

June 25, 1970

Dr. Gabino Fraga
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Organization of American States
1725 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Doctor Fraga:

Accompanying this letter of request is a body of documentation of alleged cases of terror by the Brazilian authorities.

We respectfully request that the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States take the appropriate action to investigate these charges and to determine whether there have been violations of human rights in Brazil in accordance with the definitions established in Article 53 of your regulations dated May 2, 1967.

*See
Dossier
1969
III*

"The detention of Murilo Pinto da Silva, Maurício Viero de Paiva, Afonso Celso Lana Leite, Jorge Raimundo Nahas, Maria José Carvalho Nahas, Nilo Sérgio Menezes Macedo, and Júlio Antonio Betancourt de Almeida took place on January 29, 1969, about 4:00 a.m., in Rua Itacarambu in the neighborhood of Sao Geraldo in the city of Belo Horizonte. In the act one of the prisoners, Maurício, was hit by two police bullets.

"All of the prisoners were immediately put up against the back wall of a house, beaten severely, and prepared to be shot by the police who exultantly loaded their machine guns. They were stopped by Luiz Soares da Rocha, Chief of the patrol, who became frightened over the consequences which such an act might provoke.

"Frustrated in their shooting attempt, the police began to beat the prisoners more violently with their machine gun clips. All of them were beaten, almost all had deep scalp wounds, including Maurício who, despite the fact that he could no longer stand up, had his head beaten so badly that later in the emergency hospital doctors thought that he had been wounded in the head with a bullet. Still in back of the building in Rua Itacarambu the prisoners were handcuffed and tied with wire about the wrists and neck. Some of the police tried to strangle them with these wires.

"The prisoners were then taken to the Social Vigilance Headquarters of the Civil Police (DVS; formerly DOPS, Socio-Political Order Bureau) in a Willys Station Wagon. Since Maurício's leg was stiff from a bullet wound in his knee he had to lie stretched out, leaning over the top of the back seat, increasing his suffering. Upon arrival at DVS, the prisoners were beaten again with fists and machine gun clips and kicked. No longer able to withstand the beatings--he had been bleeding for more than an hour-- Maurício fell to

the ground still tied with wires. He was dragged away from the others and lay where he was thrown on the ground, being kicked from time to time by policemen. It was nearly 8:00 a.m. when they decided to take him to the emergency hospital since, as Sheriff Thacir Menezes Sia said, 'He apparently isn't going to die.' He arrived at the hospital four hours after having been shot.

"The policemen who participated in the arrest, imprisonment, and beatings were: Luiz Soares da Rocha (Superintendent for General Policing for the State of Minas Gerais), Sheriffs Lara Rezende, Mário Candido da Rocha (from the Petty Larceny and Robberies Division in Belo Horizonte), José Pereira, Haydn Saraiva, and José Reis (also from Larceny and Robberies), along with other policemen and civil guardsmen.

"The beating began when the prisoners arrived and continued for the whole time they remained there. After they arrived they were made to stand in a cell, facing the wall, where they remained without food or water until the following morning. DVS police, civil guardsmen, and military police entered frequently to club, kick, and beat them, leaving them lacerated from head to foot. Nearly all of them had to have stitches in their heads. In addition to this they were submitted to every sort of psychological torture, threatened constantly with being killed.

"Throughout the whole first day, Sheriff Thacir Sia told Murilo Pinto da Silva that before things were over he would kill him, 'as I have done many times before without being caught.' Murilo was taken to an inquiry, prodded along the whole way at knife-point as ordered by Thacir Sia.

"Maurício Viero de Paiva, because he had been operated on, gave his deposition in the emergency hospital. For that reason he was not beaten during this first interrogation but he was threatened with being killed and with being taken that same day to DVS where he 'would be put in the pau-de-arara and clubbed,' in the words of the DVS notary public, Ariosvaldo Hora, who interrogated him in the presence of Fábio Bandeira.

"Angelo Pessuti da Silva and Erwin Rezende Duarte, both taken prisoner on the morning of January 15th, 1969, also passed through the DVS, being choked, given rabbit punches, and kicked while they were there. José Raimundo de Oliveira was also beaten in the DVS, having been hung up several times by the neck.

"Some days after Maurício had arrived at the emergency hospital (more or less a week later), Antonio José de Oliveira arrived with extremely serious bullet wounds. He had been thrown into a DVS cell for more than two hours 'waiting to die,' according to the police of that delegation, and subjected to general beatings. Two days later Délio Fantini arrived at the emergency hospital with a leg and an arm broken in various places, lacerations on several parts of his body, and several cuts on his head. Délio Fantini was cruelly mistreated in the DVS where he shared a cell

75

with Júlio Antonio Betancourt de Almeida who saw him when he was brought back from questioning. According to Júlio, Délio Fantini had had 'teeth pulled out, an arm broken and bent to one side, and his toes hammered; his legs were very swollen, he had two deep cuts in his head, and his whole body was scarred from being clubbed and from cigarette burns.' He was in such a serious state, according to Maurício, that the people working in the emergency hospital (doctors, nurses, etc.) were horrified at the savagery of the police.

"Irrany Campos, seventeen days after having been operated on for a ruptured liver, with excoriations all over his body (he had been a victim of a bus accident on the Almas viaduct in Rio, in which thirty persons were killed), and with a post-operative abscess, was thrown into a dirty DVS cell where he slept on the floor and had no medical attention. It was several days before he was given a bed, blanket, and medical attention, thanks to the intervention of the director of the emergency hospital who said that he required urgent care. He ate nothing since what they offered him consisted of uncooked rice and soured bean soup. He was also threatened with torture.

"DVS Torturers: Thacir Menezes Sia, Ariosvaldo Hora, Scoralick, José do Carmo, Joel, Corporal Ferreira, Márcio, José Aparecido, Anésio, Geraldo, Vander, Bicalho.

"The first interrogations of the inquiry were performed in the Larceny and Robberies Division of Belo Horizonte. The Inquiry was directed by Luiz Soares da Rocha, State Police Chief. On his command and that of the two Sheriffs, Lara Rezende and Mário Candido da Rocha, the prisoners were barbarously tortured.

"The first two prisoners, Angelo Pezzuti da Silva and Erwin Rezende Duarte, were taken there twice during the last two weeks of January 1969. Erwin Rezende Duarte was forced to lie on the floor nude where he was beaten and kicked all over by Lara Rezende, Mário Candido da Rocha, police officers Rodrigo, Saraiva, and others. Army Captain Gomes Carneiro who was also present beat him and gave him 'telephones' (clapping both hands at once over the victims's ears). On another occasion, shocks were applied to him and he was beaten with a paddle in addition to being threatened with death, with the arrest of members of his family, etc. Angelo Pezzuti da Silva was beaten while hung in the 'pau-de-arara' by José Pereira. While he applied 'hydraulics' (pouring water in the victim's up-turned nostrils), José Maria beat him violently on the soles of his feet with a rubber paddle, and Sub-Inspector Cecildes, together with Sheriff Mário Candido da Rocha, applied electric shocks to him with a portable hand generator.

"In February, 1969, the other prisoners who were in either the DVS or the Magalhaes Pinto Penal Colony began to be interrogated in the Larceny Division. Nilo Sérgio Menezes Macedo was beaten for several days by Sheriffs Lara Rezende and Mário Rocha and by Detectives José Pereira, Haydu Saraiva, and others. He was stripped nude and put for three days and nights

24

in an infectious, stinking cell full of enormous rats which kept him from sleeping at night. Angelo and Erwin also slept in this cell. Finally, the above-mentioned men hung Nilo Sérgio in the 'pau-de-arara,' beat the soles of his feet with rubber paddles, applied electric shocks to him, and suffocated him with a water-soaked sponge.

"Jorge Raimundo Nahas was tortured in this station by Mário Candido da Rocha, José Pereira, Haydu Saraiva, José Maria, and Pionoro, who used electric shocks and paddles. He was left with his hands and fingernails split open and scars all over his body. Pedro Paulo Bretas was tortured there in January, 1969, by Sheriffs Lara Rezende and Mário Rocha, and by detectives Adao, Haydu Saraiva, José Pereira, and others. He was hung in the 'pau-de-arara' and subjected to electric shocks and paddlings. He was forced to remain in a rat-infested cell for three days and nights.

"In the Larceny and Robberies Division common prisoners and adolescents between twelve and fifteen years of age were tortured in the presence of Angelo Pezzuti da Silva, Erwin Rezende Duarte, Pedro Paulo Bretas, and Júlio Antonio Betancourt de Almeida to try to induce them to talk.

