

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
College at Cortland
Department of Mathematics

P.O. Box 2000
Cortland, N.Y. 13045

Syracuse, 20 de julio de 1993.

Sr. D. Carlos Bascuñan Edwards
Jefe del Gabinete Presidencial
Santiago de Chile

Estimado Sr. Bascuñan Edwards:

Ya anteriormente he mandado al Excmo. Sr. Presidente, don Patricio Aylwin Azocar, documentación referente a Cuba. Y ha tenido Ud. la amabilidad de responder y acusar recibo (Ref. 92/21802, de 28 de Septiembre de 1992). Hoy nuevamente distraigo su atención con el problema cubano. Y ruego tenga la amabilidad de hacer llegar al Excmo. Sr. Presidente don Patricio Aylwin los materiales y el mensaje que adjunto.

Acaba de terminar la Cumbre de Bahía, y habra podido constatar la falta de movilidad política de Castro. También le acompaño nuestros trabajos de derechos humanos, en favor de disidentes dentro de Cuba. Fiel testimonio, ambos, de la urgente necesidad de ayuda que los cubanos tenemos, para salir de la dictadura.

El pueblo de Chile, que vivió una feliz transición y hoy disfruta de una bien ganada democracia, puede hacer por Cuba. Los cubanos también deseamos una transición al pluralismo. Mas debemos convencer a aquellos que hoy gobiernan en Cuba que la solución es la reconciliación nacional bajo un regimen de derecho. Ninguna dictadura puede perdurar eternamente. La secuela inevitable es la destrucción de nuestra nación. Fidel Castro no deja a los cubanos entenderse y contribuye a la desconfianza mutua y la falta de comunicación. Solo así puede mantenerse en el poder. Las naciones hermanas pueden servir de puente y de fiador en las necesarias conversaciones que se han de establecer. Chile, con su pluralismo y su reciente ejemplo, puede hacer un gran aporte a tal fin.

Deseando a Ud. y al pueblo de Chile toda clase de parabienes y esperando pueda hacer algo por acelerar la resolución de este urgente y grave problema quedo,

Con todo respeto y consideración,

Jorge Luis Romeu
Jorge Luis Romeu
Associate Professor
Presidente

Comite de Derechos Humanos/NACAE

REPUBLICA DE CHILE	
PRESIDENCIA	
REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO	
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SUNY College at Cortland News

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 4, 1993**

JORGE ROMEU, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS, RECEIVES FULBRIGHT AWARD TO TEACH IN MEXICO DURING THE 1994 SPRING SEMESTER

Dr. Jorge Romeu, associate professor of mathematics at State University College at Cortland, has been awarded a Fulbright Grant to teach in Mexico, the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and the United States Information Agency announced recently.

A member of the Cortland faculty since 1985, Romeu will teach from January to May, 1994, at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México.

Born in Cuba, Romeu earned a degree in mathematics from the University of Havana and worked as a mathematician for the Cuban Ministries of Agriculture and Construction. After coming to the United States, Romeu received a master's degree in operations research from Syracuse University in 1981. From 1982 to 1985, he was employed as a research engineer at the IIT Research Institute in Rome, NY. He was presented the Institute's Commitment to Excellence Award in 1983. In 1990, Romeu received a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research from Syracuse University.

Romeu, the author of numerous articles on a variety of subjects in both English and Spanish-language newspapers, was recently appointed chair of the Human Rights Committee for the National Association of Cuban-American Educators. A two-term member of the Human Rights and Scientific Responsibility Committee of the American Statistical Association, Romeu has interacted with other similar organizations such as Of Human Rights and America's Watch.

He will be one of approximately 2,000 U.S. grantees travelling abroad in the 1993-94 academic year under the Fulbright Program. Established in 1946 under Congressional legislation introduced by former Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program is designed "to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries."

(more)

FULBRIGHT AWARD - 2

Under the Fulbright Program, some 5,000 grants are awarded each year to American students, teachers and scholars to study, teach and conduct research around the world, and to foreign nationals to engage in similar activities in the United States. Individuals are selected on the basis of academic and professional qualifications, plus their ability and willingness to share ideas and experiences with people of diverse cultures.

More than 190,000 "Fulbrighters" -- 68,000 from the United States and 122,000 from abroad -- have participated in the program since its inception.

The program is administered by the U.S. Information Agency under policy guidelines established by the presidentially appointed J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board and in cooperation with a number of private organizations. Scholarships are awarded through open competition, with final selections made by the Foreign Scholarship Board. Thirty-five foreign governments share in the funding of these exchanges.

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Cortland, 11 de noviembre de 1992.

A las Organizaciones de Derechos Humanos,
y a nuestros colegas educadores en la Isla:

NACAE, National Association of Cuban-American Educators, organización profesional de educadores cubanos en los Estados Unidos, ha organizado un Comité de Derechos Humanos (CDH-NACAE). El Comité ha tomado, como su primer caso, la expulsión de los más de dos docenas de nuestros colegas educadores en la Isla, profesores universitarios del Instituto Superior Politécnico José Antonio Echeverría y del Instituto Superior Pedagógico Enrique José Varona, ambos en La Habana.

El motivo de la expulsión de estos colegas de sus puestos de trabajo ha sido el redactar y dar a conocer una Declaración de Principios que propone, al Gobierno Cubano: (i) la creación de un espacio genuino y democrático para la resolución, entre cubanos, de nuestros problemas políticos; (ii) una apertura de la sociedad cubana; (iii) la aceptación de la Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos de Naciones Unidas; (iv) la restauración de la autonomía universitaria; (v) la democratización de la vida política, con participación de los cubanos de fuera y dentro de la Isla; (vi) una amnistía general de todos los prisioneros de conciencia y (vii) la consideración, en pie de igualdad, de todos los cubanos, independientemente de sus creencias religiosas, su afiliación política, su militancia ideológica o su lugar de residencia.

CDH-NACAE considera que la expulsión de nuestros colegas educadores dentro de la Isla, por haber redactado, firmado y pacíficamente dado a conocer, a principios de este año, esta Declaración de Principios dirigida al Gobierno Cubano, constituye una flagrante violación de sus derechos de petición, de libre asociación así como de su derecho al trabajo.

CDH-NACAE ya ha elevado peticiones en favor de los mencionados profesores cubanos expulsados, ante organismos de derechos humanos nacionales e internacionales, así como ante varios sindicatos y asociaciones profesionales de educadores en EE. UU.

Además, CDH-NACAE ofrece, sin condiciones, a los Comités de Derechos Humanos organizados en la Isla, abogar por aquellos casos de educadores en la Isla que sean perseguidos u hostigados por razones de conciencia, que estos Comités nos quieran referir.

Igualmente, CDH-NACAE se ofrece a los educadores cubanos que deseen contactarnos para exponer problemas de violaciones de derechos humanos. Estos colegas dentro de la Isla pueden escribir directamente a CDH-NACAE o pueden hacerlo a través de las organizaciones establecidas dentro de la Isla. Y pueden estar seguros de que no los olvidamos y de que cuentan con nuestra ayuda y solidaridad incondicional.



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Con los mejores deseos para una pronta y armoniosa reconciliación nacional, que lleve aparejada la resolución de los problemas políticos y económicos que confronta Cuba, quedamos,

En Solidaridad,

Jorge Luis Romeu.
Presidente.

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National Association of Cuban-American Educators

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Syracuse, Julio 20 de 1992

*Excuso Sr. D^o Patricio Aylwin
Presidente de Chile
Santiago*

Thank-you for your interest in our Human Rights Committee work on behalf of the over two dozen Cuban University Professors expelled in Havana, for political reasons.

I am enclosing some additional information about what our Human Rights Committee is currently doing on this case, to provide the widest coverage possible of it. In addition, if you are willing to, there are several things that you can do, to help these professors. You can xerox and pass along the enclosed material about them to a colleague, a friend or to your local Church or newspaper.

Then, you can also write letters to the Cuban authorities with your concern regarding the violation of the Human Rights of these professors in Havana. You can address your letters to:

President Fidel Castro Ruz
Palacio de la Revolucion
Havana, Cuba

Hon. Fernando Vecino Alegret
Minister of Higher Education
Ministerio de Educacion Superior
Calle 23 y F
Havana, Cuba

You are very welcome to remain in contact with us and we will keep you informed about future developments on this and other Human Rights issues. You can also request information about this or other Human Rights violations in Cuba from: (i) Mr. Frank Calzon, Freedom Hous Washington Office, 1319 18th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036; or (ii) Ms. Mary Jane Camejo, Americas Watch, 485 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10017-6104; or (iii) from Mr. Oscar Alvarez, Coordinadora de Derechos Humanos (CODEHU), 1040 SW 27th Ave., Miami, FL 33135.

Thank-you, again, for your interest in Human Rights in general and for your interest in this case in particular. The expelled professors will benefit from your inquiries and concern.

Sincerely,

Jorge Luis Romeu
Jorge Luis Romeu, Ph.D.
Chairman
Human Rights Committee/NACAE
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(607) 753-4326

NACAE CONTINUES ITS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

NACAE's recently formed Human Rights Committee (HRC-NACAE) continues its work on behalf of the over two dozen Cuban professors expelled from the University of Havana. Its membership continues to grow (and we are still looking for additional members). Jorge Luis Romeu (Chair), Juan Clark and Eduardo Zayas-Bazan, its founding members, have been joined by Prof. Adriana Mendez, from the University of Iowa.

HRC-NACAE has drafted (in Spanish and English) a letter to those Educators, inside Cuba, whose Human Rights are violated. The Spanish version has reached several Human Rights groups inside the Island. The English version has been circulated among many Human Rights organizations in the United States and abroad.

Amnesty International, Americas Watch, the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations in Geneva, among the organizations, and the ASA, ORSA, AAAS, LASA, UUP, NYSUT and AFT, among the professional organizations and the unions, have already acknowledged receiving copies of our documentation.

As a result, several articles on the expulsion of these colleagues inside Cuba, have appeared in El Nuevo Herald, The New York Teacher, Amstat News and the Human Rights Newsletter of the ASA, all with wide circulations among American and foreign educators. In addition, an extensive radio program, during the Human Rights week (December), was broadcasted in Ithaca, NY. Romeu and Zayas-Bazan, for NACAE and Frank Calzon, for Freedom House discussed these and other human rights violations in Cuba for an hour and a half in an open microphone program.

