

THE FUND FOR FREE EXPRESSION

At the end of 1990, the Fund for Free Expression had a change in leadership, as its longtime chairman and executive director assumed new positions on the Fund's board. The Fund has also begun a more comprehensive program to monitor and protect freedom of expression around the world and in the United States.

The Fund for Free Expression was founded in 1975, under the leadership of Robert L. Bernstein, as a group of writers, editors, publishers, attorneys and civic leaders concerned with human rights abuses. The Fund was the parent organization of Helsinki Watch, founded in 1978, and Americas Watch, founded in 1981. With the more recent establishment of Asia Watch, Africa Watch and Middle East Watch, and with the creation in 1987 of a new parent organization, Human Rights Watch, the Fund's focus shifted to special projects – for example, joining with the Association of American Publishers in sponsoring US exhibits at Moscow Book Fairs and undertaking a mission to South Africa to assess the impact of the inclusion of books and educational materials in the trade embargo. The Fund has also served as the United States sponsor of international anti-censorship organizations such as ARTICLE 19 and Index on Censorship.

The Fund's expanded program will address freedom-of-expression issues that cut across country lines, working closely with the five regional divisions of Human Rights Watch and with other organizations in the field. It will undertake a series of projects focused on the relationship between curbs on free expression and various global social problems – such as AIDS, famine and attacks on the environment – with the goal of establishing censorship and information policies as an important element in the debates about these issues. For example, as Helsinki Watch has documented, the appalling number of pediatric AIDS cases in Romania grows directly out of the Ceausescu regime's refusal to acknowledge even the existence of AIDS, and its efforts to impede the exchange of information among physicians. As Africa Watch and ARTICLE 19 have reported, famine is often less the result of natural disasters than of misguided governmental policies that go unexamined because of curbs on the press and other democratic institutions.

The first such global study by the Fund for Free Expression, examining the

link between censorship and governmental corruption in selected countries, will be the subject of a newsletter early in 1991.

The Fund will also expand its work in the United States. In 1990, Congress came within a few votes of amending the First Amendment to punish flag-burning; there were criminal charges filed against the director of an art museum in Cincinnati and a rap group in Florida; and the National Endowment for the Arts barely survived after a barrage of criticism over grants for allegedly obscene or politically controversial work. In such a climate, it is important and timely for the Fund to establish a more visible and aggressive presence on US free speech issues.

Reflecting its unique status as a component of a worldwide human rights organization, the Fund's domestic priorities will be to bring an international perspective to bear on American censorship controversies and to monitor US government efforts to restrict the "free trade of ideas" – for instance, censorship of books and magazines sent to US troops in the Persian Gulf, or exclusion of foreign visitors on the basis of their viewpoints and political activities. The Fund will also undertake a series of reports on selected US freedom-of-expression issues, such as the effect of restrictive court decisions on the freedom of the student press, or curbs on government funding of the arts.

The Fund will also undertake special projects relating to freedom of expression. The first of these is to assist in the creation of a new organization of American academic leaders concerned about abuses of academic freedom and other human rights of their colleagues around the world. While educators are heavily represented among the world's political detainees, and universities are at special risk from repressive regimes, teachers and scholars have to date lacked a broadly based group to focus on their human rights problems, to keep the academic community informed about abuses, and to encourage a greater sense of responsibility among academics to act in such matters.

In addition to its other work, the Fund for Free Expression administers grants to writers in financial need as a result of political persecution, under the terms of legacies from the estates of the late writers Lillian Hellman and Dashiell Hammett. In 1990, seventeen grants of \$10,000 each were awarded to writers from Afghanistan, China, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malawi, Romania, the United States and several other countries.

The Fund's new chairman is Roland Algrant, succeeding Founding Chairman Robert L. Bernstein. Its new executive director is Gara LaMarche, succeeding Sophie C. Silberberg, who was named along with Robert Wedgeworth as new Vice-Chairs of the Fund. Lydia Lobenthal is the Fund's associate.

