

June, 1974

Vol. II, No. 5

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NEPA NEWS

The Voice of The New England Prisoners' Association
Prisoners, Ex-Prisoners & Supporters

Franklin, N.H.
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Inside: The Mass Hole: DSU at Walpole
Prison Art Show; NEPA in NHSP



"Breaking Free" by Willair Hugley Prison Art Show photo by Kora Berger

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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MEMBERSHIP

- () I am a con. Enroll me as a member of NEPA.
 () I am on the outside. Enroll me as a member of NEPA. I enclose \$4 for a subscription to NEPA NEWS and a copy of the N.E. Prisoner Resource Manual.
 () I am on the outside, have no funds, but wish to enroll in NEPA.

NAME _____

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Mail to NEPA NEWS, Franconia, N.H. 03580

Conference

21st NATIONAL INSTITUTE
ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
TO MEET IN BOSTON JUNE 23-26

More than 1,000 professionals and private citizens engaged in criminal justice from police to courts to corrections are expected to participate in the 21st National Institute on Crime and Delinquency in Boston, June 23-26.

Prominent speakers scheduled to address major NICD sessions include United States Senator Edward W. Brooke (Mass.), F.B.I. Director Clarence M. Kelley, and Milton G. Rector, president, National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

Objectives of this national forum representing many of the major criminal and juvenile justice agencies, institutions and organizations is to focus the interest of its participants and the larger community on crime and delinquency, to develop maximum community understanding and support of methods for the prevention, treatment, and control of those problems, and to study and evaluate current developments and new trends.

Major sessions at the three-day Institute will focus attention on such wide-ranging topics as planning in criminal justice, community involvement, juvenile justice, the prison dilemma, official corruption, drug and alcohol problems and delinquency prevention and youth services.

Honorary chairman of the 21st Institute is the Honorable Walter H. McLaughlin, Chief Justice, Massachusetts Superior Court. General chairman is Massachusetts Deputy Commissioner of Probation, Angelo Musto. General session chairman is Milton Luger, director, New York State Division of Youth.

For more information, contact:

J.R. Davis
Mass. Commission Against
Discrimination
Boston, Mass. 617-727-3990

H.P. McNamara
National Council on Crime
and Delinquency
411 Hackensack Ave.
Hackensack, N.J. 07601
201-488-0400

(NEPA News will cover this conference.-Ed.)

Newsletter

The Center for Responsive Psychology announces the publication of a newsletter, SOCIAL ACTION AND THE LAW. The newsletter will translate and compile social science research for the use of people in the legal, correctional, and judicial field. For information on subscriptions to the newsletter and other Center publications, please write to Prof. Robert Buckhout, Center for Responsive Psychology, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, New York, 11210.

NEW ENGLAND PRISONERS ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, PHILOSOPHY, HISTORY AND OBJECTIVES

On April 15, 1978, the New England Prisoners Association was formed as a result of the first annual New England Prisoners Conference held at Franconia College, Franconia, N.H. The New England Prisoners Association is a coalition of prisoner support and prison reform groups as well as a mass membership organization throughout the six New England states. These groups and persons, though diverse in resources and emphasis, are unified around discovering positive solutions to the problems that today's prisons present.

Prisons were originally conceived as a progressive response to inhumane treatment, but to date their hallmark has been one of failure and human destruction. This failure has been costly in terms of human waste and sacrifice, the loss of resources to society and at a great expense to the individual taxpayer.

We recognize the fact that prisons in our society are a by-product of and directly related to poverty, racism, unemployment and the other ills of our society. The programs of the New England Prisoners Association and its affiliates deal primarily with the injustices existing in the criminal justice system. We realize, however, that the problems of prisons cannot be resolved unless they are seen as part of a larger movement for massive social change.

Prisons must be phased out as they are not beneficial to an egalitarian society which recognizes the human and civil rights of all prisoners.

In line with this philosophy the New England Prisoners Association addresses itself to the following areas:

- 1) to work for the abolition of prisons and the prison system;
- 2) to promote and assist ex-prisoner organizations and to coordinate communications among these groups;
- 3) to support prisoners in their constitutional rights to organize collectively;
- 4) to develop educational programs about why prisons exist, how they work and what their actual results are through the NEPA NEWS, speakers bureau, workshops and literature;
- 5) to examine existing prison conditions to determine proper action necessary to alleviate injustices inflicted on prisoners, especially regarding transfers, censorship, visitation, and medical and educational facilities;
- 6) to attack the increasingly widespread use on prisoners of certain psychological and medical approaches including, but not limited to, behavior modification, chemo-therapy and psycho-surgery;
- 7) to organize and assist the families and friends of prisoners;
- 8) to provide means of transportation and communication to families and friends of prisoners;
- 9) to develop quality legal assistance for prisoners;
- 10) to develop and promote legislation consistent with our philosophy;
- 11) to explore and develop existing and possible community alternatives to prison;
- 12) to develop financial assistance to NEPA and its various affiliates;
- 13) to issue news releases, hold press conferences and develop contacts with the press and media.

NEPA NEWS is published monthly by the New England Prisoners Association and the Community Services Center at Franconia College. Our address is NEPA NEWS, Franconia, N.H. 03580; phone 603-823-5266.

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We are not responsible for unsolicited manuscripts, though we welcome the submission of any printable material. We appreciate it if manuscripts are double-spaced.

Articles in NEPA NEWS do not necessarily reflect the policies of NEPA. Because NEPA recognizes the need for debate and discussion of goals, strategy and tactics, material in NEPA NEWS may be printed for that purpose.

Letters Policy

NEPA NEWS has now established a letters page to run letters from prisoners. In future issues we would appreciate it if in your letters you would keep the length at a maximum of 250 words. In this issue, several letters are over that length because we had not previously established a policy on letters. Send your letters to NEPA NEWS, Letters Dept., Franconia, N.H. 03580.

Legal Aid

Sir,

I read in many papers that publish news that acts of prison administrators are often enjoined in federal courts. Perhaps there are not enough outside attorneys who are willing to work on Prisoners Rights. I, for one, am willing to put my ass on the line and help any organization by doing legal research and preparation of the necessary briefs for any prisoner who has been singled out by an administrator for punishment.

I ask only that requests for briefs etc. be funneled through your organization because of present mail policy being fought in court that prohibits personal contact between prisons. Each prisoner need send along details of what happened, and we'll do our best to tell him what to do, and even how to do it. If we can't find anything helpful, we'll tell him.

What think you?

Roger L. Woods
Box 87972
U. S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas
66048
4/26/74

Dear NEPA,

Enclosed please find a check for \$100 for the use of your excellent film on the struggle in Walpole Prison. We used the film as an input for an Immersion Institute conducted by "Rebound" in Reno, Nevada. The purpose of the two-day Institute was to halt plans for an 8 million dollar facility--and the results were encouraging, to say the least. In particular, we showed the film at the end of the first day, and it struck everyone in awe and left the group hanging in the air and slightly depressed. Most important, it opened many eyes and served our purpose well...also you may be receiving some additional requests for it soon.

Thanks again,

John Fremlin
National Training Inst.
Tahoe City, California
95730

Freedom's Crafts

Freedom's Crafts is people inside and outside prison's involved in making various handmade crafts; handmade on order by YOU.

Any person interested, either in buying or in selling, may write this new address: Anita Schofield
FREEDOM'S CRAFTS
Box 321
Littleton, N.H. 03561

(We at NEPA News will take any mail addressed to Roger Woods, c/o NEPA News, and forward it to Roger by placing it in another envelope. Due to our limitations we can do no more than this - editor.)

SCAR/Thomaston

reprinted from Vol. 1, #4
Scar'd Times

Since the January elections when SCAR members Gus Heald, Tim Flaherty, Dick Picariello, Joe McDonald, Reggie Berube and Mike Niemczyk were elected to the Inmates Advisory Council, many gains have been made for the brothers inside.

A most significant gain has been the removal of the partitions from the visiting room and substitution of more informally arranged chairs. Length of visits has also been increased from 1 hour to 2 hours per week.

But with every gain that relieves some of the hardship faced by prisoners and their families, the administration only further reveals its repressive nature. Sadly, such things as embracing, strip searches and rectal checks, more frequent visits, visiting rights for hospital patients and those prisoners in segregation still must be negotiated with no significant changes implemented as yet. (Denial of visits to those in segregation is part of the necessary punishment, so Warden Mullaney claims.)

SCAR members are also trying to implement an inmates' Family Day and private visits.

The SCAR brothers have also begun novelty projects. One such project finds prisoners working on novelties, which when sold will build up the Inmates Benefit Fund (IBF) to serve all prisoners. Another SCAR project has novelties being sent out to the SCAR Drop-In Center to be sold. All profits are returned to internal SCAR for use in a Bail Fund and Prisoners Legal Foundation to serve all prisoners.

Other immediate goals that SCAR has worked for were recently discussed for approval and submitted to the Bureau of Corrections by inmate advocate Paul Pierce. This list of prisoners rights includes:

- (1) To receive visitors, attend religious services, make outside phone calls, and to mail and receive unopened correspondence.
- (2) To keep in his possession personal items and to wear his own clothing.
- (3) To have individual rights including but not limited to: the right to maintain a license, permit, privilege or benefit and the right to control relationships and to manage his property.
- (4) Inmates personal property may not be searched without inmate present or by permission unless the inmate or others are in danger.

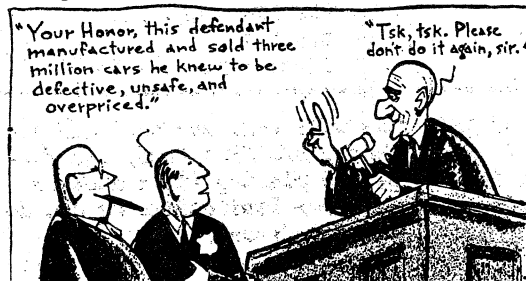
The Brothers have also worked on recommendations concerning policies of the Bureau of Corrections with attorney Tom Benjamin. These policies govern institutional visits of attorneys and their agents, organizations within institutions, receipt and review of literature and related materials, access of news media.

If these policies are implemented they will mean: (a) All attorneys and their agents will be allowed into the prison in accordance with the policy. (b) SCAR or any other organization will have access to the prison. (c) Literature and related materials will be allowed to be received by inmates if acceptable by the U.S. Mail except publications depicting the manufacture of weapons or bombs.

These policies will take away much of the administration's arbitrary discretion and reinforce the inmates' rights.

A major issue facing the brothers inside -today- is a most arbitrary and erroneous write-up and disciplinary procedure that exposes its vicious head via the Thomaston Kangaroo Court and Punitive Segregation. A major target of these write-ups and lock-ups seems to be those who actively resist the administration's blatant violation of prisoners' rights and dignity--such as rectal examinations.

Their fighting voice is heard beyond the walls! A SCAR/IAC Newsletter is printed by and distributed to the brothers inside to keep them informed of SCAR's progress--inside and out.



June

NEPA NEWS

3 Days Long

Tickets \$2.00 Adv
\$3.00 at gate

Come Together People For Good Times and

Music & Freedom Festival

Various Local and New England Groups

Our Brothers + Sisters Inside

June 28-29-30

Bowdoin, MAINE

at S.C.A.R. ACRES

Rock + Roll
Rhythm & Blues
"Soulful"
Country Western
Bluesgrass

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FOR TICKETS CONTACT SCAR

EX-PRISONER GATHERING

Truck on Down...

Maine News

SCAR/Windham County Jails

reprinted from SCAR'd Times,
Vol. 1, #4

On May 5, 1974, for approximately one and one half hours, Chris Hastedt and Tom Benjamin met with the members of the Inmates Council, consisting of John Franklin, Ronnie Harnish, Ron Tremblay, Alan Gagne, and Barry King. The inmates had the following grievances.

1. Working Conditions: The inmates wondered if there was a requirement to work merely because you were incarcerated. They are forced to sit around when there is no work to be done. They feel work should be for rehabilitation. If they could spend some time for GED examinations rather than sit around on a meaningless job to please their crew boss, they should be able to do so. The inmates also complained about the lack of safety precautions used during work. For example, about three weeks to a month ago, Wayne Bernel received burns on his feet because hot metal fell on his shoes during the welding class. Also, Clarence Harding broke his arm falling down some stairs about one month ago. Although they might have hard hats now, they did not when the project was under way (tearing down a house.)

2. Discipline: The inmates had several problems with the disciplinary board. They believe that there should be a transcript or a summary of what is being said in the institution. I told them that a great number of states require such transcripts and that they should work for this. We also discussed the mail regulations and I promised the inmates that I would send them a copy of the Supreme Court decision on the topic. The inmates promised me that they would send me examples of persons who have been subjected to disciplinary problems. They are also trying to have attorney representation at the hearings.

3. Medical Treatment: The Medical treatment problem remains the same as it did almost two years ago. Mr. Bent is still prescribing medicines and diagnosing patients. Also, he is not licensed to do

In response to criticism of the York County Jail from prisoners at the jail and from SCAR (see NN Vol II, #3-ed.) the voters of York County have appropriated funds to construct a new county jail. The current York County jail is the oldest in the state and was the scene of two recent suicides. The County Sheriff, however, in response to the criticism, has banned SCAR from the jail.

SCAR's Bangor chapter has been working in the Penobscot County Jail. Many prisoners in the jail have joined SCAR and the most important result to date has been that inside/outside SCAR in Bangor has drawn up a new program of "Rules and Regulations" for the jail which has been endorsed by the Sheriff. SCAR views this as a major step toward prisoners' control of their environment. In addition, SCAR has set up a working GED program and has pressured the administration into building up the jail library and providing a dental clinic.

so. He treated Ronnie Harnish for a broken finger and the inmates are trying to uncover similar abuses. The Inmates Council was surprised that Mr. Bent was not even a nurse. I suggested that we should probably bring a law suit since efforts at negotiations have obviously failed.

4. Outside Phone Calls: Inmates will determine whether or not they are being permitted outside phone calls as promised.

5. Movement Within the Prison: The IAC members felt they should be able to freely move within the prison like the IAC is permitted to do at Thomaston. The IAC members especially called for the right to visit inmates in segregation.

6. Inmates Fund: This also has been a recurring problem. The inmates fund should be for the inmates. The IAC will attempt to attain an accounting system as the money is being spent.

7. Drug Rehabilitation: Although RAP Place seems to be working, the inmates complained that there is no significant rehabilitation for certain inmates. For example, Rodney Summerton attempted suicide and could do so again.

8. SCAR Access: The inmates indicated that they would like to talk with the outside SCAR members. SCAR has been permitted to meet with the council in the past. We will attempt to see that they will be able to meet with the Council again to discuss the above grievances.

NEPA Chapter Forms at NHSP

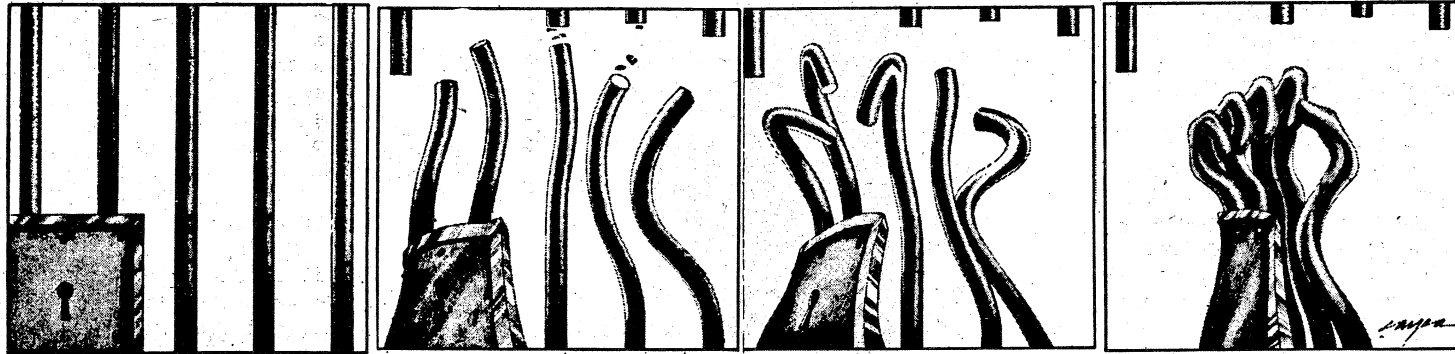
by Jaan Laaman

From its inception, NEPA has enjoyed a basic level of support from the men of New Hampshire State Prison (N.H.S.P.). Even last year some men sent in membership applications, and many of us received the paper, which all of us feel is a good expression of the struggles of prisoners. Earlier this year some men began discussing the idea of founding a chapter of NEPA inside the prison. The outside NEPA Board of Directors corresponded with us for a couple of months about this, primarily with our Inmate Grievance Committee, or as it is now known, Prisoners' Reform Council (PRC). Some questions as to whether we needed or could benefit from having a PRC and NEPA chapter were raised and considerable discussion

went into it. Our PRC, while experiencing quite a bit of official opposition, has been able to move our struggle ahead, so it was felt that to disband it would not be to our interests. But many did feel that forming an independent organization would benefit all the men of N.H.S.P. especially if, like NEPA, it had outside members, a regional structure and approach, and chapters or affiliates in other New England prisons. Therefore we have established a chapter of NEPA in N.H.S.P. Our Chapter is an open democratic structure and represents a true cross section of all the men here, i.e., young-old, short and long timers, etc. To begin, we have over 90 members, which is better than 2/5 of the population. We are confident that this will increase, especially when we initiate some of our projects, which will include legal

assistance, legislative proposals, parole and furlough plans, better wages, and much more. We see our Chapter as building on the good work that the PRC and Jaycees have already been doing here, and with this added strength, determination, and unity, we are hopeful that soon we will be moving N.H.S.P. out of the dark ages and on the road toward the long range goal of NEPA, the reform and ultimate abolition of prison.

We have elected a NEPA - N.H.S.P. Board of Directors as follows: Richard Williams, chairman, Raymond Guay Jr., vice-chairman, Jaan Laaman, general secretary, Bill Haberland, membership secretary, J.J. O'Shaughnessy, Ervin Hayward, Carl Hoitt, Richard Overton, Wayne Drouin, and Herman Buffington,



Shakedown

On the afternoon of April 28, seven men took their own paroles. With that for an excuse Governor/Dictator Thomson ordered a general lock-up and shakedown at New Hampshire State Prison (NHSP). That day was May 1, International Workers' Day.

At 7:30 AM, after breakfast, guards went around and locked all the cells. Then about fifty state and Concord Police entered the institution. All water was turned off about 8:00 AM, and stayed off until around 4:00 that afternoon. The actual shakedown started at about 9:00 AM. Plastic garbage bags were passed out to each man with the instructions to put everything they own into them, except one towel and a bar of soap, although some men were not even left that. One cell was opened at a time with the man being strip-searched on the tier and his cell absolutely cleaned out. We were faced with the choice of loading the bags ourselves or having the police do it. When the police do it a lot of things are broken or usually wind up missing. But then being here for the lockup of March 1973, some of us figured, "What's the difference, they'll break it anyway, and we won't get three-fourths of it back". We were surprised because shortly after taking the bags out, they were searched and returned within a few hours. While most men got everything back, there were a number of individuals who were missing valuable articles, both monetary and legal, i.e., leathercraft, legal papers, etc.

As opposed to the last lock-up there was only one case of violence, that being in part provoked unnecessarily. The one beating was that of Don Furman. Don had accidentally cut his arm a few days before, very badly. He was taken to the hospital downtown for treatment and was given post-operative medication which made him very slow and drowsy. On the day of the shakedown he was ordered out for a search, but was unable to get out of bed, so he was dragged out bodily, during which time his arm was grabbed and pulled. At that point he naturally struggled because of the extreme pain. He was pinned down and his head was slammed to the floor several times. He was also punched and kicked. The stitches in his arm were ripped out in the process, which then warranted his having to be brought to Concord Hospital again for several hours of surgery.

Don has since recovered, but there can be no excuse for his treatment. When they brutalize one man, a part of us all is being brutalized as we are all in this together. For the thousands of dollars spent on overtime pay for the police and such

Page 4

Incompetence & Apathy

"Jesus Christ! Hey--hey! This man cut himself," the agitated guard called to the duty lieutenant.

"Is he hurt bad?"

"God, yeah, there's blood all over the place." The guard waved his arms to indicate everything within reach.

