

Forced feeding plus censorship was too much — Vlachos

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For five months the junta tried every method, from promises to threats to make us publish again, while we persisted in our "minimum requirements". We would consider it if given precise directions as to what we were not to publish. We would never accept to be told what to publish.

At the end, tired of having a silenced press but a free talking publisher, they put me under

"In my view it is the duty of every journalist to face the threat and continue to serve the readership come what may."

M. G. K. Menon, *Premier Publications, Bhopal, India, commenting on the decision of the Vlachos newspapers (Greece) to close rather than accept government control.*

house-arrest. From which, eventually I escaped and came to London.

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Nuno Rocha (Portugal) Editor-in-chief *Diário de Lisboa*, Author of "France — l'émigration doulosneuse" (1961) and "Guerre au Mozambique" (1968).

NUNO ROCHA spoke of the 48 years under totalitarian rule when stringent censorship of the press was imposed and there was no freedom of the press.

The Portuguese people were living in the most complete ignorance. At the same time the journalists were revolting day after day for they saw that the readers were receiving distorted information, so distorted that sometimes the purpose of an article or of the news turned out to be the exact opposite of what had been meant by the authors.

Every time that a new decree was published on censorship its purpose was to perfect even further the system of mental oppression and also the central machinery of support to the fascist government. At the same time the journalists, because it was alleged that they had engaged in political activities, were repeatedly put into prison and they spent years in these prisons of the secret police.

When Marcello Caetano took over the leadership of the Government, in 1970, said Nuno Rocha, hope was reborn. But, instead, censorship was tightened.

Freedom of the press has now been restored in Portugal. Many of the journalists fell during the struggle since 1926. Today in Portugal there is no censorship and there are no journalists in prison.

Five days after the victory of the revolution a man said, "I am 40 years old but I feel as if I had been born on the 25th of April."

It is only today that it is possible to say that

The world press, the free press shows a singular indifference towards important subjects which concern it directly. Is it a form of modesty? Is it the feeling that what concerns the Press and its freedom does not interest the reader? *Hélène Vlachos*



After 48 years

"In Portugal today there is no censorship and no journalists remain in prison."

Nuno Rocha (right) *Diário de Lisboa*.

On his right Olga Vasconcelos, *Jornal de Notícias*; and Mrs Stanley Swinton, New York.

the Portuguese people is adult because its press is free. We must present our example to the peoples who are still oppressed. And we must remind the journalists who are subject to oppression no matter what country they may be in that freedom is a flower which is always ready to be reborn.

In Portugal, 48 years after it was trampled underfoot the flower of liberty opened its petals on the 25th of April and with it was reborn the freedom of the press, the right of every journalist to co-operate with his people to help mankind in its march towards progress.

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Cetin Altan, former leader writer of *Aksam*, 26 years on Istanbul newspapers. Imprisoned for offences against the press laws. Released 5 months ago.

THE BASIC thing is to stop the idea that it is a crime to express an opinion. If anyone is punished then you cannot speak of freedom of the press.

I was sent to prison because I used the word "combination"... because I had used this word in referring to the former president of the republic and I said that he had reached his position through a political combination. And that was it. I was sent off to jail in Istanbul for a year.

Perhaps, under the aegis of the United Nations it might be possible to establish a committee for the newspapermen, journalists who encounter difficulties and run into problems, to get into contact with a committee somewhere within the framework of the U.N. This would be something in keeping with the declaration of human rights.

Of course it would be necessary for the journalist to prove that he has really been punished for his opinion.

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In recent weeks there has again been increased talk of the dangers inherent in the Euro-market. This is no mere coincidence, for these risks have undoubtedly grown recently. An analysis reveals that there are three elements of danger, namely the deposit-holder risk, the currency risk and the national risk.

The deposit-holder risk relates to the danger of a bank which holds Euro-funds being involved in difficulties. Latest reports from England show a disquieting increase in the number of cases where "second-class" institutions operating in

the Euro-markets have been caught in the liquidity squeeze and thus been forced to call for support. So far, serious breakdowns have been avoided but the situation undoubtedly demands increased watchfulness. By consequence, second-class addresses in the Euro-business should be ruled out even more firmly than hitherto.

The exchange rate risk embraces both the risk of devaluation of the currency in which a Euro-investment has been

placed and the danger that the institution is unable to deliver the currency it owes. In practice, this latter danger can only be avoided by entrusting money to those institutions for whom the issue is in their own national currency. But in many cases this will amount to cancelling out the advantages of the Euro-market, which is precisely intended to form a foreign market for the currency concerned.

An alternative way of hedging the devaluation risk is by means of currency transactions at term, but these generate costs and thus usually detract considerably from the interest attractions of the investment in a foreign currency.

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