HRC-NACAE has already received many letters from concerned teachers in New York State, on behalf of these Cuban professors. HRC-NACAE encourages all NACAE members to make these violations known to other sister professional organizations to whom they also belong. Our brave colleagues inside the Island merit nothing less than our complete and militant solidarity.

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COMMENT

Cuban Human-Rights Groups Operate Inside and Outside

By JORGE LUIS ROMEU
The U.N. Human Rights Commission last month condemned Cuba for "continued violations of fundamental human rights and individual liberties."



Romeu

In the fight for human rights in Cuba, there are two types of groups — the internal, activist and the exile or support groups. The organizations are complementary, because consciously or not, one works for and supports the other.

The internal human-rights organizations are formed by activists inside Cuba who protest government abuses, argue their cases before the constituted authorities and report them to human-rights organizations all over the world.

A well-known internal activist is Elizardo Sanchez, who was beaten unconscious by government-sponsored mobs Dec. 10, the anniversary of the U.N. Human Rights Declaration, and then arrested by the Cuban government on charges of "public disorder."

Others are brothers Gustave and Sebastian Arcos Bergnes, who head the *Comite Cubano Pro Derechos Humanos*, for which Sebastian was recently sentenced to several years in prison.

The exiled human-rights organizations disseminate abroad the reports our colleagues inside Cuba gather and send us. We also search for support from sister international organizations.

It is because such human-rights violations become known outside Cuba that the internal organizations can operate. Twelve years ago, when I lived in Cuba, the dissidents and human-rights activists were either invisible or neutralized inside the prisons.

Internal and external Cuban human-rights organizations are like

the strings and the box of a guitar: the internal groups produce lovely music that the external ones amplify so it can be heard wherever it is needed.

Inside Cuba or any other totalitarian state, human-rights groups start by demanding their right to exist. They request from the government the status of a legal association. When this right of peaceful assembly is denied as in Cuba, such denial becomes a flagrant and overt violation. Then human-rights groups edit newsletters disseminating such "dangerous" political material as the U.N. Declaration of the Rights of Man.

For such activities Cubans are thrown into prison under the charge of "enemy propaganda." Cuban human-rights activists also report abuses specifically to the U.N. Rapporteur for Cuba, which is no longer allowed in the country. For this, in 1989, Elizardo Sanchez and others were prosecuted and convicted.

Abroad, Cuban human-rights activists constantly monitor the short-wave stations and the international press for violation report and we share this information among our different organizations.

Oscar Alvarez and Ariel Hidalgo in Miami are the official representatives of several internal human-rights organizations. Through telephone and other contacts they obtain current information we all use.

Freedom House in Washington, D.C., and Americas Watch and Amnesty International officials in New York City also have shared information with us.

We then take these cases to the best jury: public opinion. We present our cases to the media, the professional associations, the unions and the authorities.

We take these cases to the U.N. Commission in Geneva and write reports and articles, give talks and seminars and in every way and means imaginable share this information with others in the international community.

Disseminating human-rights information is very important because, in general, we deal with five different groups of people, three of which we really want to reach.

The first two groups, the outright hostile who still defend Cuba as the last bastion of socialism and the completely convinced that human rights are systematically violated in Cuba are not of much concern to us.

Two other groups — the indifferent and misinformed — can be shown facts they are not aware of, and their minds and hearts can be touched. Lack of information is no sin, just a rectifiable condition.

The prejudiced are the worst, and there are many of those. Recently, a learned professional referred to Radio Marti, the Voice of America program for Cuba, as "the American station that broadcasts propaganda to Cuba." I courteously asked if he spoke Spanish, which he didn't. This left me wondering how he could know whether Radio Marti was a propaganda station for it broadcasts only in Spanish. This is a classical example of prejudice.

By denouncing human-rights abuses in Cuba we are setting the record straight for the misinformed and prejudiced. But most important, the Cuban government cares about international opinion, for it may hurt its chances of receiving needed economic aid and tourism.

Therefore, providing information about human-rights abuses gives us Cuban activists the only lever we can use to protect our brothers and sisters working inside the island and to promote a peaceful, swift and certain evolution toward pluralism in Cuba, with social justice and respect for human rights.

Romeu, an associate professor of mathematics at the State University College at Cortland, is a member of the Human Rights Committee of the American Statistical Association and chair of the Human Rights Committee and a board member of the National Association of Cuban-American Educators.

Activismos de Derechos Humanos en Cuba

Por Jorge Luis Romeu
(Traducción del artículo del Post Standard)

Si le cabe la menor duda sobre si el activismo de derechos humanos es una forma de activismo político, recuerde estos nombres: Ghandi, Martin Luther King, Pérez Esquivel y Rigoberta Menchu, por nombrar sólo a unos pocos luchadores famosos. Los que trabajamos en favor de los derechos humanos en Cuba no somos diferentes a ninguno de estos, aún cuando muchos ignoran lo que hacemos y cuando y donde lo hacemos. Por eso cabe la pregunta: ¿Qué es el trabajo de derechos humanos en y sobre Cuba?

Las organizaciones de derechos humanos se dividen en dos grupos mutuamente complementarios y que, conscientemente o no, trabajan el uno para el otro y se apoyan mutuamente: los activistas internos y los del exilio.

Las organizaciones de derechos humanos dentro de Cuba están formadas por activistas que protestan los abusos del gobierno, llevan sus casos ante las autoridades constituidas y los reportan a las organizaciones de derechos humanos alrededor del mundo. Algunos de estos luchadores son bien conocidos: Elizardo Sánchez, quien fue golpeado hasta quedar inconsciente el pasado 10 de diciembre, día c... aniversario de la declaración de derechos de la ONU, cuando turbas del gobierno cubano fueron lanzadas contra él. Y los hermanos Gustavo y Sebastián Arcos Bergnes, quienes encabezan el Comité Cubano Pro Derechos Humanos, por cuyo motivo Sebastián cumple una condena en prisión.

Las organizaciones de derechos humanos en el exilio diseminan, en el extranjero, los reportes que los colegas dentro de Cuba mandan. Además, recavamos el apoyo de organizaciones similares internacionales en favor de nuestros colegas dentro de Cuba. Es gracias a este conocimiento en el extranjero

...sión es un acto instintivo en el ser humano. Y la violación del derecho es un acto obsceno y sucio como una cucaracha. Se puede matar a las cucarachas una a una; o se puede limpiar el cucarachero y acabar de una vez con toda la suciedad. Es por esto que, en su último análisis, el activismo de los derechos humanos es necesariamente, una forma de activismo político. Y nosotros, los que los realizamos en favor de Cuba, no tenemos por qué dar excusas de ello.

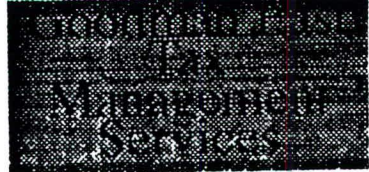
Dentro de Cuba, o de cualquier estado totalitario, sea Birmania o Africa del Sur, los grupos de derechos humanos comienzan a demandar su derecho a existir. Cuando su derecho a organizarse pacíficamente es negado por el gobierno, esto constituye una flagrante violación del derecho de asociación. Después, los grupos de derechos humanos editan folletos y periódicos, que diseminan material tan peligroso como la Declaración de los Derechos del Hombre. Por tales actividades, docenas de activistas cubanos cumplen condena bajo la conveniente acusación de divulgar "propaganda enemiga". Por último, y tal vez su más conocida actividad, los grupos de derechos humanos reportan abusos específicos cometidos contra determinadas personas, especialmente al Investigador para Cuba de las Naciones Unidas.

En el extranjero, los activistas de derechos humanos están constantemente a la escucha de noticias por la radio o la prensa, o a través de distintas organizaciones representantes de los grupos internos. Oscar Alvarez y Ariel Hidalgo, en Miami, y Frank Calzón en Washington, han mantenido contacto durante años con los grupos y han divulgado las noticias entre las demás organizaciones. Y, organizaciones como "Américas Watch" y "Amnesty International", también nos han abierto sus archivos y nos han proporcionado valiosa información. Con ella, los activistas en el extranjero, elevamos nuestros

esto está muy lejos!), los Mal Informados (¿Cuba?, aquel burdel de los americanos que Castro rescató) y, a los Prejuiciados. Estos últimos son los peores y, recientemente topé con uno característico. Profesor él, bien empapado en política, se refirió a Radio Maru como "la emisora de propaganda americana para Cuba". Yo le pregunté si hablaba el castellano, que no lo entendía. Y, me quedé pensando como podía él saber que Radio Marti transmitía propaganda si esta estación sólo utiliza el castellano. Este es un prejuicio exactamente igual al de los que dicen que "los judíos son unos tacaños", o "los negros unos holgazanes" o, "los hispanos unos mujeriegos".

Denunciando las violaciones de los derechos humanos en Cuba no solo estamos rectificando los errores de algunos ignorantes bien intencionados y de algunos prejuiciosos ante los problemas de Cuba. Estamos, además, utilizando la única palanca con la que podemos ayudar a nuestros hermanos dentro de la Isla. El gobierno de La Habana necesita desesperadamente de cuanta entrada de divisa pueda echar mano. Un ejemplo reciente es la apertura de las uendas Venetón, para los diplomáticos y turistas extranjeros. La opinión internacional es algo que Fidel Castro cultiva intensamente y, en lo cual ha gastado, durante 30 años, cuantiosas sumas del dinero que hay en Cuba. Al exponer estos tristes pero veraces hechos, estamos influyendo activamente el curso de la política cubana.

Y, tal vez, con ello podamos contribuir, modesta pero concretamente, a una evolución pacífica, rápida y efectiva hacia un pluralismo político y económico en Cuba, con justicia social y respeto a los derechos humanos para todos los cubanos.



Es Tiempo de Preparar sus

El Mensaje Rusos Al M Nuevas Int

Por Natlidad Fermin
La última mitad de la década del ochenta será recordada como la época más explosiva de los últimos años. Esta fue una era de grandes cambios políticos en el viejo mundo y, sin dudas, en el nuevo mundo también. Uno de los hechos más notables y sorprendentes fue el derrumbamiento del comunismo en Rusia y sus países satélites (exceptuando a Cuba); lo sorprendente u lo eufórico se alternaban, lo patético y lo cómodo entonaban cánticos simultáneos y los espectadores no comprendíamos bien qué estaba pasando.

