued the beating. The eye-witness was struck by the sound and the evident intensity of the blows and kicks which made the vehicle rock back and forth. The vehicle was then driven off to an unknown destination. This account of José's arrest was corroborated by a separate, unconnected source from inside the territory. There are grave fears for his life, and those of the other 23 subsequently detained. Amnesty International has prepared an immediate Urgent Action request regarding José and his compatriots, which we have enclosed.

Please, could you make the time to write a letter, or at least send the enclosed page with photo, to one or both of the following authorities:

Colonel Kiki Syahnakri  
Markas Korem 164 / Wiradhana  
Dili, Timor Timur  
Indonesia (Dear Colonel)

Brigadier-General R.A. Ruchiatna  
Pangdam IX / Udayana  
Denpasar, Bali  
Indonesia (Dear Brigadier-General)

Letters should briefly state your knowledge of the circumstances of the 'arrest' of the 24, giving José's name, and politely but firmly ask about their whereabouts, state of health, reason for detention, whether released or charged, and whether the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has been allowed access to them.

Even better than letters are *telegrams*, if you can get to a Post Office. Use the same addresses, but omit the commanders' names (saves money). The purpose here would be to show the authorities **IMMEDIATELY** that the world knows that José and his friends' lives are in danger. Unfortunately we do not have fax numbers for these commanders, so telegrams are the quickest.

RANG INI?

ABRI, di Dili,

Jan, 9/1/95.

*WHERE IS THIS MAN?*

**JOSÉ ANTONIO BELO**

Abducted by Indonesian Armed Forces,  
Dili, East Timor, 9 January 1995



*DI MANA ORANG INI?*

Menculik oleh ABRI, di Dili,  
Timor Timur, 9/1/95.