

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AUDIO NEWS RELEASE

ANNUAL REPORT 1996

EMBARGO DATE: 1100 HRS GMT, 18 JUNE 1996

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WORLDWIDE: Amnesty International's message for 1996.

I/V Pierre Sané, Secretary General of Amnesty International.

DUR 35' Pierre Sané (English) Sync:

"What we have seen over the past few years is an increase in the number of conflicts. Those conflicts are presented as local conflicts. We see atrocities being committed; massacres, women being raped, children being killed. However, the responsibility cannot be only the responsibility of those who are pulling the trigger. We have to ask the question: Who is providing the weapons? We have to ask the question: Where is the money coming from?"

1' BREAK

DUR 44' "Every day Amnesty members are taking action. They are writing letters, they are demonstrating. They are visiting embassies, we are talking to governments, and every day we get results; prisoners are being released, perpetrators are being brought to justice. Hopefully an international criminal court will be set up this year or next year. What Amnesty is saying is: Yes, human rights violations are happening and we are documenting them but it doesn't have to be that way. If people collectively or individually take action, they can change the situation."

5' BREAK

CHINA: Amnesty International launched a worldwide campaign to improve the human rights situation in China on 13 March 1996.

DUR 25' Actuality: Tiananmen Square riot sounds, Beijing, 4 June 1989; Mass execution sequence - trucks driving by; Gun shots of executions by firing squad.

1' BREAK

I/V Mo Lihua, Chinese writer in exile (now lives in Sweden).

DUR 13' Mo Lihua (Mandarin) Sync:

"If the government was more merciful and did not use the death penalty, at least not for non-violent crimes, it would reduce many families' tragedies and sufferings. It would give them hope. But the Chinese Government prefers to kill them all."

DUR 4' Actuality: Street sounds in Tibetan street.

I/V Palden Gyatso, Tibetan monk

- DUR 26' Palden Gyatso (Tibetan) Sync:
 "One thing they do is tie you up like this behind your back, hang you from a loop from the ceiling and pour hot water from a thermos flask on your naked body, which hurts a lot."

BEIJING: Amnesty International attended the Non-Governmental Organization Forum and the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995.

Pierre Sané speaking at Amnesty International press conference, Beijing.

- DUR 17' Pierre Sane, (English) Sync:
 "Amnesty International will not be silent on human rights in China. Progress has been made on moving towards freedom from want, but freedom from fear is still not a right of the Chinese people."

BREAK 4'

NIGERIA: Amnesty International condemned the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa, writer and President of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, along with eight others in November 1995 after unfair trials.

- DUR 21' Actuality: Sounds of children standing in brown stream, women washing clothes, flare in background; Locals looking at oily pool in forest at Ebubu.

- DUR 17' Actuality: Ogoni Day rally in 1993 (Nigerian authorities have not permitted journalists to a rally there since. Ken Saro-Wiwa was at the rally).

I/V Greg Odo, Nigerian writer and artist attending Amnesty International's vigil following Ken Saro-Wiwa's death, outside Nigerian Embassy in London, November 1996.

- DUR 11' Greg Odo (English) Sync:
 "Ken was not interested in disturbing businessmen, he was only interested in protecting his environment, the environment of his people."

BREAK 5'

KENYA: Amnesty International medical experts visited Kenya in March 1995 to research into the widespread use of torture.

I/V David Njenga, tortured in Nairobi 1993.

- DUR 43' David Njenga (English) Sync:
 "When they were beating me up they did not concentrate on the toes alone - others would even kick me in the head. And this was the time, when they decided since I could not tell them what they wanted, this leg - that is the right leg - they took a plier and they held the toe - the middle toe - and they just held the nail, the toenail, like that and they just plucked it and blood was all over."

SAUDI ARABIA: The judicial punishments of amputation and flogging continued to be imposed and there was a sharp increase in executions.

DUR 15' Actuality: Street sounds in Jeddah; Sounds of Motawa (religious) police calling on a tannoy from vehicle on street.