"Well, throw him a bandaid and I'll tell the captain tomorrow."

The above was a dramatization of an actual incident which occurred late one night last year. The prisoner involved has since gone home, but the guard and the lieutenant are still here.

This was one of the many incidents which occur here which demonstrate the general incompetence on the part of some guards and the apathy shown by the brass. On numerous occasions the guards have been found lacking the ability to do their jobs, such as the time when a prisoner's cell was on fire. Several prisoners told guards about the fire, wishing to prod them into action, but the guards (approximately five or six) just ran about, like chickens with their heads cut off, wondering what they were supposed to do. Needless to say, that prisoner whose cell was a fire lost everything he owned within the prison (clothes, TV, radio, personal papers).

I could go on listing these incidents indefinitely, but I believe I have already made my point. The only solution I have to offer is to institute harsher screening methods in the selection of all personnel, making certain these people are well qualified for corrections work. It takes only one incompetent or apathetic person in a position of authority over prisoners to upset the fine balance of peace or open warfare within a prison.

Roger F. Boberg
NHSP NEPA News Bureau
May 20, 1974



for the shakedown, nothing of whatever they expected to find was found, and a man was beaten up to boot.

Richard Williams
(member incarcerated)
NHSP NEPA News Bureau
NEPA NEWS

John Yancey

by Jaan Laaman

John Yancey's court case (stemming from a goon squad attack on him last December, yet he was charged with assault on eight guards) was postponed but because of the consistent work that the people in the Yancey Defense Committee have been doing publicizing the case, John's history, and the general conditions at N.H.S.P., it is beginning to appear that the prison is not going to be able to have the simple railroading they expected.

This does not mean that John still is not being victimized. A very serious issue has come up. John's sentence was originally due to expire on May 30, 1974. While he was on parole, on November 3, 1972, he was arrested in Jacksonville, Florida, on disorderly conduct. He got a ten day sentence, but while serving it, he was charged with fraudulent use of a credit card, a crime his partner had already pleaded guilty to, and which John had nothing to do with. A deal was supposedly worked out with John's court-appointed lawyer, but when he went to court on Dec. 18, 1972, the judge sentenced him to one year. In September of 1973 when the sentence was served, N.H. authorities picked him up and brought him to N.H.S.P. on a parole violation. N.H. had known exactly where John was the whole time. They knew he was in jail, but now they told him that this year in prison in Florida will not be counted on his N.H. sentence, and that his term will not expire until May of 1975. In effect they have already sentenced him to one extra year in prison. This is not the first time N.H. has extended men's terms in this way, but they could just as easily count the year John was in jail in Florida.

It is important that the JYDC, NEPA, and all citizens concerned with penal reform work to have a policy established where men get released at the end of their sentence, whether they serve their time on parole, in N.H.S.P., or some other jail. The courts sentenced us to a set amount of time, and the board of trustees or some prison administrator should not have the power to extend this time through some bureaucratic maneuver.

June

Report by Don Furman

As Richard reports in his article on the shakedown, prisoner Donald Furman, who was seriously injured several days before the shakedown, was re-injured by the State Police. Furman wrote us two letters, one (written by him in the third person) describes the negligence of the guards after the first injury:

Last Sunday afternoon, April 28, because of the escape of some prisoners, all the men at the New Hampshire State Prison were ordered back to their cells. Inmate Donald Furman took his radio and left the Yard area and went to his cell in the Annex. His tier was locked so he placed his radio on the window sill and waited for the guard to open the bars. The windows in the Annex Section fold in and down from the top. As Furman put his radio down he turned, but then heard the windows creak (the windows are mostly in bad shape and sometimes blow open by themselves). Furman spun around and grabbed for his radio. Just as he was doing so, the window swung open and Furman's hand went right through it. The blood burst out of his hand, wrist, and arm. Later he found out that he was cut from his palm up to his arm...all told, about four inches of jagged, deep, and numerous gashes, including several arteries, veins, muscles, etc. He had glass slivers embedded deep in his arm, clear down to the bone.

When Furman got to the infirmary, guard Abe Couture gave him a towel and told him to sit by the sink. There was a hospital pan in the sink; this room was filled with Furman's blood. At this point Furman was in extreme pain so he repeatedly, literally begged for some type of pain killer. There was no one in the hospital (nurse, doctor, or medic) to administer this. Guard Couture said he was unauthorized to give Furman anything for pain. Furman then asked that he call the Deputy. Finally, Couture called Lt. Bonin and Bonin authorized the guard to give Furman one Darvon. Meanwhile, instead of calling an ambulance, Lt. Bonin had called the Prison Doctor, Dr. Walker.

After sitting in excruciating pain, with blood draining out of him for one-half hour, Dr. Walker arrived. He immediately ordered an ambulance to be called. Then he attempted to stop some of the heavy blood flow with clamps. The pain was still beyond bearability, and Furman asked Dr. Walker for something to alleviate it. Dr. Walker said, "You mean they didn't give you anything for pain?" Furman told him about the one Darvon, so Dr. Walker immediately gave him a powerful shot for the pain.

The ambulance still hadn't arrived and now because of the roadblocks, etc., it was decided to drive Furman to the Hospital. Since Furman was at the point of passing out, they tried to locate a stretcher, but could NOT find one anywhere!! They then sat him on a chair and carried him downstairs this way. He was driven to the Concord City Hospital in a Prison car.

He was forced to walk into the hospital, where the nurse then took him to the Emergency Room. This was over an hour since he cut himself, and although Dr. Walker had stopped some of the bleeding, he was still losing blood.

A Doctor at the hospital came in and looked at the injury and said "I'm not touching this, call Dr. Eberhart, the specialist!" Finally, Furman was taken to surgery and had his arm cared for. He was kept in the hospital until Monday. Dr. Eberhart said it was impossible to tell to what extent the permanent damage will be.

On Monday when Furman was brought back to the Prison, Dr. Walker told him he had been in the Operating Room an extremely long time, and that "you're a very lucky man to be alive."

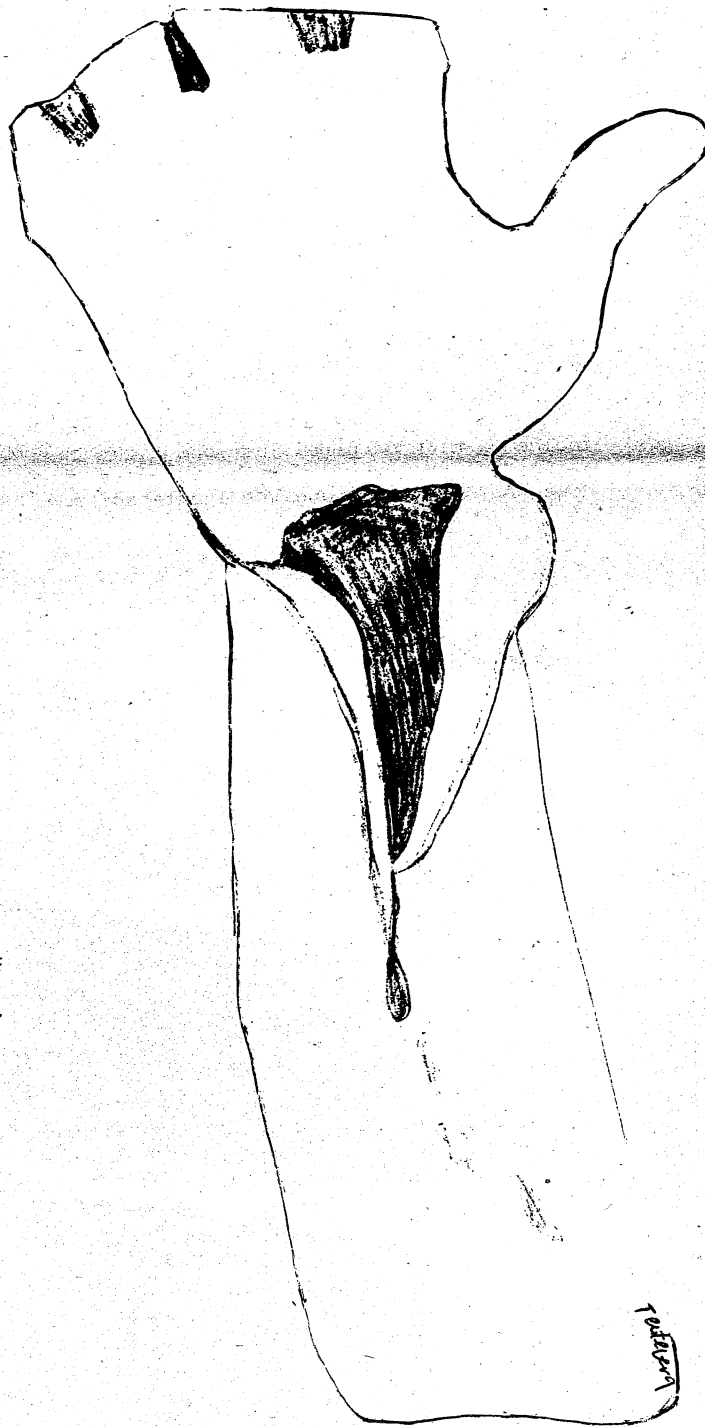
A second letter by Furman describes what happened during the shakedown:

As a result of being shakedowned of my cell, after falling...almost fainting completely...by the Police who had hold of my wrist and forearms. When

they grabbed me I screamed (in pain) "My arm, my arm, just had an operation on it last Sunday". The Police Officer's reply was "F--- your arm!" and they continued to drag me, jerking my arm severely.

They then had me out on the tier and one police officer had hold of each leg and arm. They stripped me and treated me roughly. My injured arm is my right arm. I freed my left hand from the Police Officer that was holding it and grabbed my right wrist to try to relieve the pressure and extreme force that the Officer was holding it with. All of this time I was screaming and in tremendous pain. The Deputy Warden arrived and upon seeing what was happening said "Take this man to the Infirmary!" The Police did (very roughly). At the hospital they told the Nurse and Doctor that I cut myself....I DID NOT in any way injure myself!

Furman made parole on April 18. On May 1 he was to discuss his parole program with the Parole Board. But according to Furman, the Board is keeping him inside "due to my injury when I have people outside who are willing and capable and would be happy to have me released and care for me until my injury heals and after."



I am working with the Bread and Roses Task Force of N.H. Legal Assistance on a study of the Health Care and Food Service at the N.H. State Prison. The most necessary information in this study will be the criticisms and recommendations of the consumers of these services. I would like to correspond with anyone who would write me about conditions in these areas.

Abe Glazer
Researcher, NHLA
RFD #1
Littleton, N.H. 03561

Medical Care (or Punishment) at NHSP

Jerome Belanger, better known to his friends here as Ace, has recently been through a very frustrating experience concerning his needed medication, which is indicative of the haphazard, and, in fact, dangerous medication dispensation process at N.H.S.P.

Three years ago Ace suffered a four story fall. He was in a coma for almost two months, and since then has experienced loss of memory, hard to control temper, especially when triggered by pain, and severe headaches. After a full year of trying various types of medication, he finally found that Talwin controlled these headaches, and therefore has taken this medication regularly (four times a day) for eight months here at N.H.S.P.

Ace was one of the men who left N.H.S.P. last month, but, like the others, was recaptured shortly after and returned. He was placed in isolation (the hole) and was refused all medication. For a full week he received no medicine, and was not even allowed to see the doctor. Finally, around May 10 he saw Dr. Passin, the psychologist, who told him he would never receive any medication.

Seeing no other course, and suffering his constant headaches, Ace cut his wrists. He was taken to Concord Hospital and treated, and then given one Talwin pill. For the next few days he again asked numerous guards for medication and/or to see the doctor. One evening, on May 15, he asked the night Sergeant (Ace thinks his name was Minard), who told him he would not give him any medication, would not call the doctor, that the only thing he would do is get the razor blade for him to cut up again, and hopefully he'd cut his throat this time. The next day Ace was able to see Deputy Warden Fuller, and told him what the Sergeant had said. Fuller, perhaps realizing his underling had acted too openly (other men heard the remarks), finally allowed Ace to see the doctor, and now he is given two (not the four he needs) Talwin a day.

This particular case involved one man suffering many days of pain and cutting his wrists once, before he was able to get part of the medication he needs. It could have been much more serious.

In a related matter, our Prisoners' Reform Council (formerly the Inmate Grievance Committee) has been formulating a proposal on medication dispensation. In essence it states that the PRC feels too much unnecessary drugs are being pushed on the men by both Passin and the medical doctor. Instead of dealing with a man's problem, he is often kept half drugged, which then sometimes results in suicide attempts or other tragic consequences. The PRC seeks to end this unnecessary drug pushing, replacing it with numerous programs, like more visits, special visits when a man feels pressured, phone calls, psychiatric counseling, sports activities, and other methods to solve the men's problems and to give them more opportunity to relax and work these difficulties out. At the same time, and just as importantly, the PRC wants to insure that all men who need medication are given it promptly and without having to resort to acts of self-destruction.

Jaun Laaman
N.H.S.P.
NEPA News Bureau

Radio Free People

Radio Free People is a collective in New York which prepares tapes, both reel-to-reel and cassette, to record documentaries, music, and poetry. Many of these tapes are useful as a basis for discussion in organizing work. The tapes are inexpensive. A catalogue can be obtained by writing to Radio Free People, 133 Mercer St., N.Y., N.Y. 10012. Phone: 212-966-6729

Examples of the tapes are: "Saigon's Civilian Political Prisoner"; "The Attica Rebellion"; "Class Struggle in Northern Ireland"; and many more.

Woodstock Jail & Support Group

by Shelley Cooper Neill

The Woodstock Prisoner Support Group has been in existence since October, 1973. It was initially organized through the Prisoner Community Center in Windsor, Vt., but today it is primarily a group of 30-40 citizens living in and around the Woodstock, Vt. area who provide a variety of services and programs within the Woodstock Community Correctional Center (WCCC).

WCCC is one of five Community Correctional Centers run by Vermont's Dept. of Corrections. Essentially, they are county jails taken over by the state and re-named. Most of the prisoners in Vermont are in these Centers.

The programs and services developed by the Support Group include an art workshop conducted one afternoon a week by Terry Kay and Wayne Thompson; community night with women inside once a month on a Sunday night from 7:30 to 9:30; transportation for prisoners on home furloughs to and from job interviews; and aid and support to families and prisoners during incarceration and after release.

On Sunday, May 19, I attended a community night with women inside WCCC. All women imprisoned in Vermont are at the WCCC, a drably painted building that resides incongruously against the setting of rural Vermont. The room in which we met serves a variety of purposes: as a library (the books are, for the most part, hard bound back issues of The Readers Digest, third-rate novels from the

1940's, and a smattering of public relations texts such as How to Win Friends and Influence People), as a classroom (distinguishable only by a blackboard), and as a meeting room (decorated with paintings done by the prisoners).

I asked one woman what kinds of food were served. First she informed me that the women do all the cooking while the men do the maintenance work which allows them outside yard time. Then she said, "If you can by it frozen, we serve it." Fresh fruits and vegetables are a rarity, and things like fresh eggs are unheard of, at least for the women. Men are served eggs if they are in a work-release program.

Another point, as sexist as the case of the inegalitarian egg, is the 'privilege' of yard time. The men are allowed outside daily for one-half to one hour periods, whereas the women consider themselves lucky if they see one hour of daylight on the outside per week. Further, when women are allowed out, the guards, male and female, continually harass the women about appearing 'too enticing' (tight pants, shorts) to the male population.

The reports of the women prisoners are as frightening as they are cruel and unusual. One woman, who served time for welfare fraud, was sentenced because her husband was known to be employed and, upon occasion, decided to move in with her against her expressed wishes. A variety of reasons, primarily religious, prevented her from getting a divorce

prior to her conviction.

Though the husband was the problem, the woman received the 'justice' of the court. When she was incarcerated, her husband assumed the role of 'head of household' which entitled him to the welfare payments that she had previously received, at an increased rate, no less!

Another woman explained that she knows what she wants to do, can do and will do upon release. Her strength and very positive sense of herself permeated her every gesture. She is in the process of picking up additional high school courses so that she will be eligible for a college veterinary program when she is released. The support and assistance for her idea and program were not provided by the administration. Rather, the Prisoner Support Group helped her find a list of schools to write, forms that needed to be filled out, and moreover provided a general sense of solidarity for her ability to do good and productive work.

(This visit to WCCC has raised a number of questions on topics which, to me are of great importance (sexism in prison, welfare fraud, community corrections, to name three), questions which can best be explored in thorough investigation of these issues. We would like to ask persons who would provide us with articles or information for articles on these subjects to write or call us. We expect to have articles on these topics in future issues.)

Rhode Island Art Conference



by Shelly Killen

The Prison Art Conference on May 25, 1974 at the University of R.I. included a film, "Good-day Sunshine/A One Night Splice" on the mural project at the Boys Training School, Cranston, R.I.; a video tape on prison art; and panel discussions with speakers Benny Andrews, Officer Julio Costa, Dr. Al Lott, William Packard, and Professor Shelly Killen. Present at the conference were members of the R.I. Arts Council, Mr. Kevin McKenna from Governor Noel's office, and public defender Walter Stone, as well as representative of the Boys Training School.

Topics discussed at the conference included the value of art programs in prisons, funding for such programs, the role university students could play in prison art projects, and whether art programs make prisoners docile.

The last question, which has been the

topic of considerable discussion, was spoken of at length by Mr. Benny Andrews, artist and Director of Black Emergency Cultural Coalition. Mr. Andrews who initiated the art programs in the Tombs claims that many political activists such as Rap Brown had informed him that they felt strongly that art programs were enormously valuable in terms of keeping human relations alive, diminishing depression, and fostering confidence among prisoners.

All panelists agreed on the need to humanize the prisons and to allow outsiders to get a truthful picture of what prisons are like and to realize that people like themselves have been incarcerated in a cruel and harsh manner. Prevailing stereotypes, based on exploitative Hollywood films and other media images, continue the myth that men and women in prison are essentially a species apart and serve to sustain the current

conditions of our brutalizing penal system.

The absence of meaningful programs in the Womens' Prison, The Boys Training School and the Girls' Training School was another subject discussed. In all three institutions boredom and emptiness are chronic diseases that vitiate confidence, a sense of identity, and awareness of one's intrinsic value. It is absolutely vital that the state begin to support programs for women and children, and life-giving activity rather than life-denying electronic systems and barbed wire.

For those who wish to study the subject of prisoner art and its function for prisoners, the film on the murals at the Boys Training School can be obtained by writing to Shelly Killen, A-1 Faculty Apts., Kingston, R.I. The video tape on prison art is available from Kenny Hyde, 65 Elm St., Methuen, Mass. (617/685-5872).

Prisoner Art Show

by Kora Berger

(Boston) "I paint to express those emotions and feelings which words cannot express, which no other method or medium of communication can impart." These are the words of the late Antone Costa from Walpole prison. For many prisoners, art is the way of expressing themselves, if allowed to do so.

From May 11 to 19 the public had a chance to view the extraordinary artistic creativity behind bars, at the New England Invitational Prison Art Show at the Boston Center for the Arts, Cyclorama. More than 300 works from prisoners and ex-prisoners from Walpole, Norfolk, Framingham, Concord, Deer Island, Bridgewater, Billerica, Salem, Plymouth, Maine, Rhode Island were represented.

Art work included paintings in oil and acrylic, drawings, monoprints, collages, wood and linoleum cuts, photographs, watercolors and sculptures.

On the evening of May 15th vandals broke into the Cyclorama, destroyed 125 works and stole most of the remaining work. 250 pieces were later recovered, many of them badly damaged. This dealt a most serious blow to the artists and the whole prison arts project. Many works had already been sold. The proceeds were to provide for sorely needed art materials.

Unfortunately, I was not able to see the show until after the vandalism had occurred--I can therefore comment only on the works that remained and those which were recovered; and I must note that many of the pieces I saw only in a damaged state.

Prisoners' art, represented at the show, closely reflects their circumstances. Incarceration and deprivation is amply apparent in most of the works. Each artist conveyed his or her plight in an individual way, many with great skill, ability and talent. Yet even if the subject is not a prison scene, most of the works convey the point of view of a prisoner.

