

Amnesty International

AI@50 Audiovisual Highlights Package Script B Roll Part 2

[ENGLISH]

[16'40"]

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Abbreviations:

VO - Voice Over
WS - Wide Shot
MS - Mid Shot
GV - General View
I/V - Interview
CU - Close Up

00:03 I/V with Peter Benenson, Founder, Amnesty International (English):

"Open your newspaper - any day of the week - and you will find a report from somewhere in the world of someone being imprisoned, tortured or executed because his opinions or religion are unacceptable to his government. There are several million such people in prison, by no means all of them behind the iron and bamboo curtains and their numbers are growing. The newspaper reader feels a sickening sense of impotence. Yet if these feelings of disgust all over the world could be united into common action, something effective could be done."

00:43

"The basement room overflowed with material and upstairs we continued to receive letters from all over the world; letters of support and encouragement."

00:58

"I was spurred into that by reading an article about how two Spanish, Portuguese students had been arrested and sentenced to imprisonment for drinking a toast to liberty in a Lisbon restaurant. That so outraged me at the time that walked up the steps of St-Martins-In-The-Fields church, out of the

underground, and went in to see what could really be done effectively, to mobilize world opinion.”

01:31

“I’m reminded of the words of a sixteenth century man sentenced to death by burning: Be of good comfort; we have today lit such a candle as shall never be put out.”

Background: *Outraged after learning of two Portuguese students imprisoned for raising a toast to freedom in 1961, British lawyer Peter Benenson published an article, ‘The Forgotten Prisoners’, in The Observer newspaper. His article launched the worldwide campaign, ‘Appeal for Amnesty 1961’ and provoked a remarkable response. It was reprinted in newspapers across the world. This was the genesis of Amnesty International.*

01:51

WS Amnesty International first office
CU and MS interior of Amnesty International first office
Pan left from Peter Benenson working in office to rest of office
CU filing cabinet with cards on 1000s of prisoners of conscience across the world Amnesty International had registered in 1962
© VPRO

02:45

WS and CU of Peter Benenson walking in streets of London to St Martin’s in the Field church on Trafalgar square where he first got the idea for Amnesty International

03:46

CU of Urgent Actions being printed
CU Amnesty international staff on the phone
CU telex being sent and Urgent actions being typed
CU sign of Amnesty International British section
CU mores Amnesty International staff on the phone working for the release of prisoners of conscience and of Urgent Actions being typed on first computers
CU of stills showing Amnesty International supporters demonstrating across the world (black and white)
CU Amnesty International 1981 Annual Report cover
CU and MS of Amnesty International members writing letters and collecting signatures across the world

Background: *The first ‘Urgent Action’ was issued in 1973. The Urgent Action network was established to enable the swift, worldwide mobilization of people to take action at short notice when an individual was identified as being in immediate danger, or when a human rights crisis was taking place.*

05:44 Nobel Peace Prize

MS Amnesty International receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977 (Thomas Hammarberg collects on behalf of Amnesty International. He will become Secretary General in 1980)

© NRK

Background:

In 1977, the movement was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for "having contributed to securing the ground for freedom, for justice, and thereby also for peace in the world", and subsequently, in 1978, the United Nations Human Rights prize for "outstanding contributions in the field of human rights".

06:32

WS Amnesty International receiving the UN Human Rights Prize in 1978

06:42 LANDMARK MOMENTS

06:45 I/V Aung San Suu Kyi (English):

"We repeat again and again. We re-iterate that the release of political prisoners is the most important thing for all those who truly wish to bring about change in Burma."

© Jeanne Marie Hallacy and Democratic Voice of Burma, *Shadow Plays*

06:58

GVs Military trucks in Yangon and tear gas being thrown (September 2007)

GVs Protestors arrested and beaten in Yangon (shouting and screaming) (September 2007)

GVs Monks chanting and protesting in Yangon (September 2007)

GVs demonstrations in support of the rights of the Monks to demonstrate in Myanmar in 2007

07:29

GVs Participants at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993 wearing Aung San Suu Kyi masks.

08:00 Eastern European revolutions

I/V Vaclav Havel, former president of the Czech Republic, in 2011 (English)

"It's up to all of us to try, and those that say that individuals are not capable of changing anything are only looking for excuses."

08:19

GVs of Czech Velvet revolution in 1989

© ITN Source

WS of Vaclav Havel being sworn in as president of the Czechoslovakia in 1989

© ITN Source

08:46

GVs of Berlin Wall coming down in 1989

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Background: *Vaclav Havel, former Amnesty International prisoner of conscience who became president of Czechoslovakia in 1989. As Eastern Europe overthrew its governments Amnesty International sections sprung up across the region.*

09:21 Torture

Pan around and MS of UN adopting the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as campaigned for by Amnesty International, on 10th December 1984

MS of Amnesty International campaigning activities to stop torture across the world

MS and CU of Amnesty International launching its "Stamp Out Torture" campaign in London and Nairobi in October 2000

Background: *Amnesty International first launched a global campaign denouncing torture in 1972, followed by a second one in 1984 calling for the prevention of torture. These campaigns contributed to the adoption of the Convention against Torture on human rights day on 10th December 1984. Amnesty International's third global campaign launched in 2000 showed innovation in on-line campaigning through the www.stoptorture.org website. It enabled subscribers to send and receive e-mails about individuals at risk of torture and act quickly.*

10:33 Disappearances and Pinochet

GVs of Mothers of the disappeared in Argentina in 1975, shouting at the security forces