"After having been taken to this Division Júlio Antonio was put nude in a cell whose sanitary facilities were out of order and the air difficult to breathe, and where there were dozens of enormous rats. During the whole time he remained there he could hear the screams of people being tortured. He saw some fifteen or twenty persons imprisoned in a single cell with dimensions two meters by two meters.

"Maurício Vieira de Paiva, forced to remain in this Division despite the fact that he had been wounded and recently operated upon, was beaten on his wounds. The tortures perpetrated in the Larceny and Robberies Division were performed under the command of Luiz Soares da Rocha and Sheriffs Lara Rezende and Mário Candido da Rocha, with the consent and connivance of Colonel Otavio Aguiar de Medeiros, at that time Commander of CPOR, who was represented during several interrogations in the Larceny and Robberies Division by Captain Almeida.

"Following the interrogations in the Larceny Division the prisoners were left in the disposition of military authorities of the Magalhaes Pinto Penal Colony where several other political prisoners were brought later as well. They were left incommunicado for several months, with conversation prohibited, in cells whose windows were closed and painted black. During this period they were made to sit the whole day on their mattresses (there were no beds), and forbidden to lie down or stand up in the cell. At times they were forbidden to read or smoke for several weeks at a time, and they were not allowed to go out into the yard to the sunlight. Several of them became ill during this time. Nilo Sergio needed medical attention for a serious lesion on his left ear during this period. Authorities, including Colonel Otavio Aguiar de Medeiros, were informed of their state of health through family members, but absolutely no steps were taken to help them.

Everyone, including the prison warden, was informed of what was happening to Nilo and were even aware of the diagnosis made by Dr. Idalmo Duarte (Helena Passing Building, 11th floor, Belo Horizonte) and of his explicit directions that the patient be operated on immediately in the first days of May. None of this was taken into account.

"During this period the proceedings were transferred to military police headquarters where Colonel Otavio Aguiar de Medeiros presided. The interrogation took place in a special room of the CPOR (12th Region) where the prisoners were subjected to various forms of moral and psychological pressure. There they remained for the whole time that depositions were being taken--several weeks--in cells without beds or showers. Those responsible for the inquiry were not especially interested in adding to the tortures already suffered by the prisoners because they had already obtained the information which they sought. Nevertheless, Jorge Raimundo Nahas was tortured in that headquarters, in a physical education department room, to see if his depositions were true or whether he was 'inventing' (according to Lieut. Delmensei) new information. He was tortured with electric shocks given with an army fieldtelephone generator and made to stand on small, upturned cans with sharp rims. The torture was performed on the orders of Colonel Medeiros and Captain Almeida by Captain Portela, Lieut. Delmensei, Sergeant Cleber, Sergeant Averno, Corporal Oires, Officer Vicente, and a civilian (probably an agent of the SNI--Federal Bureau of Investigation) by the name of Afonso Paulino.

"While still in the Larceny and Robberies Division in Belo Horizonte, Antonio Pereira Mattos suffered tortures. He was hung in the 'pau-de-arara' position, given electric shocks for twelve hours together with beatings with a rubber paddle all over his body. He was given 'telephones' on the ears, 'hydraulics,' and kicks. As a consequence of the torture which he suffered, he had to take antibiotics for thirty days. He was threatened with being put on the 'operating table' which, according to the torturers, is an iron table which is equipped with a device to stretch the victim's body while his ribs are being scraped with a knife.

"In this Division Joao Lucas Alves died. He was an ex-Air Force Sergeant who had been imprisoned the previous year in Guanabara and transferred to the Larceny Division in Belo Horizonte in January, 1969. Joao Lucas Alves was brutally tortured in the Larceny Division, according to Sheriffs and Detectives ~~there~~, because he was not willing to admit that he had participated in bank robberies. The police say that Joao Lucas committed suicide, hanging himself with his own trousers in his cell.

"When the inquiry was over in Belo Horizonte prisoners Angelo Pezzuti da Silva, Murilo Pinto da Silva, Nilo Sérgio Menezes Macedo, Júlio Antonio Betancourt de Almeida, Afonso Celso Lara Leite and Pedro Paulo Bretas were sent to Guanabara (First Army Company--PE) at the request of Colonel Ary, who was in charge of a military police inquiry on August 18, 1969. The prisoners were transported in the back of a radio patrol wagon, all six piled and handcuffed together, without air, which caused practically all of them to become ill and vomit on the others. No attention was given to

22

them, however, from Belo Horizonte all the way to Guanabara (a journey of some 650 miles--translator's note). During the trip they were in the custody of DVS police (including the torturers Scoralick and Ariosvaldo Hora) and Army Lieutenant Marcelo. On arrival at PE they were dragged by their necks or kicked out of the patrol wagon and stripped of their clothing. After being beaten they were thrown into two ceramic-tiled cells (five in one and one in the other), each two meters square, where they remained nude for seventy-four days without the minimum of hygienic facilities. About a month later Maurício Vieira de Paiva and Irany Campos were also sent to PE.

"The first two nights after their arrival the prisoners were kept awake. They were made to stand for 96 hours and from time to time were sprayed with streams of cold water from a hose. During the whole time they were in PE the above-named prisoners experienced famine--the word is no exaggeration. When they were given food it was not enough to fill a water glass. From time to time guards would spray cold water into the cells and twice they sprayed tear gas, nearly causing the prisoners to suffocate when they could not escape the gas. Candy and cigarettes were forbidden and if the prisoners were found with any they were beaten. The prisoners lost so much weight--so rapidly--despite complete inactivity in the cells, that their families were startled; they looked like specters just released from concentration camps. The PE torturers proudly repeated that they ran a 'Brazilian Gestapo.'

"In September, 1969, the following prisoners were submitted to tortures in PE. Murilo Pinto da Silva: tortured with electric shocks, wooden paddles, slaps and kicking for four uninterrupted hours. Tortures: Major Enio Alburquerque de Lacerda (PE Commander), Captain Joao Luis (CIC Cavalry), Lieutenant Haylton (PE-Guanabara), Sergeant Oliveira, Sergeant Nontes. Also present: Sergeant Rangel and Lieutenant-Colonel Ary (in charge of the inquiry). During the tortures, Lieutenant Haylton brought an eight-year-old child into the room. The torturers stopped the torture for a moment. Lieutenant Haylton said: 'No problem. Go ahead. He (referring to the child) needs to get used to this.'

"Pedro Paulo Bretas: hung in the 'pau-de-arara,' paddled, tortured with electric shocks and with finger irons twenty centimeters long in which his fingers were squeezed for two days and nights. He was tortured by Corporals Mendonca, Povoreli, and Gilberto, on orders of Captain Joao Luis and Lieutenant Haylton. The irons were applied by Sergeant Andrade.

"Angelo Pezzuti da Silva: tortured with electric shocks and wooden paddles. At a certain point in the tortures Angelo could take no more and threw himself into a glass window, cutting himself in several places and losing consciousness. He was taken to the Military Base Hospital where he received several stitches on his sides and on one arm. His admittance to the hospital was registered.

"Alfonço Celso Lana Leite: tortured with electric shocks, slaps, and 'telephones' for several hours by Sergeant Andrade who, even after the interrogation was over, continued given him shocks to watch the 'interesting contortions which the shocks produced in Afonço Celso's body. Angelo Pezzuti was tortured by Corporals Mendonca and Povoreli on orders of Lieutenant Haylton.

"Júlio Antonio Betancourt de Almeida was hung in the 'pau-de-arara,' and subjected to shocks, 'telephones,' and beatings with paddles. A police club was forced into his anus. He was tortured by Captain Guimaraes, Sergeant Andrade, Corporal Mendonca, Corporal Povoreli, and a Private named Marcolino.

"On October 8th instruction on interrogation techniques was given in the PE to a group of about one hundred military men, the majority being sergeants from the three services. Before this instruction Mauricio was subjected to shocks 'to see if the apparatus was working well,' as a corporal by the name of Mendonca said. At the hour of instruction, about 4:00 p.m., prisoners Mauricio de Paiva, Angelo Pezzuti, Murilo Pinto, Pedro Paulo Bretas, Afonço Celso Lana, Nil Sérgio, Júlio Antonio, Irany Campos, and ex-military policeman from Guanabara, and another prisoner known as Zezinho were taken to a place near the rooms where the meeting was being held.