BREAK 1'

I/V with wife of Mohammad 'Ali al-Sayyid, who left Egypt five years ago to work in Saudi Arabia. Convicted of theft, he was sentenced to 4,000 lashes. Every fortnight he receives 50 public lashes.

DUR 40' Mohammad's wife (Arabic) Sync:
 "I don't know whether he'll be coming back in one year, two years, three years. Every year I desperately pray to God that he'll be coming home. I've been waiting for five years and still he doesn't return. Who can cope with this when you've got four children." Crying.

BREAK 5'

ISRAEL: Amnesty International's Secretary General visited the Minister of Justice, David Liba'i, on 8 and 11 February 1996. Immediately afterwards a bill that would have allowed impunity for security forces who commit violence against detainees was delayed for further discussion.

I/V Khaled Farraj, Palestinian torture victim.

DUR 1:05' Khaled Farraj (Arabic) Sync:
 "From the first day of my detention to the 45th or 50th days, there were long sittings or standings in painful positions. But the most important is that you have your hands tied behind your back and to the chair where you are sitting and a bag covers your head. The bag means complete isolation from the exterior world. No possibility to see anything or to have any distraction by just looking.
 Practically it is very isolating when the bag is on for a continuous period - 48 hours, 96 hours - covering the head, automatically it has repercussions on the psychological situation of the body and constitution in general. In addition you sit in the same place for long periods during the interrogation in a painful position.
 New methods of interrogation are used every day. Methods which have repercussions on the situation of the body and the psychology. One of the most important methods is that when you are standing in a painful position for a long time, the hands are tied to the table like that..."

Pierre Sané met Minister of Justice, David Liba'i, 8 February 1996. Pierre Sané speaking to journalists.

DUR 14' Pierre Sané (English) SYNC:
 "We think it's a bad bill. We think it's a bad law. If that bill is passed and it becomes law, it will set us back decades."

BREAK 5'

BAHRAIN: Widespread protests calling for the restoration of democratic rights over the past year have resulted in thousands of arrests. Scores of political detainees were tortured - two to death.

DUR 17' Track of haunting music. eneral views central Bahrain.

DUR 12' Actuality: Sounds of street violence during pro-democracy protests, 1995.

I/V Abdul Rasool al-Iskafy, father of 16-year-old Sa'id 'Abd al-Rasul al-Iskafy. Died as result of torture after arrest suspected for spraying graffiti, July 1995.

DUR 25' Abdul Rasool al-Iskafy (Arabic) Sync:
 "His body was burned with an ordinary iron, for ironing. It was pierced with drills. They had smoked cigarettes and stubbed them out on him. They did a shameful thing to him; it was clear he had been sexually interfered with. An officer had molested him. What a criminal act! Would you molest someone who is tied up, a prisoner?"

BREAK 5'

USA: Fifty-six prisoners were executed in the USA in 1995 and more than 3,000 prisoners remain on death row today.

I/V with anti-death penalty protestor (vicar) outside San Quentin Prison, protesting the execution of William Bonin for murder on 23 February 1996.

DUR 9' Protestor (English) Sync:
 "I believe morally that no-one has a right to kill, and if that is true then what he did was morally wrong and I believe what we are doing tonight is morally wrong."

Official Execution Witness describing execution.

DUR 26' Witness (English) Sync:
 "He was with his head facing us. We were to the right. He was stretched out, strapped down as expected. His eyes were closed, we don't know if he had received a sedative before, he was at that point breathing..."

BREAK 5'

MEXICO: On 28 June 1995, 17 unarmed peasants were massacred at Guerrero by police. An Amnesty International research team visited victim's relatives in December.

DUR 55' Actuality: Sounds of lorry arriving at roadblock, Guerrero, 28 June 1995; Police run towards lorry, peasants start to get out; Gunfire (peasants drop from lorry); Moaning of dead and wounded lying on roadside.

BREAK 1'

Amnesty International researcher interviews Paula Mendoza Tellez, widow of one of those killed, 3 November 1995.