THE PRISON PROJECT

The Human Rights Watch Prison Project, established in 1988, cuts across the five regional divisions of Human Rights Watch to focus on a single issue: prison conditions worldwide. The Prison Project has investigated conditions for sentenced prisoners, pretrial detainees and those held in police lock-ups. It examines prison conditions for all prisoners, not just political prisoners.

Of the countries where investigations have been undertaken, the Prison Project has been able to secure access to prisons in about half. The Project has a set of self-imposed rules for prison visits: the investigators undertake such visits only when they and not the authorities can suggest institutions to be visited, when they can be confident that they will be allowed to talk privately with inmates of their choice, and when they can gain access to an entire facility. These rules are adopted to avoid being shown model institutions or their most presentable parts. When no access is possible, reporting is based on interviews with former prisoners, lawyers and prison experts, and on documentary evidence.

In previous years, the Project conducted studies in Brazil, Czechoslovakia, Indonesia, Mexico, Poland and Turkey. In 1990 the Project sent missions to Egypt, India, Israel and Jamaica. In Israel and Jamaica, the delegations were allowed to visit prisons; in Egypt and India, no such permission was granted. In addition, follow-up missions to Czechoslovakia and Poland were conducted in 1990, with access to prisons in both countries. An examination of conditions in a range of US prisons was also begun in 1990, and additional investigation is planned for 1991.

In addition to pressing for improvements in prison conditions in each country on which it reports, the Prison Project plans to use the findings of its studies as part of an effort to place the problem of prison conditions on the international human rights agenda -- so that a government's claims to respect human rights will be assessed in part on the basis of how it treats all of its prisoners. As a first step, the results of the European and US studies will be presented during the human rights conference in Moscow scheduled for the fall of 1991.

The work of the Prison Project is guided by the Prison Advisory Committee, whose chairman is American University Law Professor Herman Schwartz. Other members are: Nan Aron, Vivien Berger, Haywood Burns, Alejandro Garro, William Hellerstein, Edward Koren, Sheldon Krantz, Benjamin Malcolm, Diane Orentlicher, Norman Rosenberg, David Rothman, Rita Simon, and Clarence Sundram. The director of the Project is Joanna Weschler.

THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS PROJECT

In 1990, Human Rights Watch established an international Women's Rights Project. The Project, in conjunction with the five regional divisions of Human Rights Watch, will report on abuses of the basic rights of women worldwide. At least at the outset, the Project intends to address issues of violence against women and gender-specific discrimination in employment, education and civil status. In all of these cases, in accordance with the mandate of Human Rights Watch, the Project will limit its focus to instances in which the state plays a role, by legally sanctioning violations of women's rights or by routinely tolerating abusive practices in which the risk factor is being female.

The Women's Rights Project opens new territory for Human Rights Watch, territory which is vast and virtually unexplored by the international human rights community. Consistent with the approach of Human Rights Watch as a whole, the Project will not attempt to chart this territory in the abstract, but will confront issues as they arise in the course of particular country studies. For that reason, in selecting the initial set of countries for examination, we consider an important factor to be the existence of domestic women's rights groups that have begun the process of thinking through and addressing these issues. With these groups, we will assess the cultural sensitivities and other local factors surrounding women's issues, explore the relevant legal framework and determine the areas in which a contribution from Human Rights Watch could be most effective.

The Project conducted its first investigation in October, when a researcher traveled to Algeria to examine rising violence against women and gender discrimination in family law. A report from her trip is expected in early 1991. Other countries likely to be examined include Brazil, where the common-law "defense of honor" exculpates a husband who murders or injures his wife; South Korea, where the government has tolerated the practice of employers in the textile and electronics industries who at times provide extra pay to male workers to beat women protesting low pay and adverse working conditions; and Jordan, where a wife's perceived adultery is legally punishable by death at the hands of her husband or male relative.