We see it, for instance, in the way the dogs are free to run together in Mark Hersom's "Loneliness". We see it in the way light shines in, through one small opening at one corner of some canvasses, unreachable and remote. Sometimes canvasses are totally flat, as if the light were absent. The occasional self-portraits invariably show a person intensely questioning himself.

I must point out here Peter Makaravicz's canvasses, the most remarkable body of work for me at this show. Incidentally, all but one of his canvasses have been vandalized. His work, all abstracts, were quite different from the rest. He has gone beyond, transcended the prison experience. This is especially poignant, as he is doomed to life imprisonment (MCI, Walpole) with practically no chance of getting out.

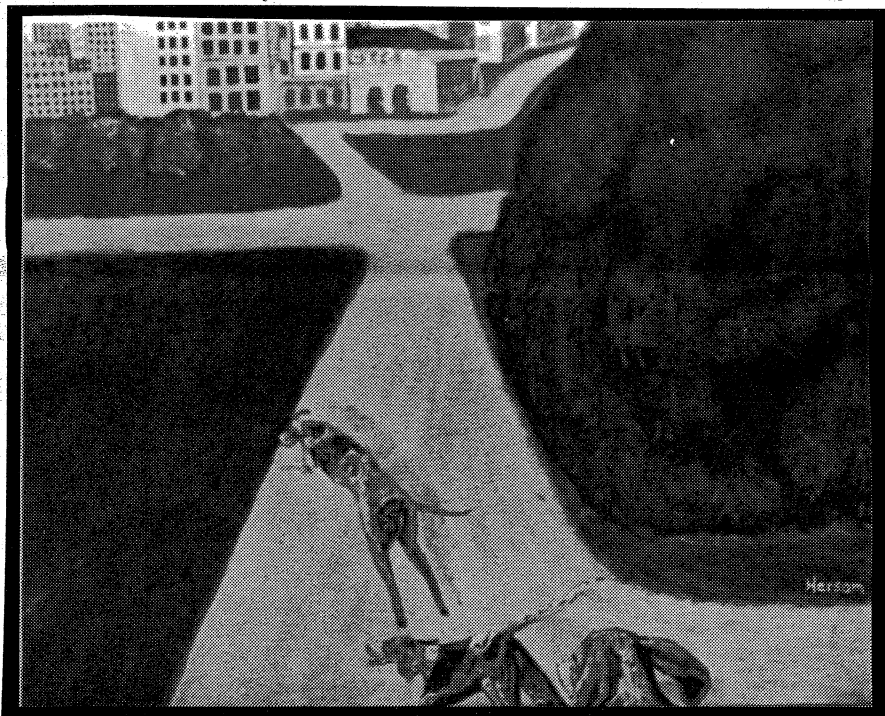
For four years now, the prison arts project has been active in Mass. with the financial aid of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mass. Council for the Arts, and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and the untiring work of Bob Stortz and of its six to eight part-time art teachers, who have given art classes in all of the Mass. state prisons. It is hoped that the good work will not only continue, but expand, not only in Mass.; that photography--to be introduced in Walpole and Norfolk--will become an integral part of the arts project and that we shall see Prison Art Shows at regular intervals.

If anyone wishes to contribute money to help prisoners get supplies for further work, send donations to Bob Stortz, Mass. Prison Art Project, 336 Baker Ave., Concord, Mass. 01742.

We apologize for our failure to name all artists whose work we have printed, but we took so many photos it was impossible to recall all names.



Peter Makavicz painting



"Loneliness" by Mark Hersom

(More of Art Show on Page 15)

All photos of the Art Show by Kora Berger unless otherwise noted.



Letters

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Just got a visit from my lawyer and thought you and other NEPA members and supporters would be interested in the news he bore.

To give you a brief rundown on my case and all; I was the guy who hit Grant's in Laconia last Nov. On Feb. 20th I was sentenced to 7-14/7-14 (2 attempted murders) and 6-12 for armed robbery to run consecutively.

Needless to say, D.A. David Decker of Belknap County was a happy man on that day.

However, he and Judge Keller had failed to read the new New Criminal Code, and lucky for me, my attorney, Peter Makris had read his. Thus on March 1, 1974 the court was forced under the new code (R.S.A. 651:3:III) to run all concurrent.

Mr. Decker went into shock and felt he had been cheated, thus he has now gotten Grand Jury indictments charging me with the same charges, worded the same except where before they read "while armed with a deadly weapon", they now read "while armed with a .22 revolver and a 12 gauge shotgun."

Thus he hopes to stack 21 years (7 on each as a class B felony) onto my present 7-14 and regain lost face.

Mr. Makris is filing a squash motion and if it is refused he will go to the Supreme Court for a ruling, since this is clearly, even to a layman, a case of double jeopardy and an example of just how far a disturbed person will go to retain his position.

Mr. Makris said that no publicity was being given to me this time, although my first trial made California papers, and I mentioned that NEPA would possibly want to follow this up and make others aware of the actions going on behind the scenes. His reply was "right on".

It is really a pity to watch a person of Mr. Decker's past blow his cover and possibly open his teen years to investigation just to build a record for himself. He is clearly out of bounds as far as ethics are concerned but that doesn't seem to matter to D.A.'s in New Hampshire. We sincerely hope that you at NEPA can make this madness public knowledge, and possibly the voters between 18 & 21 in Belknap County will awaken and pick a less disturbed person in the next elections.

I hope you all can follow up on this from the outside and keep the public aware. We all enjoy the NEPA paper (though it gets lost occasionally, those that reach us get wide circulation) and the results thus far are great.

Peace,

David S. Lordan
10758
N.H.S.P.

Dear NEPA,

On March 15, 1974 at around 4:45 in the afternoon Sgt. G. McAllister walked down my tier in N.H. State Prison and put his hand on my shoulder. I turned around and hit him in the face, he fell to the floor, I went on one knee and hit him two or three times more with my fist, then I got up and told Pig McAllister to get up and get off the tier. He did so, and five minutes later, I was grabbed, hand-cuffed, and was put in the hole.

The reasons I hit Pig McAllister are:

- 1) I was drunk
- 2) He put his hands on me
- 3) There was an incident concerning an inmate here at the State Prison, where State Police beat and kicked him, "by mistake".

They say they grabbed the wrong person. The inmate charged the State Troopers for their wrongdoing towards him, but the so-called Honorable Court here in Concord, N.H. ruled that the charges against the State Troopers be dropped. Their reason--because "violence is a way of prison life", the Troopers' crime was justifiable.

So I also feel that I am being wrongly charged, in that I was as justified as the State Troopers. I am sure that the ruling must also apply to me. ("Violence is a way of prison life.") I hit the Pig screw; why not? He put his hand on my shoulder; how was I to know that his intentions weren't to do me harm? I wasn't going to wait and see what his intentions were, or if this was going to be another "mistake". Unfortunately, I am getting the feeling that the law is not going to see fair justice for all. I am un-

Page 8

NEPA News
Franconia, N.H. 03580

This is in reference to the article "Waiting On the Outside" which appeared in the last issue of NEPA News (March 1974, Volume 2, no.3).

Some of us here at N.H.S.P. who are "trustees", take issue with a statement made by "Susan" which stated, in part, that the only people who get to be trustees are those who would jump out a window if the prison administration told them to do so. I, for one, disagree with this depiction of trustees here.

I am a trustee assigned to the prison farm. I am also the Vice President of the Nashua Chapter of the Die Hard motorcycle club. There is no way that I have been, am now, or ever will be one of the administration's "yes" men. Though there are a few "yes" men here, they are definitely in the minority, most of them not being trustees! I earned my trustee status by living compatibly within the institution with my fellow inmates because I chose to do so, not because someone else told me I had to, subsequently, I earned my trustee status.

A man does not have to "knuckle under" to the administration's demands to receive trustee status nor does he have to "kiss ass". He just has to avoid any situation that might cause him to be written up on a disciplinary report.

This is not my first time here. I have been here on 2 previous sentences and subsequently 2 parole violations and through experience I have found that my trustee status has provided me with the easiest way for me to do my time and get out of here and I resent the insinuation that I'm a "yes" man.

I do my job, keep my ass out of trouble, and I keep on keeping on and in return I get no hassles from anyone and I'll be out of here, hopefully, on my minimum early-release date.

In conclusion, I felt that Susan's comment did not provide a complete picture of the kind of men who are trustees here and I wanted everyone to know that most of the trustees here are solid people who would back a brother in the struggle to the hilt.

Thank you for allowing me to express myself. Live fast, love free, and Die Hard!

Bob "Paleface" Moody
V.P. - D.H.M.C.
Nashua Chapter

der the impression that you have to have a badge on your shirt in order to be right.

Do you know my reason for feeling this way? I'll tell you. On March 15, after hitting the guard, I was put in the hole. On March 18, I was taken out of the hole and put in the Annex. On April 2, I was taken in front of a Major Disciplinary Board, and was given 120 days in the Annex, away from the population. I get out of my cell 1 1/2 hours a day. By the way, if they don't get an adverse report on me, I will be given 60 days off this punishment, but will be on a year's probation, and if they feel that I have broken that parole in the main population, I will be returned to the Annex like a bad boy. That's the Justice I enjoy.

Today I recieved a visit from a Deputy Sheriff. He was a nice smiling man, and also kind to me. He handed me a copy of a "Copias on Indictment". The Grand Jury has indicted me, not on a charge of assault, but to make it worse for me, a charge of "aggravated assault". Sgt. McAllister is claiming that after I hit him to the floor, I kicked him in the head and face, and that "after Routhier finally stopped kicking me, in the head and face, I got up and left the tier."

I have been kicked in the face once in my life. I was on the ground bleeding badly, and when I tried to walk I staggered badly. Also, my face was messed up really bad for about two weeks. This was caused by just one kick in the face.

Now here is Sgt. McAllister, who says that I hit him to the floor and kicked him numerous times in the face and the head, and he gets up off the floor with just a small bloody nose;

NEPA NEWS

People to People

(Since it began, the People-to-People program of promoting inside/outside correspondence and visitation, we have learned of a number of similar programs. "Others, Inc.", which has been in operation since 1947, has a history of several hundred thousand letters. We hope the Granite Quarry Jaycees' program announced below experiences similar success.--Ed.)

Dear NEPA,

The GRANITE QUARRY JAYCEES, of the New Hampshire State Prison, has underway a pen-pal project, PEOPLE to PEOPLE, to develop and coordinate a system of communication between prisoners and outsiders.

A primary goal is arranging regular communication between non-prison people and the young and also older inmates now having little or no mail or visitors. GRANITE QUARRY JAYCEES has surveyed members of the prison population who have few or no outside contacts, and recently has been encouraging concerned people on the outside to write to them.

Prison rules and regulations now allow inmates freedom to write to anyone, and the G.Q. JAYCEES has found that the prospects and outlook of lonely and often forgotten inmates improves as communication with non-prison people takes place.

A project coordinator furnishes information and names to persons who would like to correspond with one or more inmates here at N.H.S.P. It is hoped that some permanent and lasting friendships will develop between inmates and outsiders through this program. However, it requires the help and cooperation of you, the readers of this newspaper, to make this program a success.

Please sit down and write your letter now, while it is fresh in your mind. Many lonely inmates here at the prison will be made a little happier by your kindness and thoughtfulness.

If anyone is interested in participation in project PEOPLE to PEOPLE, please write to: FRANCIS GIBBS, Chaplain, GRANITE QUARRY JAYCEES, P.O. Box 14, Concord, N.H. 03301

Karl Grunert
321 Wallis Rd.
Rye, N.H.

Dear Karl,

We read in the Portsmouth Herald last week of the bombing/destruction of your mailbox. While we are not completely familiar with all your philosophies we are aware of the extensive work you have performed for prison reform and the establishment of better lines of communications between citizens and prisoners. Specifically we refer to the 'People to People' project which seeks to exchange names of prisoners and citizens wishing to correspond with each other. Many of us here have had our outlook renewed by relationships we have formed through 'People to People'.

Since a lot of your recent work has concerned prisoners/prison reform, we assume this attack on your property was an effort to intimidate you from your courageous stance on Human Rights and Dignity.

While there is little else we can do at this time, we do wish to sincerely and publicly offer our respect, solidarity, and best wishes to you.

In Struggle,
Petition signed by 25 men from NHSP

so small that there wasn't even a drop of blood on the floor. Well, well, brothers and sisters, we will see just how much justice I will receive when I get to court. Here I am going to court, but to make sure I receive the full measure of injustice, I am also being charged with aggravated assault.

Well, I am not going to let this worry me, because I have the justice of the Honorable Court to protect me, just as the State Troopers who beat and kicked an innocent inmate did, right? Even so, I did not stoop as low as the Pig Trooper did and kick my victim.

Sincerely,

Henry J. Routhier

NEPA NEWS POLICY ON LETTERS--PAGE 2

June

The Mass Hole

by Donna Parker

Massachusetts has no need for the proposed regional maximum security prison to house its 'special offenders'. It already has its own facilities in Bridgewater and Block 10 at Walpole.

Although public hearings for the Departmental Segregation Unit (DSU) rules and regulations have not yet been held, DSU has already been implemented in Block 10, Walpole. This is by no means extraordinary because an administrative segregation unit of some type has always existed in the Massachusetts prison system. In the old maximum security prison in Charlestown (which Walpole replaced) it was known as the 'Cherry Hill' section. When the state built Walpole they did not build Block 10; rather, prisoners were transferred to Bridgewater. In 1958, three years after the completion of Walpole, Block 10 was added for the "Taming of the Few". (see original report elsewhere in the paper).

The Walpole facilities are described in the new DSU regulations. Within Walpole there are five statuses of committal to segregation:

Awaiting Action--Blocks 9 and 10. *Awaiting Action is a holding status, of limited and temporary duration pending classification...when a resident is constituted as a serious risk to institutional security and stability.*

Punitive Isolation--Blocks 9 and 10. *Isolation (not exceeding 15 days) as punishment in a major disciplinary proceeding.*

Voluntary Protective Custody--Block 10, Bridgewater and other institutions.

Observation--Block 10 and hospital. *When a resident is a threat to himself, he will be isolated by staff pending a decision.*

Involuntary Custody/Administrative Segregation--Blocks 9 and 10.

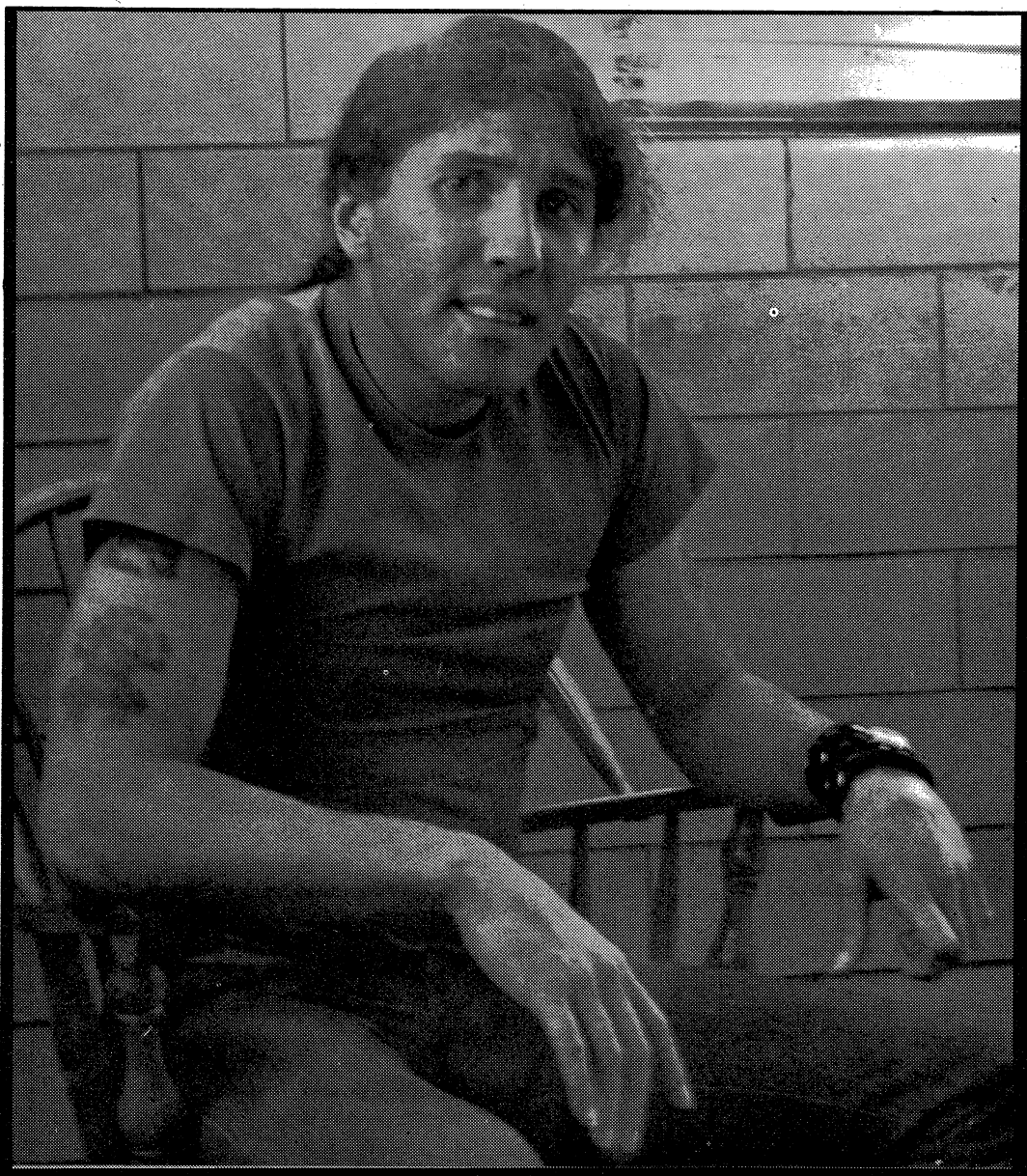
Where it is determined that a resident cannot safely remain in population...or adjust to the institutional population, segregation may be imposed. The purpose of such segregation is neither to inflict upon a resident an extended period of confinement nor an unusual degree of punishment....Involuntary custody shall be designed to meet the needs of the resident.

Included in the Involuntary Custody status is the DSU. The proposed goals of DSU are to provide a treatment center for a prisoner apart from the general population "when he demonstrates an inordinate amount of disruptive behavior...An inmate requiring this status may be found to be participating in activities which threaten to subvert the safety and security of the general population and/or staff of the institution." (emphasis added-ed.)

Modeled along the lines of the infamous 'Curran Report' (see Vol. II, # 1 NEPA NEWS-ed), DSU is a treatment center "for those inmates who are unable to adjust in general population for one reason or another." The intent of this program is to get prisoners to adjust to prison life. Yet recent studies, such as the Governors' Task Force in Maine, show that men most likely to re-adjust successfully to society are those who are most alienated from prison life during incarceration.

The defenders of these treatment models refuse to acknowledge that society, through its injustices which are magnified inside prison walls, remains the principle impetus to violent behavior. Almost inevitably, those prisoners who refuse to accept the authoritarian, dehumanizing conditions of prison and who organize disruptive political behavior, exhibit repeated, angry 'acting out' behavior, and flood the courts with litigation are the prisoners deemed candidates for DSU or other 'special offender' programs.

As a result of liberal prison reform, new methods to control prisoners are being sought as the old ones are condemned as inhumane and illegal. Officials of DSU have more power to control because they are considered to be



Jerry Sousa

'treating' rather than 'punishing' the prisoners.

At this time there are 42 men in Block 10 at Walpole; 3 are classified as DSU, 2 as Administrative Segregation, 1 as Awaiting Action, while the remainder are in Protective Custody.

Who are the men confined in DSU? What do they think about DSU?

Jerry Sousa has been confined in segregation since Oct. 24, 1973. His original status was Awaiting Action pending a Grand Jury indictment for his alleged participation in the death of another prisoner. At his classification hearing on March 6 he was reclassified to DSU status because of his 'excessively large disciplinary record'. In essence, Jerry was offered a choice between DSU, as a condition to return to population, or a long stay segregated in 10 Block.

His program was determined after he took a long series of tests. Included in this seven hours of testing was a personality test which included such questions as "Do you consider yourself a radical? What do you think about Communism? Do you believe your prayers are answered?" Jerry disregarded this part of the test.