DUR 48' Paula Mendoza Tellez (Spanish) Sync:
 "On 28 June the massacre took place. My husband, Francisco Rogel Gervasio, and all the other peasants - there were 17 who died that day. For me and for all the other widows who remain, we want justice and all those responsible for the massacre to be punished... We also want our comrades to be here for the exhumation of the corpses when they get them out of the graves, so that we can see the truth and that they don't lie to us. We want to see a reality, and don't want them to cheat us."

BREAK 5'

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: Hundreds of thousands of Serbs fled areas of Croatia, including the Krajina, when the Croatian army attacked in May and August 1995. Srebrenica in Bosnia-Herzegovina fell to the army of the "Serbian Republic" on 10 July 1995 and many thousands of Bosnians who fled remain unaccounted for and are feared dead.

DUR 13' Actuality: Sounds of Croatian Serb refugees, August 1995.

Interview with 73-year-old Saha Ahmetovic, Bosnian Muslim, (has lost 18 family members in the conflict and fled Srebrenica to Potocari - where she last saw her son being taken away in a truck by Serb soldiers).

DUR 16' Saha Ahmetovic (Serbo Croat) SYNC:
 "It came to here. I'm no how. My grandson, he's the only one who arrived here. Every day crying, crying. They stripped me of everything... Do you have children? Oh my son, my son."

SLOVENIA: Amnesty International held its International Council Meeting (held every two years) in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in August 1995.

Members of Amnesty International from more than 70 countries demonstrating for the "disappeared" of Former Yugoslavia, town centre of Ljubljana. Ross Daniels, Chair of Amnesty International's International Executive Committee (governing body) speaking at demonstration.

DUR 13' Ross Daniels (English) SYNC:
 "To the mothers, to the fathers, to the brothers and sisters: The disappeared may be missing, we at Amnesty International promise you this one thing, they will never be forgotten by us."

BREAK 5'

TURKEY: Police routinely tortured detainees and used excessive force breaking up demonstrations in Istanbul, shooting dead 22 people in March. At least 35 people "disappeared" in security force custody and scores were killed in suspicious circumstances.

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DUR 34' Actuality: Sounds of Turkish security forces violently breaking up demonstrations; Moving tank in street; Helicopters.

TOTAL DURATION 12" 11'

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INTERNATIONAL

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INTERNACIONAL

AMNISTIE
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МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ
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منظمة العفو الدولية



國際
特赦
組織

Ref.: WM/AR96

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20 May 1996

Re: ANNUAL REPORT 1996 VIDEO & AUDIO NEWS RELEASES

Dear Friends

Please find enclosed your copies of the 1996 Annual Report video/audio news releases and transcripts. The tapes are 'international' versions. There are no separate language versions. Full details of the content of the tapes can be found in the transcripts. Translations of the transcripts will be sent as soon as they are ready.

Please note the embargoed release time : 1100 hrs GMT 18 June 1996

Please note that all the footage contained in the video and audio tapes has been cleared for broadcast for use for the duration of 3 months from 18th June 1996 to 18th September 1996, and should be broadcast in connection with the launch of the 1996 Annual Report.

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Please contact the Media and Audiovisual team at the IS if you have any further enquiries regarding these news releases.

Best wishes

Wayne Minter

Wayne Minter

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EMBARGO DATE: 1100 HRS GMT, 18 JUNE 1996

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10:00:00 Amnesty International Logo.

WORLDWIDE: Amnesty International's message for 1996.

10:00:07 I/V Pierre Sané, Secretary General of Amnesty International.

Pierre Sané (English) Sync:

"What we have seen over the past few years is an increase in the number of conflicts. Those conflicts are presented as local conflicts. We see atrocities being committed; massacres, women being raped, children being killed. However, the responsibility cannot be only the responsibility of those who are pulling the trigger. We have to ask the question: Who is providing the weapons? We have to ask the question: Where is the money coming from?"

10:00:43 "Every day Amnesty members are taking action. They are writing letters, they are visiting embassies, we are talking to governments every day, and every day we get results; prisoners are being released, perpetrators are being brought to justice. Hopefully an international criminal court will be set up this year or next year. What Amnesty is saying is: Yes, human rights violations are happening and we are documenting them but it doesn't have to be that way. If people collectively or individually take action, they can change the situation."

