

Amnesty International head speaks in Portland

Jack Healy, American chair of Amnesty International, was in Portland last weekend for the organization's regional conference. Healy, aid to Dick Gregory from 1974 to 1977, notes that Amnesty International's purpose is to "protect people against intrusions by their government." In pursuit of that goal AI has launched campaigns for prisoners of conscience and against government policies on all seven continents.

Recent actions in the United States included a worldwide telegram campaign to Governor George Wallace of Alabama to halt that state's first execution in years. Amnesty International also engaged in demonstrations in Texas for the same cause there. Coordinator of the anti-death penalty campaign is Pat Murray, a black woman.

Amnesty International also recently submitted reports to the courts through pro bono attorneys on behalf of the rights of Haitian and Ethiopian refugees. According to Healy, the refugees would be subjected to harsh ex-judicial punishment if forced to return to their native countries.

A report submitted by Amnesty International called on the Carter administration to investigate the F.B.I. The report, says Healy, found that a "constant stream of unwarranted expenditures of money, by the government — wiretapping" and other surveillance by the FBI is behind a large number of trials of black political leaders in the United States. The Carter administration failed to begin such an investigation.

Amnesty International, says Healy and local organizer Debora Ashworth, doesn't compare human rights situations across international borders. Rather than saying that a situation "is getting better or worse," AI simply reports the number and extent of human rights violations on a country by country basis.

The organization does release periodic reports showing the number of violations during certain periods of time and these are often used by others to make comparisons and relative judgments.

Recent reports on Guatemala and El Salvador, for instance, showed the situation in those countries to be quite bad. The reports detailed numerous violations including the execution of 2,600 peasants in Guatemala. The Amnesty International report was coincidentally released about the same time as the Reagan administration's certification of human rights improvements. AI's report was then used as a counterweight by those opposing certification.

Direct campaigns on behalf of

individual prisoners of conscience by Amnesty International worldwide number 5,000 a year. One thousand of those people are freed due to pressure from AI and indigenous groups says Healy. There are 41 national Amnesty International groups for a total of 350,000 volunteers worldwide. The organization is based in London where the staff of 160 investigates reports and disseminates information. In the United States 260 local groups are active as are 180 campus groups. Each local group works on behalf of two prisoners per month.

Urgent action campaigns on behalf of persons being tortured or in immediate fear of execution succeed 50 percent of the time, according to Healy. "Nobody," noted Healy, "wants to be known as a torturer." Currently, Amnesty International is campaigning against political killings by governments everywhere — east or west, north or south. Ashworth notes that persons interested in participating in campaigns should call 228-7210 for more information.

Nigeria struggles for stability

Nigeria, once the favorite of western banks because of its large oil reserves, free market economy and western oriented population, is now in deep economic trouble.

The fall in world oil prices and the deterioration of Nigeria's domestic economy have forced the nation into arrears on its short term foreign debts and western bankers are reluctant to offer new loans.

The banks have attempted to force Nigeria to seek assistance from the International Monetary Fund (I.M.F.) The government has been reluctant because of the conditions that would be forced on the nation by I.M.F.

The extent of Nigeria's debt is not known, which adds to the confusion. The Nigerian central bank says the country owes \$3.3 billion in overdue short-term payments. Western bankers estimate the loans as twice that figure.

The confusion and uncertainty is threatening Nigeria's trade credit. Cash reserves are short; in January they were estimated at \$1.3 million, enough to finance about a month's worth of imports. Some experts

believe the cash reserves are about gone.

The U.S. and European banks disagree about how to reclaim their funds. The European banks proposed converting the arrears into a new loan with 18 months to three years repayment schedule. The U.S. banks want no bail-out loans unless I.M.F. is involved.

An I.M.F. "stabilization package" would include such measures as devaluation of the currency, limiting imports, abolishing consumer subsidies and a wage freeze. These extremes would be unacceptable to the Nigerian people who are already suffering a high rate of unemployment.

Nigeria's expulsion of a million foreign workers from Ghana was aimed at creating more jobs for Nigerians.

With an election scheduled for August, President Shehu Shagari is expected to resist going to the I.M.F. as long as possible. But the fall in oil prices resulting from the international oil glut — Nigeria gets 94 percent of its export earnings from oil — could rapidly bring the Nigerian government to that decision.

Mullah against Mullah

(Continued from page 1 column 6) the market in Iran.

A 400 million dollar economic agreement was signed with pro-U.S. Turkey on January 25th.

Most importantly, Iran's \$4 billion in U.S. banks was suddenly unfrozen. The same day it was announced that Iran is willing to pay \$26 million for the damages done to the U.S. embassy in Iran as well as most of the law suits claimed by U.S. corporations.

Khomeini was reported to be furious. Three months earlier, sensing that power was slipping from his hands, in a much publicized 8-point decree, he had tried to check this trend — as well as curbing some of the excesses of his rivals which was taking on dangerous proportions.

The powerful faction arrayed against him is said to be a curious conglomerate of rich bazaar merchants, large land-holders and a super-fanatical group called the Hojatieh. This latter group would

simply make Jerry Falwell look like a big social reformer.

On Khomeini's side are a few of his old associates and millions of the so-called "barefoot, downtrodden" masses who find encouragement in Khomeini's regular sermons regarding the "hovel-dwellers" revolution.