Jerry's scores were exceptionally high. Largely through the continuous efforts of Margaret Refell, who works with NCAP (Nat'l. Coalition Against Prisons), Jerry is now working with Dean Dungen from Boston State College. Margaret hopes the educational program will expand.

Jerry feels the educational program is good. "I think it is important to keep yourself educated. The problem I see is that you have to be in DSU to get it. Why isn't it offered in population? One of the definitions of a special offender such as myself is that we refuse to take advantage of existing programs. WHAT PROGRAMS? This has been one of the major points of negotiation between the NPRA (Nat'l. Prison Reform Assoc.-ed.) and Superintendent Vinzant. By offering these positive programs in DSU as a condition to return to population, the administration is using them in a negative way. They are saying to

me that I have to sell out by cooperating with them in order to return to my brothers. They have told me that my image must change. Last month they spread the rumor in population that I was in a p.c. (protective custody-ed.) In this way they hoped to undermine my credibility."

This is not the first time Jerry has done a long stretch in segregation. Since 1967 Jerry has spent most months out of the year in segregation or isolation. Most of his segregated time directly corresponds with his filing of legal writs. March, 1970:

"I was beaten and dragged to 9 Block. After 'Awaiting Action' in there for about 25 to 30 days, including a short stay in the Walpole hospital, I was seen by Deputy Supt. Butterworth who asked me why I had sent a petition for a Writ of Mandamus to the U.S. District Court. I answered that I wanted 'relief'. I was then told there were places for 'troublemakers'. I did not relent in my pursuit of 'relief'. A couple of days later I was told the doctor wanted to see me one more time. I was led to the New Man's Section by a contingent of guards, chained hand and foot, and taken to Bridgewater DSU. They continually drugged me, but when I realized what the stuff was doing to me I only pretended to take it. I was left in the filth of that isolation cell for 6 months.

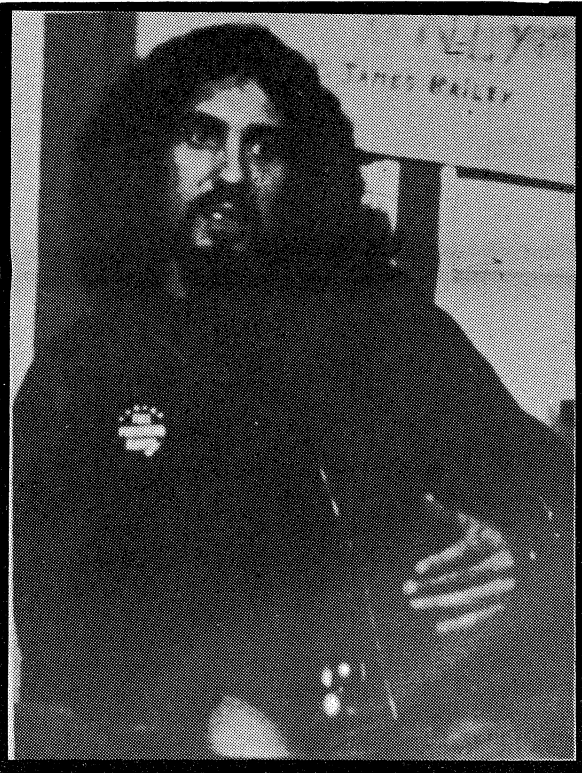
"They usually get me on some bogus charge such as 'assaulting an officer', 'instigating a riot' or 'attempting to escape!'. Now they're trying to pin this Skinner rap on Arty (Morrow) and me. Now I don't deny I've hit a few screws, but they've gotten me plenty of times. Things were especially bad when Porelle was here. I honestly don't think Vinzant knows how the screws come down on you in here. One time I was having a beef with some screws near the control room. Well, I noticed they suddenly changed and stopped coming at me. Then they told me Vinzant was in the control room watching and I better behave. I told them I didn't care. Well, they all held me down and just handcuffed me, then brought me down to 10 Block. That is unusual."

Violence is a way of life at Walpole. "It's not because we're all cons. It's because a prison continually tries to strip a person of his manhood. When the 'man' keeps coming down on you and tries to control you through fear, that fear can only turn to hatred, and in a closed institution such as this, the only way you can survive is by retaliation. Show them you're weak or afraid, and you're dead."

Last Spring when the guards went out on strike, the prisoners ran Walpole for nine weeks. Aside from the day-to-day running of the prison, including the kitchen, educational and vocational programs, prison industries, and daily counts, the prisoners took care of their own internal problems. There were no rapes or killings.

The movie "3000 Years and Life" was filmed at this time. It shows Jerry, then a board member of the NPRA, explaining how wrong-doers are corrected by persuasion and embarrassment in front of peers. He said that if one con steals from another, the men tell him, "You're a pig. Just like the System." The brother gets embarrassed. Then the men say, "It's no big deal, we know it won't happen again." Then they pat him on the back, give him a cigarette, and it's over.

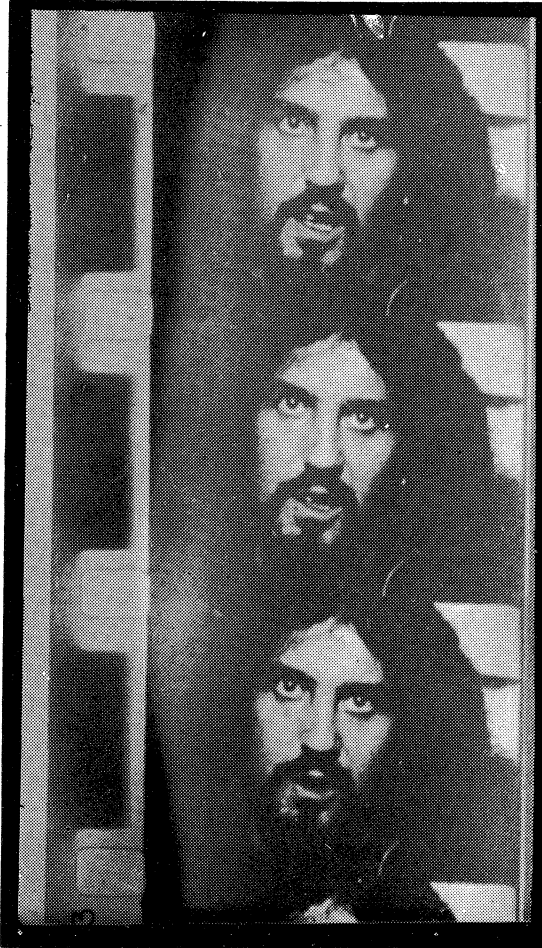
When the guards returned exactly a year ago today, as I write, Jerry and Bobby Dellelo (then president of NPRA - now escaped) were stripped, beaten, run naked across broken glass, and thrown in the hole. The administration doesn't want the prisoners to exercise responsibility, but when the prisoners had the responsibility of running the prison, the prisoners virtually ended violence at Walpole, and generally ran the prison better than it had ever been run before.



Jerry Sousa from "3000 Years and Life"

Superintendent Vinzant has a different perspective on prisoner solidarity. "All prisoner solidarity does is to foster disrespect, tension, and abuse between the prisoners and the guards. It does not do anything to strengthen their bargaining power with me. I won't bargain with them. I couldn't bargain with them if I wanted to. It is clearly stated in the law that the running of this institution is my sole responsibility." As for prisoner responsibility in regards to any movement in the segregation tiers or between the maximum and minimum sections (a long-time NPRA demand), Mr. Vinzant said, "The security of this institution, including it's staff and prisoners, is mine. To allow such movement, even if they don't see it as dangerous to themselves, would be like giving a child a butcher's knife if he asked for it."

Once assigned to DSU status, a prisoner is evaluated every thirty days, and receives a reclassification hearing every ninety days. These hearings determine whether a prisoner is 'ready' to return to population. If he is not allowed to return at that time, he must remain in DSU for another ninety days. Jerry's next classification hearing is



Jerry Sousa from "3000 Years and Life"

June 5. "All the progress reports on my college program are very favorable. Where I will run into a problem is the fact that I have refused to sell out. They have had my account frozen for 4 months, because I refused to pay for a plastic tray I had allegedly broken. I can't pay for that tray. I did not receive the appropriate hearing and to pay for it would be denying my principles. They offered to drop the price to \$1.50. I, of course, still refused. They ripped off all my possessions..... clothes, TV, radio, everything, and now they are trying to rip off my dignity."

Superintendent Vinzant and Deputy Supt. Waivevitch spent a few hours explaining to me what they felt the goals of DSU were specifically, and about Walpole in general.

Concerning Jerry Sousa's status, Mr. Waivevitch told me that Jerry had been offered population or DSU with a program, and that Jerry had chosen DSU. When I contested this, Mr. Waivevitch became adamant. I said that Jerry would be most eager to hear this news and could I be allowed back in to convey this message. Supt. Vinzant interrupted. He told me that they had to make the decision for Jerry. For Jerry to return to population he must first spend time in DSU. "Jerry has got to start thinking about himself. He's always worrying about the situation of others before he thinks about his own situation. Jerry came in here eleven years ago with a life sentence. Right now he's worse off than when he came in. He's got a life sentence on top of eleven years of bad disciplinary reports. We're trying to help him by having something positive put in his records. He's got an image to live up to out in population whether he wants to or not. We're trying to offer him a new direction which will benefit him and contribute positively to his record."

I asked them why Bobby Daigle and Arty Morrow were being coerced into taking brain-wave tests to determine whether they had brain damage. They told me these tests were essential to determine an appropriate program for these men. "How do I know that if I put Arthur Morrow in an electrician's program he won't electrocute himself by putting the wrong wires together?" Arty Morrow is not officially in DSU, but is classified as "Awaiting Action" in a cell next to Jerry's. He has been awaiting action since last October. (As we are laying this out, we have been informed that Arty has been reclassified to DSU and that he has won his case and does not have to submit to brain-wave tests.)

This is also not the first time Arty has done time in segregation. He has

been in Walpole since he was 16. Of the five years he has spent in Walpole, close to three of them have been in segregation of some kind. "It started in Nov. of 1971 when I saw the Disciplinary Board as a result of taking part in a work-stoppage here at Walpole. I saw Deputy Butterworth and a few screws at the Board. They told me I couldn't have an attorney and that I was guilty. The disposition was indefinite segregation in DSU. After almost 2 months in segregation, I was lugged to DSU Bridgewater for protesting the conditions of medical treatment here in 10 Block. In March I was returned to DSU Walpole because DSU Bridgewater had been closed by John Boone."

Bobby Daigle has been in Segregation since he took a guard hostage last January. He risked what few freedoms he had in a desperate attempt to communicate to the public. He released the guard only on the condition that he be given a chance to speak to the mass media about the inhumane conditions at Walpole. Because of this action he has been confined in segregation, not for disciplinary reasons (the courts are dealing with that), but for treatment purposes. "Yesterday (May 22) Supt. Vinzant told me he was going to make me a permanent DSU product. I'll NOT be broken, or bought off in any way or fashion by him. It would be showing I was wrong. I was RIGHT in my action... We don't have the drugs (yet) or the lobotomies (yet). It has been the unity from inside and outside that has thus far prevented it from becoming a reality here at Walpole. Supt. Vinzant and his top chieftans, Fred Butterworth and Walter Waivevitch, are attempting to undermine prisoner solidarity and strength with strategies of 'confuse', 'split', and 'divide'. They are very good at it. It is their trade. It's up to the men at Walpole to show them the word...UNITY...and it's meaning. We will not turn back to silent ways, those days are gone".

Segregation units have always been used to house troublemakers. Their use has always been arbitrary and by Supt. Vinzant's own admission, "prisoners were usually thrown in and forgotten about." We do not agree with the use of DSU, but since it exists, it is important to have a set of rules and regulations which will provide some safeguards on it's use.

After going over the proposed rules and regulations and seeing DSU in practice, it is the opinion of many of us that there are two important areas which need further development. The first is an inclusion of due process. As the regulations now stand:

"Transfers to and from DSU shall only be initiated through a Departmental Classification Committee consisting of the Supt. of MCI Walpole; Deputy Comm. for Classification and Treatment; Director of Counseling, MCI Walpole, and DSU Administrator. All recommendations for transfer to and from DSU shall have the approval of the Commissioner."

There is no provision here for even a minimal level of due process. No transfer into a special facility such as DSU can be said to be legal in the absence of a due process hearing at which the prisoner has the opportunity to confront the specific evidence before an impartial board where written findings and decisions can be reviewed. Finally, since most transfers to DSU are in effect punishment for an accumulation of past disciplinary reports, the following court decision must be implemented at these hearings:

(a) timely notice of the charge against him, (b) an opportunity to appear at the disciplinary hearing with the assistance of an authorized counsel substitute, (c) an impartial tribunal, none of whom reported or witnessed the alleged infraction, (d) the right to call witnesses and cross-examine them, (e) the right to a decision based upon "substantial" evidence, (f) notice of the rationale and consequences of the decision, and (g) the opportunity to appeal the decision.

Palmigiano v. Barter
F. 2nd (1st Cir. 11/16/73)

(Continued on next page)

"The Taming of the Few"

or, Control of Violence in a Maximum Security Prison

() J. Fitzpatrick, M.S.S.W.
 Director of Treatment
 M.C.I. Walpole and
 Stanley I. Kruger
 Mental Health Coordinator
 Division of Legal Medicine

(Note: The copy of the following speech that we received was in bad shape. In places marked () we indicate that our copy was unreadable. Because of its length we had to edit it down, which is indicated by four periods(....). We believe the speech was first presented in 1962.--ed)

We would like to share with you today some of our thoughts, ideas, and plans (on) a problem which we feel is of great importance in the correctional field, that is, the control of violence....How frequently is heard the comment, "10% of the inmates take 90% of our time." The general result of this lopsided reality is that many institutions put themselves in the position of the school teacher who gears her academic program to the slowest pupils, thus diverting her attention from the brighter students and preventing them from advancing in line with their capabilities.

Because of the all-pervasiveness of the problem of violence it is necessary to devise methods for control. One pragmatic, historical and successful method is to remove the man from the prison population....Out of...desperation one administrator suggested that--"those inmates who are carriers of the dangerously communicable disease of violence" be remanded to custody as administrative problems rather than attempting to provide a program that, he feels, at present offers little hope. We suggest that this approach alone, through exclusion from treatment, forever rules out the possibility of developing effective techniques for program planning and treatment of violent inmates....Isolation in and of itself does provide effective controls during the period of restraint. Unless something else is done, we feel that only further trouble can be anticipated....

The plan that we are proposing today is designed to make use of the existing facilities and personnel at the Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Walpole. This institution was opened in 1955 for the purpose of housing the most serious recalcitrant offenders who were previously confined in the old Charlestown State Prison. Four months later a clinical unit, known as the Counseling Service, was established. ...The inmates seen in this mental health unit included a number who might appropriately be described as violent. They were the strong-arm men, the impulsive and explosive, the bullies of the weak, the collectors of debts and the predatory homosexuals.

In an early attempt to deal with these inmates we evolved a program of forced group therapy. This group was composed of men released from segregation on the condition that they attend group therapy for a period of six months. As a result, they attended faithfully, but initially refused to participate. Instead, a con(stancy) of silence prevailed throughout the early sessions. One inmate brought a book which he read throughout each session while another stretched out on a table for an afternoon nap, a third slept with his head on the

Mass. Hole cont.

Unfortunately, the court decision does not understand that an impartial tribunal cannot be made up of inside authorities. Furthermore, these regulations must provide a more exact definition of what connotes DSU status. As the regulations now stand, DSU is a treatment center;

"for those inmates who are unable to adjust in general population for one reason or another."

This is vague enough to apply to almost anyone. Because of this vagueness, application is left to the discretion of the Superintendent. This type of discretionary power must be eliminated.

While I was visiting Walpole, Block 8 was being 'renovated' for use as a

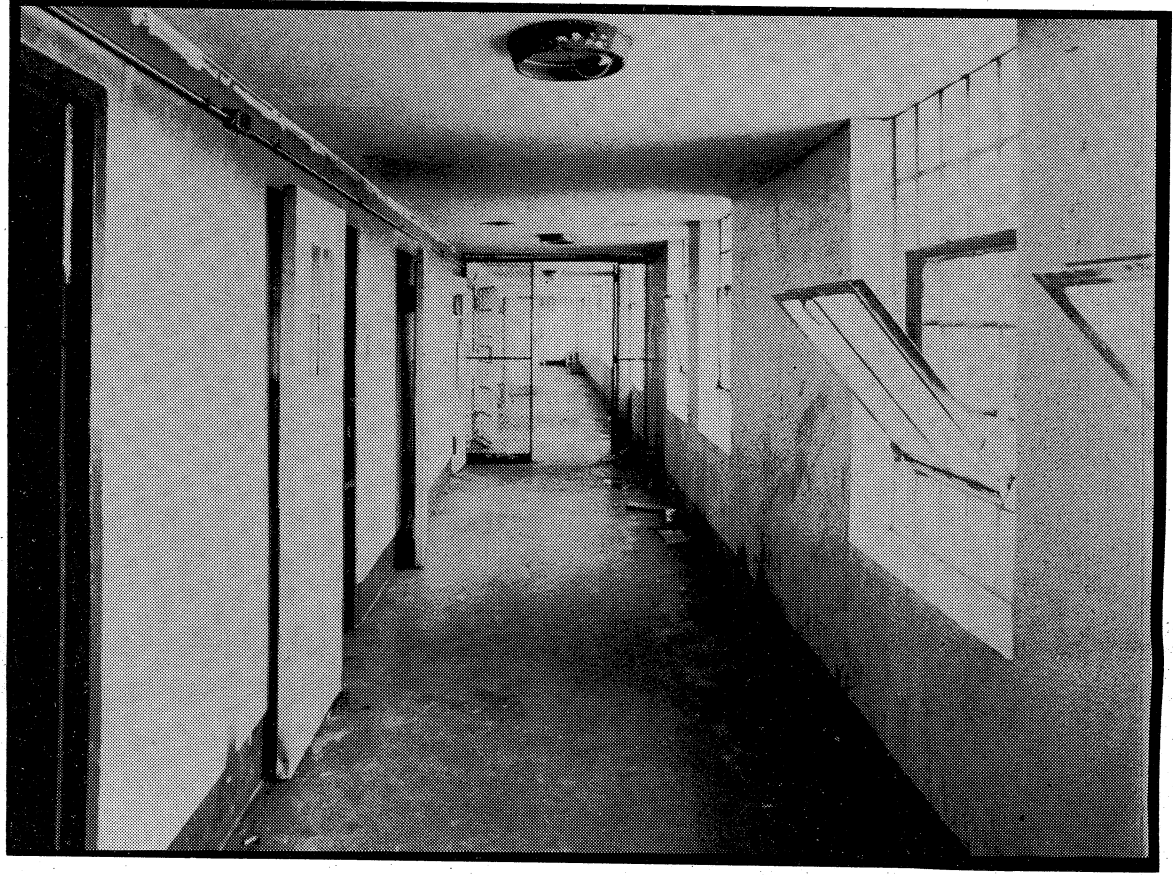
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table, and others slouched in chairs facing away from the leader. During this period the leader periodically clarified what he felt to be the group's behavior; that is, they were furious at being forced to come to the group, they came to get out of segregation but that didn't mean they had to talk and they weren't going to trust this character who was working for the administration. These comments resulted in the group responding with rage at authorities as personified by the therapist. At one point this rage culminated in an inmate standing over the leader, threatening to smash him with an ashtray if he uttered another word. Fortunately, the therapist kept his mouth shut. Although some of these feelings were worked out in subsequent sessions, the group unanimously chose to terminate at the end of the six months period. It is interesting to note; however, that all but one member voluntarily asked for therapy within a year.

tellectual (power). On the other hand there is poor control over his powerful emotional impulses; he may be expected to be quite explosive and unpredictable in his emotional reactions. Specifically I would expect him to react strongly against authority and to be intent on having his own way....

The recommendations included, (1) "Help him to be as contented and useful a member of prison society as possible, gaining recognition from the outside, (2) Psychotherapy, (3) Constructive outlet for his creative ability, and his emotional and intellectual drive, so that it is not discharged in destructive activity, e.g. creative writing, study of penal reform, etc."