Las actividades y las propagandas comunistas patrocinadas por la otrora Unión Soviética, mantenía aglutinada a su alrededor a gran parte de la población mundial. La bandera con la hoz había sido el símbolo de lucha de generaciones enteras que pretendían hallar en el comunismo lo que el capitalismo no les había dado. Sin embargo, en un sólo instante, como en un abrir y cerrar de ojos, todo se derrumbó. El sistema comunista ruso se vino a pique ante la mirada atónita de sus seguidores y, ente el vino y el champagne de sus enemigos, siendo el principal de ellos los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica.

La caída del comunismo ruso conmovió todo. Los líderes del capitalismo, encabezados por U.S.A., se atribuyeron este colapso como la gran victoria suya. El Presidente Bush se presentaba victorioso ante los hipnotizados televidentes a los que les imponía un camino lo que estaba pasando al otro lado del mundo, siempre y cuando no se les prohiba sus películas pornográficas y el acceso a un buen hot dog o un taco mexicano destocado. Clinton, por su parte trataba de convencer a sus votantes afirmando que su país había ganado la guerra fría y que él haría lo que tuviera que hacer para mantener intacto ese victo...

Sr. Jorge Luis Romeu, Ph.D.
Chairman
Human Rights Committee/NACAE

Ciudad de la Habana, Fide Abril de 1993.

Estimado colega:

Ante todo, quisieramos a nombre de los profesores expulsados por razones de conciencia agradecer la solidaridad del Comité que Usted dirige hacia nosotros y todos los esfuerzos realizados para divulgar nuestro caso en los Estados Unidos.

El Gobierno cubano ha continuado la escalada represiva sobre nosotros con el objetivo de amedrentarnos y hacernos abandonar nuestras posiciones. Para lograr este fin ha organizado actos de repudio en nuestros lugares de residencia, intimidaciones por parte del Sistema Unico de vigilancia y protección (SUNVP), coacciones, agresiones físicas, arrestos y detenciones en la sede de la Policía Política. De todos estos actos tenemos pruebas y en su momento lo hemos denunciado a diferentes organizaciones internacionales. Tratamos de enviarle una documentación detallada de estas violaciones.

Debido a la actual coyuntura por la que atraviesa nuestro país, se ha creado una organización integrada fundamentalmente por profesionales, denominada "CORRIENTE CIVICA CUBANA" que tiene como objetivo esencial la lucha por los derechos civiles y políticos en nuestro país. Una gran cantidad de simpatizantes de esta son profesores de diferentes niveles de enseñanza, debido a lo cual dentro de ella existe una Sección de Profesores e Investigadores.

Es el deseo de nuestra Sección mantener un estrecho contacto con Usted que nos permita dar a conocer a la opinión pública y en los medios académicos específicamente, la represión que se ejerce sobre los profesores que adoptan la cívica posición de expresar libremente sus opiniones y disentir con el sistema imperante en Cuba. Además consideramos de gran importancia en nuestro trabajo presente y futuro, el establecimiento de fuertes vínculos con la Organización de Profesores Cubano-Americanos, para lo cual hemos también enviado una carta a su presidente.

Reiterándole nuestro agradecimiento por la solidaridad manifiesta del Comité que dirige para con nuestro caso, le deseamos todo género de éxitos y salud a Usted y su familia.

Con lo en un cercano encuentro, se despiden,

Eternamente,

ING. Félix Antonio Bonne Carcassés
Profesor Titular
Coordinador General
CORRIENTE CIVICA CUBANA

ING. Miguel Morales Acosta
Profesor Auxiliar
Presidente
SECCION DE PROF. E INVESTIGADORES

Translation:

Mr. Jorge Luis Romeu, Ph.D.
Chairman
Human Rights Committee/NACAE

City of Havana, April 5, 1993

Dear Colleague:

To begin, and on behalf of the professors expelled from the University for expressing matters of conscience, we would like to thank the Committee that you Chair, for the solidarity toward us, and for all efforts you have developed to publicize our case in the United States.

The Cuban government has continued escalating its repression toward us, with the objective of scaring us and making us abandon our positions. Toward this end [the government] has organized acts of repudiation [by the Rapid Response Brigades] at our homes, we have been intimidated by the SUVP [Police], coerced, physically attacked, arrested detained in the siege of the Political Police. We have proof of all these activities and several times we have denounced them to different international organizations. We will try to send you detailed documentation of these [human rights] violations.

Given the present special Cuban situation, an organization fundamentally integrated by professionals has been created. It has been called "Corriente Civica Cubana" [Cuban Civic Current] and has as its fundamental objective the struggle for the civil and political rights in our country. A large amount of its sympathizers are professors at different levels of the education process. For this reason, a Section for Professors and Researchers exists.

It is the desire of our Section to maintain close contacts with you that allows us to let the public opinion, and especially the media for Educators, know about the repression that is exerted on those [Cuban] educators that adopt the civic position of expressing freely their dissenting opinions and their dissent with the current Cuban government. In addition, we consider of great importance in our present and future work, the establishment of strong ties with NACAE (National Association of Cuban American Educators) and for this reason we have also written a letter to its President.

We reiterate our appreciation for the Solidarity your Committee has shown with respect to our case, we wish you all sorts of successes, personal and professional.

With faith in a not far away reencounter, we remain,

Fraternally

Eduardo Zayas-Bazán
Presidente de la Asociación
Cubano-Americana de Educadores
Department of Foreign Languages
Box 2246CA
East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, TN 37614-0002

Ciudad de la Habana, Abril 10, 1993.

Sr. Zayas-Bazán:

Por la presente nos dirigimos a Usted los profesores universitarios expulsados de sus cátedras en Enero de 1992 por razones de conciencia, para expresarle nuestro agradecimiento por todo lo que ha hecho la organización que Usted preside a través de su Comité de Derechos Humanos. Hemos tenido noticias de la labor realizada por el Sr. Jorge Luis Romeu para divulgar nuestro caso entre los educadores cubanos y americanos así como a diferentes organizaciones defensoras de derechos humanos, cuestión esta que nos alienta en la lucha por establecer en nuestro país los valores democráticos y la libertad.

A partir del momento de nuestra expulsión de las aulas universitarias, un número cada vez mayor de profesores de diferentes niveles de enseñanza así como investigadores y otros profesionales han manifestado su deseo de unir sus esfuerzos a los nuestros en esta batalla de carácter cívico que la dramática situación de nuestro país reclama. Por esta razón nos hemos integrado en la organización denominada "CORRIENTE CIVICA CUBANA" cuyo Coordinador General es el Profesor Titular Félix A. Bonne Carcassés, y que teniendo en cuenta la presencia mayoritaria de docentes tiene una Sección de Profesores e Investigadores que atienden los profesores Miguel Morales Acosta, Rolando Martínez García y Georgina de las Mercedes González Corbo.

El objetivo fundamental de esta Sección es trabajar para impedir el ostracismo profesional al que es condenado todo aquel que adopte una actitud cívica públicamente, no sólo como castigo, sino como advertencia e intimidación para quienes pensando de igual modo -indudablemente la mayoría- aún no han dado este paso. Este aspecto es de vital importancia, ya que estos serán los profesores que contribuirán a la transformación del sistema educacional cubano.

Es sobre esta base que consideramos de mucho interés la relación nuestra con la organización que Usted dirige. Sobre este particular nos interesaría conocer detalles de la NACAE porque pensamos que sería muy provechoso si pudiésemos integrarnos a la misma y trabajar mancomunadamente en la reconstrucción de tan importante sector para el futuro de nuestro país.

Queremos despedirnos de Usted reiterándole nuestro agradecimiento por el interés mostrado en nuestro caso y deseándole muchos éxitos en su vida privada y profesional.

Atentamente, quedan de Usted,

PROF. ING. Félix A. Bonne Carcassés
COORDINADOR GENERAL
CORRIENTE CIVICA CUBANA

PROF. ING. Miguel Morales Acosta
PRESIDENTE DE LA SECCIÓN
DE PROFESORES E INVESTIGADORES

May of 1992
Annual meeting

NBI 11: National Association of Cuban-American Educators

NEA/NY stands opposed to educational censorship in any form. We therefore support the efforts of the National Association of Cuban-American Educators (NACAE) in protesting the recent actions of the Cuban government: expelling Cuban educators from teaching because of their peaceful request for government and policy reform.

Further, NEA/NY will seek similar support from the NEA at this year's Representative Assembly by way of the introduction of a New Business Item.

Rationale:

The Chairperson of the Human Rights Committee of NACAE has requested that all educators step forward and support their effort to stamp out educational oppression in Cuba.

Constance J. Eno
President, NEA of NY

The resolution
you need is attached.
Stay well,
Connie E.



Latin American Studies Association

William Pitt Union, 9th Floor
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260
(412) 648-7929
Fax: (412) 624-7145

Carmen Diana Deere, President

May 29, 1993

Prof. Jorge Luis Romeu
201 Rugby Rd.
Syracuse, NY 13203

Latin American Studies Program
Thompson Hall
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
(413) 545-0455
Fax: (413) 545-2921

Dear Professor Romeu:

Dr. Reid Reading, Executive Secretary of LASA, forwarded to me your two recent letters regarding the situation of a group of Cuban educators dismissed from their positions.

Earlier, Professor Carmelo Mesa-Lago had forwarded to the LASA Secretariat the materials distributed by the Human Rights Committee of the NACAE. I, in turn, asked LASA's Task Force on Scholarly Relations with Cuba to try to gather information on this case. Moreover, since I traveled to Cuba in January for research purposes, I attempted to make a few inquiries of my own.

I was dismayed to learn from the copy of the letter of April 5, 1993, from professors Felix Antonio Bonne and Miguel Morales Acosta that you sent the Secretariat, that these educators report still being harassed by Cuban officials.

I have distributed copies of this correspondence to the members of the LASA Executive Council (EC). The LASA EC will be meeting in Havana in June which provides us with a timely venue to look into these issues. In addition to evaluating the progress of LASA's Research Working Groups with Cuban scholars and the status of exchanges between U.S. and Cuban universities, the EC will also be discussing the status of academic freedom in Cuba with our colleagues there.