CHINA: Amnesty International launched a worldwide campaign to improve the human rights situation in China on 13 March 1996.

10:01:34 Tiananmen Square riots, 4 June 1989.

10:01:55 Mass execution sequence: trucks driving by and executions by firing squad.

10:02:20 I/V Mo Lihua, Chinese writer in exile.

Mo Lihua (Mandarin) Sync:

"If the government was more merciful and did not use the death penalty, at least not for non-violent crimes, it would reduce many families' tragedies and sufferings. It would give them hope. But the Chinese Government prefers to kill them all."

10:02:34 View of Tibetan Monastery.

10:02:39 Set up for I/V Palden Gyatso, Tibetan monk. Takes out torture tools.

Palden Gyatso (Tibetan) Sync:

"One thing they do is tie you up like this behind your back, hang you from a loop from the ceiling and pour hot water from a thermos flask on your naked body, which hurts a lot."

10:03:04 UK members of Amnesty International demonstrate outside Chinese Embassy in London, September 1995.

BEIJING: Amnesty International attended the Non-Governmental Organization Forum and the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995.

10:03:17 Entrance to Beijing International Conference Centre.
 10:03:23 Inside conference.
 10:03:28 Amnesty International delegates outside conference (Pierre Sané, Secretary General and Anita Tiesson, Director of Media Program).
 10:03:32 Amnesty International delegate, Casey Kelso, attempts to deliver petition to Chinese officials holding press conference in Beijing.
 10:03:49 Casey Kelso interviewed by journalists, interrupted by noise to drown his voice.
 10:04:06 Pierre Sané speaking at Amnesty International press conference, Beijing.

Pierre Sane, (English) Sync:

"Amnesty International will not be silent on human rights in China. Progress has been made on moving towards freedom from want, but freedom from fear is still not a right of the Chinese people."

AFGHANISTAN: Amnesty International launched a major action on human rights in Afghanistan on 29 November 1995.

10:04:32 GVs of Kabul, April 1995.
 10:04:37 Tank.
 10:04:41 Guns.
 10:04:44 Taleban forces with rocket launcher.
 10:04:46 Internally displaced women, Kabul.
 10:04:50 Injured children at Indira Ghandi Children's Hospital
 10:04:59 Amin, 7-year-old, whose mother was baking bread when a shell hit his house killing his entire family.
 10:05:10 Frontline at Maidan Shahr.
 10:05:20 Bodies discovered in mass grave, Kabul University.
 10:05:33 Food distributed from ICRC vans.

NIGERIA: Amnesty International condemned the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa, writer and President of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, along with eight others in November 1995 after unfair trials.

10:05:59 Smoggy forest, oil pipes running along ground in Ogoniland.
 10:06:08 Shell warning sign.
 10:06:10 Children standing in brown stream, women washing clothes; flare in background.
 10:06:19 Locals looking at oily pool in forest at Ebubu.
 GV scorched earth, oily pond.

- 10:06:31 Ogoni Day rally in 1993. Nigerian authorities have not permitted journalists to film there since.
- 10:06:40 Ken Saro-Wiwa at rally.
- 10:06:49 Banner of Ken Saro-Wiwa at Amnesty International vigil outside Nigerian Embassy in London, November 1995.
- 10:06:58 I/V Greg Odo, Nigerian writer and artist attending London vigil.

Greg Odo (English) Sync:

"Ken was not interested in disturbing businessmen, he was only interested in protecting his environment, the environment of his people."

KENYA: Amnesty International medical experts visited Kenya in March 1995 to research into the widespread use of torture.

- 10:07:21 GV police in street, Nairobi.
- 10:07:29 Torture victim - lost arm as result of torture.
- 10:07:38 I/V David Njenga, tortured in Nairobi 1993.

David Njenga (English) Sync:

"When they were beating me up they did not concentrate on the toes alone - others would even kick me in the head. And this was the time, when they decided since I could not tell them what they wanted, this leg - that is the right leg - they took a plier and they held the toe - the middle toe - and they just held the nail, the toenail, like that and they just plucked it and blood was all over."