Our study, conducted six years after this evaluation indicated that the inmate had a single disciplinary report in 1956 and one in 1958. He was in individual therapy for 1½ years, learned to operate a linotype machine, and became editor of the institution's newspaper. In addition,



Segregation Unit in 9 Block

photo: Richard Kahn

A follow-up study of a group of similar inmates who were confined in Cherry Hill, the segregation section of the old Charlestown Prison, at the time of the 1955 riot, gives confirmation of what might be expected with even minimal planning. This riot involved a small group of inmates who had been confined in segregation for long periods of time and was the end result of a number of less serious incidents....Following is an excerpt from an evaluation of a leading figure in the Cherry Hill riot, an inmate who had participated in a riot several years before and one who was a constant source of difficulty to the administration.

The summary of the psychiatric examination stated, "There are indications of con(firmable) creative ability, a high intelligence, good organization, and strong in-

he was a leading figure in a dramatic group which presented a number of productions to the public, participated in a Speech-Crafters group which studied techniques of public speaking in conjunction with similar community groups, and volunteered as a subject of research for several university studies. A year ago he requested commutation of his sentence and in support of this he received several recommendations of consideration from numerous correctional personnel....

Implicit in our approach is an underlying assumption that every inmate has the capacity and potentiality for change. The problem becomes one of finding techniques to (deal with) people who tend to respond to stress with a stereotyped and often inappropriate response of violent motor activity. Therefore it is necessary to in-

P.C. Unit. By the time you read this article 10 Block will have 52 cells for the exclusive use of DSU. This is particularly important when seen in relation to the future plans for Walpole. Supt. Vinzant told me he expected the population to drop to about 250-300. "Walpole will then become a maximum security prison. Right now there are about 200 men here that deserve programs of some sort. We want to transfer them to the appropriate institution. There are 100 available beds at Norfolk today. When things quiet down at Norfolk, we will transfer 100 men there."

During Arty and Bobby's classification hearing yesterday (May 22) Supt. Vinzant told them that DSU was the "first step" out of Walpole. DSU will be the only facility in Walpole that

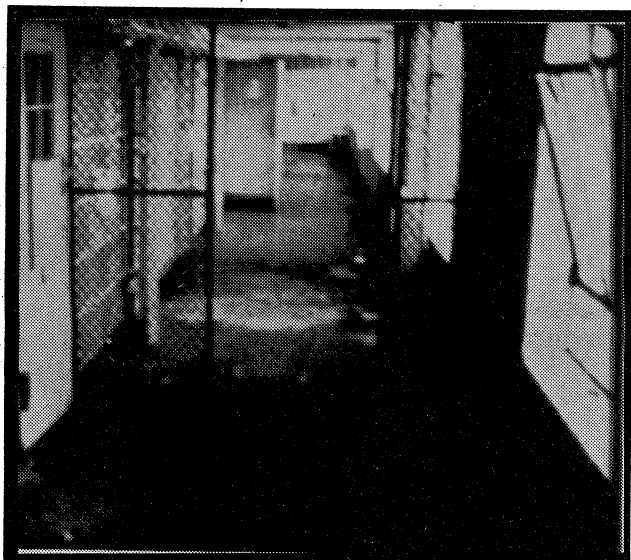
will offer any programs and the rest of Walpole will become a graveyard.

I am suspicious of this definition. It seems to have been developed during the past week as a tool to get these men to cooperate. Jerry's hearing should give us an indication of what the administration is actually planning to do with DSU. Either way, DSU remains a tool reminiscent of other behavior modification programs. Jerry points to this when he says, "By offering these positive educational programs in DSU as a condition to return to population, the administration is using them in a negative way."

Walpole's new steel walls, bars and doors that appeared over the winter seem to be an omen of what is to come. When it does come, those 52 cells in DSU will most likely be occupied.

interrupt and control this pattern of behavior through removal from the prison population into isolation. This initial step is therapeutic, as well as custodial, and serves two purposes. First: it protects other inmates and personnel and secondly, allows the inmate to calm down and think. By removing him from population his characteristic mode of response is blocked. At this point, although we have locked him up, we do not throw the key away.

It becomes our responsibility to introduce more suitable expressive modes for exploration by the inmate. A recent study done by one of our consulting psychiatrists indicated that there were certain adjustment phases through which men in prolonged segregation go. These include: first: a period of marked anxiety and resistance against all authority. During this period all the characteristic modes of defense are used but they offer only a temporary reduction of the anxiety. Second: there is a period of disorganization with increased anxiety, apathy, depression and periodic loss of control. Third: there is a re-evaluation of the reality of their confinement which leads to new levels of approach. (It) may be characterized by fantasy, passivity, dependency, and petulance. The final stage comes after being informed of immanent release from isolation. This period is characterized by increase tension and fear about the loss of controls. In fact, some inmates have refused to return to the institution proper, and one stated after spending a number of months in segregation, "If the other guys knew how peaceful and quiet it was down here there wouldn't be enough room to hold them all." This is not the point at which we wish to arrive.



Segregation Unit in 9 Block
photo from "3000 Years and Life"

Before describing a hypothetical case which will show the process by which we are able to control violence, let us tell you a story of the fellow who goes to buy a jackass. He goes to friendly Bob's used jackass lot and says, "I'd like to buy a well-behaved, tractable jackass." So Bob says, "It just happens I've got one in stock. (He) was raised psychologically so all you gotta do is scratch him behind his ears and he'll do whatever you want." Our friend says, "I'll take him."

So he takes the halter and starts walking away whereupon Horatio digs in his heels and refuses to budge. Friendly Bob, the jackass dealer, sees this, trots up and says, "Step aside." He picks up a BIG 2 by 4 and hits the beast a resounding whack across his rump, then walks around the front and picks up the halter, scratches his ear and the animal follows. The buyer is standing and watching this, and he says, "Now wait just a minute. You told me all I had to do was scratch him behind his ears and he'd do whatever I wanted. Now you go beating him with a beam. What kind of psychology is that?"

To which the dealer replies, "Sure he's psychologically trained, but first you have to get his attention."

Now to the composite case of Charlie Finiardy to illustrate the process by which we will attempt to control the violent inmate. Charlie, a 23-year-old inmate, was sentenced to 7-10 years for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Shortly after his arrival in the institution he became involved with a

gang as a debt collector. One of the early jobs resulted in his fracturing the debtor's jaw with a lead pipe. This act simply added to numerous other difficulties with both inmates and officers, whom he saw as always picking on him. Within several months of his arrival he had built up a less than enviable record of disciplinary reports. Obviously, Charlie needed a belt in the rear to get his attention. He was placed in isolation for 15 days and then was moved to the Departmental Segregation Unit.

During the initial period he created innumerable difficulties, challenging the officers, defecating on the floor, and throwing feces and food at the officers. This behavior slowly decreased and within two months he began showing signs of depression, with difficulty in sleeping, eating, and complaints of stomach upset. The Segregation Unit's personnel, aware of these problems of adjustment, referred the inmate for consultation. On evaluation he was seen as agitated, struggling with feelings of hopelessness and wanting to talk to someone. As a result of the evaluation therapy was (used) on a regularly scheduled basis. In the early phase of therapy the inmate ranted against the administration personnel, accusing them of depriving them of his civil rights, () him into segregation, and unfair treatment by the custodial staff who were handling his food. The therapist continually pointed out the realities. In effect, he was banging his head against a stone wall, he was hurting no one but himself, and that he would remain in segregation as long as he continued to act inappropriately. After five months of weekly interviews Charlie began to trust the therapist, told him he knew he was not out to "shaft" him as he saw the rest of the world doing, and began to ask questions about what he could do to help himself. At the same time the segregation unit's personnel reported improving behavior. On this basis the administration transferred him to room detention where he was allowed out of his room for meals and therapy only. This move was the first in a series of steps, the purpose of which was to slowly remove external controls as the existence of internal controls was demonstrated. This is analogous to child rearing where (as) the child demonstrates increasing maturity his responsibilities and privileges are increased.

Several weeks after return from segregation Charlie became involved in a violent argument with his block officer, refusing to return to his room following lunch.

The question of the meaning and handling of this incident was raised by the disciplinary board with the Treatment Coordinator. It was felt that this action was a possible indicator of a lessening of internal controls and it was decided that there was a need for a clear definition of limits and a reinstatement of external controls was recommended. On the basis of this Charlie was returned to the segregation unit where he was kept for three months, before being released to room detention again.

DSU Hearings

The public hearings for the DSU Rules and Regulations should be held at Walpole Prison within the next month. It is important that we demonstrate a hard line against this type of 'special offender' program just as we did against the proposed regional prison for 'special offenders'.

As we go to press, the date for these hearings has not yet been determined. The person who will determine the date is Bob Bell in the Dept. of Corrections. You should call him at; 727-8682 (legal dept.) or write to him at; Dept. of Corrections
100 Cambridge St.
Boston, Mass. 02022

Ask him for a copy of the proposed regulations and the date of the hearings. Remind him that we are entitled to this information under Chapter 30A; Section 2 & 3. Then come to the hearings, or have your written views entered into the record.

For further information contact;

Russ Carmichael
New England Prisoners Assoc.
899-8827

Bob Martin
661-9220

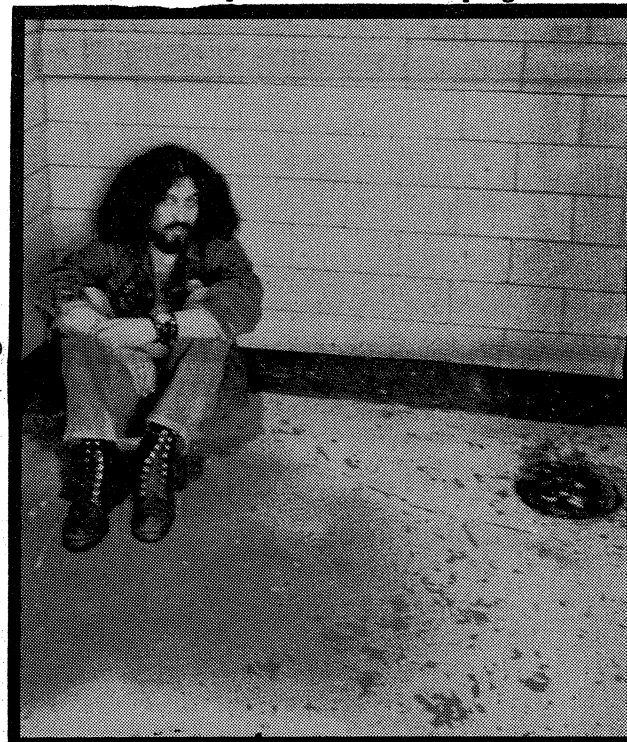
Dave Collins
American Friends Service Comm.
864-3150

The classification board meanwhile completed its evaluation and made specific recommendations regarding work assignment, education, recreation, religious counseling () and medicine. These recommendations were put into effect over a period of time and in order of assumption of responsibility in the prison community. In effect, first we work, then we play. Free time activities such as recreation, avocation, and movies were granted on the basis of good work performance and responsible behavior. It was necessary to continually clarify our position that privileges were to be granted on the basis of positive actions rather than the mere absence of negative action. It was over three years from the time of Charlie's admission to the segregation unit to a full resumption of activities in the prison community.

This case illustrates what we consider would be effective use of available institutional facilities and personnel....

Our Cherry Hill followup demonstrated that recommendations in any area: custody, therapy, industry, religion or education, could be of potential use if there were efforts made to implement them and coordinate them. Additionally, other violent inmates have been seen in therapy during the past six years. Eight of the most difficult were (held) individually for periods ranging from one to two and a half years. A follow-up indicated that four show marked behavioral improvement, one maintained a marginal adjustment, one continued to get into repeated difficulty, and two had psychotic breakdowns and were hospitalized.

The greatest barriers which we see to effective implementation of a program such



Jerry Sousa in the Blue Room (the 'hole')
photo: Richard Kahn

as we have suggested are the lack of communication and coordination. It is not enough to have a classification board that meets regularly to make recommendations. In addition, there must be one person designated with the responsibility and authority to see that recommendations are transmitted....

In summary, we feel that the problem of violence is of great concern to everyone working in the correctional field. That the violent offender must be segregated from the institution population for a period of time.... That he must be helped to develop internal controls. That access to positive solutions for his problem of adjustment must be available. That his integration back into the inmate population must be a carefully coordinated process, which provides for the resumption of responsibility first, with privileges granted later. That this can best be achieved through a unified philosophy held by all correctional personnel and expressed through effective communication and coordination.

These four pages are both the center four pages of the June issue of NEPA NEWS and they are also distributed separately by NEPA as a pamphlet.

Bridgewater

by Bob Martin

MCI-Bridgewater is where the past and the future of penology in Massachusetts meet. Later this year a 450-cell prison will open at Bridgewater alongside the crumbling red brick walls of the old Bridgewater, begun in 1856.

Bridgewater is also where penology and psychiatry in Massachusetts come together. Roughly 150 of Bridgewater's 900 inhabitants are prisoners transferred from Walpole, Concord, and Norfolk. The other 750 include civilly committed mental patients, men and women held for pre-sentence psychiatric observation, and even alcoholics admitted voluntarily for periods of 10 days or more.

In addition to the State Hospital for the Criminally Insane, Bridgewater holds the original "Special Offender" program--the Treatment Center for Sexually Dangerous Persons. The 120 men in the Treatment Center are held on commitments of one day to life. They can be released only with the consent of both the state Parole Board and two psychiatrists from the Department of Mental Health.

It is impossible to sum up in one short article the long tradition of human suffering and degradation that is Bridgewater. Here are a few examples:

Last week I spoke to a gay prisoner in the State Hospital whose daily dose of thorazine and stelazine was tripled after he admitted to Chief Psychiatrist James Christy that he was gay. He was also threatened with a drug called Milleril, which reportedly causes loss of the ability to ejaculate.

--Present and former prisoners describe how anyone who refuses to go along with the Bridgewater system is shut up permanently by having tranquilizers force-fed into his stomach through plastic tubes. Guards hold the prisoner on the floor, while a doctor uses a funnel and tube to get the drugs into his system as quickly as possible. After the first such treatment, most prisoners take their daily dose of drugs passively for the rest of their days at Bridgewater.

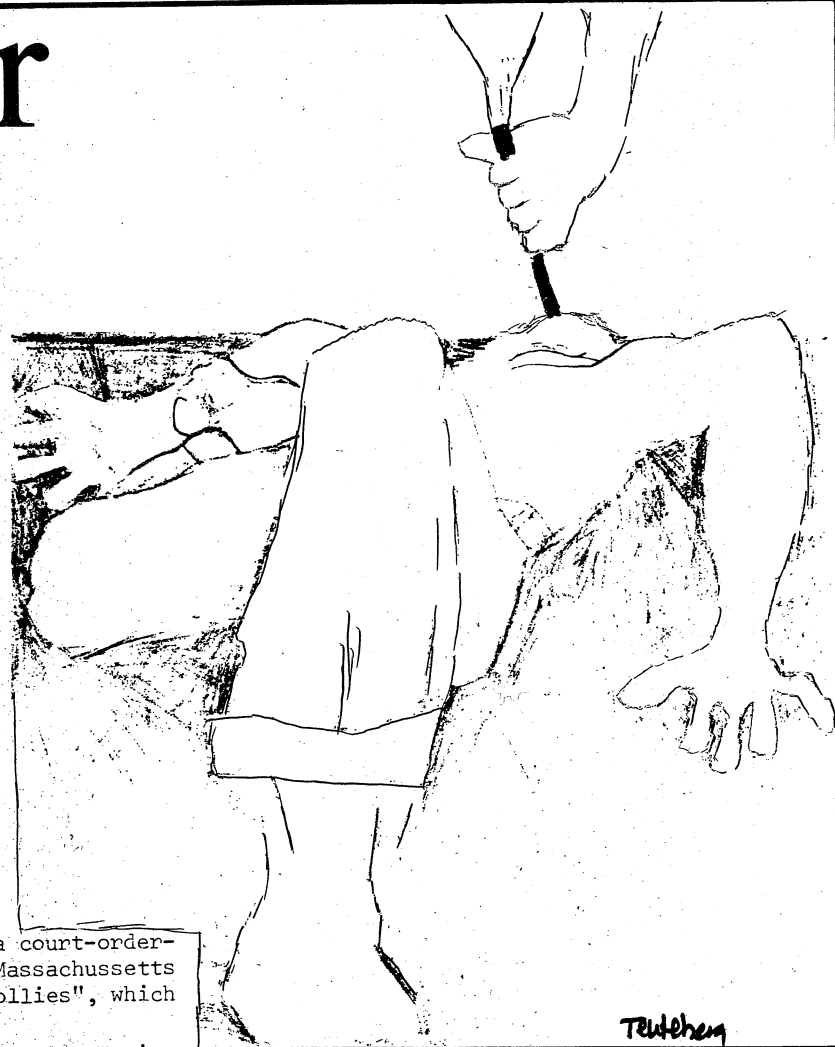
--Last year my own cousin was put in solitary in Bridgewater's notorious F-Ward for six weeks after telling Dr. Christy he was depressed and thinking of suicide. Later, in a civil commitment hearing, Christy freely admitted that he considered this sort of "treatment" a good way of dealing with depression. The judge listened to Christy approvingly.

--Last month I spoke with a black prisoner who was told by Christy that he would never leave Bridgewater without cutting off his Afro. Fortunately, the man obtained a Federal court injunction ordering his return to Norfolk.

As these examples illustrate, psychiatry has gone mad inside Bridgewater's walls. It is aided and abetted by 415 guards who have as much control over drug dosages and other "therapy" as they do over the isolation cells where many prisoners have been crippled for life in beatings.

Bridgewater doesn't get the press coverage that Walpole or Norfolk get, simply because Supt. Caughan and his 585 employees have thrown up the most effective veil of silence around Bridgewater that any warden has ever

'a long tradition of human suffering and degradation'



managed. (This veil includes a court-ordered ban against the showing in Massachusetts of an expose called "Titicut Follies", which was filmed by Fred Wiseman.)

Until 1972, Bridgewater was most notorious for its DSU (Departmental Segregation Unit), an ancient dungeon reeking of human excrement, where prisoners from throughout the state were sent for punishment.

Gov. Francis W. Sargent symbolized his commitment to prison reform two years ago by ordering the DSU closed. What Sargent didn't tell us at the time was that state architects were already drawing up plans for a new Bridgewater prison, including a new DSU. Even though the old DSU is closed, men from other Massachusetts prisons are still sent to Bridgewater for punishment.

If Massachusetts adopts a formal "Special Offender" plan, Bridgewater is where it will probably be (though Walpole's Ten Block seems to be a "Special Offender" program even now). The Curran Report said that the new Bridgewater's medical building holds a 20-cell "seclusion ward" for "special offenders".

The very term "special offender" may have been coined at Bridgewater. Long before Prof. William Curran began his study, a colleague of his used the term in reference to sex-offenders at Bridgewater. Dr. Lawrence Razavi of Massachusetts General Hospital did research at Bridgewater from 1966 to 1973 in an effort to prove that potential sex-offenders can be spotted through fingerprint patterns and genetic characteristics. Razavi calls prisoners with certain fingerprint patterns "special offenders".

When Gov. Sargent announced his opposition to the New England regional prison at Kittery, Me., he said Massachusetts had no need for such a plan. All he meant was that

like rooms in a college dormitory. Women's cottages maintain a double alarm system: a flashing light and a bell that sounds in the event that one of the entrance doors are opened. A single alarm system, a bell, exists in the men's cottages.

A double standard exists for men and women at Framingham, which is reflected in both the rules of the institution and in the attitudes of the administration. Women, for example, are not allowed to wear perfume. The reasoning is that the use of perfume might provoke or entice the men or might be used as an alcoholic beverage. On the other hand, men are allowed to wear after-shave lotion. This sexist policy is evident in other aspects of Framingham.

Another example is the blatant lack of attention given to conjugal relationships within the joint. The population is put to bed at 11:00 PM. The Women's cottages have all-night supervision, the men's cottages do not. Reportedly, funds were allocated to supervise women, but not to supervise men. The policy of the administration on birth control is similar to the attitudes held by many members of the medical profession. No form of birth control for either men or women is available

Massachusetts can deal with its own "special offenders" at Bridgewater and Walpole. Since Bridgewater is harder to get into than any other prison in the state (and harder to get out of), anyone sent there is cut off from family, friends and prison movement workers, just as surely as if he were shipped off to Maine.

