

tiveness of TVA, nor made it vanish; in fact, the move may prove to be highly beneficial over the long run.

TVA will continue to make mistakes, like all institutions which are managed by man. However, they will be honest mistakes from which all of us can learn. It is in this atmosphere of trust and mutual respect that the TVA experiment will go forward toward improving the stations of those of us fortunate enough to call the Valley our home.

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## Human Rights

The recently appointed AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility (1) has asked us to constitute its Subcommittee on Infringements of Scientific Freedom in Foreign Countries. We are, of course, well aware of widespread violations of human rights, which affect people of all classes and occupations in many parts of the world. We believe, however, that we can be more helpful by focusing attention on rights of our fellow scientists, rather than diffusing our concern more widely. This subcommittee therefore will collect data on, and endeavor to find ways to ameliorate, violations of the human rights of scientists, particularly those rights which are of special importance to their scientific work. Briefly, these rights include (2):

- Free access to education and employment.
- Freedom of expression and publication.
- Freedom of assembly and association.
- Freedom of movement and residence, including the freedom to attend international scientific meetings.
- Fair recognition for one's work.

There are continuing violations of these rights in many nations, and the situation in some of them is growing worse. The recent instances of serious persecution of scientists in nations such as Argentina (3), which had hitherto generally respected the human rights of scientists, demonstrate that there is unfortunately much that needs to be done in this area. Infringement of scientists' rights in any country should be of concern to citizens of all countries, since the success of any scholar's work depends as much on the freedom of others to study and do research as it does on his own.

Our subcommittee will act as a clearinghouse for information on foreign infringements of scientific freedom. We

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request that anyone who has such information please communicate with us via our committee's staff officer, Ms. Rosemary Chalk, AAAS, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036 (telephone: 202-467-5436). Unless our informants specifically request that we not do so, we will make the information we receive available to relevant scientific societies affiliated with AAAS, to the National Academy of Sciences Advisory Committee on Human Rights, the British Council on Science and Society, the International Council of Scientific Unions Committee on the Safeguard of the Pursuit of Science, the Federation of American Scientists, and other appropriate groups working to protect scientific freedoms.

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### References and Notes

1. *Science* **193**, 877 (1976); *ibid.* **194**, 1036 (1976).
2. The report *Scholarly Freedom and Human Rights* (Barry Rose, Chichester, England, in press) by a study group chaired by John Ziman of the British Council for Science and Society includes a comprehensive survey of human rights of scientists, together with references to relevant international agreements, such as the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the American Convention on Human Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
3. See, for example, *Nature (London)* **262**, 243 (1976); *ibid.* **263**, 452 (1976); N. Wade, *Science* **194**, 1397 (1976).

### Burt's IQ Data

Nicholas Wade, in his article on Cyril Burt (News and Comment, 26 Nov., p. 916), stops short of concluding that Burt's IQ data were fraudulent and leaves open the possibility that his early work might be acceptable science. There are, it must be stated, extraordinary difficulties in obtaining information about any of the data or procedures on which Burt's reported correlations were based. The following quotations from Burt are typical: "... methods ... were described more fully ... in degree theses by the investigators named in the text" (1, p. 46); "... buried in inaccessible theses" (1, p. 46); "A fuller account of sources and calculations, with detailed tables, will be found in her [J. Mawer's] degree essay ... (filed at the Psychological Laboratory, University College)" (2, p. 85). There is no such essay filed; the same "essay" is also referred to by Burt as a "thesis," but no such thesis was submitted to the University of London.