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THE WEEK IN RIGHTS

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To Trap a Dictator - Chad's Hissène Habré



Photo © Human Rights Watch



Reed Brody and his activist partners spent more than a decade chasing Chad's former dictator, Hissène Habré. They finally caught him. >>

Sifting through the thousands of documents strewn across the floors of an abandoned secret police headquarters in Chad, Reed Brody glimpsed the violent, final moments of Rose Lokissim's brave life.

Brody, counsel for Human Rights Watch, first heard about Rose from survivors of the brutal regime of Chad's former dictator Hissène Habré. A prisoner herself, Rose had been a vital source of information to families – quietly informing them when one of their relatives had been detained, delivering clandestine messages. Ultimately, the secret police learned of her actions and murdered her.

But it was one of the secret police documents that he and his Human Rights Watch colleague, Olivier Bercault, found in the abandoned headquarters of Habré's personal Gestapo that gave Brody true insight into Rose's staunch belief in justice.

As Rose's interrogating officer wrote, Rose didn't care what happened to her. Even if she were killed in custody, the interrogator wrote of Rose's stance, "Chad will thank her and history will talk about her."

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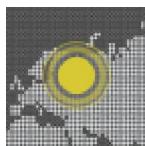


[In Thailand, No Amnesty for Rights Abusers](#)

The ruling party's amnesty bill lets both soldiers and militants responsible for deaths during the 2010 upheaval off the hook. To ensure justice for the victims of violence and to end Thailand's longstanding culture of impunity, the amnesty bill should exclude perpetrators of abuses and instead make them accountable for their crimes.

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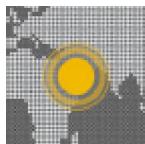


[Russia Silences Activists, Journalists ahead of Sochi Games](#)

Trying to bully activists and journalists into silence is wrong and only further tarnishes the image of the Olympics. One of the non-negotiable requirements of hosting the Olympics is to allow press freedom, and the authorities' attempts to silence critics are in clear violation of that principle.

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[In Iran, Human Rights Agenda for New President](#)

During his presidential campaign, President-elect Hassan Rouhani appealed to the Iranian voters' desire for change by promising to expand personal freedoms and respect human rights. Now that he has a mandate from the people to push through necessary reforms, he needs to prove that his presidency is more than just campaign promises.

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VIDEO



Egypt's government is threatening to break up a Muslim Brotherhood sit-in. They should avoid using force with protesters.

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TWEET of the WEEK

We warned that #Indonesia's weak

reponse to violence against religious minorities would encourage more, & now it has. <http://trib.al/Lu5qVjh>

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