

majority Peoples' Party. The detainees are held in comparatively good conditions in the Berakas Detention Camp under Emergency Orders passed initially on 13 December, 1962, but since then renewed regularly by the Sultan. Although the charge against them is their participation in the Revolt, Brunei officials are adamant that they will not be brought to trial; in this, the Sultan's reasons appear to be personal and political rather than judicial. A Review Board exists, but it can consider cases only with the agreement of the Security Police, and its recommendations are subject to political approval.

Because of the violent character of the Revolt, only one detainee has been adopted. He is Zaini Haji Ahmad, who was not in Brunei at the time. His case illustrates the weakness of the review system since his release was unanimously recommended by the Board in 1964 but the recommendation has never been implemented.

In view of Brunei's unusual political and legal circumstances, Amnesty sees as the first priority a thorough reform of the review system so that all detention orders are considered at regular intervals by a Review Board which has real rather than purely advisory powers.

In October, Sean MacBride, the Chairman of the International Executive Committee, visited Djakarta, INDONESIA. This was an important mission and had been arranged by the German Section during President Suharto's visit to Bonn in September. Mr. MacBride was able to meet Ministers, judges and senior officials responsible for the legal and military aspects of detention. The Memorandum which he submitted to the President in February summarised his conclusions and made recommendations.

One important result of this mission, and of the German Section's meeting with the President's delegation in Bonn, is that Amnesty's character and methods are now better understood in Djakarta. This was essential as a basis for our future work. Indonesian officials find it hard to accept the concept of political impartiality and have tended to assume that all foreign concern about political detention sprang from political sympathy with the prisoners' beliefs. In the same way, adoption has not always been understood. Consequently, it carried the risk that appeals from abroad might create suspicions that a prisoner had greater political

importance than had previously been thought. Since comparatively few prisoners will ever be tried, and since the length of a man's detention is determined solely by the degree of his commitment to communist ideas—as assessed by military investigations—the dangers of this are obvious. Prisoners' families and friends have suggested to us that adoption could be counter-productive. But we hope that Amnesty's work has now reached a stage where group action can have constructive results.

There are only 30 adopted prisoners. Two were released in 1970.

At the end of 1970, the official number of political prisoners was 60,000; our own estimate would be higher. Fewer than 200 had been tried. In the first half of 1970, large-scale releases took place, and about 10,000 detainees were freed. But with the approach of the general elections of July 1971, releases stopped and arrests were again reported. These new arrests have involved three distinct groups: released prisoners, members of the illegal PKI (Communist Party), and a few leaders of non-communist political groupings, including the large Muslim Party (Parmusi). In May, a total ban was placed on all discussion of political imprisonment.

In February, delegates from the International Committee of the Red Cross visited prisons in Java, Bali and selected camps on Buru island. For some time Amnesty has urged the Indonesian Government to agree to Red Cross visits, and despite the obvious difficulties inherent in the task, we see this as the most effective international help possible at the present time. Relief work by the Christian churches has been allowed to expand and this should be a natural object for Amnesty's support. Food and medicine remain grossly inadequate inside the prisons and camps, reports of families in total poverty are the rule rather than the exception and the recent releases have created a new type of destitution in that former prisoners, lacking the necessary political clearance papers, have no prospects of employment.

The only cases Amnesty has been working for in NORTH KOREA are those of a French citizen held since August 1967, and eleven South Koreans remaining from the 50 passengers and crew of an airliner hijacked from the South