"Immediately two of them were made to enter the room and remove their clothes. As Lieutenant Haylton projected 'slides' explaining the type of torture, its characteristics and effects, Sergeants Andrade, Oliveira, Rossoni, and Rangel, together with Corporals Mendonca and Povoreli and Private Marcolino, tortured the prisoners before the hundred military men present in a live demonstration of the various torture methods employed. Mauricio received shocks; Bretas had his fingers squeezed with irons; Murilo was made to stand on the sharp-rimmed cans; Zezinho was hung in the 'pau-de-arara'; the ex-military policeman was beaten with paddles; and Nilo Sérgio was made to hold weights at arms length while standing on one leg.

"During the time the prisoners were in PE, while they themselves were not being tortured, they could hear the continuous screams of persons being tortured night and day. After some time they were able to distinguish by the screams and other sounds the forms of torture being used. While they were there the following were tortured: Marcos Aurelio, a copy-desk journalist of the Correio da Manhã. He received shocks and was beaten and burned with cigarette butts. The torturers wanted him to confess to assaulting a banking ^{Agencia} in Bonsucesso. Since he was the English teacher of the wife of the president of Light he insinuated that she had participated in the assault in order to stop the torture and be taken to the residence of the president of Light and reveal what was happening to him (which in fact is what happened). He was also forced to denounce Almir and Walmir as being guilty of revolutionary activities.

20

"Walmir Marum Cury and Almir Marum Cury were taken prisoners and conducted to PE. Walmir was put in the same cell with Mauricio V. de Paiva. After a few minutes they began to hear desperate screams. Walmir told Mauricio that he recognized the screaming to be his brother's voice. After a half-hour of uninterrupted screams, the torturers came to the cell where he was and told Walmir: 'You can show your hand; now it's your turn.' Sergeant Oliveira said that and then took Walmir away. Almost immediately the prisoners began to hear screams and the sound of beating. More than an hour after he had left Walmir was thrown back into the cell in a pitiful state: his hands and feet were purple, bloody, and swollen up like a ball. His sides, buttocks, and thighs were raw. His chest was burned and his face swollen.

"On October 14th Reinaldo J. Melo was brought to PE. The prisoners heard his screams and the sounds of beating from 10:00 at night until 4 in the morning. He was hung in the 'pau-de-arara,' paddled, and given shocks and 'telephones.' The prisoners saw him go by their cell after the tortures, completely beaten up, covered with lacerations, and with his limbs swollen.

"Carlos Mine Baufeno: tortured with pistol whipping, electric shocks, 'telephones,' and beatings with wooden switches. He, too, no longer able to stand the tortures, threw himself through a glass window, receiving various cuts on his sides. He was treated in the military hospital. Carlos Mine is a minor and was treated by Lieutenant Haylton who had sent him to be tortured.

"Jayme (son of the manager of the Leblon branch of the 'Banco do Brasil') was tortured with electric shocks and beaten with wooden paddles. They hit him over the head with a box. He was left with scrapes and deep wounds all over his feet, knees, etc., and with his fingernails split apart.

"Salvador Sales Wey (called China--and ex-worker at Remington) was submitted to shocks by a federal police officer who brought him to PE for that reason.

"Aldo de Albuquerque de Alcantara (who lives at Rua Costa Filho, Block B, Apt. 304) was taken prisoner in Guanabara as an automobile theft suspect. He was hung in the 'pau-de-arara' and swung back and forth. This caused two large lacerations on his forearms where the 'pau-de-arara' (the pole from which he was suspended) rubbed him. He was subjected to several sessions of shocks and paddlings with wooden paddles. The beatings caused a spinal dislocation. His white Aero-Willys was used by PE torturers in making their rounds.

"A woman, Dona Angelina, (mother-in-law of Juarez Guimaraes de Brito who was being sought by the police,) was imprisoned in PE for more than a month. A little boy named Andre, her grandson, was imprisoned with her. They said they were teaching the boy 'public spirit' (rough, vulgar jargon).

19

"In PE prisoners Angelo, Marilo, Nilo, Júlio, Afonso Celso, Bretas, Maurício, and Irani met Marco Antonio de Azevedo Meyer, Fausto Machado Freire, José Roberto Monteiro, José Cosme Neto, Sérgio Lara, Walter Fernandes de Araújo, and other prisoners who told them of the atrocities which had been committed in PE since March, 1969. Marco Antonio Meyer, still in prison today, was one of the first to be put in Linhares Penitentiary.

"March, 1969.

"Mr. Euclides: an owner of a sun-umbrella store and more than sixty years old. He was tortured with shocks and beatings with a wooden paddle and left handcuffed to a bar in the door of his cell for more than twenty-four hours. Geraldo: a merchant marine sailor. He was barbarously beaten and handcuffed to the bars of the cell for more than twenty-four hours.

"May-June, 1969.

"Tulio: a fifth-year medical student from Guanabara. He was imprisoned because his address was found on the person of a student arrested in Belo Horizonte (he had given his address to the student during an excursion that the latter had made with other friends to Guanabara). He was tortured with shocks and beaten with paddles.

"Roil Noronha Soares: second-class sergeant of the airborne troops. After having been tortured with shocks, etc., he was thrown into a small, cold cell where he spent more than one hundred days. Waldir de Almeida: second-class sergeant of the airborne; ibid. Severino Beatriz da Silva: ex-president of the autonomous chauffeurs' union of Guanabara. He is a man more than fifty years old. He was tortured during more than thirty days, as a result of which he lost blood for a long time and had to have eye operations.

"Walter Fernandez de Araújo: cashier in a bus. He was subjected to shocks and beaten barbarously with paddles all over the human body. He had to remain in a cell, dressed only in shorts, for more than one hundred and twenty days. Sérgio Lara: a physicist at the Institute of Nuclear Research: He was beaten with paddles and made to confess to an assault on a police station which had never occurred. José Neves: a military police sergeant from Guanabara. He was tortured with shocks (in the anus, hands, feet, etc.), and beaten with fists and paddles. He received so many 'telephones' that he was left deaf in the right ear. José Neves says that he saw Viana Callou's leg bones bared by the many kicks he received. Severiano Viana Callou: a sergeant, arrested in Majé, State of Rio. He was barbarously tortured and mistreated. He died in PE. The torturers claimed that he hung himself with his own trousers. The fact known by all the persons who were in PE, and which is still true, is that the prisoners are left either nude or in shorts only.

"Luiz Stalin: a youth of seventeen years, arrested for questioning. He worked as a fisherman and was Viana's helper. He was violently

beaten. Fausto Machado Freire: Division chief of MEC (Ministry of Education and Culture). He was tortured with shocks, paddlings, slappings, and kickings. He went for a long time without having a mattress in his cell and suffering hunger. In October he tried to commit suicide with strips of cloth torn from his mattress because he could no longer stand the tortures. They had to take him to the military hospital.

"Marco Antonio Alevedo Meiyer was beaten for more than fourteen hours by the DOPS in Guanabara. A piece of wood was pushed into his anus. He was kicked and beaten with fists and handcuffs. They hit him in the face with a towel and made him hold weights until he fainted. This happened on May 28, 1969. Later, at the end of June, rather of July, he was taken to PE, where he was submitted to shocks (anus, feet, hands, the mammary region) and kicked, beaten with fists, paddled and had 'telephones' and finger irons applied. For thirty days he slept on the ground. In October 1969, when the prisoners Angelo, Murilo, Nilo, Júlio, Bretas, Maurício, Mattos, Irany, and Afonso Celso were there, he was once again submitted to 'pau-de-arara,' shocks, paddlings, etc.

"June-July, 1969.

"José Roberto Monteiro: IBRA (Agrarian Reform Institute) engineer. He was subjected to electric shocks all over his body. He has been in prison for more than a year (without trial) for merely having loaned his Volkswagon to Joao Lucas Alves, the sergeant who died in the Larceny and Robberies Division of Belo Horizonte.

"José Cosme Neto: Director of the film library of the Museum of Modern Art. He was arrested for having harbored in his residence a young woman, Lotus, his fiancée, who was being sought for being the sister-in-law of Juarez Guimaraes, held to be subversive. He spent a week without being able to sleep (they threw water in his cell every hour during the night). During the daytime he was made to run in circles. He received shocks, slaps, and blows with paddles on his whole body. Major Lacerda, PE Commander, wanted to tear a confession out of him no matter what it took. Since he had gone to a movie festival in Peru in representation of the film library they alleged that he had been with Peruvian guerrillas. He spent more than sixty days in the cells dressed only in shorts. Since nothing had been proven, or 'torn out of him,' he was sent on the Cenimar where, they say, the methods are more well perfected.

