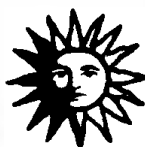


VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN URUGUAY



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THOUSANDS OF DEMONSTRATORS DEFY GOVERNMENT'S BAN

Reacting to the interruption of the dialogue between military and authorized parties, thousands of demonstrators marched through downtown Montevideo. They were violently repressed by the police in an overpowering way that hadn't been seen ever since the coup d'Etat in 1973. Dozens of people were arrested, among them Jorge Sanguinetti and Jorge Azarola of the Colorado Party. According to police information, it is known that among the arrested people was a woman with bullet wounds whose name remains unknown.

Antigovernment demonstrations in Rivera, 500 km. north-east from the capital, were also spotted. This city was practically taken over by military forces which carried out intense round ups and arrested more than a dozen militants of the National Party.

ALBERTO ALTESOR RELEASED

Former member of Parliament and ex-railroad leader, Alberto Altesor, who had been in prison since 1975, was released last July. He suffered from serious coronary insufficiency when arrested and had already been operated on at Dr. Rene Favalaro's Clinic in Buenos Aires, despite his mean physical condition, he was brutally tortured. In 1982, thanks to an intense international campaign on his behalf, he was reintervened by Dr. Favalaro in Montevideo. The Uruguayan people's struggle and international solidarity accomplished a new great victory.

OPPOSITION CALLS FOR NATIONAL PROTEST

The three authorized Uruguayan political parties as well as those presently banned, have called for a day of national protest against the Southamerican countries' military regime on August 21st to celebrate the 158 th anniversary of Uruguay's Independence. The parties have urged the people to stay home between 6-8 p.m. and to turn off all lights for 15 minutes at 8 p.m.

The measure was proposed by the Uruguayan Peace and Justice Service, three of whose members -priests; Luis Pérez Aguirre and Jorge Osorio, and methodist pastor; Ademar Pérez Olivera are fasting as a preliminary action. The Uruguayan authorities have banned press reports on the measure besides having cordoned off the building and prevented West German and French diplomats from visiting the fastors. Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, promoter of the Peace and Justice Movement, was also barred access to the building.

CONCERN OVER THE LIVES OF TWO HOSTAGES

Raúl Sendic and Eleuterio Fernández Huidobro, leaders and founders of the Tupamaro National Liberation Movement (MLN), are again being brutally tortured.

Both were arrested in 1972 and are kept under the worst living conditions at army installations in Uruguay. Sendic and Fernández Huidobro as well as seven other MLN leaders were declared hostages by the military authorities in 1973. This means they will be executed if the MLN resumes actions.

Fernández Huidobro imprisoned in the "Paso de los Toros" barracks in March and April, he showed signs of torture on his face and arms according to witnesses in Uruguay. His gums were swollen presumably from electric shocks.

Sendic was constantly tortured in April and May in an army base in the Southeastern province of Lavalleja, according to a communicate issued by the relatives of Uruguayan Political Prisoners Committee. Torture was stopped while Anton Blanco, envoy of the French President François Mitterrand, visited Uruguay for a few days. While in Uruguay, Mr Blanco inquired about Sendic's situation, and on occasion that his counsel for the defense, Dr. Cheron, visit Uruguay to interview with him.

There is great concern regarding the lives of Sendic and Fernández Huidobro who are kept in solitary confinement while their condition is delicate.

We call on all international organizations committed to human rights to condemn such an appalling situation. Any action before the Uruguayan Military Government, solely responsible for this situation, would be of the utmost importance to save the lives of both prisoners.

REPRESSION TO POLITICAL, BUSINESS AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS

The Uruguayan political scenery has been characterized lately by the authorities' attempt to stop the growing opposition movement at a political as well as social level.

In mid June, a leader of the traditionally conservative Rural Federation was arrested. This federation groups together the rural producers of the country.

Before interrupting the dialogue between political and military parties, the Conventionalist of the National Party Carmillo Mederos Galván was arrested and kept in prison for 27 days.

Late in July, Miss Roldán de Romero, active co-worker of the Secretary General of the Colorado Party, Julio Sanguinetti, was arrested and questioned for several hours.

The officialist newspaper *El País* denounced the "overpowering procedures" to which three of their directors had been submitted. They had been asked "on urgent standing" to appear before the police of Montevideo and were thoroughly questioned in relation to an article revealing presumed connections of the Head of the Police and the kidnapping of the activist of the Colorado Party above mentioned.