Sincerely,

Carmen Diana Deere

cc: Professor Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Univ. of Pittsburgh
Professor Andrew Zimbalist, Chair, Task Force on Scholarly
Relations with Cuba
Professor John Gitlitz, Chair, Task Force on Human Rights
and Academic Freedom
Dr. Reid Reading, LASA Executive Director

American
Association
for the Advancement of
Science

Directorate for Science and Policy Programs
1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005
(202) 326-6600 FAX (202) 289-4950

June 15, 1993

Jorge Luis Romeu, Ph.D.
Department of Mathematics
SUNY-Cortland
201 Rugby Rd.
Syracuse, NY 13203

Dear Dr. Romeu,

Thank you for your recent letter to Kari Hannibal concerning the firings of professors in Cuba. It sounds like the sort of case that the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program would definitively consider taking on at least with a letter from the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility. We would therefore appreciate your sending more documentation that you mentioned you had in your files about the names, positions etc. of those affected. Also if you have the contacts for other organizations that might provide additional details of these cases we would appreciate your sending them as well.

Sincerely,



Daniel Salcedo, Ph.D.
Senior Program Associate
Science and Human Rights



AMERICAN
FEDERATION OF
TEACHERS
A.F.T. C.I.O.

555 NEW JERSEY AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001
202-879-4400

ALBERT SHANKER
PRESIDENT

EDWARD J. McELROY
SECRETARY-TREASURER

December 14, 1992

Mr. Jorge Luis Romeu, Chairman
Human Rights Committee
National Association of Cuban-American Educators
c/o Department of Mathematics
SUNY-Cortland
Cortland, NY 13045

Dear Mr. Romeu:

Thank you for the materials you sent to AFT President Albert Shanker concerning the human rights violations of educators in Cuba.

This is to let you know that we will be in touch with you after the beginning of the New Year to see how the American Federation of Teachers can be of assistance on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Dorn'.

DAVID N. DORN
Director
International Affairs Dept.

HKT/jkh
opeiu2
afl-cio

Statistics and the Situation in the Former Yugoslavia

Herbert Spierer, Chair, ASA Committee on Scientific Freedom & Human Rights

The Institute for the Study of Genocide (ISG), of which I am an officer and board member, held a closed conference at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (New York) on "The Path Beyond Genocide: Constructing the Civil Society in Bosnia-Herzegovina," on April 19-21, 1993. Louise [Spierer, editor of the Committee's newsletter] and I conducted a workshop, "Prevention and Response to Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing: Human Rights Monitoring, Prevention and Humanitarian Intervention," on April 21.

An interesting sidelight of our session was that one of the presentations ("The Potential for Genocide in the Post-Soviet States") was by Dr. Steven Shenfield, for-

merly a statistician in England, who is now in the field of International Affairs at Brown University. Also making a presentation in our session ("The Role of the United Nations in Early Warning and Prevention of Conflicts and Human Tragedies") was Michiko Kuroda of the United Nations. In her presentation, she distributed several documents that show the great importance now being attached to the management of information and its analysis in the early warning process. I believe that the recommendations of these documents have great potential impact on the uses of statistics in human rights analysis. To give you an idea of where this is going, I will give you some excerpts from two publications Ms. Kuroda supplied.

First, from "Conflict Prevention: A

UN/NGO Partnership in the 1990s: Recommendations of a Round Table Conference January 1993" [International Alert, United Nations University, and National Institute for Research Advancement (Japan)]

A separate early warning center within the UN Secretariat should be re-established.... NGOs [non-governmental organizations] and the academic community should participate fully in the implementation of a computer-assisted early warning capacity.... An expert group should be established in the UN Secretariat to include outside specialists to monitor the progress in relevant technology and to advise on updating methodology and equipment.... it would be valuable if the research community would undertake work on the appropriate indi-

Continued on next page

Human Rights in Cuba: An Update and Request for Correspondence

Jorge Romeu, State University of New York-Cortland

Several issues back (January 1993), *Amstat News* published a notice about 30 Cuban university faculty members who had been expelled from their jobs for signing a petition to the government. This petition requested such things as academic freedom, an opening of the Cuban system to pluralism, and a reconciliation of Cubans of all political persuasions. I now ask, on behalf of the the National Association of Cuban-American Educators (NACAE), that our members and colleagues consider writing letters of inquiry to the Cuban government, regarding these professors.

The issue of human rights monitoring is touchy on several counts. First, there is no unanimous definition of such rights. Even more, some say there are individual rights (freedom of speech, of religion, of assembly, etc.) and collective rights (right to work, to education, housing, medical attention, etc.). Finally, there is a new thought, essentially among third world violators, that human rights is flexible, in the sense that it is culture and context dependent—i.e., that there can be a set of rights defined for Americans and others for Chinese.

Moreover, and to make things more complicated, there are gross and subtle human rights violations which do not necessarily reflect the degree of inhumanity of a given government or society. In Guatemala, for example, there are disappearances of people, mass killings and torture. There are none of these in Cuba; only mass expulsions of rebellious faculty and hundreds who have disappeared (drowned or eaten by sharks) in the

waters of the Florida straights, trying to escape from Cuba. Why?

Are human rights more violated "more" in Guatemala than in Cuba? An answer may well be that there is a tighter control in Cuba than in Guatemala, so the Cuban government does not need to "disappear" or kill a political enemy. Just kick him/her out of their job; destroy the possibilities of social and economic advancement of their immediate family (and any faithful friend). Refuse any sort of exposure to national or foreign media. The individual, fallen out of grace from society, vanishes in the night of oblivion.

The fact that the type of human rights violations that totalitarian governments like that of Castro's Cuba, completely in control, don't make the front page of newspapers is not an artifact of their lack of importance. It is one of the journalistic principle that "what bleeds, leads". And a headless corpse in a lost highway has more impact than 30 professors unable to pursue their careers for being conscientious objectors of government policy.

The Human Rights Committee of the NACAE (of which this writer is chair) has not forgotten this case. We have pursued it with several professional organizations, and they have responded positively to our call. We have received letters from Havana, from two of the expelled professors. They have organized into an (unrecognized) association: Civic Current and have requested our solidarity and help in their struggle for civil rights in Cuba.

Professor Felix A. Bonne Carcases and Assistant Professor Miguel Morales Acosta, respectively General Coordinator and Sec-

tion Head of the above mentioned Civic Current organization, have written to the Human Rights Committee of NACAE. They have explained how the Cuban government, in addition to expelling them from their university positions, continues to harass them, and to intimidate them by physical and sociological means, in an effort to make them abandon their dissident positions and conform to government policy. We have seen similar situations in Eastern Europe, after the fall of Communism there in 1989. All the "monolithic support" for the "popular democracies" was demonstrated to be myth, once the people were free of government political and military pressure. Remember Havel in Czechoslovakia? Walesa, in Poland? Should I continue?

This is a free and informed society. I would exhort our colleagues to put to the test everything you have read in this article. Write to Amnesty International or to Americas Watch and ask about the case of the more than 30 Cuban professors expelled from the universities in Havana during the spring of 1992. And when you learn more of the details, I would encourage you, again, to write letters of interest on their behalf. You can address them to:

President Fidel Castro, Palacio de la Revolucion, Havana, Cuba and Hon. Fernando Vecino Alegret, Minister of Higher Education, Calle 23 y F, Vedado, Havana, Cuba

You can rest assured your time will not be wasted. The international interest is, now, the only insurance policy these expelled professors can count on.

The author is a member of ASA's Committee on Scientific Freedom & Human Rights.

tions by the government of President Hafez al-Assad, the former air force commander who is Syria's dictator. The flyer also criticized Assad's re-election in December 1991.

tained by reason of their political or religious views, ethnic origin, language, sex, or color, provided they have not used or advocated violence.

— Ramirez

Cuban professors fired for demanding freedom

A State University of New York mathematician is working to build support for his colleagues in Havana

When more than two dozen faculty members at two of Havana's most prestigious colleges signed a statement demanding democratization, human rights, and academic freedom, the Cuban government reacted swiftly: the dissidents were all fired.

However, the Cuban teachers are not alone. They have a friend in Jorge Luis Romeu, an associate professor of mathematics at the State University College at Cortland and a member of United University Professions, NYSUT's local representing professionals at State University campuses. Romeu has taken on the case and is working vigorously to win reinstatement for his Cuban colleagues.

"Life is very hard in Cuba for people who have been purged from their jobs for political reasons," Romeu reports. "They're lucky if they can get work sweeping floors and even those

jobs are threatened once the word gets out that they're dissidents."

The expelled academics taught at the Instituto Superior Politécnico Jose Antonio Echeverria and the Instituto Superior Pedagógico Enrique Jose Varona, both higher education facilities.

'Room for democracy'

The professors' eight-point declaration, a gently-worded document issued in 1991, calls for "steps toward decisive change" including making room for genuine democratic discourse; a non-violent movement to "open up" the society; compliance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; restoration of independence for universities; democratization leading to Cuba's integration into the life of other Latin American societies and the world community; amnesty for all prisoners of conscience; respect for diversity of opinion among Cubans, and the creation of conditions allowing the free exchange of ideas.

"The expulsion of these Cuban colleagues for having peacefully drafted

and signed this declaration constitutes a flagrant violation of their right of petition and peaceful assembly and their right to work," commented Romeu in an article published in the newsletter of the National Association of Cuban-American Educators.

Romeu, who heads the Cuban-American educators' Human Rights Committee, urges NYSUT members who belong to professional organizations to ask their groups to send letters or resolutions urging the reinstatement of the discharged academics to Dr. Fidel Castro Ruz/ Presidente del Consejo de Estado/ Ciudad de la Habana/ Cuba. Letters from individuals will also help, according to Romeu.

The Committee for International Academic Freedom, a project of Human Rights Watch, has written Castro on the case, as has the human rights committee of the American Statistical Association.

Copies of letters and resolutions and inquiries about this campaign may be sent to Dr. Jorge Luis Romeu/ Department of Mathematics/ SUNY-Cortland/ P.O. Box 2000/ Cortland, N.Y. 13045.

— Ramirez

I Now, a human rights organization focusing on the rights of women around the world, has been announced.