"Lieutenant Haylton of PE barbarously beat a common prisoner (a dark-skinned, strong man of about twenty-two years) arrested for having fought with a soldier just in order to intimidate Vera Wrobel to make new confessions. Vera is a student of the social sciences at the Fluminense Federal University and had already been condemned to four years.

"Corporal Marco Antonio Pavoreli of PE during an arrest shot a man twice in the anal region with a 45 caliber pistol after the man had already been arrested, merely because he thought the prisoner 'might be thinking of trying something.' The prisoner was a peaceful worker.

17

"The PE torturers: Major Lacerda, Captain Joao Luis, Lieutenant Haylton, Captain Guimaraes, Sergeant Oliveira, Sergeant Andrade, Sergeant Rangel, Sergeant Rossoni, Sergeant Montes, Corporal Povoreli, Corporal Menconca, Corporal Gilberto, Private Marcolino, Private Rosa. Nearly all of them are members of the Death Squadron and have the shield of that organization on their cars, watch fobs, etc.

"We are presently in the Linhares Regional Penitentiary and, despite having been in jail for nearly a year, we have nothing on our records which would indicate misconduct (the director of this penitentiary himself praised our conduct). We are still subjected to many absurd restrictions which characterize a prison regime from which we are supposedly protected by the National Security Law itself. We are shut into individual cells nineteen hours a day, forbidden to possess matches, lighters, magazines, or radios in our cells. We cannot receive books which are not didactic. Visits are made difficult by restrictions and it is impossible to have private contact with lawyers, etc.

"Loreta Kieder Valadares

"She is a Brazilian, 26 years of age, born in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, on May 1, 1943, married to Carlos Antonio Melgaco. She is a lawyer with a degree from the Law School of the Universidade Federal da Bahia.

"She was arrested on the morning of June 16, 1969, at the house of a friend, Miss Vera Magalhaes, where she had spent the night. The house is located on rua Estavao Pinto, in Belo Horizonte. The arresting squad was led by Captain Portela (Army), and included about ten men, including Sergeant Leo (PM), all of them carrying machine guns. Present in the house at the time, besides Miss Kieder Valadares, were Vera Magalhaes, the owner of the house, Luis Raul Machado, and another man whose name cannot be recalled. They were all dragged out of their beds, the two men being brutally beaten in the process, and taken to Central Police Headquarters (G2 in Praça da Libertade), including the declarant, whose name was not even known to the police at that time.

"The declarant arrived at G2 at 2:00 a.m., and remained in a hall together with several other arrested persons until 4:00 a.m. At that time she was taken by Captain Portela, Captain Pedro Ivo (PM), and Lieutenant Pádua (PM) to a hall from where some minutes before the screams of Delcy Goncalves de Paula, Laudelina Maria Carneiro, and Maria do Rosário dea Cunha Peixoto had been heard while they were being tortured. Along the way she was kicked, pushed, slapped, giving karate blows in the diaphragm (despite the fact that she had told them that she suffered from an ulcer), and had her hair pulled. Captain Portela and Sergeant Léo gave her electric shocks from a hand-crank generator, the wires of which were wrapped around her arms. She was then taken to another room where Captain Portela gave her karate blows while others pointed revolvers in her face. The following were present: Lieutenant Marcelo (Army), Major Teixeira (PM), Captain Pedro Ivo, and Lieutenant Pádua.

16

"After the karate session she was taken back to the previous room and given high voltage shocks with the same machine, this time with the wires wrapped around her toes. Those present were: Sergeant Léo, who turned the crank; Captain Portela, who beat her in the face; a noncommissioned officer of the PM who covered her mouth with a handkerchief; Lieutenant Machado, who helped beat her from time to time; and Major Teixeira, who did not participate in the act except to say that there was nothing he could do. The session ended along past daybreak when Colonel Drummond of the Military Police (PM) arrived just as the torturers were beginning to remove the declarant's clothing. As a consequence of the shocks the declarant was trembling involuntarily all over her body, specially her legs, and her toes were burned so badly that they did not heal for nearly a week.

"On June 16th, at 2:00 p.m., she was taken to the DI (Department of Instruction of the Military Police) along with other prisoners. There she and the others remained seated on school bags for 24 hours after which they were furnished with cots. During the stay at DI, until June 28th, she was subjected to several questionings at which Colonel Elos, DI Commander, was in attendance. There she was threatened constantly with torture. She can attest to the physical condition of Delcy Goncalves de Paula during this time--severe bruises and electric burns all over the body; of Maria Rosário da Cunha Peixoto--bruises, face and feet swollen; and of Laudelina Carneiro--bruises and swollen feet from the torture she had suffered. The last two required treatment in the infirmary.

"On June 28th, she was taken along with others to the Estavao Pinto Women's Penitentiary, where she was locked up for 45 days in a cell which will be described later. She was held illegally incommunicado during 45 days and was required to answer questions put by Lieutenant-Colonel Goes every night from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. for 30 days. On July 15th, as a form of psychological pressure, her sister-in-law Marilene Melgacão Valaderes and her father-in-law, Irineu Valadares de Fonseca, were arrested. The latter, an old man, was held in prison for approximately 15 days and deprived of his eyeglasses without which he could hardly see.

"On July 15th, 1969, in the medical examination room of the Estevao Pinto Penitentiary, on the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Goes, she was tortured by Captain Schubert (PM) with a process called 'por na latinha' which consists of standing a person (as in the case of the declarant) on one bare foot on a small Vienna sausage can whose rim cuts into the foot while the other leg and arm are held in the air by the torturer. While in this position where she remained for a half-hour a bathtub was filled with cold water and the declarant was threatened with being thrown into it. In the room alongside the examination room Laudelina Maria Carneiro was being interrogated and tortured in the same way by Captain Lacerda, the prison duty official being Adelina.

"On July 23rd she was taken from the Penitentiary at 3:00 p.m. along with Delcy Goncalves de Paula, the duty official being Nathália, and taken to the 12th Infantry Regiment, and from there, on orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Goes, by Captain Jesu to the Military College--C.C.S. Section--where the declarant was subjected to physical, moral, and sexual

tortures personally administered by Captain Fomes Carneiro (Army) in the presence of Captain Jesu and Lieutenant Marcelo. He fondled her body, embraced her, and whispered in her ears, and then gave her karate blows in the stomach and sides, and several torture blows known as 'telephones' which cause shooting pains in the ears. Lieutenant Marcelo left to find a doctor, fearing that one of her eardrums had been broken and was hemorrhaging internally.

"The declarant was deafened by these blows for two days and had her ears examined by the Penitentiary doctor, Dr. Nahylda, who can attest to the lesions on her body, the marks on her face and neck, and to her generally serious physical condition. As a result of the violence she suffered her ulcer became aggravated, leaving her completely debilitated and causing the doctor to prescribe feeding every two hours and to consider giving her an injection. The following Penitentiary officials, in addition to the Director, Dr. Edson Cavalieri, have knowledge of the physical state of the declarant at that time: Adelina, Maria José Araújo, Genny, Natália, Georgina.

"Finally, on Friday, August 1, 1969, the declarant was taken from the Penitentiary by Captain Jesu, during Adelina's duty shift, and taken to the 12th R.I. (Infantry Regiment), where she witnessed for more than two hours the beating of her husband, Carlos Antonio Melgaco Valadares, arrested earlier that night and beaten since 7:00 p.m. The beating took place in the patio of the 12th R.I. in the headlights of an army jeep. The declarant identified the torturers as being Lieutenant Pádua and Sergeant Léo who beat her handcuffed husband and kicked him in the sides. Present and holding the declarant in a chair were Lieutenant-Colonel Goes, Captain Lacerda, and Captain Jesu.

"After this beating the declarant's husband was taken to the emergency hospital with an ankle and six ribs broken besides his many other lesions. He was later taken to the Military Hospital where he remained for two months. That same night the declarant saw the following in the 12th R.I. handcuffed, barefooted, and shirtless, and in a pitiful state: Enio Seabra, José Afonso, Mário Bento, and Ricardo Angelim.

"Gilse Maria Cosenza Avelar.

"She is a Brazilian, married, 25 years old, born December 12, 1943, in Paraguassu, Minas Gerais, who lives in rua Leopoldina, 196, bairro Santo Antonio, in Belo Horizonte. She is a social worker trained in the School of Social Service of the Universidade Católica of Minas Gerais, from which she was graduated in 1967. She has one daughter, Born February 27, 1969.