In addition to these country-specific issues, we are considering studies that span several countries or regions. Topics under review are the widespread

problems of rape in detention and other forms of gender-specific torture and humiliation in custody, and violence against women as a form of counterinsurgency or an aspect of war. We also hope to examine the particular problems of women refugees.

Human Rights Watch established the Women's Rights Project because violence and discrimination against women is an epidemic problem, affecting women of every class and race in virtually all nations of the world. Although most states have committed themselves to respect human rights and in some cases to end discrimination against women, we believe that not enough work has been done by international human rights organizations to expose women's rights abuses and ensure that they are treated as an integral part of any assessment of a government's respect for human rights.

Human Rights Watch has already established a special-focus project on prison conditions. We have found through the Prison Project's work that by singling out an often-forgotten element of a nation's human rights record we can have a greater impact than would be possible were the issue presented as one of many others. We believe that this will hold true in the field of women's rights as well.

Recognition is growing in the United States government that the issue of women's rights, and in particular the issue of violence against women, needs to be addressed as part of both the international and domestic human rights agenda. Congress has required the State Department to include women's rights in its international human rights reporting, and in 1990, for the first time, the issue of violence against women was included in the State Department's annual *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices*. In addition, both houses of Congress held hearings on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and on violence against women in the United States, and Senator Joseph Biden introduced a bill to "combat violence against women on the street and in the homes." Unfortunately, the violence hearings in particular were hampered by a lack of hard information, reflecting the absence of any systematic reporting by nongovernmental institutions. The Women's Rights Project is designed to meet the growing interest in this issue and help to provide the solid information that has been in such short supply.

To guide the work of the Project, Human Rights Watch is establishing a Project Advisory Committee which will include representatives of each of the five

regional Watch committees and several persons who have been active in efforts to promote women's rights in the United States and around the world. Members of the Advisory Committee will participate in certain investigative missions, and help to refine the issues and areas that the Project should emphasize.

The Women's Rights Project is directed by Dorothy Q. Thomas and staffed by Dionne Morris. It is based in Human Rights Watch's Washington offices.

THE CALIFORNIA COMMITTEE OF HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH AND THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE

Nineteen-ninety was the first full year of operation for the Los Angeles office of Human Rights Watch. The office, which opened in May 1989, grew out of the efforts of the California Committee of Human Rights Watch – a group of concerned Californians who, since 1987, have actively promoted and participated in our work. The office and volunteer members of the California Committee provide research and campaign support to all five regional divisions of Human Rights Watch by undertaking tasks that are best performed from California. Key elements of this support are their responsibility for Americas Watch's research on Mexico and for examining violations of human rights by the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) along the US-Mexico border. They also seek to enhance local awareness of and support for international human rights by sponsoring public educational programs in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

During 1990, research on Mexico was the cornerstone of the Los Angeles office's work. The office released the first comprehensive report on human rights conditions in Mexico by an international nongovernmental organization. That report generated substantial press interest in both Mexico and the United States. In September, a representative from the office testified on human rights in Mexico before a joint hearing of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittees on the Western Hemisphere and on Human Rights and International Organizations. A report on prison conditions in Mexico and a critique of the first six months of Mexico's new governmental National Human Rights Commission will be published in early 1991.

In the fall of 1990, research began on abuses by the US Border Patrol and by other agencies of the INS during the arrest and detention of undocumented aliens in the United States. That report, too, will be published in early 1991. In December, a staff member published an op-ed article in the *San Diego Union* regarding the shooting of a Mexican youth by the Border Patrol. The office also submitted an *amicus curiae* brief to the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit regarding human rights violations committed by those acting at the behest of the US government in the course of the abduction and transport to the United States of Mexican gynecologist Humberto Alvarez Machaín.

In January, on behalf of Asia Watch, a member of the California Committee participated in a mission to the Cambodian refugee camps in Thailand to interview refugees about human rights violations by all sides to the Cambodian conflict. Findings from that mission were published in an Asia Watch newsletter and incorporated into Asia Watch's testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Since her return, the Committee member has spoken several times about human rights conditions in Cambodia.