The organization, with headquarters in New York City, has formed a Women's Action Network to call attention to and organize action in behalf of women whose civil, political, or personal rights are violated. Among the cases the group has publicized to date are those of the rapes of 71 girls in a boarding school in Kenya, the forced marriage of a 10-year-old child from India whose father got \$240 for her from a 60-year-old Saudi man, and the acquittal of a Brazilian man who murdered his wife to "avenge his honor."

Equality Now, headed by Jessica Neuwirth, formerly of the staff of Amnesty International, will consider cases dealing with rape, trafficking in women, domestic violence, female infanticide, genital mutilation, reproductive rights, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, political representation, and pornography. Among those serving on the new group's advisory council are Jack Healey, Amnesty International USA executive director; authors Rose Styron and Gloria Steinem, and Chilean human rights activist Veronica de Negri.

For further information on Equality Now and the Women's Action Network, write Equality Now, P.O. Box 20646, Columbus Circle Station, New York, N.Y. 10023.

The District argued that the time reported for each task was an appropriate management criterion for employee evaluation and had only a minimal impact on conditions of employment.

Drum asserted that the reporting requirement was for timekeeping purposes and greatly impacted the conditions of work by the amount of self

CONTRACTS

The Delaware-Chenango BOCES ESP Association has a three-year contract (1992-95) that includes annual salary increases of 4.5 percent, 4 percent and 3.9 percent respectively. Other economic gains include flexible spending accounts, health insurance buyout, and tuition reimbursement. Other important gains for the union: binding arbitration, layoff and recall language for non-competitive employees, Association leave, salary schedules. UniServ Rep: Richard Caterino.

The Genesee Education Association's new three-year contract (1993-96) calls for annual salary increases of 3 percent, 3.25 percent, and 3.75 percent respectively. Other economic gains include Martin Luther King Day as holiday, overload rate increases 3 percent, 3.5 percent, and 4 percent respectively; .25 percent increase if student growth exceeds 50 FTE each year. UniServ Rep: Bill Sell.

The Hicksville Congress of Teachers has a new three-year contract (1992-95) that includes an incremental salary increase in year one and a 4.1 percent

election for the vacant position of Associate Director at the first Region meeting in the fall. Notices of that meeting will be sent in the fall. Signed petitions for those individuals seeking election should be submitted by September 10, 1993, to Carol Hess, Region 13 Director, 9 Judy Terrace, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

increase in years two and three. Other economic gains include a new longevity payment of \$1,000 after 20 years, across-the-board increase for co-curricular/extracurricular and other compensation. UniServ Rep: Mark Berberian.

The Faculty Association of North Country Community College's new three-year contract (1993-96) includes annual salary increases of 7 percent, 7.5 percent and 8 percent respectively. UniServ Rep: Bill Sell.

The Vestal Employees Association recently ratified a three-year agreement (1992-95) with a reopener in the third year for salary. The new contract includes a 5.5 percent increase in employees' 1991-92 salary retroactive to July 1, 1992, and a 4 percent increase in 1992-93 salary in year two. Other economic gains: increases in second and third shift premiums, accumulation of sick days in excess of stated maximums for the purpose of reimbursement at retirement, compensatory time in excess of 40 hours taken at overtime rate. UniServ Rep: Wes Thompson.

electronic mail and were left out of the communication loop," said Black. "Dwight has put many hours of time and effort into setting up the network, and we wouldn't have been able to do it without his knowledge of computers and technology."

The goal of the Andes School Networking Project is to improve the educational capability of the approximately 200 students in K-12. The Project was created to facilitate the essential elements of the school improvement planning process, as set forth in the New Compact for Learning. Its success will be evaluated by improvement in standardized test scores, student portfolios, and professional evaluations. Two Andes teachers from the elementary school and high school are the

is that it gets all teachers involved in using computers," said Black. Two Macintosh workshops have been held to improve computer literacy, and teachers are using software to prepare lessons. Luggage was purchased so that teachers can bring the computers home when needed, and with the new network, they are able to access the school's file server from home using a phone modem.

The Andes faculty is part of the school improvement process under the Compact, so all of the teachers in the district are involved in helping to coordinate and implement the Project. "We will continue to update our computers and software each year after a school team evaluation," said Black.

Letters of support sought for Cuban professors Educators fired for demanding freedom

The National Association of Cuban-American Educators (NACAE) has organized a Human Rights Committee (HRC NACAE) under the direction of Dr. Jorge L. Romeu, an associate professor of mathematics at SUNY-Cortland.

As its first case, the HRC NACAE is focusing on the expulsion of more than two dozen university professors who drafted and presented to the Cuban government a Declaration of Principles. The Declaration included the teachers' proposal for the existence of a genuinely democratic space, a peaceful opening of Cuban society, and compliance with the United Nations Declaration of Rights.

HRC-NACAE considers the expulsion of their Cuban colleagues, for having peacefully drafted and signed this Declaration, to be a flagrant violation of their rights of petition and peaceful assembly and their right to work.

If any NEA/NY member would like to learn more about the HRC-NACAE's efforts on behalf of their colleagues in Cuba, please write to Mr. Frank Calzon, Freedom House, Washington Office, 1319 18th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Dr. Romeu urges NEA/NY members who belong to professional organizations to ask their groups to write letters urging reinstatement of the Cuban professors to Dr. Fidel Castro Ruz, Presidente del Consejo de Estado, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba. Inquiries about this campaign may be sent to Dr. Jorge Luis Romeu, Department of Mathematics, SUNY-Cortland, P.O. Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045.

ADVOCATE - official newspaper of the nat'l Education Assn. of New York
Volume 19 - Number 9 - June/July 1993

Cuban-American Educators Form Human Rights Committee to Protest University Expulsions

The National Association of Cuban-American Educators (NACAE) has organized a Human Rights Committee (HRC-NACAE) under the direction of Jorge L. Romeu, a member of ASA's Committee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights. As its first case, the HRC-NACAE is focusing on the expulsion of more than two dozen university professors from the Instituto Superior Politecnico José Antonio Echevarria and the Instituto Superior Pedagógico Enrique José Varona, both in Havana.

The professors were expelled from their teaching positions after they drafted and presented to the Cuban government a Declaration of Principles. In the Declaration, the teachers proposed: (1) the existence of a genuinely democratic space; (2) a peaceful opening of Cuban society; (3) compliance with the United Nations Declaration of Rights; (4) the restoration of the university's autonomy; (5) democratization of the country through people residing inside and outside of the country; (6) a general amnesty for all prisoners of conscience;

and (7) fraternization of all Cubans, independent of their political, religious, ideological beliefs or place of residence.

HRC-NACAE considers the expulsion of their Cuban colleagues, for having peacefully drafted and signed this declaration of principles earlier this year, to be a flagrant violation of their rights of petition and peaceful assembly and their right to work.

HRC-NACAE has already submitted petitions on behalf of the expelled Cuban professors, to national and international human rights organizations. HRC-NACAE has also submitted petitions to several professional unions and associations in the U.S.

If any ASA members would like to learn more about the HRC-NACAE's efforts on behalf of their colleagues in Cuba, please contact Jorge Luis Romeu, Chair, Human Rights Committee, NACAE, c/o Department of Mathematics, State University of New York-Cortland, Cortland, NY 13045.



Data Bank on CD-ROM Provides U.S. Economic Social, Environmental Information

The National Technical Information Service (NTIS), a branch of the U.S. Department of Commerce, has released a data bank on CD-ROM designed to give researchers access to extensive federal government information.

NESE•DB (the National Economic, Social, and Environmental Data Bank) incorporates information from more than 25 federal organizations that is fundamental to the study of economic growth, education, health issues, criminal justice, and the environment. The data bank features the complete text of influential government publications such as the *Economic Report to the President*, *Toxics in the Community*, *Health Statistics U.S.*, *Digest of Educational Statistics*, and the *U.S. Industrial Outlook*.

Source agencies include the Congressional Budget Office, Council of Economic Advisors, Economic and Statistics Administration, International Trade Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Education, Department of Justice, General Accounting Office, and many others.

The NESE•DB CD-ROM comes with software and requires a personal computer with 640K RAM, an ISO 9000 (standard) CD-ROM reader, and Microsoft CD-ROM extensions (version 2.0 or higher). It may be run on a Macintosh by using a PC emulator.

An annual subscription to the NESE•DB, updated quarterly in October, January, April, and July, is available from the NTIS Subscription Branch, which can be reached at (703) 487-4630. Ask for PB93-592440KRM. The cost is \$360.

The most recent quarter only is available from the NTIS Sales Desk, at (703) 487-4650. Ask for PB93-592441KRM. The cost is \$95, plus \$3 handling. For rush order call (800) 553-NTIS.

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These are just a sampling of the statistical problems encountered in clinical trials of psychotropic agents. Important statistical issues that are common to clinical trials in many other fields will be applicable in psychiatry as well. These include such questions as the biases produced by informed consent, the ethical issue of placebo controls, adaptive sampling, the problem of early stopping, pharmacokinetics, the problem of loss to follow up and multiplicity.

Many other areas of mental health research will occupy the attention of statisticians. Epidemiological studies which previously focused on estimation of incidence and prevalence are increasingly emphasizing the search for risk factors especially those of genetic and familial origin. Health services research will need new statistical methods for evaluation of programs using "pseudo" experimental designed and statistical assessments based on observational studies and data bases that reflect natural practice. As the national experiment with prospective payment systems continues, statistical methods for developing rational approaches to paying for mental health care, and to appraising the likely outcome of a payment approach before it is promulgated, will be developed. Needed are classification systems like the current DRGs, that based on specific covariates, are predictive of the amount of the health systems resource that an individual will utilize. This type of research will require cooperation among statisticians, economists, accountants, and mental health workers.

Advances in the neurosciences and in biotechnology such as PET, SPECT, NMR offers the mental health scientist enormous numbers of measurements of metabolic activity in the brain. The covariance structure of such data along with the error associated with the reconstruction of images has only recently begun to be studied. Techniques for testing whether two groups are different or classification of patients for diagnostic and treatment purposes are still to be developed.

These are just a few of the many areas of mental health research and practice in which the statistician has and will continue to contribute both to his own field and to improved knowledge about mental illness.

Board Approves Human Rights Inquiries

At the request of Herbert Spierer, University of Connecticut, Chair of the Committee on Scientific and Human Rights, the ASA Board of Directors authorized at its August meeting two letters of inquiry about statisticians incarcerated in the countries of Malawi and Cuba.