10:20:21

GVs of anti-Pinochet demonstrations in Santiago, Chile 2000

GVs of mothers of the disappeared from Chile performing at the Embrace of hope two day festival organised by Amnesty International in the National Stadium of Santiago, Chile on 12-13 October 1990 following the end of the Pinochet regime. The stadium was used by the Pinochet regime as a detention centre. Countless were held here, tortured and disappeared

MS of banner "Extradite Pinochet" at a demonstration outside of the House of Lords, March 1999

CU Woman chanting at demonstration

MS of men coming out of the House of Lords after Pinochet ruling

MS demonstrators hugging each other. One says "no more excuse. Now is the real victory"

MS demonstrator playing music

MS demonstrators hugging each other

I/V demonstrator (English)

“This is a historic moment we waited 25 year for this decision and, er, when we say before we always have faith in the decision of justice that is what our fight and struggle has been for 25 year and justice has been done today but more important than that is that it is not only important for Chile this is a tune for the whole world, I mean what we want to in this new century, when this new century begun, is to finish and don't have any more genocide or dictatorship around the world who can persecute people, disappear people and torturing. I think today is the beginning.”

WS Pinochet walking in military dress, Santiago, Chile 2006. © ITN Source

Background: *In March 1999, following legal proceedings the British House of Lords' decided that former General Augusto Pinochet was not immune from prosecution. Amnesty International was party to the legal proceedings. The case created unprecedented media and public interest in Amnesty International's work and in the issues of torture, “disappearances” and impunity. Although, Pinochet was eventually allowed to return to Chile on health grounds in March 2000, his arrest and detention transformed the human rights landscape: It sent a powerful message that no-one is above international law, even when national laws offer protection from prosecution; it affirmed internationally that former heads of state were no longer immune from prosecution; In Chile, it paved the way for renewed investigations for crimes against humanity during Pinochet's rule.*

In Argentina, the Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo, Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo, a group of women with "disappeared" children and grandchildren, have been searching since its foundation in 1977 for over 200 "disappeared" children, some born in clandestine detention centres during the captivity of their mothers or "disappeared" with their parents after being taken into custody by members of the police or security forces.

12:32 1 Million Signatures

MS Perez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General receiving a petition signed by over 1 million people calling for a universal Amnesty for all Prisoners of Conscience in 1983

Statement Perez de Cuellar (English)

“I want you to know that we at the United Nations are grateful for the work that you are doing with such dedication and skill. The world owes you a lot of gratitude for your efforts”

Background: *In 1982 on the 10th December, International Human Rights day, Amnesty International launched an appeal for a universal amnesty for all prisoners of conscience. More than one million people signed the petition.*

13:00 International Criminal Court

GVs of demonstrators at the Amnesty international human carpet demonstration, Rome 1998

GVs of International Criminal Court

GVs of trial of Congolese armed group leader Thomas Lubanga in 1999 – the International Criminal Court's first war crimes trial and a demonstration that the International Community can act on Human Rights

GVs trial of Congolese armed group leader Thomas Lubanga – the International Criminal Court's first war crimes trial

Background: Amnesty International started campaigning for the establishment of an International Criminal Court (ICC) in 1996.

In July 1998 Amnesty International organised a human carpet demonstration outside the Colosseum in Roma called Tutti Giu Par Terra. One thousand demonstrators lay down to put pressure on delegates negotiating the statute for the International Criminal Court – ICC. The Rome Statute of the ICC was adopted in July 1998.

14:19 Death Penalty

GVs of Amnesty International anti-Death Penalty demonstration (ranging from Greece and the US in the 80s to Paris in 2007)

Background: The organization began its global campaign against the death penalty in 1977. At that time only 16 countries had abolished capital punishment. More than thirty years later, 139 countries have abolished the death penalty in law or in practice. Fifty-eight countries are now classified as retentionist and far fewer use it. In fact the progress made towards abolition of the death penalty during the past ten years alone is enormous, with more than 30 countries becoming abolitionist in law or in practice. This positive trend continued in 2010. In December, the UN General Assembly adopted its third resolution on a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with more UN member states supporting the resolution than ever before. Despite this, a lot remains to be done. At least 23 countries were known to have carried out judicial executions in 2010. This is four more than 2009, when Amnesty International recorded the lowest number of executing countries since the organisation began monitoring death penalty figures.

15:14 Control Arms Campaign

CU of child soldier carrying gun

GVs of fighters showing various weapons

GVs weapons and ammunition

GVs of tomb stones displayed in Trafalgar square

GVs of Control Arms demonstration during World Social Forum in Brazil 2004

MS of Amnesty International delegates collecting talking to people about the importance of joining the control arms campaign at World Social Forum in Brazil 2004

GVs of tank driving through streets of London to lobby G8 to push for the Arms Trade Treaty, in London, UK, 2005

16:29

GVs of Amnesty International handing over the million faces petition to the UN Secretary General Kofi Anan at the United Nations in New York

Background: *Amnesty International joined forces with Oxfam and the International Action Network on Arms (IANSA) to launch the global Control Arms campaign. In 2006 Amnesty International and its partners achieved a major victory when the UN voted overwhelmingly to start work on an Arms Trade Treaty imposing tougher controls on the transfer of weapons.*

In 2006 the millionth person to post a picture of himself on the Control Arms Million Faces web petition calling for an Arms Trade Treaty presented the petition to Un Secretary General Kofi Annan. A further quarter of a million people signed the petition before the year was out.

16:40 END

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