Work on China was also a priority of the California Committee. Two California Committee members made numerous presentations about human rights conditions in China. Much of these efforts were part of a drive for the release of Wang Ruowang, a Shanghai writer who was detained following the events in June 1989; he was released in October. In January, a Los Angeles office staff member spoke at a press conference promoting a review of guidelines for granting visas to Chinese students in the wake of the Tiananmen Square massacre and continuing widespread human rights violations in that country. In April, she also participated in a press conference announcing the passage of a California Assembly Resolution denouncing continuing human rights abuses in China.

In June, a member of the California Committee served as a delegate to the International Helsinki Federation Conference on Human Rights in Moscow. She then traveled to Kiev to meet with local human rights leaders and to explore human rights issues created by rising secessionist movements and ethnic tensions, as well as by the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl.

Since the invasion of Kuwait, the Los Angeles office has helped disseminate Middle East Watch newsletters on the human rights situation in Kuwait, the humanitarian aspects of the international embargo against Iraq, and related issues.

As part of a public education series, the California Committee and the Los Angeles office hosted several human rights monitors as well as members of the Human Rights Watch staff and boards. In January, the California Committee hosted Carlos Escobar, a Peruvian lawyer who had gained international attention for his efforts to prosecute those responsible for military atrocities in Peru – efforts that required him to leave Peru for his safety. In October, the Committee and the office organized a statewide speaking tour for Gibson Kamau Kuria to draw attention to

the declining human rights situation in Kenya. Kuria, a leading Kenyan human rights lawyer, was imprisoned in 1987 for representing a political prisoner; in July, again facing detention, he was granted refuge in the US embassy in Nairobi, where he remained until he was allowed to leave the country. In the year's final forum, Mariclaire Acosta, director of the nongovernmental Mexican Commission to Defend and Promote Human Rights, joined a member of the Los Angeles office in discussing human rights in Mexico.

Forums involving Human Rights Watch staff and board members included a discussion in February of human rights in El Salvador three months after the murder of six Jesuit priests and their two associates, one in April on human rights abuses in Iran, Iraq and Israel, and one in September on emerging human rights concerns in the Soviet Union. In addition, in May, Lawrence Weschler spoke about his recently released book, *A Miracle, A Universe*, which documents the extraordinary efforts made by human rights activists in Brazil and Uruguay to confront and overcome the legacies of repression and torture in their countries.

In 1990, the California Committee successfully raised its operating budget in California through a combination of private contributions, foundation support, and a fund-raising dinner to honor co-chair, Stanley Sheinbaum, on his 70th birthday.

Jane Olson and Stanley Sheinbaum are co-chairs of the California Committee. Its Executive Committee also includes Raquel Ackerman, Mike Farrell, Paul Hoffman, Joseph LaBonte, Daniel Levy, Lynda Palevsky, Clara A. "Zazi" Pope, Francis Wheat and Diane Wittenberg. The remainder of the California Committee is comprised of Lynn Alvarez, Edward Asner, Geoffrey Cowen, Dolores A. Donovan, Sandy Elster, Brenda Freiberg, Jonathan M. Gordon, Arthur N. Greenberg, Kristin Hubbard, Lucy Hubbard, Rosanne Keynan, Clifford L. Klein, Sharon Lloyd, Abraham F. Lowenthal, Beatriz Manz, Felicia Marcus, Hon. Dorothy W. Nelson, Hon. James F. Nelson, Steven A. Nissen, Lucille Polachek, Claire Pollack, Cruz Reynoso, David W. Rintels, Vicki Riskin Rintels, Ramona Ripston, William Rothbard, Orville Schell, Hon. Phillip R. Trimble, Nancy Wheat, Stanley Wolpert and Zohreh Zarnegar.