The request was based on reports from Amnesty International and American Watch. In Malawi, a country in eastern Africa, Amnesty International believes that two statisticians have been held in bad conditions since September 1989; the U.S. State Department has no report of their release. The AAAS has written to the Malawian government and suggested that a letter from ASA, as the largest statistical society, would be helpful. Dr. Spierer noted that this has been the case in past situations.

In the other case, there are reports of violations of the rights of two mathematics students in Cuba who were arrested in January 1990. Little is known except for the general conditions of the prison. Because Cuban mathematics departments usually house the statistics curricula, the ASA should inquire about these individuals' welfare, advised Jorge Romeu, a former member of the ASA Committee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights.

The motion to send the letters of inquiry passed by a unanimous vote with a voicing of appreciation for the important work of Dr. Spierer and his committee. Dr. Spierer will convey the Board's inquiry and concern to the two governments about these four individuals. *Amstat News* will carry details of any response to those letters on behalf of the ASA Board of Directors.

Examiners Needed for 1991 Baldrige National Quality Award

The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award seeks applications from individuals who can qualify as examiners. The award is offered annually to American companies that demonstrate the highest levels of total quality management.

Information on the program and applications to serve as an examiner are available from the Quality Award Office, A537 Administration Bldg. NIST, Gaithersburg, MD 20899. Application requests can also be made by fax 301/948-3716; telephone 301/975-2036; or electronic message on the Quality Award BBS 301/948-5635; 300/1200/2400-8-N-1. Examiner applications are due November 21, 1990.

Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award examiners are responsible for reviewing and evaluating applications submitted for the award. The Board of Examiners currently has 178 leading quality experts from business and industry, trade and professional associations, universities, government agencies, and not-for-profit organizations.

Those chosen as examiners meet the highest standards of qualification and peer recognition. All members of the board must take part in a 3-day preparation course based on the examination

items, the scoring criteria, and the examination process.

The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, established by law in 1987, was launched in 1988. The first year's winners were Motorola, Inc., the Commercial Nuclear Fuel Division of Westinghouse Electric Corporation, and Globe Metallurgical, Inc. In 1989, the winners were Milliken & Company and Xerox Business Products and Systems.

The purposes of the award are to promote quality awareness, recognize quality achievements of U.S. companies, and publicize successful quality strategies. The Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology manages the award program.

21st Anniversary Reunion at University of Michigan

The Department of Statistics at The University of Michigan is 21 years old, and, since its inception in 1969, has graduated 110 majors and awarded 165 Masters and 43 Ph.D. degrees. The Department would like to contact as many of these graduates as possible to find out what they are now doing, and ask them to write, with this information to: Robb J. Muirhead, Department of Statistics, The University of Michigan, 1444 Mason Hall, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1027.

News from Cuba Sparks Hope

**Herbert Spirer, Chair, ASA
Committee on Scientific Freedom &
Human Rights**

[Editor's note: This report is a follow up to ASA Board actions reported upon in the November 1990 Amstat News.]

In the February 1990 Newsletter of the Committee, we reported that two students in the Math Department of the University of Havana had been arrested and were being held without charge. Because this case involved statisticians, we became involved. The good news is that committee member Jorge Romeu has just reported to us that on the weekend of November 17, 1990, he heard via short-wave radio that the students had been tried and given one year of house arrest ("home reclusion").

Jorge reports that the students belonged to an organization called *Sequidores de Mella* (Followers of Jose A. Mella). In the 1930s, Mella, a student at the University of Havana, and also a

communist, organized students at the university to oppose the then-dictator General Gerardo Machado. Mella was murdered in Mexico City, apparently because he was planning to leave the communist party. According to Jorge, it appears that the Followers of Mella accuse the Castro government of betraying true socialism and implementing a Stalinist-type dictatorship. Amnesty International's original report said that one of the two students openly criticized Castro and called for a national dialogue and political reforms. Since AI was concerned about their treatment in detention (prisoners have been held incommunicado for long periods with no access to legal defense, and some reportedly have been maltreated), we can regard this legal resolution and house arrest as a considerable improvement in their status.

In our original February 1990 announcement of this situation, we called for readers to write letters and asked members of the committee to indicate whether they thought ASA should take action. By March, we had enough affirmative responses from committee members to write to the ASA Board of Directors requesting that they consider writing an official letter to Cuba. ASA Executive

Director Barbara Bailar suggested that I present the case for such official action to the Board at the August Annual Meeting in Anaheim. In the interim, I collected such information as I could from the AAAS, the U.S. State Department, and Jorge Romeu, and wrote and submitted prototype English and Spanish (thank you, Jorge!) to the Board. Committee members David Banks and Roberta Ray and consultant Tom Jabine played a part in the planning.

At the August Board meeting, the Board unanimously gave approval for modified letters to be sent. In early October, Dr. Bailar sent the English and Spanish letters to Cuba. I cannot make any direct connection between the October ASA letter and the November report of action on the students' case, but I would hope that the ASA letter helped tip the scales.

Your Letters More Important Than Ever

Does it seem that the process of getting official ASA letters is long and drawn out? Even though I believe that we all learned a lot about speeding up this process, we cannot, for obvious reasons, look for instant official response from ASA in these situations where hard information is difficult to obtain. This makes your individual letters vitally important! We hope that you will be able to take time from busy schedules to do something for our colleagues who get into difficulties, sometimes (as in the Mack case in Guatemala—see *Amstat News*, December 1990) because of their professional activities as scholars and scientists.

Note: in some cases, letter writing can pose dangers for the victim. Our Committee checks with AAAS, the State Department, and AI, as well as all committee members and interested parties before alerting readers about a letter campaign. We urge that you not write until all parties have agreed that a letter campaign will be safe as well as effective.



Excerpted from the November 1990 Newsletter of the Committee on Scientific Freedom & Human Rights of ASA. Address mail to: Herbert Spirer, 71 Big Oak Road, Stamford, CT 06903-4636; e-mail: SPIRER@UCONNVN

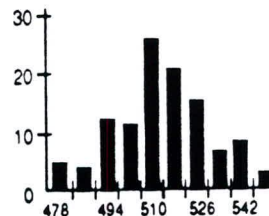
This report was prepared with the assistance of committee member Jorge Romeu.

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EXAMPLE: A new pigfood yields 4-wk weight gains (oz) for 12 pigs as shown in A — the mean is 508. How reliable is this estimate?

COPY (496 544 . . .) A Record the data
REPEAT 100 Do 100 trials
SAMPLE 12 A B Sample 12 with replacement
MEAN B C Find resample mean
SCORE C Z Score result
END End the loop
HISTOGRAM Z Hist. of trial results.



- ▶ "...an easy entry into the world of Monte Carlo experimentation..." *Journal of Business Forecasting*, Summer, 1990 (C.A. Capone, Dept. Of Econ., Baylor Univ.)
- ▶ "RESAMPLING STATS is a very well designed special purpose language with a clear manual..." *Decision Line*, May 1990 (J. Vaupel, Univ. of Minnesota)
- ▶ "Resampling methods are...likely to be the methods of choice in the future. RESAMPLING STATS is a user-friendly program which can be used in such applications." K. Peace, Chair, ASA Biopharmaceutical Section.
- ▶ "RESAMPLING STATS looks so good I intend to use it for a new course..." T.J. Wonacott, Univ. of W. Ontario
- ▶ "This approach is the wave of the future..." D.T. Searls, Univ. of N. Colorado
- ▶ "In the area of statistics, RESAMPLING STATS is one of the best I've seen." D.H. Harper, Univ. of Rochester

Refs: Simon & Burstein, *Basic Research Methods in Social Science*, 1985; Simon, Atkinson & Shevokas, *Probability and Statistics: "Experimental Results of a Radically Different Teaching Method," Am. Math. Monthly*, 11/76.

703-522-2713 call for more information
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(10:05) Floor Discussion

193 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.
TIME SERIES ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL MACROECONOMIC MODELS—Invited Papers
Bus. & Econ. Stat. Sec., IMS

Organizer: GEORGE C. TIAO, U of Chicago
Chair: RUEY S. TSAY, U of Chicago
(8:35) Formulation and Forecasting Performance of Dynamic Econometric Models. ALVARO ESCRIBANO, U Carlos III, ANTONI ESPASA, U Carlos III, DANIEL PENA, U Carlos III de Madrid
(9:15) A Time Series Approach to Econometric Models of Taiwan's Economy. GEORGE C. TIAO, U of Chicago, RUEY S. TSAY, U of Chicago
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APPLICATIONS IN SAMPLE SURVEYS—Contributed Papers
Bus. & Econ. Stat. Sec., Sec. on Surv. Research Meth.

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WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR SURVEYS NEED A RADICAL OVERHAUL: THE EXPERIENCES OF THE NSF WITH THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL DATA SYSTEM (STPDS)—Special Contributed Papers
Govt. Stat. Sec., Sec. on Phys. & Engr. Sci., Sec. on Surv. Research Meth.

Organizer: CAROLYN F. SHETTLE, NSF
Chair: KENNETH BROWN, NSF
(8:35) The Challenges Facing the STPDS: Trying To Do It All. CAROLYN F. SHETTLE, NSF
(8:55) Instrument Redesign: Trying to Make a Multitude of Users Happy While Developing a High Quality Instrument. JOHN TSAPOGAS, JOSEPH P. GANNON, National Science Foundation
(9:15) Data Collection Methodology: Improving Response Rates in Mixed Mode Surveys. R. KEITH WILKINSON, National Science Foundation, CATHERINE HINES, National Science Foundation
(9:35) Balancing Multiple Demands: Sample Redesigns for the NSF Data System. LINDA P. HARDY, National Science Foundation
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(9:50) Disc: ROGER W. HOERL, Scott Paper Co.
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(8:35) A New Tool for Distribution Approximation and Classification.

