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**Balys Gayauskas, Soviet Union**

Balys Gayauskas, a fifty-one-year-old Lithuanian, was arrested in April, 1977, in Vilnius for collecting materials on the postwar nationalist movement in Lithuania and helping present and former political prisoners and their families. On April 14 he was convicted in Vilnius of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" and sentenced to ten years in a corrective labor colony and five years' internal exile.

In 1973 Balys Gayauskas completed a twenty-five-year term of imprisonment for participating in postwar Lithuanian nationalist activities aimed at independence from the Soviet Union. In the corrective labor colonies Mr. Gayauskas is reported to have been highly respected by his fellow political prisoners for his conviction that the struggle for human rights is everyone's concern, regardless of nationality.

Upon his release in 1973 Balys Gayauskas became active in helping political prisoners and their families. Before his arrest last year Mr. Gayauskas was searched and interrogated several times, during which the authorities confiscated lists of Lithuanian political prisoners and addresses of their families.

Mr. Gayauskas received the maximum sentence and, as a "recidivist," must serve his ten-year sentence in a "special regime" corrective labor colony, the most rigorous category of labor camp in the USSR.

**Carlos Mariano Zamorano Vega, Argentina**

Carlos Mariano Zamorano Vega, a lawyer and vice-president of the Liga Argentina por los Derechos del Hombre (Argentine Human Rights League), has been held in preventive detention without charge or trial since November, 1974. He was one of the first to be detained under the state of siege imposed the same month by the then government of Isabel Perón.

Since early 1977 he has been held in the maximum security Rawson prison in southern Argentina. However, in response to a writ of habeas corpus recently submitted on his behalf requesting the reasons for his continued detention, Señor Zamorano Vega was said to be detained incomunicado in the Córdoba region—an area under the jurisdiction of the 111 Army Corps. According to conflicting official reports, his transfer took place in May or June of this year. Since the reported transfer, the family and colleagues of Carlos Mariano Zamorano Vega have not been able to trace him and fear for his safety.

Señor Zamorano Vega has now been detained without charge or trial for over three-and-a-half years, despite the fact that in April, 1977, the Federal Court in Buenos Aires appealed to President Jorge Rafael Videla to uphold its decision to order his immediate release as there were no grounds for his continued detention.

His health is giving serious cause for concern: He is reportedly suffering from an acute ulcer and failing sight and hearing. Amnesty International is concerned that Señor Zamorano Vega's transfer constitutes a serious threat to his safety. During previous prison transfers he was reportedly subjected to severe beatings.

**Pascal Lissouba, People's Republic of the Congo**

Professor Pascal Lissouba, age forty-seven, former prime minister of the People's Republic of the Congo and a scientist well known for his work in genetics, has been imprisoned under harsh conditions since his arrest in March, 1977.

In December, 1963, several months after the "Three Glorious Days" revolution, when the pro-French government of Abbé Youlou was overthrown, Pascal Lissouba became prime minister under President Massamba-Debat until he resigned in 1966 over differences of opinion with the president. He held several other cabinet posts between 1966 and 1969.

In 1968 President Massamba-Debat's government was replaced by the military government of Major Marien Ngouabi, and, although the new government ostensibly pursued similar policies, Professor Lissouba and several other former government members were arrested and detained on several occasions.

In 1969 Professor Lissouba retired from political life in order to devote himself to research; he later became Professor of Cellular Biology at the Faculty of Sciences at Brazzaville University and was director of the faculty in 1972-73.

In March, 1976, when the military government was facing serious problems due to a national health strike, Professor Lissouba was placed under house arrest and later deprived of his university position. He was freed a few months later and continued his research under the auspices of an international research organization. The government did, however, prohibit his leaving the Congo for three years.

Professor Lissouba was re-arrested immediately after the assassination of President Ngouabi on March 19, 1977. The new military government set up a court martial to try those allegedly responsible for the assassination. A number of soldiers and civilians, including ex-President Massamba-Debat, were summarily tried, found guilty, condemned to death, and immediately executed. Professor Lissouba was brought to trial and sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor. He was given no opportunity to defend himself and was not allowed to appeal the sentence.

A.I. believes that, on the available evidence, Professor Lissouba was wrongly convicted and that the real reason for his imprisonment was his previous political activities. After his March trial Pascal Lissouba was sent to a prison at Ouenso, in the far north of the Congo, where he has reportedly been held ever since. Conditions in the prison are harsh. He is allowed no visitors or correspondence, and, although he is known to be suffering from kidney disease and hypertension, he has received no medical attention.

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