The \$8 million facility just being completed is the first stage of a long-term reconstruction plan at Bridgewater which has to be stopped. Otherwise we will have to live with it for another 50 years. Unfortunately, there has never been much of a Bridgewater "lobby", which means that another \$10 million on new facilities may be spent there in the next few years. (Appropriations Bill H. 5906 is now before the legislature.)

The only good news to come out of Bridgewater recently is that the men inside have organized a petition seeking the formation of a chapter of NEPA there. As this is written, NEPA members are negotiating with Commissioner of Corrections Frank Hall for entrance to the prison.

Finally, a coalition of prisoner organizations and mental health workers has formed, in order to work with NEPA on both the inside and the outside. Anyone who wants to take part in this effort can contact Bob Martin or Russ Carmichael at the addresses below.

Bob Martin
118 High St.
Charlestown, Mass.
02129

Russ Carmichael
116 School St.
Waltham, Mass.
02154
617-899-8827

Framingham

by Shelley Cooper Neill &
Donna Parker

On Tuesday, May 7, we visited MCI Framingham. At this time Framingham is the only prison in Massachusetts which has implemented any semblance of the Prison Reform Bill, Chapter 777. As such, it is a prison unlike any other in the country in that it is co-ed, minimum security, with a variety of work-release and several job-training programs.

During our tour of the complex, guided by two prisoners, we spent a great deal of time talking with captives about what kinds of things are happening at Framingham and how those incarcerated at the prison feel about life at this institution.

We first discussed the physical aspects of Framingham. Captives are permitted to move "freely" about the corridors and "campus". Passes are not required, and "you can't tell the guards from the prisoners". Cells, termed "cottages", look remarkably

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through the prison hospital.

As far as the women are concerned, the introduction of men into the population has been very positive. Clearly, it constitutes a more realistic approach to what exists on the outside.

But again we find the existence of a double standard in the rules governing visitation rights. Women must have all their visits approved. Visits are usually restricted to their immediate families and friends to assure the exclusion of "bad influences", which refers specifically to male friends and lovers. On the other hand, men are allowed visits by virtually anyone. No prior approval is required.

A number of women reported that until the time that men became part of the population mail was severely censored and the women were never informed as to their legal rights on this issue. The men made this information available in addition to sharing information they had learned at Walpole and Norfolk about prisoners' rights.

The introduction of men into the population has created a number of innovations. In the Spring of 1973 a Task Force was

(Continued on next page)

Somers Union Suit

By Fred Findling

At Connecticut's state prison at Somers, viewed as one of the most repressive prisons in New England, efforts have been underway to organize a union.

We reported in our February issue some of the repressive conditions that Warden Robinson and Assistant Warden Singer have imposed. Few if any inside groups exist, and those allowed to exist are kept under close administrative surveillance. The organizers of the union have been constantly harassed by the administration, with administrative segregation in F-block being a popular tool, isolating them from the population.

In late February 1973, Weusi Paka requested Robinson to state his position in regard to formation of a prisoners' union. In early July, Robinson wrote back to Paka and said he needed further information before he could take a position.

The administration at Somers moves slowly, if after four months Robinson writes back requesting further information. The organizers of the union felt the immediate need for collective negotiation on the following points:

1. The lack of prisoner participation in decisions concerning employment practices at the prison.
2. The utilization of old and dangerous machinery with unsatisfactory safety devices which has resulted in injury to several prisoners.
3. The availability of only very restricted and in some cases obsolete vocational training.
4. The arbitrary assignment of jobs to prisoners.
5. The absence of opportunities for prisoner representatives to negotiate with the administration, resulting in unnecessary friction between guards and prisoners.
6. The denial of free and open social and cultural exchange among prisoners.
7. The denial of uniform opportunities to earn good time within the general population.
8. The denial of collective prisoner participation in developing a meaningful educational program.
9. The lack of adequate health care.

(note: the demands are not included in the suit though viewed as necessary by the prisoners)

In early July, Brother Paka was found in possession of a stencil dealing with the formation of the union. The stencil was confiscated as "contraband" and he was placed in F-block. Warden Robinson defines "contraband" as anything not sold or issued by the prison. Around the same time, Jerry Lee Rosignol was found with a similar stencil which was also confiscated. He was brought to the Deputy's office for questioning. Brother Rosignol was interrogated for an hour as to how he obtained the stencil. When he refused to answer, he was charged with contraband possession. On July 6, 1973, a hearing was held on the charge at which Brother Rosignol asserted his right to show the confiscated material to other prisoners who requested to see it. Captain Plonski threatened Jerry with a 20 year sentence if he continued with such actions.



He was placed in F-block where he still remains.

A hunger strike was started in F-block at the same time to demand release of the union organizers and to call public attention to prison conditions. The strike lasted 3 to 4 weeks and involved some 20 prisoners. News releases were sent to the Hartford press during the strike to publicize the purpose of the strike.

On August 5, 1973, Robinson appeared on a WTIC television program called "Face the State" and denied that a hunger strike ever existed. Others in population at the prison were harassed and threatened by the administration for refusing food, a way to show support for the union.

In late July, Louis Cofone, now NEPA NEWS editor at Somers, was placed in segregation for talking to other prisoners about the hunger strike. After Lou was released from segregation, his cell was cleaned out and all union material was confiscated. In early September, Roger Lubesky was released from segregation and also had union material confiscated. Captain Plonski threatened him with further segregation if he kept insisting on the return of his possessions.

At times during the spring and summer of 1973, the administration attempted to use racism as an issue by urging white members that it was in their best interest to leave the racially integrated union.

shot deal for us. If we blow it we don't get another chance." For the women one of two things could occur: a loss of privileges and/or transfer to Bridgewater for psychiatric observation.

Ms. Chase responded that these ideas were "pure fantasy". She added that she had no objection to the formation of a Council, because it would indicate to her that the prisoners were taking a responsible attitude toward their incarceration. Ms. Chase purports to be a strong advocate of self-determination.

The introduction of new programs and some expansion of old ones is going on at Framingham. The Honeywell Corporation has donated a computer, which will provide means for a program to train prisoners to be programmers or operators. One of the captives, Glen Moniz, is in complete charge. We spoke at length with Glen about the project. He informed us that before Framingham agreed to sponsor this program the prisoners involved were required to put up well over \$1000 per person. This was to cover the costs of renovation, materials, and an air conditioning unit.

NEPA NEWS

On October 22, Lou Cofone's cell was searched and union material was removed. On the 24th, Assistant Warden Cybulski returned some of the material, but allowed him only to have one copy of each. Cybulski also told Cofone that a union was not allowed.

In August, Judy Mears, an attorney for the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union, mailed several copies of the union goals and membership cards to Anthony Saia under the "attorney-client" label. The letter was opened by prison officials and the union material, save for one copy for Brother Saia, was returned to Ms. Mears as "contraband." (note: Brother Saia has since been transferred to the Federal Prison at Marion, Illinois)

On October 19th, Brother Paka was summoned to a classification meeting to consider transferring him to another institution. The administration gave him no prior notice, denied him a request for counsel, and denied him other due process safeguards. He was transferred to the Community Correctional Center at Montville, a facility for pre-trial and short-term prisoners. The transfer was an outright attempt to cripple the union.

From these incidents and others, the organizers of the union are seeking the following reliefs in the suit filed in the Connecticut Federal District Court.

1. That the court assume jurisdiction;
2. that the court designate the cause as class action;
3. that the court declare illegal the defendants actions in preventing the formation of a union and assert the right to receive legal mail;
4. injunctive relief forbidding defendants from denying to plaintiffs;
 - a. the right to circulate union materials;
 - b. the right to hold union meetings with more than 5 persons;
 - c. the right to receive legal mail and assistance of counsel in connection with the union;
 - d. freedom from disciplinary action, including, but not limited to segregation and transfer for possession of union materials and union activities;
 - e. freedom from harassment or interference with membership in the union or advocacy of union membership, and the right to be free from interrogation on matters related to union membership;
 - f. the right to be free of such other discrimination, threats or acts of the administration as would reasonably tend to discourage Plaintiffs and members of their class from exercising their right to join and participate in the union;
5. enter a temporary and permanent injunction requiring the Defendants to return Plaintiff Paka to Somers; and that the court
6. order such other and further relief as law and equity may provide.

The decision is still pending on this suit and if the court finds the actions of the Defendants untenable, a beginning to an end of repression in Somers will be underway.

Why was it necessary for prisoners to put up the ante? According to the various state budget figures, nearly \$20000 was spent per prisoner in 1973 at Framingham.

The antithesis of the computer program is the archaic carry-over of other industries, the flag shop in particular. We observed one woman working for 50¢ a day on flags that will eventually be sold for up to \$100 a piece. She is supervised by 7 Framingham personnel who earn a total of \$70,000 a year. The fact that women are expected to work as seamstresses epitomizes a concept of women that is, thankfully, falling by the wayside in America.

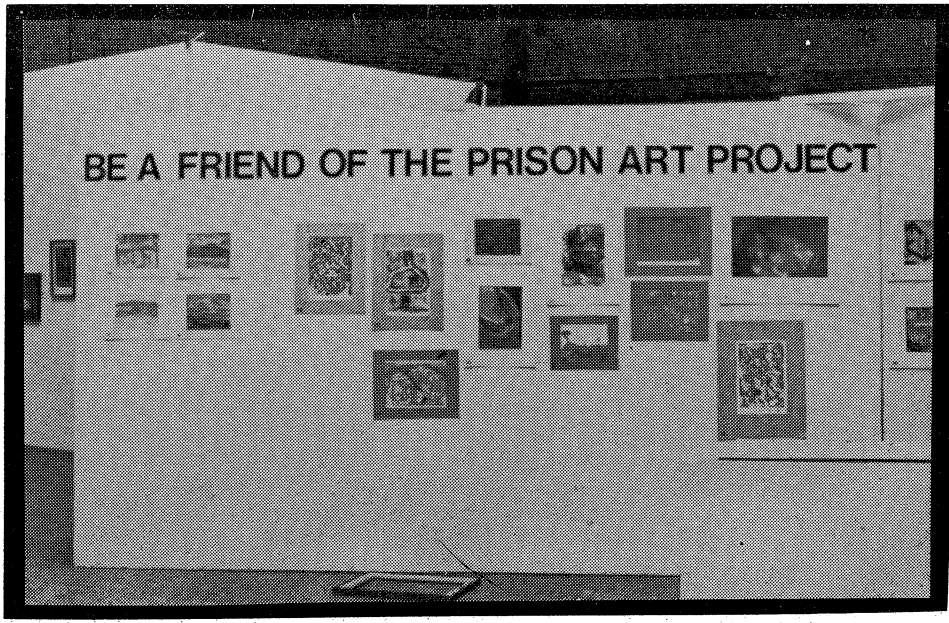
Unfortunately, this concept would seem to be alive and well in the mind of Supt. Chase, who explained to us her "thesis" that "most women are incarcerated because they don't know how to say 'no'". The idea of women as passive, malleable objects runs through many of the policies of Framingham. These standards are subtly imposed, but rigid in the hold they have on women in this institution, a rigidity that effectively denies women many of their constitutional and human rights.

June

Framingham (Cont.)

created to deal with issues anticipated by the administration as possible problem areas caused by the introduction of men. Although the Task Force functioned for a relatively short period of time, it was an important body as it provided the prisoners with a vehicle for decision-making power. It also provided direct group communication to the chief administrator, Ms. Dorothy Chase.

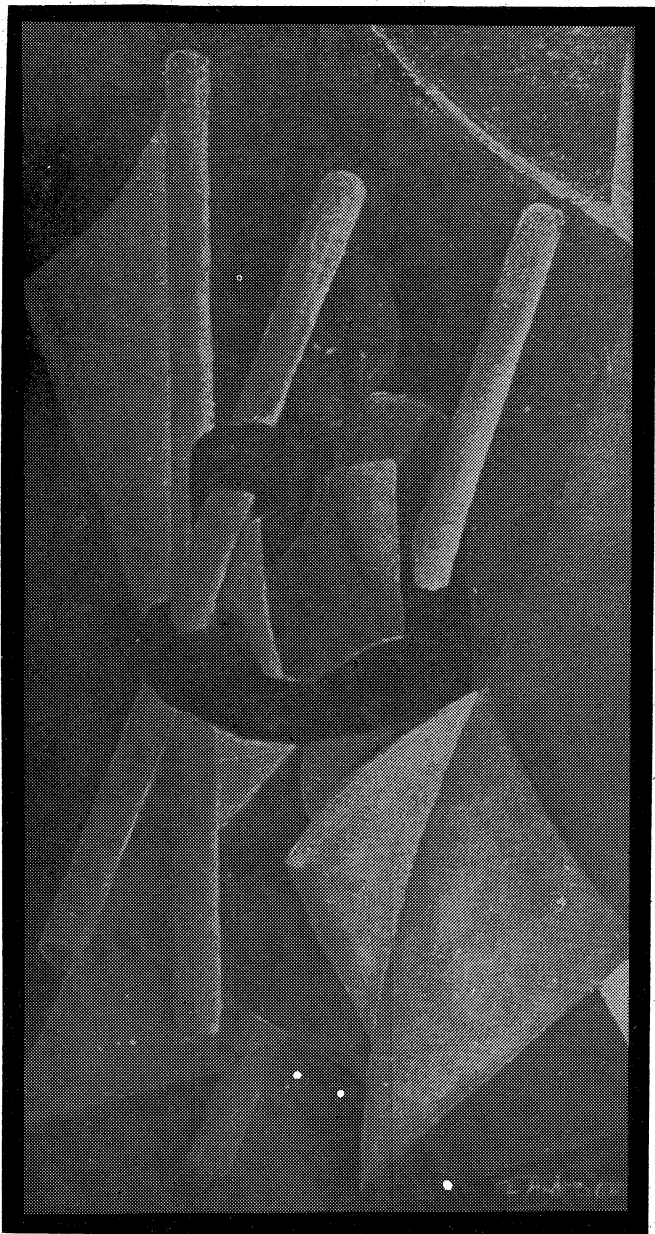
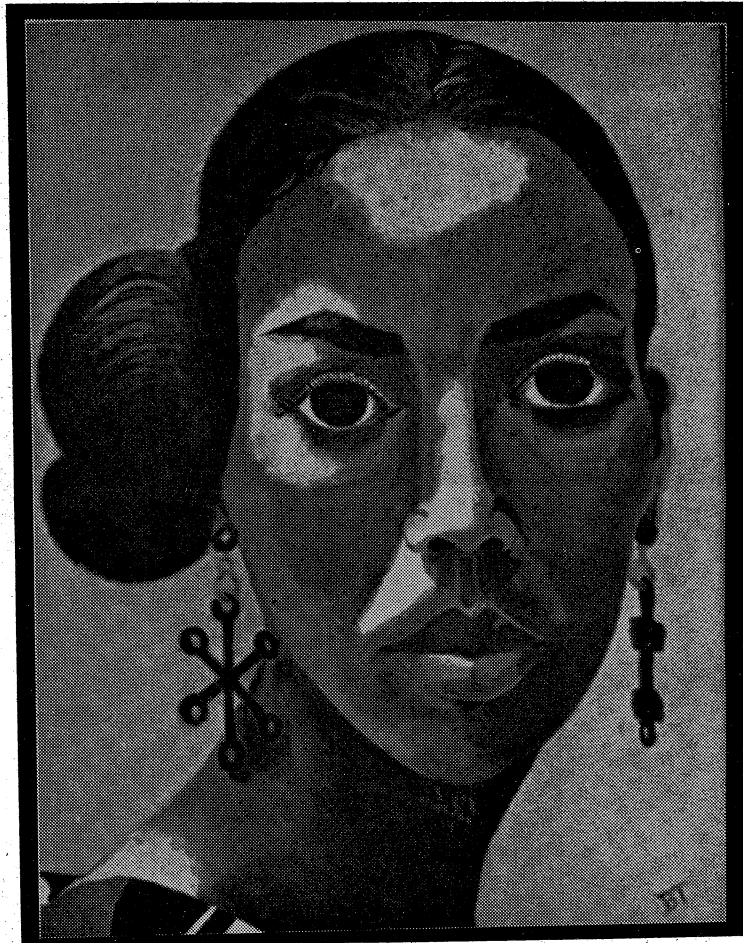
We spent time with Ms. Chase in the afternoon. We questioned her as to why she had decided to dissolve the Task Force. She responded that, by definition, the Task Force had outlived its usefulness. We informed her that many of the prisoners with whom we had spoken had expressed a very strong desire to create a similar group to represent the population. However, they feared that any such attempt would result in disciplinary actions on her part. For men, this would take the form of immediate return to Walpole or Norfolk. Said one, "Framingham is a one-



There have been many mixed feelings among the inmates of Massachusetts, as well as five other New England States concerning the vandalism and theft at the Cyclorama Prison Art Show on May 15th. These shows are put on by outside concerned people who give all their time and efforts to the residents of these institutions. Donations are the only means of acquiring artist materials. Now that this tragedy has occurred, most of the funds usually used for supplies will have to be used along with the insurance monies, to cover the damages, due to the fact that the damages come to over thirty thousand dollars.

A few residents have given up in disgust, while others continue with the struggle to achieve their goals. We are not ready to put down our brushes and pens and abandon a program which has helped us in innumerable ways. We are not ready to take away the beauty of art and the messages our works bring to the people out there. We are going to push our way forward with a stubborn determination and we hope that all the other prisoners throughout this country follow in the same spirit.

by Robert Mattos, Resident Art Co-ordinator, MCI, Norfolk



I. Anderson painting



photo by Joy Edgerton

"Workin' on the Chain Gang"

by Joan Fried

Richard Schofield is an ex-convict now out on parole.

JOHN FRIED (JF): Exactly when were you in the joint?

RICHARD SCHOFIELD (RS): I first went to prison in 1966. I have had experiences in and out ever since that up until the year 1972.

JF: When you were in the joint, what job or jobs did you have?

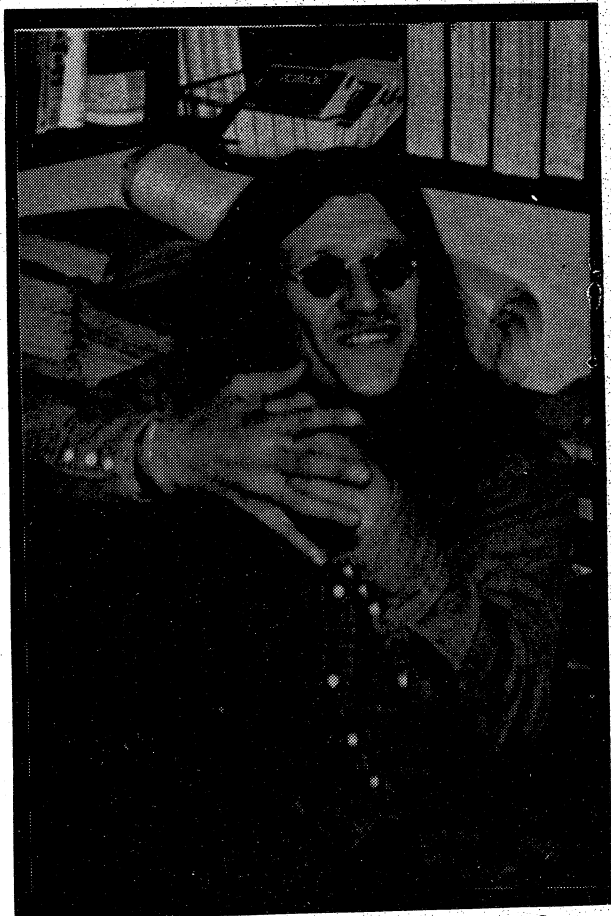
RS: The first year in prison I was at New Hampshire State Prison in Concord, New Hampshire. I was given the job of working in the print shop. That consisted of running a lot of the old printing machines, because the print shop in Concord, at that time, did just about all, or 99 and nine tenths percent of all state printing material, such as licensing, registrations, the whole schemeer.

JF: What were the general working conditions? Did you have to work very fast? Was it really hot?