EBERHARD O. VOIT, Med. U of South Carolina, SHUIYANG YU, Med. U of South Carolina

- 95 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.**
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION GROUPS—Contributed Papers
Sec. on Stat. Educ., Sec. on Stat. & the Environment, Sec. on Phys. & Engr. Sci., Sec. on Quality & Productivity, Soc. Stat. Sec., Sec. on Stat. in Sports, SSC
1. Starting a New Journal in Statistics Education. E. JACQUELIN DIETZ, J. TIM ARNOLD, North Carolina State U
 2. Statistical Issues in Water Quality Monitoring*. SYLVIA ESTERBY, Environment Canada, DENNIS R. HELSEL, US Geological Survey, ERIC P. SMITH, VPI & State U, PAUL WHITFIELD, Environment Canada
 3. *Industrial Modeling: Comparison of Statistical and Neural Network Approaches. VIVEK M. BHIDE, AARON J. OWENS, DuPont, JAMES M. MINOR, Syntex Research
 4. Quantitative Literacy: Is it for Corporations? INES F. POLANCO, JOSEPH N. SKWISH, FRAND R. STRAWSER, DuPont
 5. Multiplying Women in Mathematics: Interventions, Incentives, and Resources. GRACE E. KISSLING, U of North Carolina, SUSAN C. HOSTETTER, Joint Comm. on Taxation
 6. SCDD/FGDC = Your Open Door to the Future. MILES DAVIS, Social Security Admin., CHARLES M. CRONER, NCHS, ROBERT W. MARX, Bur. of the Census
 7. The Human Rights Situation in Cuba. JORGE LUIS ROMEU, SUNY, Cortland, DOUGLAS A. SAMUELSON, Infologix Inc.

- 96 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.**
CAN A STATISTICIAN EARN A LIVING ON HER OWN?—Invited Papers
ASA Comm. on Women in Stat., Caucus for Women in Stat., Sec. on Stat. Consulting
Organizer: SANDRA STINNETT, U of North Carolina
Chair: HELEN BHATTACHARYYA, Oxford Research Internatl. Corp.
 (8:35) Part of a Trend: Women Starting Their Own Business. SONJA M. MCKINLAY, New England Research Inst.
 (9:00) Statistics and the Entrepreneurial Culture: One Small Company's Experience. JANET WITTES, Statistics Collaborative
 (9:25) And Then There Was One. JEANNE L. SEBAUGH, Sebaugh's Information Serv.
 (9:50) **Disc:** ARLENE ASH, Boston U
 (10:05) Floor Discussion

- 97 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.**
RESAMPLING METHODS—Contributed Papers
ASA Gen. Meth
Chair: DALLAS W. ANDERSON, NIH/NINDS
 (8:35) Test of Independence for Truncated Data. KAI JIANG, Merck Research Labs
 (8:50) Resampling Procedure for Fitting Vector Autoregressive Processes. CHANGHUA CHEN, MACA, RICHARD A. DAVIS, PETER J. BROCKWELL, Colorado State U
 (9:05) A Stepwise Resampling Method of Multiple Hypothesis Testing. JAMES F. TROENDLE, NIH
 (9:20) On Exactness of the Parametric Double Bootstrap. FRITZ W. SCHOLZ, Boeing Computer Serv.
 (9:35) Complete Monotonicity of Gibbs Samplers and Asymptotic Efficiency of Sample Means. HUIBIN YUE, K. S. CHAN, U of Iowa
 (9:50) Floor Discussion

- 98 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.**
NONPARAMETRIC METHODS—Contributed Papers
Sec. on Bayesian Stat. Sci.
Chair: ROBERT E. MCCULLOCH, U of Chicago
 (8:35) Semiparametric Bayes Inference For Point Processes. PANICKOS N. PALETTAS, VPI & State U
 (8:50) Nonparametric Bayesian Inference for Quantiles. MICHAEL LAVINE, Duke U
 (9:05) Bayesian Nonparametric Density and Regression Estimation. PETER LENK, U of Michigan

- (9:20) Robustness of Bayesian Inference for the Mean of a Normal Population With Flat-Tailed Priors. GUORUI BIAN, JULIANA SUTEDJO, Natl. U of Singapore
 (9:35) Bayesian Estimation of Entropy. THOMAS A. MAZZUCHI, George Washington U, EHSAN S. SOOFI, U of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, REFIK SOYER, George Washington U
 (9:50) **Disc:** PRAKASH LAUD, Northern Illinois U
 (10:05) Floor Discussion

- 99 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.**
STATISTICAL ISSUES IN EYE DISEASE RESEARCH—Invited Papers
Bio. Sec., ENAR-WNAR
Chair/Organizer: KYUNGMANN KIM, Dana-Farber Cancer Inst.
 (8:35) On Visual Field Data. SCOTT L. ZEGER, JOANNE KATZ, Johns Hopkins U
 (9:00) Regression Models for Bivariate Ordered Categorical Data. KYUNG-MANN KIM, Dana-Farber Cancer Inst.
 (9:25) Correlated Ordered Categorical Data. BERNARD A. ROSNER, Harvard U
 (9:50) **Disc:** ROY C. MILTON, Natl. Eye Inst.
 (10:05) Floor Discussion

- 100 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.**
BAYESIAN DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS—Special Contributed Papers
Bio. Sec., ENAR-WNAR, Sec. on Bayesian Stat. Sci., Biopharm. Sec.
Chair/Organizer: ROBERT K. TSUTAKAWA, U of Missouri, Columbia
 (8:35) Bayesian Experimental Design: A Review. KATHRYN M. CHALONER, ISABELLA VERDINELLI, Carnegie Mellon U
 (8:55) Bayesian Optimal Designs for Approximate Normality. MERLISE A. CIYDE, U of Minnesota
 (9:15) Bayesian Design of Experiment in Bioassay. DONG CHU SUN, ROBERT K. TSUTAKAWA, WANG-SHU LU, U of Missouri, Columbia
 (9:35) Two-Stage Design of Quantal Response Studies. RANDY SITTER, Carleton U, C. F. JEFF WU, U of Waterloo
 (9:55) Analysis of Censored Data from Fractionated Experiments: A Bayesian Approach. MICHAEL HAMADA, C. F. JEFF WU, U of Waterloo
 (10:15) Floor Discussion

- 101 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.**
STATISTICAL METHODS IN AIDS RESEARCH—Contributed Papers
Bio. Sec., ENAR-WNAR, Biopharm. Sec., Sec. on Epidemiology
Chair: YING LU, U of Miami
 (8:35) Using Markov Processes to Describe the Prognosis of HIV-1 Infections. YING LU, FRANK W. STITT, GORDON M. DICKINSON, U of Miami
 (8:50) Predicting the Time to AIDS Given a Series of Disease Marker. YUDI PAWITAN, University Coll., Dublin, STEVEN G. SELF, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Ctr.
 (9:05) Characterization of HIV Infection and Seroconversion by a Stochastic Model of HIV Epidemic. WAI-YUAN TAN, Memphis State U, S. R. LEE, Memphis State U, S. C. TANG, Memphis State U
 (9:20) On the HIV Incubation Distribution Under AZT Treatment. WAI-YUAN TAN, Memphis State U
 (9:35) An Approximation to HIV Incubation Distributions and Some Comparative Studies on the Fitting of HIV Incubation. WAI-YUAN TAN, S. C. TANG, S. R. LEE, Memphis State U
 (9:50) Estimation of Normal Ranges for Immunologic Measurements. WILLIAM G. CUMBERLAND, U of California, Los Angeles, J. M. G. TAYLOR, X. Y. MENG, U of California, Los Angeles
 (10:05) Floor Discussion

- 102 8:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m.**
MULTICENTER CLINICAL TRIALS—Contributed Papers
Biopharm. Sec.
Chair: CHARLES E. DU MOND, Syntex Research
 (8:35) Analysis of Treatment-by-Center Interaction in Multi-Center Trials. YI TSONG, ROBERT T. O'NEILL, DAVID HOBERMAN, FDA
 (8:50) Test of Drug by Center Interaction Based on the Number of Negatively Discrepant Centers. JAPOBRATA CHOUDHURY, FDA

into readers — and kids who achieve well in school. For example, 17-year-olds who have four or more kinds of reading materials — books, magazines, newspapers and encyclopedias — in their homes scored 25 points higher on the 1990 NAEP reading exam than kids with two or less. Youngsters with this variety of reading materials available also tend to have higher average scores on the NAEP math exams.

Whether or not they are readers, parents can show their commitment to their children's education by their TV-watching rules. "America's Smallest School" says that the number of youngsters who watch three or more hours a day continues to grow. Thirty-one percent of 17-year-olds watched three or more hours in 1972; 50 percent did so in 1990. These kids spent at least as much time in front of the tube every year as they spent in school — assuming they went to school regularly. Parents seem to know they have a responsibility here. Almost two-thirds say they have rules about television watching on school days, but, looking at the number of hours kids put in, you have to conclude that the rules aren't worth much or that parents don't enforce them.

If youngsters don't go to school, they can't benefit from what school has to offer. Here, too, many parents are failing their children by not making sure the kids attend school every day. In 1988, one eighth grader in five was absent three or more days a month — or about six weeks per school year — and 12 percent were late three or more days a month.

This kind of involvement in their children's education is hard work for parents. They have to be around the house to supervise; they have to put pressure on the kids to turn off the television and do their homework or read something; they have to make sure the kids go to school even when there is some little reason for staying home. As "America's Smallest School" makes clear, many parents are not taking on this difficult job. But it's hard to think of anything more important they can do for their kids.

"America's Smallest School" is available for \$5.50 from ETS Policy Information Center, Rosedale Rd., Princeton, N.J. 08541.

Reader correspondence is invited. Write to Mr. Shanker at the AFT, 555 New Jersey Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. Copyright 1993 by Alben Shanker. Mr. Shanker's column appeared as a paid advertisement in *The New York Times*, Sunday, February 7, 1993.



...A FIELD TRIP TO THE SCHOOL LIBRARY.

Human rights in Cuba

To the Editor:

I would like to respond to the two letters which appeared in the Jan. 25 *New York Teacher*, regarding the plight of the Cuban professors expelled from the University of Havana last year.