"The declarant was arrested on June 17, 1969, and after being pushed and slapped she was taken to DI where dozens of persons were being held prisoner. During the ten days that she stayed in the DI the declarant was subjected to tremendous psychological pressure by the interrogators

(Army officers and Military Police from Minas Gerais) who made threats against her then three-months-old daughter (one of premature twins who had barely survived). A few days earlier, in an agonized state, the declarant had left the hospital where her daughter was being kept under care which required injections and blood transfusions. The interrogators said that they would go get the baby. They described to her what they would do to it in the presence of its mother--leave it without food, put in a tub of cold water, etc.

"On June 28th, the declarant together with other prisoners was transferred to the "Estevao Pinto" Women's Prison and put incommunicado in one of the cells which will be described later. Cell No. 5, in which she stayed for two months, is small with one tiny opening. It had a 100 watt bulb which gave off a bright light. She could not sleep, night after night because she was bothered by strong nervous and visual perturbations. As a result she is now incapacitated for any work which demands individual effort. On August 23rd, at 5:30 p.m., she was taken from the Penitentiary to the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel Valdir Teixeira Goes, in the 12th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Military Region, where Captain Jofre Lacerda and prisoners Delcy Goncalves de Paula, Laudelina Maria Carneiro and Loretta Keifer Valladares were also present. Lieutenant-Colonel Goes informed the declarant that she 'would be handed over to torturers Captain Jesu and Sergeant Léo, both of the Military Police, who would beat her, hang her in the pau-de-arara, have fun with her body, and finally violate her.'

"At 7:00 p.m. she was taken by Captain Jesu and Sergeant Léo in a Jeep to an isolated military post whose location she was unable to determine since she did not know the districts surrounding Belo Horizonte and because it was already dark. She can, however, furnish the following facts: it was a small building with three or four rooms, alongside a road in the middle of a woods, somewhere in the direction of the Municipality of Neves and probably a place which is still being used for tortures. She heard Sergeant Léo comment to Captain Jesu about the necessity of requisitioning the place for interrogations because of the advantages of its location. 'Here we can work however we want to because no one can hear the screams of these people,' he said. There the declarant was tortured from 8:00 p.m., Saturday, until 5:00 a.m. on Sunday morning by Captain Jesu and Sergeant Léo, who were helped by a third unidentified man. After being violently undressed the declarant was left for more than nine hours to the wrath of these policemen who applied the most diverse types of physical, psychological, and sexual tortures:

"Beatings. The victim was slapped all over her body. They gave her karate blows in the stomach and neck, blows with fists, blows with police sticks. They applied violent pressures at the back of her neck and behind her ears and pinched and twisted her nipples.

"Telephones. The police gave her strong, simultaneous slaps on the ears, causing her to completely lose her senses.

"Electric Shocks. The declarant was put on a table and had the wires from a small crank generator tied to her toes. One of the policemen held her down on the table while the second held a gag over her mouth and the third turned the crank, producing electric discharges. They stopped this treatment only when they saw that the declarant was about to become unconscious without having been able to emit a single sound. Her legs and arms were distorted and rigid, and her body was trembling with involuntary spasms and shakes.

"Latinha. The declarant was made to stand barefooted for long periods of time on top of two opened Vienna sausage cans of different heights. Shortly, the cans began to cut into the soles of both feet, the muscles of the legs began to cramp, causing great pain. When she lost balance and fell she was beaten and put back into the same position. When she was no longer able to stand alone on the cans she was held up by Sergeant Léo who, at the same time, twisted the nipples of her breasts, increasing both the physical pain and the moral torture. He fondled her lasciviously all over her body.

"Pau-de-arara. A piece of wood similar to a broom handle had been brought from the 12th Infantry Regiment. The declarant was made to grasp her knees, her wrists having been tied, and the pole was inserted between the space between her knees and elbows. She was then raised up by this pole which was supported one end on a table and the other on a pile of drawers stacked on a chair, about a yard off the ground. She hung there head down while Captain Jesu cranked the generator, giving her shocks through wires which were tied to her toes. At the same time, Sergeant Léo beat her buttocks, legs, and the soles of her feet with a police night stick. Sometimes the Sergeant interrupted the beatings to perform sexual acts upon the declarant. When the torturers saw that the victim was about to suffocate and lose her senses they raised her head a bit. They resumed the torture as soon as they could see that she was conscious.

"Sexual tortures. During the night the declarant was subjected to every type of violent attack against her modesty. Sergeant Léo desisted from having complete sexual relations with her for fear of a possible pregnancy. While she was standing on the 'latinhas,' or hanging in the 'pau-de-arara' her whole body was handled. At times Captain Jesu left the place purposely to Sergeant Léo so that he could have more freedom of action. In order for this to be understood it is necessary to explain that this Sergeant is possessed of a sexual anomaly known as 'sadism' that is, he is a person who becomes sexually excited by viewing a woman's suffering. This affirmation is based not only on an analysis of the violent sexual acts which were inflicted on the declarant but also on the fact that his warped character was attested to by other members of the Commission of Inquiry: Captain Jesu of the PM, and Captain Jofre Lacerda of the Army. The latter, in conversation with the declarant on the eve of the events reported here, that is on Friday, August 22, 1969, after she had been threatened with 'being broken in half,' told her: 'I am going to give you some advice because you are a married woman with a three-months-old daughter and because, I personally, don't want what is planned for you to happen. Make a deposition like Colonel Goes wants. If you don't they are going to hand you over to Sergeant Léo and you don't know what that means. He is a tremendously violent man, a sadist who gets pleasure from torturing. I don't allow him to work with me because if he is not carefully watched he is capable of anything.'

12

"After these declarations it is easy to imagine what happened to the declarant. Her body was handled, pinched, and bitten in such ways that, for obvious reasons, she does not have the courage to describe it in this letter. For the same reasons she omits the words which she was forced to hear throughout the whole period of torture. At 5:30 a.m., the declarant was taken back to the 'Estevao Pinto' Penitentiary by Sergeant Léo, where she was received by the official on duty, Maria José Araújo. The latter, along with another official, Justina, are witnesses to the pitiful state in which the declarant was found, because they had to carry her to her cell. Other witnesses to the cited facts are: (1) Georgina, a Penitentiary official, who had seen the declarant being taken away on Saturday, August 23, 1969, in a good state of health. When she returned to work on the following day at 7:00 a.m., the declarant had just been carried back to her cell and Georgina found that she had fainted after a vomiting spell, Georgina called the institution's doctor urgently. For three days she helped the declarant out of her cell to bathe, because she could not do it alone. She was an eyewitness to the bruises and swollen feet, as well as to the declarant's precarious physical state.

"(2) Dr. Nahylda, the Penitentiary doctor, was called urgently on August 24, 1969, Sunday, at 8:00 a.m., to attend the declarant. She examined her, found out the causes of her condition, prescribed medicines for general pain, pains in the ears and stomach, and tranquilizers, and gave instructions to Georgina about feeding and bathing the victim. (3) Prisoners Delcy Goncalves de Paula, Loreta Keifer Valadares, Emely (a psychology student at the Universidade Católica of Minas Gerais) and Elza (a lawyer graduated in 1967 from the Federal University of Minas Gerais), heard the declarant's arrival from their nearby cells, and hear the doctor's visit at 8:00 a.m. (4) Prisoners Delcy Goncalves de Paula, Conceicao Imaculada de Oliveira, Ione Souza Grossi, Emilia Emilko Kita, Laudelina Maria Carneiro, Loreta Kiefer Valadares, Maria Imaculada Diniz, Maria José Calvalho Nahas, Maria Mendes Barbosa, Maria do Rosário Cunha Peixoto, all of whom were in the dormitory to which the declarant was transferred on Tuesday, September 26, 1969, are witnesses to hear physical state at the time--bruised and with scarred feet.

"Beyond the facts already given to herself, the declarant witnessed other facts. Upon arrival at DI, on June 17, 1969, dozens of persons were already prisoners there, some of them in pitiful physical condition. Delcy Goncalves de Paula could hardly stand; she was bruised from beatings and her fingers were burned by electric shocks. Loreta Keifer Valadares had burn marks on her feet from electric shocks. Laudelina Maria Carneiro had swollen feet, bruises from beatings, kickings, and karate blows, and cigarette burns. Maria do Rosário Cunha Peixoto had swellings and burns.

"Laudelina Maria Carneiro.

"She is 22-year-old, unmarried, Brazilian, graduated from the Social Service School of the Pontificia Universidade Católica of Sao Paulo.

"The declarant was arrested on June 15, 1969, at 5:50 p.m., in her residence located on rua Helium, 479, where she lived with her friend Maria do Rosário da Cunha Peixoto. Her residence was broken into by a police patrol made up of the following persons: Captain Portela (Army), Lieutenant Pádua (FMP) Sergeant Léo Machado (PM), Captain Pedro Ivo (PM), and Major Rubens.

