

<p>AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL</p> <p>BUSINESS AS USUAL A short film on China</p> <p>DURATION: 8 mins 41 secs</p> <p>EMBARGO DATE:13 MARCH 1996</p>	<p>NOTE ON COPYRIGHT:</p> <p>All the material in this video is for free and unrestricted worldwide broadcast and non-broadcast use for three years. For details on sources of footage please contact the Media Unit of Amnesty International in +44 171 413 5560/5977.</p>
<p>10:00:00 Peasants working</p> <p>Farm workers</p>	<p>One face of today's China, a vast nation with a growing gap between the rich and the poor. These people are not only poor, but also have few rights under an often cruel and repressive state.</p>
<p>00:20 Urban views</p>	<p>And this is the other face of modern China. An economic boom town where money is king and growth rates are phenomenal.</p>
<p>00:29 Workers on building site</p>	<p>But even for the workers who have helped create this bonanza there has been little change in their political and civil rights.</p>
<p>00:38 Neon</p>	<p>The boom has brought with it new social pressures, including a crime wave.</p>
<p>00:42 Prisoners being marched out</p>	<p>The Chinese government's heavy handed reaction has been to increase the use of the death penalty - including for non-violent, economic crimes. People have been executed for forging bank documents, accepting bribes and tax evasion. There are plans to extend the list of crimes punishable by death even further.</p>
<p>01:07 V/O Liu Qing Human Rights Leader with Pro-Democracy Movement (Mandarin)</p>	<p><i>Economic reform causes rapid development of the economy and will make China powerful. Foreign investors have a lot to gain by investing in China. But a stronger economy can give the state more power to be a dictatorship. So the effect on human rights could be bad rather than good.</i></p>

01:54 Still - <u>Wei Jingsheng</u> signing release document	The Government has been ruthless with those citizens who have dared to criticise its new policies. In 1993 Wei Jingsheng wrote an article advising foreign investors to take an interest in the Chinese legal system. He suggested its flaws could endanger their investments. In December 1995 Wei Jingsheng was jailed for fourteen years.
02:18 V/O <u>Sir Geoffrey Chandler</u> , a former director of Shell International	<i>Businesses need a stable investment climate and it is abundantly clear that, where human rights are violated, in the long term if not in the short term, there is potential instability which businesses do not want.</i>
02:31 V/O Chandler over big business shots	<i>The reputation of companies depends in some degree on the company they keep. If they are in an environment where human rights are violated, if the world is condemning that violation and if companies are silent then they would incur the opprobrium of the world and their reputation will suffer and will suffer worldwide and these companies are most of them by definition worldwide.</i>
02:58 McDonalds	For multinational businesses, the new China represents a bonanza. But for those which get into conflict with the Chinese Government the law offers no recourse. The Government tore up McDonald's lease after it had already been signed and sealed. Foreign companies are as vulnerable as Chinese.
03:14 James Peng	And the foreign businessmen who become involved in disputes are also vulnerable to China's unpredictable legal system. Australian James Peng fell out with his Chinese partner, who then took him to court. After a flawed judicial process he was jailed for 17 years.
03:37 Hong Kong street Views of city across harbour	Hong Kong represents two thirds of all foreign investment in China. But as its hand-over to China approaches, Hong Kong business is concerned about how to operate within China's arbitrary and unpredictable legal system

<p>06:25 New York City skyscrapers</p> <p>World Trade Centre external</p>	<p>The question for businesses in the modern world is should they have some moral responsibility for the people helping them create wealth?</p>
<p>06:34 China chemical industry fair</p> <p>Press conference</p>	<p>Here at New York's World Trade Centre the Chinese government is promoting Chinese business to the US</p> <p>But as one Chinese delegate at the trade fair shows: the Chinese government does not see human rights as part of its interaction with the world.</p>
<p>07:02 <u>Int: Trade Fair Delegate</u></p>	<p><i>Different countries have different human rights.</i></p> <p><i>Our socialism continues to stress the improvement of people's lives which means developing the economy to start with. Our human rights cannot be compared with those of advanced countries.</i></p>
<p>07:34 <u>Geoffrey Chandler</u></p>	<p><i>Companies should inform themselves about the human rights environment of China, or indeed of any country they go into. And secondly they should recognise that their employees, whether they are Chinese employees or expatriates, can get caught up in a system where the legal system is unpredictable, not impartial, where there is torture, where there are other violations. If their own employees get caught up then they need in advance to have decided what their attitude is going to be.</i></p>
<p>08:06 <u>v/o Sir Geoffrey Chandler c/a b/w photographs</u></p>	<p><i>As a reason of principle I believe companies have an obligation under the universal declaration of human rights to play a part in trying to diminish violations of human rights because the declaration lays an obligation on you and me as individuals as well as companies to play a role in these things</i></p>
<p>08:28 b/w close up photographs</p>	<p>As for many other Chinese citizens, for these prisoners, pressure for the international business community could make a world of difference.</p>

03:51 Archive of Tiananmen square riot	Tiananmen Square 1989. China's open door economic policy in the 1980s cleared the way for a resurgence of pro-democracy support. The world witnessed the might of an <i>undemocratic</i> government, as it bloodily suppressed the demonstrations. But the international business community did nothing.
.04:12 V/O <u>Han Dongfang</u> Labour rights activist (English)	<i>Foreign companies just understand how to make money they try to give the lowest wages to the workers and they try to keep their investment low and they don't want to give enough safety investment.</i>
04:42 Stills - Collapsed factory Burned girl 3-in-1 building Dormitory	Chinese workers have little protection. This factory collapsed killing 93 people. Safety standards are appalling. Workers often have to live in cramped dormitories above their factory
04:56 Tracking shot of 'Re-Education through Labour Camp.'	If the factory workers complain about their conditions they can easily find themselves in a 're-education through labour' camp such as this one outside Shanghai.
05:11 V/O <u>Han Dongfang</u> (English)  Poster of injured workers	<i>There is an article in the regulations which says if you have any argument with the management of a factory then the management can apply to the police, to the Committee, the 'Re-education through Labour committee' for three years 're-education through labour.'</i>
05:35 (Hang Dongfang)  Tracking shot 're-education through labour' camp	<i>My colleague, he was a lawyer in Beijing and he was also a Free trade unionist in Beijing. In march '94 he planned to print some T-shirts saying 'the workers are the state owners', something like that, and that's the only reason he has got three years 're-education through labour'.</i>
06:12 Factories	Assignment to a re-education through labour camp is a government administrative decision and not part of the criminal code. Workers have little redress.