

Amnesty group presents program

By SHARON SHERIDAN
Staff Writer

"The next day ... the interrogation continued, accompanied by hard blows to my face and body. They applied intense electric current to my hands.... For 21 days I was held in the CNI's (Central Nacional de Informaciones) hidden premises.... On each of the first 14 days which followed my arrest I was subjected to both physical and psychological torture I was seen by the doctor after nearly all the torture sessions I was given a document to sign which stated that I had been well treated. It also contained statements which I had made under pressure, and included others which I had never made at all. When I refused to sign I was threatened with further torture. Under such circumstances, I had to sign."

Fernando Benjamin Reveco Soto, tortured by the Chilean secret police force CNI in 1982, recorded this description in Amnesty International's recently released report, *Torture In The Eighties*.

The April 3 release of the 263-page report, which cites allegations of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners in 98 countries, signaled the beginning of a two-year Campaign for the Abolition of Torture by Amnesty International, a human rights organization.

"While governments universally and collectively condemn torture, more than a third of the world's governments have used or tolerated torture or ill-treatment of prisoners in the 1980s," the report stated.

"In Amnesty International's ex-

perience, legislative prohibition is not enough," it stated. "Immediate steps are needed to confront torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment wherever they occur and to eradicate them totally."

The report outlines a 12-point program for preventing torture. Among other things, the program calls for independent investigation of reports of torture and prosecution of alleged torturers. It asks governments to "use all available channels to intercede with governments accused of torture" and to "ratify international instruments containing safeguards and remedies against torture."

Debra Reisner, torture campaign coordinator for the Chapel Hill Amnesty International group, and other members in the congressional district presented the program and other information about the campaign to Ken Kirby, special assistant to Rep. Ike Andrews.

Groups are urging congressmen to write letters to countries assigned them condemning torture, Kirby said.

"If he's (Andrews) convinced that a letter from him will be worthwhile, I have no doubt that he'll give it his consideration," Kirby said. "We're going to sit down and discuss all of this in detail."

Kirby said he hopes every American would agree with Amnesty International's position on torture.

"I can't imagine any American not agreeing with their goals, their basic

philosophy," he said. "I don't think I have ever met a more dedicated group of people in my life. I was really impressed with them. I learned a lot."

While he does not know if the campaign will be effective, Kirby said, "Nothing ventured, nothing gained."

"I think that's the way Amnesty International presented it," he said. Trying to get the U.S. government to use its influence to try to alleviate world torture "certainly is a noble and worthwhile goal," he said.

"We're not so naive to think that in two years we'll be able to abolish torture everywhere," Reisner said.

Writing letters and publicizing the issue of torture is "mostly to let governments know that their activities are being observed, letting them know that the world is watching them," she said. "It doesn't sound like much, but it can be quite effective."

"I think human rights are international concerns," Reisner said. "And if someone's rights are being violated anywhere in the world, I think there's concern that anyone in the world could be subjected to this. And that means us."

"Part of it is you're looking out for yourself, and the other part of it is you're looking out for your fellow man," she said.

The Chapel Hill Amnesty International group meets the first Monday of each month at 8 p.m. at the Newman Center.

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|--|-------|------|---------|--|--|--|
| Charge | Court | Plea | Verdict | Sentencing | Appellate Action | |
| stole another student's paper and copied it for English 1 | UC | NG | G | Suspension for 1 sem; F in Eng. 1 | UHB & Chancellor sustained verdict and sanction | |
| received unauthorized aid on Soc. 31 homework lab report | UC | NG | NG | Suspension for 1 sem; F in Soc. 31 | UHB sustained sanction | |
| cheated on Psych. 10 exam and furnished false information to prof. with intent to deceive | UC | G | G | Probation for 1 sem; Waiver of "F" in course | UHB sustained sanction | |
| cheated on a Spanish 46 exam | UC | NG | NG | Probation for at least 2 semesters; removed from Univ. housing | UHB sustained sanction | |
| falsified registration forms and provided false information to Univ. Housing with intent to deceive | UC | G | G | Probation for 1 sem; restitution | UHB sustained sanction | |
| misused Univ. property by improper use of computer | UC | G | G | Suspension for 1 sem; F in Ast. 31 | UHB sustained sanction | |
| received unauthorized aid on Astronomy 31 homework | AHO | G | G | censure | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| stole a dorm Christmas tree | UC | G | G | Probation for 1 sem; | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| intentionally placed another student in fear of imminent danger by sending threatening letter plagiarized a History 69 paper | UC | NG | G | Suspension for 1 sem; F in History 69 | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| received unauthorized aid on Comp. Sci. 114 program | UC | NG | G | Suspension for 1 sem; F in Comp. Sci. 114 | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| received unauthorized aid on Comp. Sci. 114 program | UC | NG | G | Suspension for 1 sem; F in Comp. Sci. 114 | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| stole another student's Math 34 exam and copied it | UC | NG | G | Suspension for 1 sem; probation for 1 sem; | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| provided false class excuse with intent to deceive prof.; repeated another student's Biology 52 exam as own | UC | G | G | Suspension for 1 sem; probation for 1 sem; | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| provided false information with intent to deceive prof. by falsely claiming to be member of student organization | UC | G | G | Suspension for 1 sem; probation for 1 sem; F in Bio. 52 | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| stole personal property from Woolen Gym. | UC | G | G | Censure | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| cheated on Music 21 final | UC | NG | NG | Probation for 1 sem. | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| misused Univ. property by unauthorized use of computer | UC | G | G | Suspension for at least 2 sem; | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| repeatedly trespassed on Univ. premises; displayed obscene conduct and intentionally placed students in fear of imminent physical danger | UC | NG | NG | F in Math R, Af. Studies 40 | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| repeatedly trespassed on Univ. premises; displayed obscene conduct and intentionally placed students in fear of imminent physical danger | UHB | G | G | Restitution | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| repeatedly trespassed on Univ. premises; displayed obscene conduct and intentionally placed students in fear of imminent physical danger | UHB | G | G | Suspension for 1 sem; F in Comp. Sci. 114 | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |
| repeatedly trespassed on Univ. premises; displayed obscene conduct and intentionally placed students in fear of imminent physical danger | UHB | G | G | Probation for at least 4 semesters | UHB dismissed case on basis of insufficient evidence | |

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April 16, 1984

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