"With shouts and vulgar comments they made the declarant disrobe completely and took her into the kitchen of her own home. For about an hour she was brutally beaten by Sergeant Léo with karate and fist blows in the stomach, abdomen, kidneys, and buttocks, in addition to violent blows on the ankles. Captain Pedro Ivo took her to the bedroom beating her in the face until her lips bled. Due to the violence of the blows the victim fell several times and was made to get up by this same Captain who, not satisfied with the beatings, extinguished a cigarette on the skin of her stomach.

"That same day, at 11:30 p.m., she was taken to GP Headquarters in Praça da Liberdade, where she was made to disrobe by Captain Portela who, together with another officer (whose name she does not know), did his best to humiliate her to the maximum, trying to make her do a strip tease. On that same night, Captain Portela subjected the declarant to torture by electric shocks, applying about give electric discharges with a crank generator which had 'US Army' inscribed on its side. Due to the torture which she suffered the declarant carried bruises on her body for 13 days, her ankles were red and swollen, producing shooting pains when she walked. During 12 days it was practically impossible for her to walk.

"To the consequences of her torture dozens of persons are witnesses. Among them are the following prisoners: Vera Magalhes, Maria do Espírito Santo, Emeli, Loreta K. Valadares, Maria do Rosário da Cunha Peixoto, Gelse Maria Cosenza Avelar, and others. In addition, several military men can testify to her condition: Colonel Helos (PM), DI Commander; Colonel Drumond (PM); Captain Cicero (PM); Lieutenant Ribas (PM); and others whose names the declarant does not recall. Other witnesses are two male nurses of the DI who bandaged the declarant's feet (Wanderlei and Andrade), as well as the doctor who horrified at the sight of her ankles, considered the possibility of fractures and had four X-ray pictures taken in the Military Hospital, located in Bairro Sta. Efigenia (these pictures are in the hands of the declarant's lawyer). During her stay in the DI, she suffered threats of physical and sexual tortures which were described in full detail by Lieutenant Ribas in 'friendly conversation at lunch and dinner time.'

"On July 27, 1969, the declarant was transferred with other prisoners to the 'Estevao Pinto' Women's Penitentiary where she remained incommunicado for 60 days in a cell whose conditions will be described later. On September 18, 1969, in the medical examination room of the Penitentiary, she was interrogated by Captain Jofre Lacerda (Army), Captain

Schubert (PM), and Detective José Pêrpétuo de Rezende (DVS). After receiving threats of every type of physical and sexual torture she was made to stand for five minutes balancing herself barefoot on an opened tin can whose rim cut into the sole of her foot. On July 19, 1969, in the same room, she was again submitted to torture with 'latinhas' for 10 minutes, being steadied by Detective José Pêrpétuo so that she could stand there longer. Present were Captain Schubert, Captain Jofre de Lacerda, and Captain Gerulio da Paixao. On July 20th, 1969, in the same place, they filled a tub with cold water, planning to disrobe the declarant and immerse her for an undetermined time. But they did not carry through their plans when they found that the declarant was menstruating, fearing more serious consequences. The threats, shouting, and psychological pressures lasted for the whole time of the inquiry, the declarant being interrogated from 6:00 p.m. until dawn.

"In order to apply more pressure on the declarant they threatened her with arresting and torturing her fiancé and mother in her presence. Lieutenant-Colonel Valdir Teixeira Goes even issued the warrant for the arrest of the declarant's mother, but it was revoked by General Alvaro Cardoso. Failing in this attempt, Colonel Goes threatened the declarant's mother whenever she came to visit her daughter, even putting her through an interrogation of 10 hours at which the Colonel, Captain Lacerda, and Detective Pêrpétuo were present. It is necessary to state that this woman is 46 years old and was three months pregnant with her second child (the declarant is her only child). As a result of the psychological pressures to which she was submitted, she suffered an abortion.

"On August 14, 1969, in one of the rooms of the 12th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Military Region, where she was taken by Captain Lacerda, the declarant was subjected to tortures until 3:30 a.m., by Captain Sebastiao Gerulio Paixao and Captain Schubert, who gave her something like 15 discharges of electricity. Captain Schubert wrapped the wires at times about her arms and at other times about her feet, while Captain Paixao turned the crank. The torture was only interrupted when the declarant became unconscious, falling off the chair where she had been placed. Witnesses to the time she returned and to her physical state were the officials of the Estevao Pinto Penitentiary, specially Maria José Araújo, the duty officer who received her. Also witnesses to the interrogations under extenuating circumstances to which the declarant was subjected, having seen the time that she was taken from and returned to (always early morning) the Penitentiary, are the following officials: Laurentina, Adelina, Justina, Georgina.

"In addition to these things which were done to the declarant, she was witness to what happened to other prisoners. (1) In her house, on the day she was arrested (June 15, 1969), she witnessed the brutal beating of Maria do Rosário da Cunha Peixoto (with whom she lived), and Delsy Gonçalves de Paula (brought to the place by some military men). Those two girls were violently disrobed and beaten by Sergeant Léo (PM), Major Rubens (PM), and Captain Pedro Ivo (PM). (2) On the morning of Sep. 16,

9

1969, in G2 (Central Police Headquarters), the declarant heard the screams of Maria do Rosário da Cunha Peixoto, Delsy Goncalves de Paula, and Loreta Valadares, who were being tortured in the next room.

"(3) During the time she spent in DI, she saw the physical states in which two prisoners were to be found: Maria da Cunha Peixoto--face very swollen and ankles bruised and swollen from beatings; Delsy Goncalves de Paula--face swollen and bruises all over her body, hardly able to walk because of physical debility caused by the tortures. Such tortures continued, because Delsy was taken from DI on June 18 at 4:30 p.m., and brought back at 9:00 a.m. in even worse condition. (4) On July 19th, while being interrogated in the 'Estevao Pinto' Penitentiary, the declarant heard the screams of Loreta K. Valadares who was being submitted to 'latinha' tortures in the next room. (5) On July 25th, while in a cell of the 'Estevao Pinto' Penitentiary, she saw Loreta K. Valadares coming back to her cell in a terrible state after an interrogation to which she was submitted outside the grounds of the Penitentiary. The official, Georgina, had to open her cell constantly to bring her medicines and food. Doctor Naylda examined Loreta and prescribed medicines for the stomach and ears.

"(6) On August 23rd, at 6:00 p.m., the declarant was in the 12th RI where she was being interrogated by Captain Lacerda in the presence of the Lieutenant-Colonel and prisoners Delsy Goncalves de Paula and Loreta K. Valadares, when prisoner Gilse Maria Cosenza Avelar arrived and was later taken to some unknown place in a Jeep by Captain Jesu (MP) and Sergeant Léo (PM). The declarant, having been moved to a dormitory in the Penitentiary did not see when Gilse was brought back to her cell, but she did witness the precarious physical and psychological state in which this prisoner was still to be found when she was also transferred to the same dormitory three days later. Gilse Maria Cosenza Avelar had bruises all over her body, swollen and scarred feet; she suffered from dizzy spells, and could hardly walk due to the tortures which she had received on August 23, 1969. (7) In this same dormitory she saw the physical and psychological condition to which Maria do Rosário da Cunha Peixoto was reduced as a consequence of the tortures which she suffered: her body was covered with marks from having been beaten with a paddle; she was completely traumatized, not even able to feed herself or converse normally.

"Maria do Rosário de Cunha Peixoto

"She is a 26 year-old- Brazilian, born May 16, 1943, in Almenara, Municipality of Jequitinhonha, Minas Gerais. She is a primary school teacher who was graduated in History from the School of Philosophy of the Universidade Católica of Minas Gerais.

"The declarant was taken prisoner on June 15, 1969, by Sergeant Léo Machado of the PM, at 9:00 p.m., upon arriving at her home, where Laudelina Maria Carneiro was already under arrest. Present were Major Rubens and Lieutenant Pádua. They were joined by Captain Pedro Ivo of PM who made

8

the declarant take off her clothes and perform a strip tease in front of Major Rubens (PM) and Sergeant Léo. When the declarant refused, she had her clothing ripped off by Captain Pedro Ivo, being scratched in the process, while the others shouted vulgarities. After she put her clothes back on she was brutally beaten by Captain Portela, Captain Pedro Ivo, and Sergeant Léo, who took turns in giving her karate blows in the stomach and chest, slapping her on the face, applying 'telephones,' and pinching her nipples, all the while continuing to insult her in the lowest possible language. Meanwhile, in the bedroom, Laudelina Maria Carneiro was also beaten. At 10:30 p.m., more or less, another prisoner arrived at her house. Her name was Delcy Gonçalves de Paula, and she was brought by PM policemen and beaten by Captains Pedro Ivo and Portela.