Ellen Lutz is the director of the Los Angeles office and Larry Siems is an associate.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH AND CONGRESSIONAL CASEWORK

Throughout 1990, Human Rights Watch continued to work closely with three casework groups composed of members of Congress – the Congressional Friends of Human Rights Monitors, the Congressional Committee to Support Writers and Journalists, and the Congressional Working Group on International Labor Rights. All three groups are bipartisan and bicameral. Human Rights Watch initiated the formation of these groups to enable concerned Members of Congress to write letters and urgent cables to governments that violate the basic rights of human rights monitors, writers, journalists and unionists. Human Rights Watch supplies the groups with information about appropriate cases of concern; the groups, in turn, determine which cases they would like to act upon.

The Congressional Friends of Human Rights Monitors, which was formed in 1985, is composed of 32 Senators and 143 Members of the House of Representatives. During 1990, the committee took up the cases of dozens of human rights monitors who had been killed, disappeared, arrested arbitrarily, assaulted, or harassed. During the year, the committee acted on behalf of human rights monitors in Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Turkey.

The Congressional Committee to Support Writers and Journalists, which was formed in 1988, is composed of 15 Senators and 74 Members of the House of Representatives. The committee protested dozens of cases of killings, abductions, illegal detentions, violent attacks, and acts of censorship against writers and journalists around the world. Letters or cables were sent to the governments of Bangladesh, Burma (Myanmar), Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Haiti, Iraq, Israel, Kenya, Pakistan, Paraguay, the Philippines, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, Vietnam and Zambia.

The newest group, the Congressional Working Group on International Labor Rights, was formed in March 1990, and is made up of seven Senators and 43 Members of the House of Representatives. During its first year, it protested numerous cases of labor rights abuses, including murders, abductions, illegal detentions, beatings, illegal firings, and unwarranted bans on unions. The committee wrote to many governments, including Brazil, China, Colombia, El

Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Malaysia, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Turkey and Zimbabwe.

PUBLICATIONS FROM HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH IN 1990

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

The Bush Administration's Record on Human Rights in 1989, January.
The Persecution of Human Rights Monitors, December 1989 to December 1990, A Worldwide Survey, December.

AFRICA WATCH

Cameroon

"Government Cracks Down on Demand for Multiparty System," June.

Ethiopia

"Conscription," June.

"'Mengistu Has Decided to Burn Us Like Wood': Bombing of Civilians and Civilian Targets by the Air Force," July.

"Violent Suppression of Student Protest," August.

Ghana

"Official Attacks on Religious Freedom," May.

Kenya

"*The Nairobi Law Monthly* and Its Editor under Fire," April.

"Political Crackdown," May.

"Screening of Ethnic Somalis," September.

"Kenya: Illegal Expulsion of More Than 1,000 Refugees," December.

Liberia

Flight from Terror, May.

Malawi

Where Silence Rules, October.

Book-length reports are listed in *italics*; shorter newsletters are in roman type.

Mauritania

"Slavery Alive and Well 10 Years After It Was Last Abolished," June.

Nigeria

"Aftermath of Abortive Coup," May.

"Post-Coup Crackdown Continues," June.

"Forty-Two Executed After Unfair Trial," July.

"Twenty-Seven New Executions for Coup Attempt," September.

Somalia

A Government at War with Its Own People, January.

"Evading Reality," September.

South Africa

"Forced Incorporation in Ciskei Bantustan," January.

Sudan

"The Massacre at el Jebelien," January.

Denying "The Honor of Living," March.

"Officers Executed and Doctor Tortured to Death," April.

"Threat to Women's Status from Fundamentalist Regime," April.

"Lest They Be Forgotten: Letters from Shalla Prison," May.

"Suppression of Information," August.

"Sudan: Bullets Aren't the Seeds of Life," December.

Tanzania

"Executive Order Denies Land Rights," March.

Zimbabwe

"Harassment of Opposition Party Members," March.

"After the General Election," April.

"Release of Detained Politicians," May.

AMERICAS WATCH**Brazil**

"Forced Labor in Brazil," December.