- 10:08:21 Amnesty International doctor examining torture victim, March 1995.

SOUTH AFRICA: Amnesty International's Secretary General, Pierre Sané, visited South Africa for the first time in November 1995 to visit a fast-growing Amnesty membership.

- 10:08:42 GVs Muizenberg Beach, Cape Town, 12 November 1995.
- 10:08:53 Amnesty International Beach Walk for human rights.
- 10:09:05 Pierre Sané speaking at public meeting on human rights.

Pierre Sané (English) Sync:

"Human rights in order to ensure the survival of all of humanity. We continue to bring the light of hope to the dark corners of the world."

SAUDI ARABIA: The judicial punishments of amputation and flogging continued to be imposed and there was a sharp increase in executions.

- 10:09:27 GVs street in Jeddah.
- 10:09:43 Motawa (religious) police on street.
- 10:09:50 Mohammad 'Ali al-Sayyid, left Egypt five years ago to work in Saudi Arabia. Convicted of theft, he was sentenced to 4,000 lashes. Every fortnight he receives 50 public lashes.
- 10:09:59 Interview with Mohammad's wife, Cairo.

Wife (Arabic) Sync:

"I don't know whether he'll be coming back in one year, two years, three years. Every year I desperately pray to God that he'll be coming home. I've been waiting for five years and still he doesn't return. Who can cope with this when you've got four children."

10:10:47 Public beheading of two men. Public executions like this are often announced in the Mosque and take place in city centre on Fridays.

ISRAEL: Amnesty International's Secretary General visited the Minister of Justice, David Liba'i, on 8 and 11 February 1996. Immediately afterwards a bill that would have allowed impunity for security forces who commit violence against detainees was delayed for further discussion.

10:11:38 I/V Khaled Farraj, Palestinian torture victim.

Khaled Farraj (Arabic) Sync:

"From the first day of my detention to the 45th or 50th days, there were long sittings or standings in painful positions. But the most important is that you have your hands tied behind your back and to the chair where you are sitting and a bag covers your head. The bag means complete isolation from the exterior world. No possibility to see anything or to have any distraction by just looking.

Practically it is very isolating when the bag is on for a continuous period - 48 hours, 96 hours - covering the head, automatically it has repercussions on the psychological situation of the body and constitution in general. In addition you sit in the same place for long periods during the interrogation in a painful position.

New methods of interrogation are used every day. Methods which have repercussions on the situation of the body and the psychology. One of the most important methods is that when you are standing in a painful position for a long time, the hands are tied to the table like that..."

10:12:43 Pierre Sané meeting Minister of Justice, David Liba'i, 8 February 1996. Pierre Sané speaking to journalists.

Pierre Sané (English) SYNC:

"We think it's a bad bill. We think it's a bad law. If that bill is passed and it becomes law, it will set us back decades."

BAHRAIN: Widespread protests calling for the restoration of democratic rights over the past year have resulted in thousands of arrests. Scores of political detainees were tortured - two to death.

10:12:25 General views central Bahrain.

10:13:46 General views poor Shi'a areas.

10:13:58 Graffiti.

10:14:07 Fresh grave of 16-year-old Sa'id 'Abd al-Rasul al-Iskafy. Died as result of torture after arrest suspected for spraying graffiti, July 1995.

10:14:14 Portrait photograph of Sa'id al-Iskafy.

10:14:20 Street violence during pro-democracy protests, 1995.

10:14:30 Photograph of Sa'id al-Iskafy's tortured body.
 10:14:39 Interview with Abdul Rasool al-Iskafy, Sa'id's father.

Abdul Rasool al-Iskafy (Arabic) Sync:

"His body was burned with an ordinary iron, for ironing. It was pierced with drills. They had smoked cigarettes and stubbed them out on him. They did a shameful thing to him; it was clear he had been sexually interfered with. An officer had molested him. What a criminal act! Would you molest someone who is tied up, a prisoner?"

USA: Fifty-six prisoners were executed in the USA in 1995 and more than 3,000 prisoners remain on death row today.