Ironically, it was the supporters of this faction that fell, one by one, to the deadly fire of terrorist bullets two years ago.

Finally, usually-reliable observers believe that the trials of the Communist leaders are a move designed to embarrass Khomeini by his opponents.

As the last remaining group outside the government, the Communists were assured by Khomeini that they would not be harmed as long as they abide by the laws promulgated by the Constitution.

(Next: Reagan and Iran)

Labor unrest hits

(Continued from page 1 column 6) tation, part of the Portland-Gresham light rail project.

Using bullhorns, protestors shouted to Hatch's non-union employees that they would be better off with a contract. The objective of the protest, according to Oregon Building Trades Council Secretary-Treasurer Robert Stanfill, is to get Hatch to sit down at the bargaining table and work out a union agreement.

At Silver Wheel Freight Lines, a Portland-based trucking firm, two Teamster pickets were injured in a fight with strikebreakers the day

after four 40' trailers owned by the firm burned, causing \$6,750 damage.

Silver Wheel, which has filed for bankruptcy, is asking employees to take a 30% wage and benefit cut. The 2½ month old Teamster strike involves 300 employees at 20 terminals in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Downtown, roving boilermaker pickets from Seattle shut down work for an hour at the PacWest Center building site on May 2. They had a dispute with Isaacson Steel, a steel fabricating firm and major contractor on the PacWest project.

In brighter news, 23 union nurses at Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children won a new contract without striking. They will receive a 6% wage increase for the first year, better benefits for part time nurses, a raise in night shift differentials, and free parking.

"Historically, nurses have been undervalued and underutilized," said Connie Weimer, labor relations representative with the Oregon Nurses Association. "We are satisfied we made progress," she said.

INTERESTING FACTS

ASB

brought to you every week by

AMERICAN STATE BANK

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Some say that the phrase "rule of thumb" comes from a practice that was once common among brewmasters. The chief brewer used to test the temperature of a batch of brew by dipping in his thumb.

President Ronald Reagan's last movie was *The Killers* in 1964.

Many years ago, the U.S. Mint accidentally printed on a run of its gold coins: "In Gold We Trust."

We do not do business with South Africa.

ASB

American State Bank

AN INDEPENDENT BANK
Head Office
2737 N. E. Union
Portland, Oregon 97212

sears

May 8th belongs to mother



SAVE A BUNDLE NOW.
BUNDLE UP LATER.

SEARS PRE-SEASON COAT SALE

All the latest 1983 misses and junior styles. Choose from versatile storm coats, rabbit and fake furs, stadium coats, fur trims, quilted jackets and more. All for less. At 25% off, it's a sale you can really warm up to. Take today or ask about our Lay-Away plan. Available now through July 16 in the Coat Department and Junior Bazaar.

25% OFF FALL AND WINTER COATS

Regular 1983 prices will be in effect after July 16, 1983. For products labeled to show country of origin of imported furs.

See our special order book: some styles are special order only. Not all sizes in all styles. Styles shown are representative of Sears assortment.

Fitting savings on our Skirts, Pants and Blazers That Fit \$6 to \$13 off

2-way stretch woven Celanese Fortrel® polyester pants, skirt in regular and full hip sizes; pants petite, average, tall lengths; fully acetate-lined blazer regular or full-cut sizes. Basic and fashion colors.

Pants, reg. \$16 to \$18 ... 9.99 to 11.99
Skirt, reg. \$18 to \$19 ... 11.99 to 12.99
Blazer, reg. \$40 to \$41 ... 27.99

Versatile 4-way blouse
Detachable jabot and spaghetti tie. Bold stripes or pastel solids. Polyester. Reg. \$17 to \$19 ... 9.99 to 10.99 ea.
In our Misses' Sportswear Department

Isn't It Divine coordinates; buy any two and get a \$5 bikini panty for 1¢ more!

Dainty, delicate, divine. Our Antron® III nylon tricot coordinates are so pretty you'll want them all. So, buy your two favorites from our collection and we'll offer you a bikini panty for only one penny more. Camisole, \$12; Half slip, \$10; Underwire bra, \$10; Bra slip, \$17. Not shown: Contour bra, \$9; Natural bra, \$7.

All Hug-alon® II hosiery at 20% to 40% off

Stock up and save on all styles of our sheer, great fitting Hug-alon® II hosiery.

\$1.89 pantyhose with Nothing Else® top ... 1.09
\$2.29 moderate control top pantyhose ... 1.69
\$1.99 Thi-top stockings ... 1.59
\$2.99 Light Support pantyhose ... 2.39

You can count on **Sears**
Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back

WASHINGTON SQUARE - PHONE 620-1610
HIGHWAY 217 at GREENBURG RD - PARK FREE
Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. - Sunday noon to 6 p.m.
PORTLAND - PHONE 238-2311
N.E. GRAND at LLOYD BLVD. - PARK FREE
Monday and Friday 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. - Sunday, open to 6 p.m.

Sale prices throughout this section will be effective Wed., May 4 thru Sat., May 7 unless otherwise stated.

Triaminic® Syrup
Triaminic® Tablets
or
Triaminic-12® Tablets

For Allergy Relief
that's nothing to
sneeze at.

© 1981 Doris Laboratories, Division of
Sandoz, Inc., Lincoln, Nebraska 68501