The first writer who classifies himself as a "former reactionary" is in error with respect to the Cuban human rights record and its relation to the U.N. Human Rights Commission. Actually, Cuba was condemned for not allowing the U.N. rapporteur to enter the island last year to report violations. In addition, last Dec. 10th, anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Human Rights in the U.N., the Cuban government-sponsored mobs (*Brigadas de Respuesta Rápida*) were set loose and several well-known human rights activists such as Elizardo Sanchez were beaten unconscious. Calling such behavior simply "over reacting," justifying these atrocities with the excuse of the American embargo or worse records elsewhere (even when it is difficult to compete with as bad a record as Cuba's) opens a can of worms. The same can be argued by the reactionary white government of South Africa and other similar political dinosaurs. These human rights activists, far from being people who are pursuing the "reintroduction of the old masters," as the writer argues, are people who seek the same political freedom that our friend here uses to air his disagreement with our human rights work and write about it in our union's newspaper. Have you been fired or beaten by a mob lately, just because you wrote your letter defending the socialist system in Cuba, Mr. Juan Luis? Have you heard of the Golden Rule?

With respect to the second letter, I would like to remind this writer that last year over 2,500 made it to Miami in rafts (and God only knows how many more drowned trying). There are over one million Cubans in exile and several thousands in political prison in the island. Wouldn't it be easier for Castro to legitimize his 34-year-old party

rule by conducting an internationally supervised, multi-party election, just as Pinochet, in Chile, the Argentine and Uruguayan juntas and the Sandinistas, in Nicaragua did? Why is Castro so afraid to hold free elections? Is he afraid that the Nicaraguan political upset will be repeated in Cuba?

Our problem is not to justify one dictatorship while condemning another. We are for pluralism and human rights across the board: in Chile, in Nicaragua, in South Africa and, of course, in Cuba.

JORGE LUIS ROMEU
Cortlandt, N.Y.

Cubans seeking freedom

To the Editor:

In your issue of Jan. 25, you printed letters by two very misguided individuals whose views reflect barely a minuscule minority of Cubans in the United States.

Perhaps, someone should lend them a copy of Armando Valladares's book *Against All Hope*. Perhaps, they should spend five minutes in conversation with the 34 people who arrived in Miami by stolen helicopter last year or with the 50 more who arrived there by plane more recently. None of these individuals seemed to be too concerned about the "free education and health care" they were leaving behind. The operative word for everyone is "freedom."

When was the last time anyone heard of a group commandeering a helicopter or airplane and flying to Cuba because of the "social justice, self-determination and independence" which exist there? My parents, brothers and I have been here 31 years and have not

Write us!

Readers are urged to share their thoughts with other United Teachers members. Write: "Letters to the Editor," *New York Teacher*, 260 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10010. Please try to keep letters brief (250 words or less). The paper reserves the right to edit letters for space reasons, but will not alter the writer's point.

NY Teacher - Feb 22/93

Please help!

WORLDWIDE APPEALS

An appeal from you to the authorities can help the victims of human rights violations whose stories are told below.

You can help free a prisoner of conscience or stop torture. Your message can bring liberty to a victim of "disappearance". You may prevent an execution.

The victims are many, the violations wide-ranging. Every appeal counts.

TURKEY

Erdogan Kizilkaya: aged 23, on 4 August 1991 he was taken from his home in Kayseri, Central Turkey, to Kayseri Police Headquarters and reportedly interrogated under torture in connection with his alleged membership of the armed organization Devrimci Sol (Revolutionary Left).

Erdogan Kizilkaya claims that when he arrived at Kayseri Police Headquarters he was stripped and taken to an interrogation room where electric shocks were applied to his penis, hands and feet. He was hung by the wrists and electric shocks were again applied to his extremities and sexual organs.

On 9 August 1991, Erdogan Kizilkaya was examined by a physician at a Health Centre authorized by the Ministry of Health to carry out forensic examinations. The medical report stated that the examination "showed no marks of blows or force". Later that day, Erdogan Kizilkaya was formally arrested, charged with membership of Devrimci Sol, and sent to Kayseri Prison. Prison officials, concerned about his poor health, referred him for a medical examination which confirmed widespread injuries, including marks on his wrists, apparently caused by the hanging, and burns "possibly caused by electrical current".

On 11 September 1991, Erdogan Kizilkaya was released pending trial by Kayseri State Security Court. He submitted a formal complaint to the Kayseri State Prosecutor, in which he named those responsible for his torture. However, in accordance with the Anti-Terror Law passed in April 1991, the prosecutor referred the complaint to the local governor's office for evaluation. By March 1992, no legal action had been taken against those responsible.

Please send courteous letters urging that Erdogan Kizilkaya's allegations of torture be fully investigated, that those responsible be brought to justice, and that steps be taken to prevent the

issuing of misleading medical certificates to: Ismet Sezgin/ Minister of the Interior/ İçişleri Bakanlığı/ 06644 Ankara/ Turkey. □



Erdogan Kizilkaya

CUBA

Jorge Quintana Silva: a 29-year-old mathematics student at Havana University, he was convicted in November 1990 of "disrespect" and sentenced to three years "restricted liberty". AI considers him to be a prisoner of conscience.

Jorge Quintana Silva and another student, Carlos Ortega, were arrested on 4 January 1990 and detained for 10 months before being brought to trial. They were convicted of "disrespect" for writing a letter to the executive board of the Communist Youth Union, of which they were both members, accusing President Fidel Castro of being a traitor. They received sentences of three and two years' "restricted liberty", respectively, and were conditionally released.

Jorge Quintana Silva was re-arrested on 9 October 1991; about 15 members of the unofficial Cuban Democratic Convergence were arrested at the same time. At a press conference two days earlier, the group had called on the Fourth Communist Party Congress to instigate radical political

reforms and also attempted to distribute a statement to this effect to Congress delegates. The authorities claimed that Jorge Quintana Silva was re-arrested because he had contravened the conditions of his earlier release, although they did not specify how. He was sent to Kilo 8 Prison in Pinar del Rio Province to complete the remainder of his three-year sentence. Of the others arrested on 9 October, some were later released, one is awaiting trial and others have been tried and sentenced to up to three years' imprisonment for offences including "illegal association".

■ Please send courteous appeals calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Jorge Quintana Silva to: Dr Fidel Castro Ruz/ President of the Council of State/ Havana/ Cuba. □

SUDAN

Dr Ahmad Osman Siraj: a 46-year-old senior lecturer at the University of Khartoum's medical school, he is serving a 15-year sentence for his alleged involvement in a plot to overthrow the military government of General Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir. He was previously detained without trial from September 1989 until April 1990 when he was released uncharged.

The government alleged that Dr Siraj knew of a planned coup attempt by military officers and that, although he refused to take part, he failed to report the matter to the security services. AI believes that he is being made to answer for his involvement in the Sudan Doctors' Union and left-wing politics, his role in the non-violent protests which led to the overthrow of President Nimein in April 1985 and his outspoken criticism of the current government.

In January 1991, Dr Siraj and 12 other civilians were summarily tried by a military court, which denied them legal representation. Their individual trials

lasted no more than five minutes each followed by a few minutes' deliberation. They were convicted of "waging war against the state" and sentenced to death. The Head of State commuted the sentences to 15 years' imprisonment.

In December 1991, Dr Siraj was again brought before a military tribunal, for reasons which remain unclear, and was later transferred from Kober Prison in Khartoum North, to Shalla prison in western Sudan.

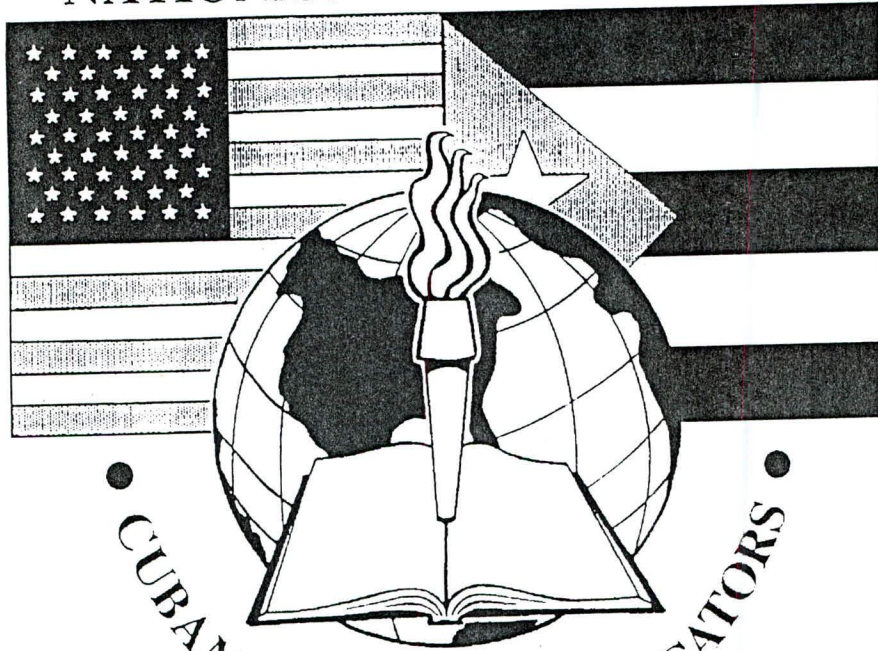
AI considers Dr Ahmed Osman Siraj to be a prisoner of conscience, imprisoned because of his non-violent opposition to the military government. He

suffers from chronic back pain and clinical depression, conditions for which he is reportedly not receiving medical attention.

■ Please send courteous appeals requesting Dr Siraj's immediate and unconditional release to: Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir/ President of the Republic of Sudan/ People's Palace/ PO Box 281/ Khartoum/ Sudan. □



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF



• CUBAN-AMERICAN EDUCATORS •

EMBASSY OF CHILE

1732 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

Sr. D. Carlos Bascuñan Edwa
Jefe del Gabinete President
Santiago de Chile



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Santiago, Agosto 09 de 1993

Señor
Jorge Luis Romeu
Comité de Derechos Humanos NACAE
State University of New York
P.O.Box 2000, Cortland, N.Y. 13045

Estimado señor:

En relación a su carta de fecha 20/07/93, S.E. el Presidente de la República don Patricio Aylwin Azócar ha impartido instrucciones para que su solicitud sea debidamente estudiada en la Subsecretaría de Relaciones Exteriores.

Para tal efecto, este Gabinete ha remitido su carta mediante oficio GAB.PRES. 93/0003968 a dicha instancia para que, de ser posible, sus inquietudes sean atendidas.

Saluda atentamente a Ud.


Carlos Bascuñán Edwards
Jefe de Gabinete Presidencial

c.c.: Archivo Presidencial