"At 11:30 p.m. the declarant was taken to G2 (Police Central Headquarters), where she was threatened by Colonel Drumond (PM) with having her family arrested and with being put into a cell with mentally deranged sex-perverts. She was then handed over by Colonel Drumond to Captain Portela, who disrobed her completely and hit her with his shoe and then with a PM belt while Major Rubens held her still. Later she was beaten by Captain Pedro Ivo who applied karate blows like those described above and kicked her with his feet. After the beating she was submitted to high-voltage electric shocks with a crank generator operated alternately by Captain Portela, Captain Pedro Ivo, and Sergeant Léo, who also took turns in holding a gag over her mouth. This session lasted until 4:00 a.m., when she was taken into another room where she had been before. She was once again given electric shocks and beaten by the same torturers.

"At 2:00 p.m. the following day she was taken to DI, in company with other prisoners, where she remained seated for 24 hours on school bags. She stayed in DI until June 28th, and was interrogated and threatened despite her pitiful physical condition and was attended constantly by a medical nurse. Her physical state presented the following symptoms: sides and buttocks purple from paddlings, with strong muscular pains in those regions; face swollen; fever, contusions and swelling of the feet; vomiting and frequent dizziness. On June 28th, along with other prisoners, she was transferred to the Estevao Pinto Women's Penitentiary and locked up incommunicado in a cell whose conditions will be described later. She stayed for two months in the cell, being interrogated every night from 7:00 p.m. until 4:00 or 5:00 a.m.

"The interrogations were done in a bathroom of the Penitentiary behind locked doors with karate blows and kicking being used. On July 21, at 9:00 p.m., locked in the bathroom of the Penitentiary, she was submitted by Sergeant Léo to the 'latinha' torture, which is to stand with one bare foot on an opened Vienna sausage can which presses into the foot while the other one is suspended in the air. Later the following persons entered the bathroom and observed the scene: Captain Schubert (PM), Captain Jesu (PM), and Lieutenant-Colonel Goes. Days later, on a Tuesday (she does not recall the exact date), she was again interrogated in the bathroom by Sergeant Léo, receiving karate blows in the clavicle and at the base of the skull. On August 16th, Saturday, at about 3:00 p.m., she was locked in the

bathroom and beaten alternately by Lieutenant-Colonel Goes, Captain Lacerda (Army), and Captain Jesu.

"Later she was left alone with Captain Jesu and given the so-called 'Chinese torture,' which consists of fondling the clothed body, including the intimate parts. Since the declarant attempted to defend herself, Captain Lacerda was called to hold her while Captain Jesu ran his hand over her body, kissing her face, neck, and mouth, and pinching her breasts. With the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel Goes, the three officers took turns in applying sexual tortures, the declarant being threatened with being taken to some place where it would be possible to carry through the sexual act. The following day, Sunday, she was subjected to the same torture again, in the same place, and by the same torturers, through the whole night. On August 18th, Monday, she was taken by Captain Jesu to the 12th Infantry Regiment, where Captain Lacerda, Sergeant Costa (Army), Sergeant Léo, and Lieutenant-Colonel Goes were waiting for her. She was taken into the interrogation room, where she was given the so-called 'pau-de-arara' torture (despite the fact that she had suffered a vertebral dislocation, and that this was known to the torturers).

"She was completely disrobed and the torturers took turns in running their hands over her body, kissing her face and neck, biting her breasts, even putting their fingers in her vagina. Sergeant Léo, beyond these sexual tortures, paddled the declarant on the buttocks and the soles of her feet with a piece of wood. Such cruelties went on all through the night, and the declarant was brought back to the Penitentiary at 7:00 a.m. At noon, approximately, the declarant was transferred to the dormitory cell with the other political prisoners, where all of them could verify her physical and psychological state, it even being necessary to call the Penitentiary doctor, Dr. Nahylda. Two days after her arrival, Emilia Emilko Kita, who was a prisoner there, was taken from the Penitentiary and, according to her declarations, taken to a police post well removed from the city, where she was submitted to the 'pau-de-arara' torture. The declarant, who witnessed Emilia's exit and her precarious physical condition upon her return, can verify these charges along with the other prisoners in the cell. The same testimony can be given with respect to prisoner Gilse Maria Cosenza Avelar, who was taken to the dormitory a few days later in a pitiful physical state, her body covered with marks of the beatings which she had received.

"Delcy Goncalves de Paula.

"She is a 26-year-old, unmarried, Brazilian, born in Poté, Minas Gerais, on November 4, 1943. She is primary school teacher, and a student of the social sciences in the School of Philosophy of the UFMG.

"The declarant was arrested on the street and taken to the Estevao Pinto Penitentiary. On June 15, 1969, at approximately 10:00 p.m., she was taken from the Penitentiary to an unknown house in the neighborhood of Renascença in Belo Horizonte where she was beaten after having her clothes completely torn off by Captain Pedro Ivo of PM. The beating consisted of karate blows to the neck, stomach, and kidneys, blows in the

6

face, and kickings. When she was threatened with having her breasts burned with a candle, which was at hand, the declarant began screaming even louder, and Captain Portela feared that they would be heard by the neighbors. He gave orders that the tortures be interrupted. In this house the declarant witnessed the beating of Laudelina and Mariado Rosário. The torturers present in this house were: Captain Portela (Army), Captain Pedro Ivo (PM), Lieutenant Pádua (PM), Sergeant Léo (PM), Major Rubem (PM), and another unidentified man.

"At 10:30 p.m., approximately, the declarant was taken along with the other two above-mentioned girls to the Central Police Headquarters (G2), where the prisoners were put in separate cells. On the orders of Lieutenant Pádua, the declarant was completely disrobed in a violent way, since she tried to stop them from doing so. Then the same Lieutenant loaned his belt to Sergeant Léo so that he and an unidentified man could beat her until about 2:00 a.m. While she was being beaten in the nude some 20 policemen came into the cell to look at her body, laughing and making jokes and vulgar comments. This beating and moral torture session stopped only when, at about 2:00 in the morning, shouts of joy were heard from the police outside at having arrested Luiz Raul Machado, Vice-President of UNE (National Student Union), Loreta Valadares, and others.

"Some minutes later, Major Rubem and Captain Portela entered the room and took turns in applying cruelties. While one pulled her hair until her neck was bent back the other hit her on the thighs with the barrel of a revolver, causing many contusions and enormous bruises. Later, she was taken to another room where Maria do Rosário was already completely distraught. In this room the declarant was submitted to high voltage shocks with a crank generator. She received more than twenty electric discharges, falling to the floor several times in convulsions and shaking fits, and being lifted up by the torturers in order to beat and kick her again. Once they tore her underwear away and threatened to give her shocks in the vagina. Let it be noted that the expressions used here are not those employed by the torturers, it being impossible for the declarant to transcribe exactly what was said to her due to the low, vulgar character of the language they used. The torturers were: Captain Portela, who applied the electric shocks, and Sergeant Léo, who held the declarant, Captain Pedro Ivo and Major Bem participated in the beatings. Major Vicente Teixeira (PM) and Lieutenant Praxedes (PM) were also present. These same torturers tortured in the same way the following prisoners in the declarant's presence: Laudelina Maria Carneiro and Maria do Rosário da Cunha Peixoto. The declarant was beaten until 4:30 a.m.

"At 6:30 a.m., she was taken to a residence located in Rua Osvaldo Cruz, where she received the same treatment, that is, 'telephones,' and karate blows. Captain Portela pinched her nipples so hard that they began to bleed. The torturers were: Captain Portela, Captain Pedro Ivo, Sergeant Léo. Also present were: Major Vicente Teixeira, Private Vicente (PM) (Major Teixeira's chauffeur), Lieutenant Pádua, Lieutenant Praxedes, and Major Rubem. At 9:00 a.m. she was taken back to the police headquarters, from where she was transferred to DI at 2:00 p.m. along with other prisoners. There she remained seated in a chair for 24 hours despite having her buttocks and thighs badly bruised and hurting.