In July, leaders of the "Peace and Justice" service of Uruguay were questioned by the police for twelve hours concerning the denunciation of "in famous punishment" suffered by a group of young people prosecuted in June due to "subversive activity".

MOTHERS OF DISAPPEARED URUGUAYANS PROTEST IN ARGENTINA

In recent months, mothers of Uruguayans disappeared in Argentina have pleaded before the State Council and the foreign Ministry of Uruguay, elucidation of their childrens' fate. Uruguayans disappeared between 1974 and 1978 in Argentina are 133 adults and seven children (See bulletin 7). Two other children who had disappeared were found in Chile (See bulletin 7). As a result of the Argentinean document where government declared the disappeared dead, the Uruguayan mothers sent a letter to the Argentinean ambassador in Montevideo, retired Gral Omar Riveros, in which they refuse to "accept what they were told by the Argentinean Government". They also replied: "We cannot accept the ideal of defending a way of life through the killing of those oppose it as licit", as argued by the document.

FASTING FOR THE DISAPPEARED

Relatives of disappeared Argentines, Chileans and Uruguayans fasted from the 20th to the 22nd of May in the Jesus Hospital's Church in Mexico City. The fasting was carried out as a protest to the Argentinean document declaring the disappeared dead and claiming for their fate to be elucidated. Relatives of the disappeared were backed up by several Mexican and Latinamerican exile organizations.

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF SPAIN PLEADS FOR THE LIBERATION OF MOTHERS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

Taking advantage of the Spanish King and Queen's visit to Uruguay on the 20th of May, mothers of political prisoners awaited them on the main avenue in Montevideo, holding a big sign pleading "amnesty for political prisoners". They were arrested for this reason. Among them was Elisa Delle Piane de Michelini, widow of the Uruguayan politician killed by the repressive forces in Buenos Aires, seven years ago. Fernando Morán, Minister of Foreign Relations of the Spanish Government, who escorted the King and Queen, pleaded before his Uruguayan colleague, Carlos Maeso, for the arrested mothers.

FOR GENERAL SEREGNI'S RELEASE

A group of high officials of the Northamerican Military Forces expressed their grief in relation to Uruguayan General Liber Seregni's fate who was confined to the Montevideo Central Prison 10 years ago. Due to this anniversary, officials sent letters to Seregni and to Uruguayan President General Gregorio Alvarez, pleading for the release of the arrested officer. In their letter to Gral. Seregni, the officials pointed out that he has become a symbol for those who struggle for freedom and that they, as military comrades, express to him their moral support. A Bolivian Congress Committee suggested Hernán Siles Suazo to advocate before all international organisms for the release of General Seregni and all Uruguayan political prisoners.

Following the same trend, Dutch Prime Minister Lubbers stated that the Dutch government, on its own initiative, alleged before its European Community peers, of the release of Seregni. Also from Holland, Queen Beatriz sent the Uruguayan Foreign Minister a message requesting Seregni's prompt release.

10th ANNIVERSARY OF COUP D'ETAT: PROTEST/ARRESTS/TORTURE

Some three thousand people demonstrated in Montevideo on June 27 marking the 10th anniversary of the 1973 military coup.

In those days, it became known that some 60 youths mostly university students were arrested upon accusation of having organized such demonstrations. According to indictment put forth by members of the Colorado Party before Coronel Washington Varela, the young men were brutally tortured.

Many of the people under arrest were "missing" for several days. It was later announced that 25 of them had been tried.

Allegations of torture were confirmed and repeated in Montevideo by the youths relatives and widely backed up by the Press and political parties. The Uruguayan Peace and Justice Service, catholic organizations devoted to the defense of human rights, promoted by the Nobel Peace winner Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, denounced the "infamous punishment" undergone by the youths. Later on, Peace and Justice declared that priests Luis Pérez Aguirre and Jorge Osorio, responsible for and coordinators of the Uruguayan organization respectively, confirmed the denouncements while being questioned for more than 12 hours by the National Information and Intelligence Department.

Even abroad, the young people's situation was denounced. Several members of the European Parliament sent a written request to the President of the Assembly, Piet Dankert, asking him to intercede in the case. In France, the French Workers Union (CFDT), the Workers General Confederation (CGT) of the Low Rhine, and the National Union of French Students (UNEF) expressed their disapproval in relation to the arrests. In Venezuela, youth leaders of various political parties as well as student leaders sent a telegram to Uruguayan President General Gregorio Alvarez claiming for release of the Uruguayans arrested in June.