10:15:11 Exterior of San Quentin Prison, California.
 10:15:21 William Bonin, executed for murder on 23 February 1996, entering courtroom.
 10:15:29 Anti-death penalty protestors outside prison.
 10:15:38 Interview with protestor (vicar).

Protestor (English) Sync:

"I believe morally that no-one has a right to kill, and if that is true then what he did was morally wrong and I believe what we are doing tonight is morally wrong."

10:15:48 William Bonin in court.
 10:15:49 Official Execution Witness describing execution.

Witness (English) Sync:

"He was with his head facing us. We were to the right. He was stretched out, strapped down as expected. His eyes were closed, we don't know if he had received a sedative before, he was at that point breathing..."

MEXICO: On 28 June 1995, 17 unarmed peasants were massacred at Guerrero by police. An Amnesty International research team visited victim's relatives in December.

10:16:27 Lorry arriving at roadblock, Guerrero, 28 June 1995.
 10:16:50 Police run towards lorry, peasants start to get out.
 10:16:59 Gunfire. Peasants drop from lorry.
 10:17:21 Dead and wounded lying on roadside. Local tv pictures of bodies (24 Horas, recorded off-air).
 10:17:46 Amnesty International researcher interviews Paula Mendoza Tellez, widow of victim, 3 November 1995.

Paula Mendoza Tellez (Spanish) Sync:

"On 28 June the massacre took place. My husband, Francisco Rogel Gervasio, and all the other peasants - there were 17 who died that day. For me and for all the other widows who remain, we want justice and all those responsible for the massacre to be punished... We also want our comrades to be here for the exhumation of the corpses when they get them out of the graves, so that we can see the truth and that they don't lie to us. We want to see a reality, and don't want them to cheat us."

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: Hundreds of thousands of Serbs fled areas of Croatia, including the Krajina, when the Croatian army attacked in May and August 1995. Srebrenica in Bosnia-Herzegovina fell to the army of the "Serbian Republic" on 10 July 1995 and many thousands of Bosnians who fled remain unaccounted for and are feared dead.

10:18:49 Towns on fire in Krajina, Croatia, August 1995.
 10:19:08 Croatian Serb refugees.
 10:19:24 Wrecked Potocari United Nations camp, Bosnia-Herzegovina, March 1996.
 10:19:35 Signpost for Srebrenica and ICRC vehicle. Town, March 1996.
 10:19:41 Interview with 73-year-old Saha Ahmetovic, (has lost 18 family members in the conflict and fled Srebrenica to Potocari - where she last saw her son being taken away in a truck by Serb soldiers).

Saha Ahmetovic Sync:

"It came to here. I'm no how. My grandson, he's the only one who arrived here. Every day crying, crying. They stripped me of everything... Do you have children? Oh my son, my son."

SLOVENIA: Amnesty International held its International Council Meeting (held every two years) in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in August 1995.

10:19:51 Members of Amnesty International from more than 70 countries demonstrating for the "disappeared" of Former Yugoslavia, town centre of Ljubljana.
 10:20:08 Close ups of mothers of the "disappeared" wearing photographs of the missing.
 10:20:13 Close up of petition signing. (Petition calling for all "disappearances" to be resolved.
 10:20:19 Ross Daniels, Chair of Amnesty International's International Executive Committee (governing body) speaking at demonstration.

Ross Daniels (English) SYNC:

"To the mothers, to the fathers, to the brothers and sisters: The disappeared may be missing, we at Amnesty International promise you this one thing, they will never be forgotten by us."

TURKEY: Police routinely tortured detainees and used excessive force breaking up demonstrations in Istanbul, shooting dead 22 people in March. At least 35 people "disappeared" in security force custody and scores were killed in suspicious circumstances.

10:20:39 GVs of burnt out villages in south east Turkey.
 10:20:56 GVs of Turkish security forces.
 10:21:03 Turkish security forces violently breaking up demonstrations.
 10:21:21 Moving tank in street. Soldier.
 10:21:30 Helicopters.
 10:21:38 Little boy behind barbed wire.

ENDFIELD

10:21:40 Amnesty International logo. END.