RS: In the wintertime it was really cold. It was cold because they had piped in steam heating. They were heating with coal at the time and it wasn't adequate because it was just skeletoned around the whole building and the building is quite large. There were broken windows and a lot of air was coming in. In the summertime it was the contrary; it was exceptionally hot. You had to produce; you had to stay at your machine; you weren't allowed to walk around or talk to anybody while your machine was resting or perhaps while you were resting. You had to stay there, stand over your machine from 8 o'clock to 3:15, and from 3:15 you were allowed to wash and get the ink off of your hands and stuff.

JF: Did you have any breaks?

RS: During that period we had one break. Work stopped at 11 o'clock. You went, you ate, you came back out of the cellblock area, out of your cell, and work was resumed at 1:00.



JF: How were the machines--were they safe, did they have safety guards?

RS: They were obsolete. For one thing, I have stepped into a few other outside shops, and the machinery in the prison shop is obsolete. I mean the trades in which they teach you, they're not using those machines anymore. To answer your question, whether they were safe, I've had accidents, I've had my shirt caught in them and dragged in them, I've seen other people's hands get caught in them and dragged into them, I've seen people lose their fingers in them. So I would assume from that that they were unsafe.

JF: Did accidents happen all the time?

RS: Frequently.

JF: And they were of the nature of people getting their fingers chopped off and hands chopped off and stuff like that?

RS: Not so much a loss of say, hands, that's in another part of the industries in the prison, but in the print shop, mostly I've seen people get their hands stuck in there, lose tops of fingers, and stuff like that.

JF: When someone was injured, what kind of first aid did they have right in the shop? When someone's finger was chopped off, what did they do?

RS: They wrapped it in a rag and sent you up to the hospital, where they didn't do anything other than check it and see if it deemed attention to the outside hospital. And they would take care of it up there. They did however, a few times I know, perform some stitching jobs in the prison hospital. But there was not any first aid, or anything like that, any medical service, in the shop area.

JF: So the medical facilities weren't really hospital facilities, but they were more like first aid facilities?

RS: Yeah, it was a pit stop.

JF: Do you know of any case where somebody's finger was chopped off, where they received any kind of financial compensation, or at least received pay for the time they lost?

RS: You'll receive no compensation. I know of numerous cases in prison industries where accidents have happened, have cost individuals limbs, and there is absolutely no compensation, whatsoever.

JF: How are job assignments determined?

RS: It's set up on what they call a classification board. I think there's 12 people on this board, 12 people who work for the administration. They interview you and ask you what you would like to do, or what you are capable of doing. You relate that to them, and what they do is, they give you something contrary to what you desire.

Such as when I was interviewed my first time in prison, they asked me what I wanted to do, and I said, well, I'd like to get into some carpentry, and they put me in the print shop.

JF: Were work assignments also used as punishment?

RS: The people that gave them hard times got hard jobs, or they got jobs that they would not desire. Everybody knows what they are confident in doing and what they want to do, but they would just go to the contrary of your feelings, and place the heavy emphasis on what they desired or what they figured they could hassle you with.

JF: From your experience, did anybody ever refuse a job assignment?

RS: Yes, myself included. Numerous people refused different job assignments, because of the fact, like I stated earlier, they didn't feel themselves confident for it, for that certain position.

JF: What happened when you refused an assignment?

RS: Usually, you were locked up immediately, and from lock-up you were hit with a disciplinary report. Then you were put either in segregation or solitary confinement or confined to your cell until such a time that you wanted to go back and take on that job which you refused. I know of one person who did seven years in his cell for refusing to work.

JF: Did you get a wage?

RS: We got wages. When I first started on my first sentence in Concord State Prison, the pay was 35¢ a day. Two years after that it went from 35¢ to 50¢ a day, and now it's up to 75¢ a day.

JF: Everybody gets the same wage?

RS: Everybody gets the same wage, no matter what job you're doing. I think maintenance have additional pay for overtime, and the kitchen help sometimes gets a little extra pay, because they put in a long day; something like 15 hours a day.

JF: Every day?

RS: Seven days a week.

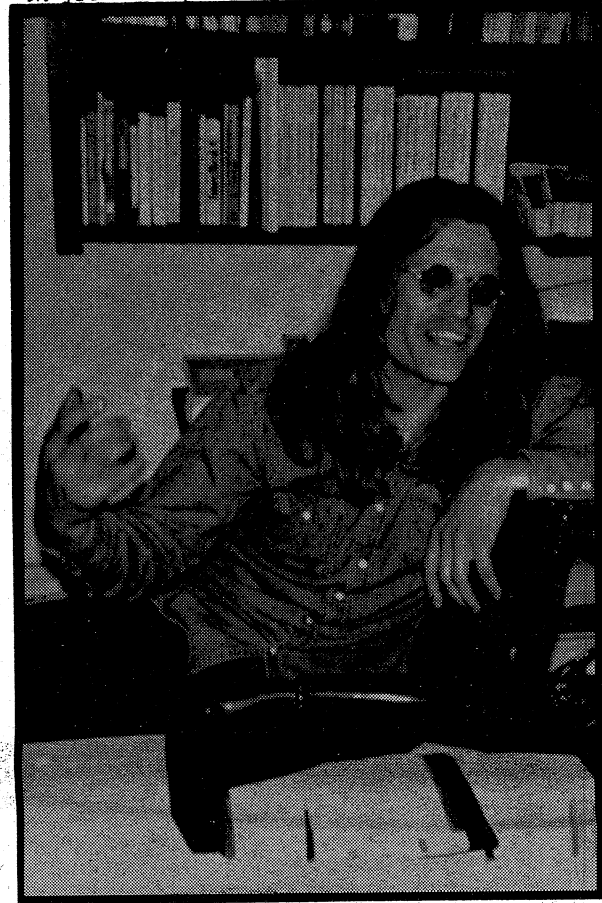
JF: What do you think of prisoners getting a minimum wage? Do they have financial needs that justify getting a minimum wage?

RS: Oh, certainly. If you're taken off the street and put in prison, you have responsibilities out on the street, financial responsibilities. When you hit the joint those financial responsibilities linger on and wait till you hit the street again. And like I said, at 75¢ a day, that doesn't give you much money at all. Plus you gotta live and buy soap and you gotta buy all your necessities, even if you just strictly stay

with hygienic necessities. But at any rate, you don't have any money to come back to on the street, and the reason you went to jail in the first place was because you didn't have any money. I wouldn't say just a minimum wage; there should be equal wages, because the minimum wage says that's the least your labor power is worth, it doesn't say that this job calls for that, and you should get the same thing that the street's getting. It would cut that isolation, and once again give the prisoner that self-responsibility, in picking and choosing and supporting himself and others such as family and whatever dependents he or she may have.

JF: How about the prices at the canteen? Were they roughly equivalent to the prices on the outside, or were they a lot higher?

RS: The prices in the canteen were much higher than those on the outside. They used to allow packages to come in. You could get your coffee and stuff through visits or sent in from home. Now packages are banned. The



prices were really just outrageously high. And there was a tax on cigarettes and stuff of that sort, inside the joint, which the prisoner never saw. They said the prices were set at this stage to turn over to the prisoner's recreation fund and expenditures of that sort, but the prisoners never saw it, because there wasn't any recreation.

JF: Did any of the jobs at N.H.S.P. have any aspect that would train you for a job on the outside?

RS: Very few. What they were is trades. At one time there was a garage mechanic on-the-job-training program; I don't know if it still is functioning. They had a cooking school and a baking school, but if you're not a cook, if you're not a baker, if you're not a mechanic, that's the end of your trades. That's the end of your education or on-the-job training. And then again, favoritism played a heavy role in who got those jobs. If you had a disciplinary report, or if they had a personal grudge against you, whatever the case may be, then you weren't allowed into those jobs.

JF: How about education programs?

RS: Education inside the prison, when I was there, was zero. There was an educational program, but it was just a name. Elementary teachings, readings, mathematics, and that sort, and at that time you could receive a GED diploma, but the quality of education was very low.

JF: Who was eligible for work release programs?

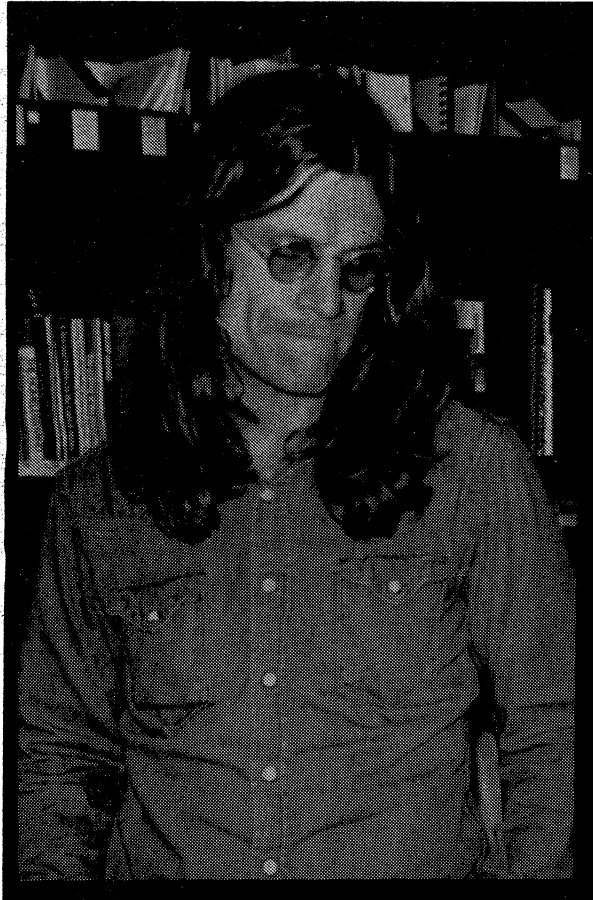
RS: Well, the law was written that anybody is eligible, anybody who has not committed a violent crime and/or a sex-related crime. Also, drug-related crimes make you ineligible. To the contrary, I have seen those imprisoned for sex-related crimes out on a work release program, I've seen those imprisoned for drug-related crimes out on work-release programs, and so on and so

(Con't. next page)

June

Workin' (con't.)

forth. This I feel is good. However, work release is discriminatory because it discriminates against a person like myself. I have put in numerous times through my whole prison incarceration for work release programs and school release programs, and have been shut off as an undesirable because of my status on politics inside the prison. With work release, an individual prisoner will have assistance from the administration in obtaining employment and he'll get a minimum wage because of his prisoner status. If there's a street person out there working on the same job as he is, he'll get less than the street person because he is a prisoner. And if he protests this treatment, this discrimination, then he loses his job, he's back in prison, and his program is therefore cut. There's a lot of racial bias there. I know of this black brother who was taken off work release because he walked the wrong way, what ever way that was; I mean that's how they wrote up his report, that he walked the wrong way. When the administration does get you a job, they don't get you a job that has credibility, because they don't want you to get a job that makes more money than they do, for one thing. They'll always get you a job of a lower caliber, a lower status than that, such as picking up papers or working in a garage or something of that sort. Menial work.



JF: Do you see this as fitting a purpose of trying to get people used to working at crummy jobs, for low wages?

American

(LNS)--Riot equipped police attacked defendants and spectators April 29 at the trial of American Indian Movement (AIM) members in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. When the courtroom audience, mostly Indians, refused as a group to rise when presiding judge Joseph Bottum entered the courtroom, Bottum ordered the courtroom cleared and left. The Sioux Falls Tactical Police Force then locked the doors and attacked the audience with mace and clubs.

At least six Indians were carried away by ambulance and three were hospitalized, including Donald Hill, a defendant. At the next hearing, May 3, Hill had to be carried in on a stretcher.

Standing upon the entrance of a judge is custom, not law, in South Dakota.

An angry crowd of supporters which had gathered outside began smashing the courthouse windows with rocks and bricks in response to the attack inside. The South Dakota Highway Patrol was called in and attacked the crowd with teargas

RS: I see it as a law that was passed allowing prisoners to come outside and work within the community, within the society. And I see the administration and/or the state just filling that law to a very minute source, and using it as a control over people, a control over prisoners, and keeping prisoners divided. One prisoner gets one thing, another gets another--you can't align with that person who gets prejudiced feelings or hostile feelings toward another prisoner who's getting better treatment. One is getting a taste of the street, he's getting a taste of his family, whereas this other prisoner, because of his indifferences or because of his political and philosophical beliefs, doesn't get this taste, doesn't even get to see daylight.

JF: But in reality, the prisoner who does get to see daylight is getting next to nothing.

RS: Yeah, right. He's still being very much exploited and very much controlled and manipulated, but he's getting that taste, he's seeing a little bit of sunshine.

JF: Was all work in prison industries done for the state, or was some done for private industry?

RS: The print shop was done for the state. However, I knew of jobs that were done for private business firms. The wood shop, I know they used to make furniture for private businesses, or private people, such as the old warden that was there, Hancock, used to have furniture made for his house through the prisoners' free labor. Private firms and state firms had their fingers in the porridge.

JF: What kind of profits did the industries make?

RS: The print shop, the wood shop, and the plate shop, are the three biggest profit-makers inside of New Hampshire's prison industries. The print shop was at the time that I was in there, the highest profit-making industry. I think, I'm not quite sure of the figures, but I know at one time they did make something close to, if not a million dollars a year (gross sales, not profit). I don't know what they are doing for profit now.

JF: Do you know where the profit is going?

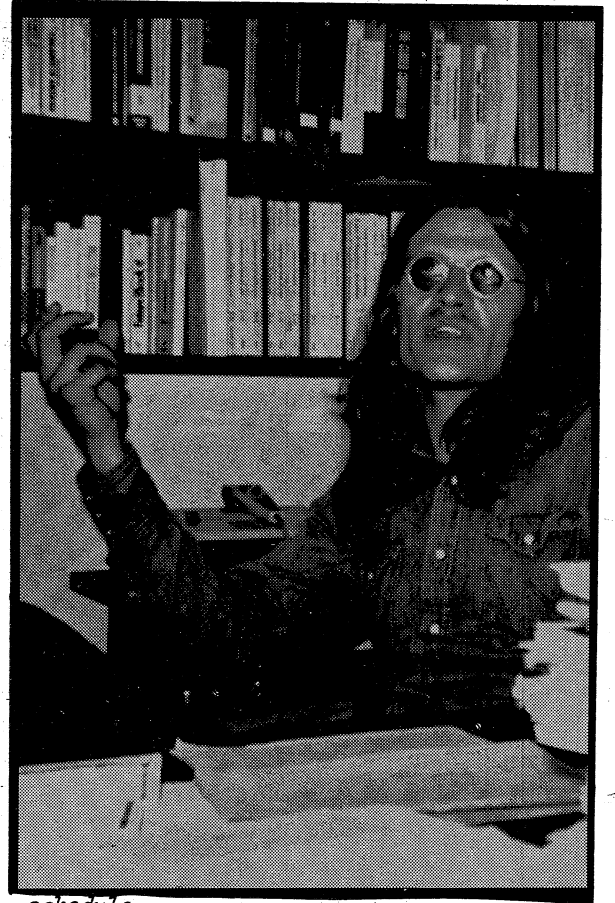
RS: All the profits went back into the state; not the prison, but into the State of New Hampshire.

JF: What do you see as the general purpose of work programs? Do you see them entirely as profit-making, or is there any other purpose that they serve beyond profit-making?

RS: I see it as clearly just a profit-making thing. I mean, it's free labor. Who can do the free labor better than a prisoner? Who is in the position to do that? I mean, he has to do that, either that or sacrifice his days of sanity, or his days outside of the cell.

JF: Is it in any way a means of keeping discipline, or anything like that?

RS: Well, the administration claims that it gives the prisoner the role and the familiarity with keeping an everyday schedule, you know, the 8 to 3 or 8 to 4 work



schedule.

JF: Do you feel there is a need for any kind of work programs, such as vocational training?

RS: Certainly. A great many people just have absolutely no skills--you know we can't all think in terms of education because there's always those people, and we must respect those people, that don't have any connection with or don't want to relate to an educational program, who want to learn their creativeness rather than just take things out of texts. Certainly, I think it is needed.

JF: Do you see the exploitation of prisoners in the shop as an issue around which prisoners can organize?

RS: I see it as an extreme issue. I see it as one that has to be resolved. In struggling for prisoner self-determination, what good is self-determination if somebody is going to govern your wages, and if your wages aren't even anywhere near those on the street. I see it as a very prominent issue in prisons today. Especially where our economic system and inflation are completely blown out. It's harder for a prisoner today, with what pittance he has managed to scrape together, and save in the joint, to come out on the street with that. You know, he's coming out with absolutely nothing. A lot of people have stated, the only thing the prisoner can do is come back onto the street with that pittance, go out and purchase a gun, and then go make some more money. In a survival struggle, that's all that a prisoner can rely on. It's all he's got going for him, because the people that are there are in the same financial binds as yourself, you know what I mean?

Indian Movement Trial

and clubs. At least 10 persons have been arrested.

This trial stems from protests held in Custer, S.D. in February 1973. The protests followed the killing of an Indian, Wesley Bad Heart Bull, by a white man. The five defendants--including Wesley's mother, Sarah Bad Heart Bull; Hill, AIM co-ordinator for Utah; two other Indians and a white man--are charged with arson where a riot was committed.

Said Defense Attorney Ramon Ribideaux, "Many fair-minded persons would be driven to call this trial a legal lynching."

Added Hill, "Though the state has unlimited financial resources, we have unlimited love and dedication to our people. We shall see who is stronger."

Many other persons are standing trial or will stand trial stemming from the Wounded Knee Occupation which began February 27, 1973. Wounded Knee is the site of an 1890 massacre of several hundred Sioux by U.S. Army troops.

Dennis Banks and Russell Means, AIM

national leaders, are now on trial in Federal Court, St. Paul, Minnesota. At the end of April, Judge Fred Nichol told the jury that the FBI's conduct in the case "brought this court to the brink of dismissal of this case." But the trial continues.

On May 7, Fed. Dist. Judge Warren Urbom began hearing the case of three Indian Women charged with burglary and larceny in connection with the alleged looting of the Wounded Knee trading post during the Wounded Knee occupation. This trial is also being held at Sioux Falls S.D.

Though some of the more flagrantly outrageous charges have been dropped, many more Indians and their supporters are due to stand trial.

For further information and to provide financial aid and forms of support, contact the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee, 333 Sibley St., #605, St. Paul, MN, 55101, 224-5631.

Attica Brothers Legal Defense

by Monty Neill

Brothers

"We've got to understand how Attica is all of us. Attica is symbolic of the way in which power has been taken and abused in this country, the way in which your power has been stolen from you, twisted and distorted and used against you, the way in which officials have become the outstanding criminals." So spoke a member of the Attica Brothers Legal Defense to a crowd of several hundred who gathered in downtown Buffalo, N.Y. on April 27.

The Attica Brothers trial goes on. 61 Brothers have been indicted on 1400 felony counts and face a collective total of 60,000 years in prison. All charges stem from the Attica, N.Y. Prison rebellion of Sept. 9-13, 1971 when 1500 prisoners seized control of the prison and held hostages to protest a long string of abusive and inhuman treatment.

On Monday, Sept. 13, 1971, Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, now unannounced candidate for president of the U.S., ordered state police, national guard and sheriff's deputies to re-take Attica. Forty-three persons, including 11 hostages, were shot by the guards and police, and 80 others wounded. All who died, died at the hands of Rockefeller's army. The McKay Commission, an independent, state-funded investigating team said, "With the exception of the Indian massacres of the late 19th century, the State Police assault which ended the four-day prison uprising was the bloodiest one-day encounter between Americans since the Civil War."



Jomo Sekou Omonale after receiving indictments

Shortly after the assault, a grand jury was empanelled, a grand jury which sat continuously for over 30 months (until late April, 1974). It has returned the indictments against 61 Brothers. According to *Newsday*, a Long Island, N.Y. newspaper, one state trooper was indicted for murder, but the indictment was never filed because the prosecution feared that the amount of pressure the Attorney General's office had put on the grand jury in order to have a token trooper indicted would be revealed in the minutes of the grand jury.

About April 22, 1974, a new grand jury was empaneled. The reason, according to Defense lawyer Dennis Cunningham: "This time, however, the scapegoats are to be the state police or sheriff's deputies. The prosecution needs indictments of these people to protect their cases against the Brothers. In other words, the guards, like the Brothers, are expendable."