"On Trial in Brazil: Rural Violence and the Murder of Chico Mendes," December.

Colombia

The "Drug War" in Colombia, October.

Cuba

"Jailing the Human Rights Movement," March.

"Pro-Democracy Activists to Stand Trial," June.

Dominican Republic

Harvesting Oppression: Forced Haitian Labor in the Dominican Sugar Industry, June.

El Salvador

A Year of Reckoning: El Salvador a Decade after the Assassination of Archbishop Romero, March.

Violations of Fair Trial Guarantees by the FMLN's Ad Hoc Courts, May.

"Impunity Prevails in Human Rights Cases," September.

Guatemala

Messengers of Death: Human Rights in Guatemala, November 1988–February 1990, March.

"Army Campaign Against Rights Activists Intensifies," May.

"Sole Conviction in Human Rights Case Overturned," August.

"Rights Abuses Escalate as Elections Near," November.

Guyana

Electoral Conditions in Guyana, October.

Haiti

Reverting to Despotism: Human Rights in Haiti, March.

In the Army's Hands: Human Rights in Haiti on the Eve of the Elections, December.

Honduras

"Inter-American Court of Human Rights Wraps Up First Adversarial Case," September.

Jamaica

Prison Conditions in Jamaica, May.

Mexico

Human Rights in Mexico: A Policy of Impunity, June.

Nicaragua

New Year's Day Killings of the Nuns in Nicaragua, January.

Panama

Laws of War & the Conduct of the Panama Invasion, May.

Peru

"Wave of Violence Against Peru's Human Rights Community," March.

In Desperate Straits: Human Rights in Peru after a Decade of Democracy and Insurgency, August.

ASIA WATCH**Burma (Myanmar)**

"Burma (Myanmar): Worsening Repression, March.

Human Rights in Burma (Myanmar) May.

"Burma: Post-Election Abuses," August.

Cambodia

"Violations of the Rules of War by the Khmer Rouge," April.

"Human Rights in Cambodia: Testimony Before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee," July.

China

Punishment Season: Human Rights in China After Martial Law, March.

"Torture in China," July.

"China: Ongoing Repression," August.

Repression in China Since June 4, 1989, September.

Yao Yongzhan: A Year in a Chinese Jail," September.

Indonesia

Injustice, Persecution, Eviction: A Human Rights Update on Indonesia & East Timor, March.

"Indonesia: Impact of US Involvement in 1965," June.

***Prison Conditions in Indonesia,* August.**

"Indonesia: Curbs on Freedom of Opinion," September.

"Indonesia: Ban on Sumatran Organizations," October.

"Indonesia: Human Rights Abuses in Aceh," December.

Japan

"Japan: Harassment of Chinese Dissidents," October.

South Korea

***Retreat from Reform: Labor Rights and Freedom of Expression in South Korea,* November.**

Philippines

"Disappearances' in the Philippines," May.

Violations of the Laws of War by Both Sides, August.

Sri Lanka

"Journalist Murdered in Sri Lanka as Death Squad Killings Continue," March.

Tibet

Merciless Repression, May.

HELSINKI WATCH

Bulgaria

"Minority Problems Persist," March.

"Election Report," June.

"Deep Tensions Continue in Turkish Provinces Despite Some Human Rights Improvements," August.

Greece

***Destroying Ethnic Identity: The Turks of Greece,* August.**

Romania

"News From Romania," January.
"Trials in Romania," March.
"Elections Report," May.
"Ethnic Conflict in Tirgu Mures," May.
"Violent Events of June 13–15," July.
"Romania's Orphans: A Legacy of Repression," December.

Turkey

"Freedom of Expression," February.
"Southeastern Turkey," June.
***Destroying Ethnic Identity: The Kurds of Turkey (An Update),* September.**

USSR

***Nyeformaly: Civil Society in the USSR,* February.**
"Russia on the Eve of the March 4 Elections," February.
"Moldavia," April.
"Psychiatric Abuse in the Soviet Union," May.
Conflict in the Soviet Union: The Untold Story of the Clashes in Kazakhstan, October.