5

"On June 16, 1969, at 4:00 p.m., she was taken out of DI by Sergeant Léo and Lieutenant Pádua, who took her to police headquarters and tortured her some more. It should be emphasized that Colonel Hedes, DI Commander, has the responsibility for assuring the physical and moral integrity of the prisoners, guaranteeing them all security, and protecting them from the use of violence. On this day the tortures were as follows: (1) electric shocks given on the fingers. In the absence of a generator wires were attached to the light switch and wrapped around the declarant's fingers. (a) Sexual tortures. The declarant was disrobed completely, placed in a chair, and while being given shocks had her legs, breasts, and stomach fondled by Sergeant Léo who also kissed her lips, ears, and neck. At one moment she fainted, coming to for the first time at 8:00 p.m. The tortures were Sergeant Léo and Lieutenant Pádua. Also present were Lieutenant Franklin (PM), and the Officer of the Day at Police Headquarters, Returned to DI at 9:00 p.m., she was given medications on the following day, June 19th, by the male nurses. They can attest to the gravity of her physical state. So can the others who were imprisoned in DI at the time (30 to 40 persons), as well as Commander Helos, Colonel Drumond, Lieutenant Ribas of PM, and all the sergeants and privates of PM who were given guard duty between June 16th and 27th. On June 27th, she was transferred to the Women's Penitentiary along with other prisoners. She remained there, incommunicado, for 35 days in a cell whose conditions will be described later. After July 16, 1969, interrogations were held by the Commission of Inquiry, the declarant being interrogated every night for more than 30 days, from 7:00 p.m., to around 7:00 or 8:00 in the morning.

"The physical and psychological damages caused by the previous tortures caused such suffering to the declarant that at the beginning of the interrogations she still suffered from their consequences: complete loss of feeling in the breasts, loss of emotional control, stomach aches, vomiting, and insomnia. On July 14th she was given medication by Dr. Altemar, a physician in the Women's Penitentiary, who had been authorized by the chairman of IPM to give her sleep-therapy injections. As a consequence, the declarant slept for 24 continuous hours. On July 21, at 8:00 p.m., the declarant was confronted with her sister, Zuleika G. Drumond, who had been brought to the 12th RI at 8:00 that morning. It should be known that the sister is married, the mother of five children, living in extremely poor economic conditions, who has to work at home making sweets and taking in washing in order to help support the family. It should also be known that after intense pressure Zuleika G. Drumond was made to sign a deposition without having been allowed to read it. That same night, after the meeting with her sister, the declarant was submitted to the so-called 'latinha' torture, i.e., made to stand barefoot atop two Vienna sausage cans of different heights, balancing herself there for two-and-a-half hours. The torturer was Sergeant Léo of PM. The torture was performed in the presence of Captain Paixao, clerk of the IPM, with the whole inquest commission present in the Penitentiary, including the chairman, Colonel Waldir Teixeira Gois, who witnessed part of the torture.

"This torture was performed in the Women's Penitentiary in a room alongside the Director's Office, at 9:00 p.m. The duty officer, Maria José Araújo heard the screams of the declarant and saw the condition in

4

which her feet were left. Prisoner Loreta Valadares also heard the screams of the declarant, since she, too, was being interrogated that same night. Other persons who saw the condition of her feet after the torture were: the political prisoners who were in the dormitory on that date, Fernanda Colas Arantes, Emely Marcondes; the Penitentiary physician, Dr. Naylda, who attended the declarant on July 22, 1969; as well as the nurse, Helena. On July 24, 1969, the declarant was taken by Captain Jesu of PM, along with Loreta Kiefer Valadares, to the Military College CCS Section--where the two were put into separate rooms. The declarant was then threatened with being tortured by Captain Gomez Carneiro and Lieutenant Marcelo who came and left constantly, the declarant being left alone at times.

"During the whole period the declarant heard the screams of Loreta K. Valadares who was in the next room, and was told by Lieutenant Marcelo that the purpose in coming to the Military College was to torture the two friends in each other's presence. The declarant was not tortured physically that day but was submitted to intensive psychological torture by being forced to hear her friend's screams. That night they spent in the bathroom of the Military College, and the declarant was not able to sleep due to her nervous state, vomiting, and stomach aches. On August 23, 1969, Saturday, about 6:00 p.m., the declarant, together with Laurelina, Maria Carneiro, Captain Laderca, and Colonel Goes, in the 12th RI, saw prisoner Gilse M. C. Avelar. This prisoner had been advised by Colonel Goes that 'she would be handed over to Sergeant Léo, the sadist, who would violate her after she had been tortured enough.' She was then taken away in a Jeep to some place outside the 12th RI by Sergeant Léo and Captain Jesu. This prisoner (Gilse) was brought back to her cell in the penitentiary the following day at 6:00 in the morning. The declarant heard her arrival and knew that she was in bad shape because Dr. Naylda had been called to attend her and arrived at 8:00 a.m. Three days later when the declarant was in the dormitory, Gilse M. C. Avelar was transferred there in a terrible physical state, with her body covered with bruises, her feet swollen, and hardly able to walk as a consequence of the tortures to which she had been submitted. In this dormitory the declarant could confirm that M. do Rosário and Emilia Emilko Kita also presented scars on their bodies and were in precarious states of health because of the tortures they had suffered.

"The conditions of the cells habitually used for the castigation of common prisoners are so bad as to make even a short stay impossible, much less one of 60 days, as in the case of the majority of the below-signed prisoners, or of 150 days in the case of Maria José Nahas. There are nine cells in all, one of them with a shower and therefore being reserved as the bathroom. Each cell measures approximately 1.7 meters by 2 meters (5 1/2 feet by 6 1/2 feet). Half of the cell is of concrete and has a non-flush toilet. On one wall, alongside the toilet, just off the floor, is a small water tap. On the left-hand side of the cell there is a concrete bench (which extends onto the concrete part of the cell, 1.60 meters long and 60 centimeters wide (5 feet by 2 feet), on which is laid a decayed mattress.

3

"The cells have a hermetically sealing iron door which has a small opening-a visor of about 30 centimeters square-- which remains closed except for the passage of food and inspection of prisoners. Near the ceiling on the back wall there is a quadrangular aperture covered with a grill, measuring about 60 centimeters long. Due to the minimal size of this aperture and bushes outside the sun never enters the cell. The cells are therefore quite cold. At 5:00 p.m. sixty to one hundred watt lights are turned on and are not extinguished until 7:00 a.m. Because of the pale color with which the walls are painted the reflected light becomes intense and makes rest impossible, causing nervous and physical perturbations especially in the eyes. This was specially the case with Gilse Maria Cosenza Avelar and Imaculada Diniz.

"The prisoners are counted at least twice a day, which means that the iron visor of the door is lifted, making a loud noise and further increasing the emotional tensions of the one inside the cell. As was said above, one of the cells contained an electric shower which was invariably out of order, either because of a lack of water or because the drain was clogged. Consequently, baths were few and far between, the prisoner being forced generally to bathe with cold water in cans in the cell, making the cell even damper than normal. On the other hand, as the declarants were prohibited from sending their clothing to laundries or to their families they were obliged to wash them in the cell, on the floor because of the absence of basins or the like. The cells were infested with fleas, cockroaches, longlegs, etc., because of the absence of flush toilets and because of a river which flowed behind the Penitentiary. It can therefore be seen that not even the most minimal hygienic conditions for even a short stay existed, much less for one of from 60 to 150 days.

"In the eight days which preceded the moving of the prisoners to Juiz de Fora, nine of them were moved from the dormitory back into the cells on a lottery basis, two remaining in the dormitory. The nine who left were Maria José Carvalho Nahas, Conceicao de Oliveira, Maria Mendes, Loreta K. Valadares, Delcy Goncalves de Paula, Gilse Maria Cosenza Avelar, Laudelina Maria Carneiro, Maria Ivone Diniz, and Ione Grossi. Be it known that Ione Grossi suffered a dislocated spine as a result of an accident making it unadvisable for her to stay in cold or humid places. Her health problem was so serious that she wore a back brace constantly. Her eight days in the cell left her in serious physical condition and she arrived in Juiz de Fora practically paralyzed. She was carried to the cell of the Penitentiary in Juiz de Fora where she had to stay in bed for a long time. Maria Ivone Diniz drew the shower cell where she was forced to stay despite the damp floor and walls which left her drenched the whole time.

"On October 1, 1969, the prisoners who were in the cells and Maria do Rosário C. Peixoto were taken to DI where they spent the night under machine gun guard. On the morning of October 2, 1969, they were transported, handcuffed together (left hand to left hand), in a bus equipped

for war, to the Juiz de Fora regional penitentiary, where those who sign this document and other prisoners who have been mentioned are still awaiting trial.