Yugoslavia

***Yugoslavia: Crisis in Kosovo,* March.**

MIDDLE EAST WATCH

Egypt

"Election Concerns," November.

Iran

"Arrests of 'Loyal Opposition' Politicians," June.

Iraq

***Human Rights in Iraq,* February.**
"Middle East Watch Condemns Iraq's Practices Toward Foreigners Under Its Control and Reminds Embargo Participants of Their Humanitarian Obligations," August.
"The Conduct of Iraqi Troops in Kuwait Toward Kuwaitis and Non-Westerners,"

September.

"Asian Workers in Iraq and Kuwait Face Imminent Starvation," October.

"Kuwait: Deteriorating Human Rights Conditions since the Early Occupation," November.

Israel

"Israel Indicates It Will Permit One West Bank University to Reopen," May.

"Situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip: Middle East Watch Testimony Before the US House of Representatives," May.

***The Israeli Army and the Intifada*, August.**

Kuwait

"Widespread Arrests in Kuwait," May.

Morocco

"Deaths in a Secret Detention Center," April.

Syria

***Human Rights in Syria*, September.**

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH MISSIONS IN 1990

Africa Watch

| | | |
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| January | Zambia/Zimbabwe | to interview Malawian refugees |
| | Zimbabwe | to conduct research on |
| | | persecution of the opposition prior to the election |
| February | Ivory Coast | to interview Liberian refugees |
| May-June | Senegal | to interview Mauritanian refugees |
| June-August | South Africa | to conduct research on violence in Natal and Transvaal |
| September | Ivory Coast | to interview Liberian refugees |
| October-November | Mozambique | to meet with government officials and conduct research on constitutional developments and the conduct of the civil war |
| November | Uganda | to attend conference on academic freedom |

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| November-December | Angola | to research the conduct of the civil war by both sides to the conflict |
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During 1990 Africa Watch also requested permission to visit Malawi, Mauritania, Kenya, Sudan and Cameroon. Permission was either denied or was not forthcoming.

Americas Watch

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| January | Jamaica | to investigate prison conditions |
| | Nicaragua | to research the killing of nuns |
| | Panama | to research US conduct during and after the invasion |

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| February | Dominican Republic | to investigate the use of forced labor on state sugar plantations |
| | Mexico | to conduct general research and investigate prison conditions |
| | Nicaragua | to investigate electoral conditions |
| | Peru | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |

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| March | El Salvador | to research general human rights conditions |
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| April | Guatemala | to conduct investigation into events in Parraxtut |
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| May | Colombia | to conduct general research on |
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| | | human rights conditions |
| | Mexico | to conduct general research on human rights conditions and to investigate prison conditions |
| | Peru | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| June | Haiti | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| June-July | Brazil | to investigate rural violence and labor rights |
| August | Costa Rica | to attend hearing before Inter-American Court on Human Rights on Peru case |
| | Guyana | to investigate electoral conditions |
| | Mexico | to meet with new National Human Rights Commission |
| | Paraguay | to research violence in the context of land disputes |
| | Peru | to meet with new government |
| September | Cuba | to attend UN conference and conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| | Honduras | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| October | Brazil | to review exhumation of clandestine graves |

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| | Colombia | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| November | Argentina | to conduct interviews with Foreign Ministry and judge on pardons and La Tablada |
| | Ecuador | to meet with Andean human rights monitors |
| | Guatemala | to investigate electoral conditions |
| | Mexico | to visit to La Mesa prison in Tijuana |
| | Nicaragua | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| December | Guatemala | to examine government investigations of human rights abuses |

Asia Watch

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| January | Thailand | to interview Cambodian refugees and aid workers on Cambodian border and to gather information on violations of the laws of war by all parties to the Cambodian conflict |
| February | Nepal | to investigate human rights violations by the Nepali government during pro-democracy demonstrations and to meet with government officials to discuss concerns |
| | Sri Lanka | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |

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| May | Burma | to investigate electoral conditions (also research in Thailand) |
| | Cambodia | to meet with government officials and to investigate the situation of political prisoners and the conduct of the civil war |
| June | Japan | to meet with human rights monitors and Japanese Diet members on human rights concerns |
| | Korea (Republic of) | to investigate labor rights and freedom of expression |
| June-July | Pakistan | to interview Afghan refugees and aid workers in Pakistan about abuses by the <i>mujahedin</i> and the Afghan government |
| July | Afghanistan | to meet with government officials and to collect information on the state of political and civil rights and the conduct of the civil war (with Middle East Watch) |
| | India | to meet with government officials |
| October | India | to investigate prison conditions |
| November | Indonesia | to investigate violations of freedom of expression throughout Indonesia and other abuses in Aceh, Sumatra |
| December | India | to investigate violations in Punjab |

and Kashmir

Helsinki Watch

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| January | Romania | to establish contact with the new government and evaluate human rights situation following the revolution |
| January- February | Romania | to observe first trial of top Communist Party members and close Ceausescu aides |
| February | Bulgaria | to investigate continuing ethnic tension and pre-election conditions |
| March | Yugoslavia | to investigate the treatment of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo by Serbian forces |
| April | Bulgaria | to discuss a constitutional reform project |
| | Romania | to investigate violent clashes between ethnic Hungarians and ethnic Romanians in Tirgu Mures |
| May | Greece | to research human rights violations against the Turkish minority in Western Thrace |
| | Romania | to investigate acts of violence and intimidation during the election campaign |
| | Turkey | to investigate situation of Kurdish minority and the effects of a decree granting special powers to the |

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| | | regional governor |
| | USSR | to investigate the violent clashes in Kazakhstan in December 1986 |
| May-June | Bulgaria | to evaluate pre-election conditions and follow-up on situation of Turkish minority |
| July | Romania | to meet with government officials regarding violent events of June 13-15 |
| August | Romania | to explore conditions in orphanages and homes for the handicapped |
| | USA | to investigate prison conditions at Rikers Island in New York City after violent outbreaks |
| September | Poland | to conduct follow-up investigation of prison conditions and meet with human rights activists |
| | Romania | to conduct preliminary investigation of situation of Gypsies |
| October | Turkey | to observe trial against the Executive Committee of the Istanbul Bar Association |
| | Yugoslavia | to conduct follow-up investigation of ethnic tensions in Kosovo, and to investigate such tensions in Croatia, Serbia and Macedonia |
| November | Bulgaria | to evaluate situation of Gypsies and Macedonians |

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| | USSR | to explore ethnic violence in Tadzhikistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaidzhan and Armenia |
| December | USSR | to investigate the violence in 1989 in Baku |

Middle East Watch

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| January | Paris-London | to conduct research on human rights in Morocco |
| February-March | Israel/Israeli Occupied Territories | to research Israeli accountability for human rights abuses under the rules of engagement in force in the occupied territories |
| March | Paris/Morocco | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| | Tunisia | to conduct general research on human rights conditions |
| May | Egypt | to investigate prison conditions |
| July | Afghanistan | to meet with government officials and to collect information on the state of political and civil rights and the conduct of the civil war (with Asia Watch) |
| | Israel and Israeli Occupied Territories | to investigate prison conditions |

| | | |
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| August | Saudi Arabia/Bahrain/ Jordan/Egypt/London/ | to investigate human rights violations in the course of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait |
| | Saudi Arabia | to investigate Saudi labor restrictions |
| October | Jordan | to investigate expulsions of Palestinians from the Gulf States |
| | Saudi Arabia/UAE | to investigate human rights violations in the course of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait |
| November | Paris | to conduct research on Iran |
| | Turkey | to research the situation of the Kurds in Turkey and Iraq |

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