That this is common knowledge in and around Attica (Erie County) is demonstrated by the fact that half of the 90 person jury-pool asked to be excused because of bias. Twelve of the 23 persons on the first grand jury had friends or relatives who had been guards or hostages during the rebellion, yet they did not excuse themselves for reason of bias. They were willing to indict the prisoners, but do not wish to be party to an indictment of the guards and police.

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Big Black and Jasiri Hodari Musyoha

Prosecution

The prosecution has consistently placed obstacles before the defense. The first was money. Over the last 2 and a half years the state has spent in the prosecution nearly \$6 million, and has \$4 million to spend in fiscal 1975 (July 1, 1974 to June 30, 1975). Most of the defendants are indigent, yet the state has not provided adequate funds for a defense. Prisoners earn 20¢ per day.

The state has tapped the phone of the defendants (you can hear yesterday's conversation today) and, according to Erie County Sheriff Michael A. Amico, the state has informers within the defense. Judge Moore has ordered the prosecution to turn over to the defense evidence that might prove defendants innocent. Though the prosecution has not complied, Moore has not enforced compliance. Moore has time and again demonstrated an overwhelming bias for the prosecution, such as deciding that Sheriff Amico's above comment did not warrant action on his part.

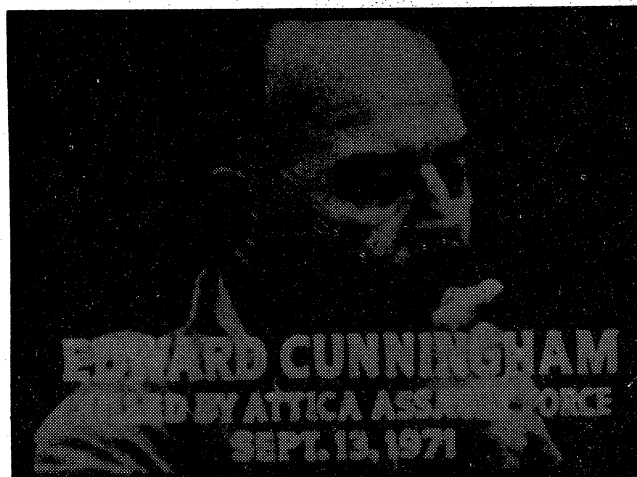
The prosecution has refused to turn over a list of persons it intends to call as witnesses. As there are some 4000 potential witnesses, the defense must interview them all.

With a grand jury still sitting, many unindicted prisoners are afraid to talk to the Brothers and provide support. They fear that they too will be indicted. One third of all the Brothers are currently held in segregation in Auburn, N.Y. Prison, a difficult place from which to conduct a defense. Those brothers on the street are continually harassed by the police.

On April 29 four Brothers were attacked by sheriff's deputies in the Erie County Jail which adjoins the courthouse. The Brothers had refused to have their hands cuffed behind their backs. The sheriff's deputies then beat and maced other defendants. Judge Ball (a second judge in the case) refused to allow the beaten Brothers into the courtroom, and then refused to allow the defense lawyers into the jail.

At last the lawyers were allowed to visit their clients. One Brother had a broken hand, another had been beaten unconscious. As one Defense Committee member pointed out, "Attica is still going on."

The prosecution is now attempting to force the setting of a first trial date. Despite the state's harassment, despite the state's disregard of the court's



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order to turn over evidence, the prosecution is attempting to claim that it is the defense that is responsible for the lack of a speedy trial.

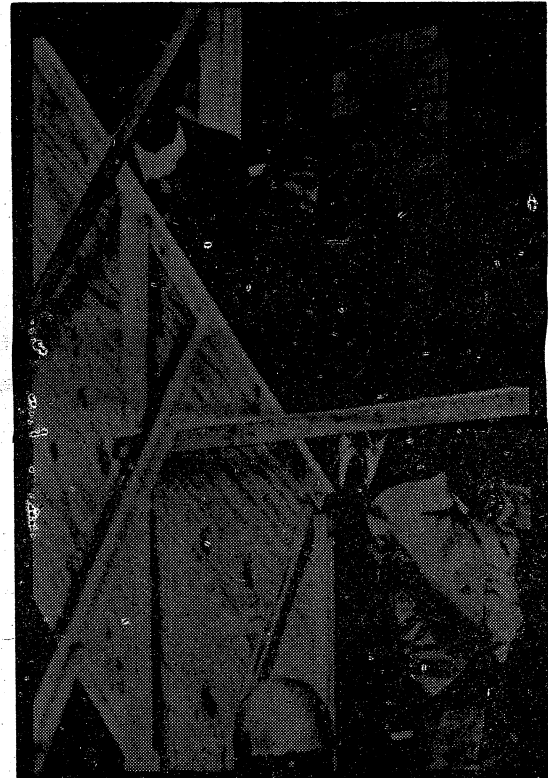
Jury

As pointed out earlier, the members of the grand jury were frequently friends and relatives of the guards and police. This fact led the Brothers to organize a Fair Jury Project. This project studied in detail the jury selection process in Erie County.

The typical juror in the jury pool is white, over 40, owns his own home, lives in the suburbs, earns over \$12,000 a year and voted for Richard Nixon. Why is the jury made up as it is? The Jury Project concluded that the reason is deliberate jury rigging.

Blacks are 8.4% of the population of Erie County, but comprise only 5.5% of the permanent jury pool, an under-representation of 34%. Women are 53% of the population, but only 16.8% of the jury pool, an under-representation of 68%. Residents aged 21 to 29 comprise 20.7% of the population, but only 3.4% of the pool, an under-representation of 84%.

Commented Defense Attorney Haywood Burns, "The chances of these inequities occurring accidentally are the same as a poker player being dealt 24 consecutive royal flushes."



Leaving courthouse in shackles

The Erie County Jury Pool has 117,000 members, about 10% of the population. To replace persons who have moved away, died or become ineligible, questionnaires are sent to some registered voters. Voters aged 18-21 are not allowed in the pool. Erie County does not select names to be sent questionnaires randomly, nor do they select from the returned questionnaires randomly. Only 3% of the voters aged 21-29 have been sent questionnaires, whereas 10% of the overall population is in the pool.

Investigation showed that whoever does the non-random choosing has some interesting methods of determining who is eligible. Many cards are marked "negro" or "col". No cards have the notation "white". Any woman is entitled to an exemption if she so requests, but women have been granted exemptions though they did not request them. Students seem to have been automatically exempted.

Based on this evidence, this calculated attempt to prevent the poor, women, youth and minorities from having a jury of their peers, the Defense is attempting to have all the indictments thrown out. The chance of obtaining a fair trial in Erie County is also about the same as receiving 24 consecutive royal flushes.

(Continued next page)

June 1974

Support

The Defense continues, the Brothers remain strong. The prosecution seems to have its doubts. The Buffalo Evening News reported that all defendants, except those charged with murder, were offered a chance to plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge for the time already spent on their previous sentences. Maintaining solidarity, the Defense declined.

Speaking of the trial, Defense Attorney Burns concluded, "This whole case is a constitutional junkyard, strewn with the rights of these people."

In the past five years, state and federal governments have frequently failed in their attempts to railroad their political opposition. That they have failed has mainly been due to the efforts of many concerned persons. With solidarity from the Brothers and the support of an aroused people, the Brothers may walk out of prison.

Said the mother of Elliot James Barkley, murdered by Rockefeller's Army my at the age of 21, "He could have been cool and kept out of things when the rebellion started. He could have decided not to jeopardize his parole.

Watergater in North Carolina

An eight week investigation by the Charlotte Observer has found that Robert Mardian, a former Justice Department official, approved a secret \$4,000 payoff to two men who testified against the Charlotte 3 -- Charles Parker, T.J. Reddy, and Jim Grant. As a result of this bought testimony, the three Black activists were convicted in July, 1972 of burning down the Lazy B riding stable in Charlotte, N.C. because the white owner refused to rent horses to Blacks.

The three were sentenced to 10, 20, and 25 years respectively.

The Charlotte Observer's investigation found that the two prosecution witnesses, Walter David Washington and Theodore Alfred Hood, were each given \$1,000 by Treasury Department officials prior to their testimony. They were given another \$3,000 following their testimony in the Lazy B case and for testifying against Grant in an earlier federal case.

The payoff funds were obtained by the U.S. Treasury under the 1970 Organized Crime Control Act.

Book Review

by Peter Linebaugh

U.S. Department of Justice, Prevention of Violence in Correctional Institutions (June 1973).

The wave of struggles that swept across the country in the 1960's produced on all fronts (factory, welfare, army, school, and prisons) a new alliance between government bureaucrats and university academics. The courts and the legislatures were no longer effective in arbitrating conflicting interests. The intensity and uniformity of the insurgencies of that period called for unified "social planning" and "coordinated repression."

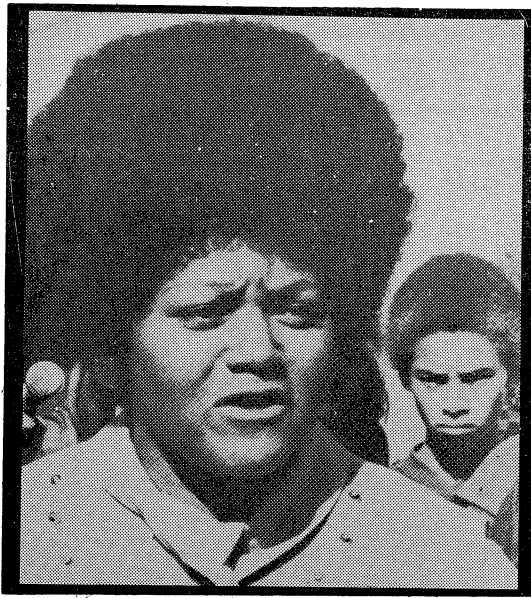
For this reason a report on a conference of academic penologists and "corrections" personnel published by the Dep't. of Justice and the LEAA is of special interest to us in NEPA because it indicates the future directions that the government and academic "experts" are planning for us. They're worried.

Unlike the cycles of prison riot of 1929/31 or 1952/53, the cycle of 1968/72, in addition to being the bloodiest and most costly, was characterized by a homogeneity in tactics ("by any means necessary") and demands ("self-determination") with the other struggles of that period and by the rapid "politicization of prison life." To combat these trends traditional expedients (brutality, hardware, racism) are no longer sufficient.

The planners call for "radical" change in "tension management" and "organizational activism." While they are by no means united yet on specific tactics certain trends are becoming clear.

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Attica (Continued)



Mrs Barkley

However, he did not. Instead he chose to speak out against the conditions and inhuman treatment just as all the other inmates did and they were mur-

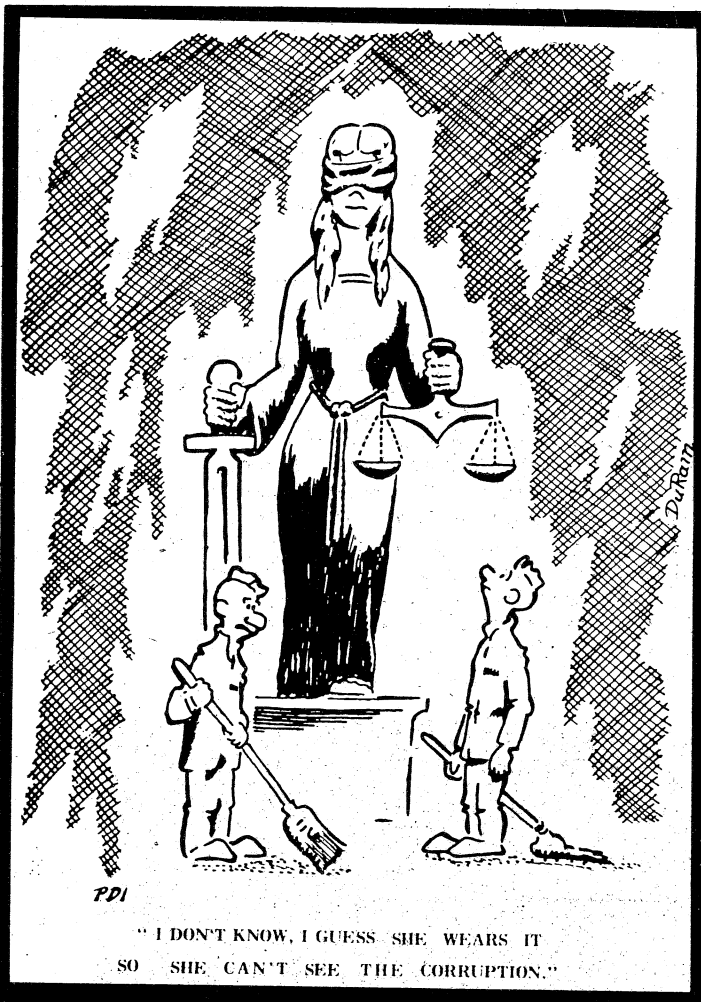
According to three law enforcement officers in North Carolina who knew the witnesses, Washington bragged to them of receiving additional funds ranging from \$38,000 to \$70,000 for their testimony.

And an attorney who negotiated funds to the men for the government said they received \$15,000. "They wouldn't have done it (testify) without the money," said the attorney, who refused to be identified in the Observer story.

Based on this new information, the North Carolina Board of Parole is considering recommending that Governor James Holshouser commute the sentences.

Mardian, then head of the Justice Department's Internal Security Division, approved the deal between federal officials and the two men. (Mardian was indicted this March along with John Mitchell, Maurice Stans, and others, for conspiring to obstruct justice in the Watergate cover-up.) Although the burning incident actually occurred in 1968, the Charlotte 3 were not indicted until four years later, when they were politically active in the Black People's Unity Party.

For more information about the case, write to North Carolina Political Prisoners Committee, PO Box 2712, Charlotte, NC 28201. From Liberation News Service



They want the decentralization of facilities ("modular treatment units") in order to diffuse the problem of control. They want to intensify the discretionary powers of guards, shrinks, and parole officers to combat solidarity among

June

dered for that, for speaking the truth. If Elliot had lived he would have continued to write and talk in an effort to expose the prison system and help his brothers.

"For that reason I stand here for him today, hoping in some small way I can be of help. This is my motivation and it should be your motivation. We must not let our cries be buried in the same restless grave."

The Attica Brothers Legal Defense needs help. They will need nearly \$3 million in the coming year to pay debts and meet expenses. The lawyers work for nothing or next to nothing, as is true of most of the Defense staff. But the Defense must conduct investigations, educate the people, purchase court transcripts, etc. They need your financial aid and, if possible, your presence and physical support.

The Brothers have a wide variety of speakers and pamphlets and a film if you want to organize support in your community. Send money and request information and offer your help to Attica Brothers Legal Defense, 1370 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14209.

Thanks to LNS and the Attica Brothers Defense Committee for the information used in this article.

Kiley, CIA, FBI & NSA

by Elbie Johnson

(The following article is an abridged version of one sent to us from M.C.I. Walpole. -- Eds. Note)

Watergate has revealed to the perceptive American a massive surveillance operation conducted by agencies of the intelligence community and police establishment. The subject of this massive surveillance is the American public. Its revelation has raised questions of great constitutional and legal importance.

When President Nixon formed his private Special Investigation Unit ("plumbers") in 1971 the C.I.A. had already been engaged in domestic spying on a massive scale. Its Special Division for Internal Operations was formed in 1964. The seven Watergate burglars all had been former C.I.A. operatives. The entire police bureaucracy in this country is mixed up with the intelligence community, despite the fact that the C.I.A.'s functions, according to the National Security Act of 1947, are limited to activities in foreign territories.

The C.I.A. for years used the National Student Association as a front for covert operations against the student movement until it was exposed in 1967. Robert Kiley, then President of N.S.A., drifted into the C.I.A. and was made director of all operations dealing with the student movement. Kiley became the director of the Police Foundation, an affiliate to the Ford Foundation, and received a huge LEAA grant. As Director, Kiley helped select the current FBI Director, Clarence Kelly, as well as the present Boston Police Commissioner, Robert DiGrazia.

Kiley is presently in Boston as Mayor White's liaison officer between the local police and White's cabinet. What, you may ask, has all this to do with government security and constitutional legality? Simply that the C.I.A. and the FBI have exceeded their bounds as mandated by law and are engaged in extra-legal activities. When E. Howard Hunt needed assistance for a White House job, his former cohorts in the C.I.A. all too willingly helped him. If this was true of Hunt, what kinds of help is ex-C.I.A. agent Robert Kiley getting from his erstwhile employers to revitalize the decrepit Boston Police Department? What are they being taught? Counter-insurgency tactics? Covert intelligence collection?

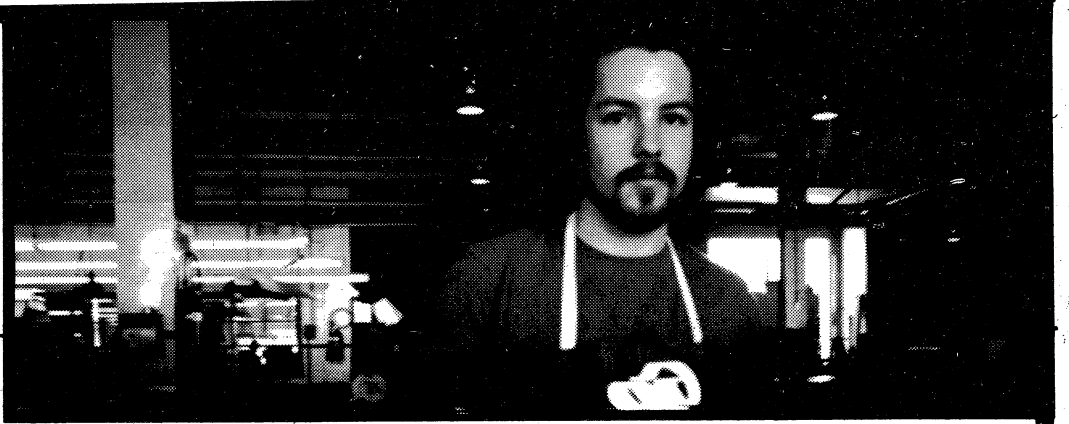
prisoners. They are willing to countenance Inmate Grievance Councils if the prison population turnover rate is high. Particularly worried about "militants" and "revolutionaries" who in their nightmares have replaced the "hardened criminal" and "violence-prone individual" of times past, national studies have been launched to find effective means of isolation of militants.

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New Prison Films

With Intent to Harm

A Film by Stephen Ujlaki and Scott Siegler



WITH INTENT TO HARM is the first film to be shot inside Massachusetts prisons. It evokes a powerful sense of the life of men and women deprived of nearly all human and civil rights. The film details the progress of the prisoner's rights movement in Massachusetts, showing some of the reforms that have taken place since the Attica Rebellion.

"**WITH INTENT TO HARM** is first and foremost a consciousness raiser: it presents people with a convincing and human view "inside". The very fact that it emphasizes the men themselves as ordinary, credible human beings, making an effort to take control of their lives, says more than alot of horror shots of moldy shower stalls and leaking latrines." --American Friends Service Committee

WITH INTENT TO HARM- 28 minutes, 16mm color, rental/\$35, sale/\$350

3000 Years and Life

A Film by Randall Conrad and Stephen Ujlaki

3000 YEARS AND LIFE is the up to date story of the struggles being waged by the National Prisoner's Reform Association(NPRA) inside Walpole State Prison in Massachusetts. Walpole prisoners are perhaps the most unified in the country, and the NPRA is fighting continuously for recognition as a union. They face awesome forces, but they will not be conquered. In this film the prisoners themselves describe what happened at Walpole when the guards went on strike and the NPRA instituted self-government.

"This is the only documented account of what has been happening in Walpole. It is the most important film of this struggle to date." --David Collins, ex-prisoner, Ad Hoc Committee for Prison Reform, Boston

"This film goes a long way toward explaining how a prison can be run without guards on the inside."--Gene Mason, New England Prisoners' Association

"No one can see this film and think that Walpole prisoners are what most of the established media and State House politicians have been saying they are."-- Ann Hack, Citizens for Better Correctional Institutions, New Haven, Connecticut

3000 YEARS AND LIFE- 45 minutes, 16mm color, rental/\$50, sale/\$400

Vermont State Prison

A Film by the Vermont Coalition for Prisoner Support

The Vermont State Prison was built in 1809, when Thomas Jefferson was president. This film, just completed, consists of discussions with prisoners at the prison. They describe their unsuccessful attempts to get any meaningful rehabilitation programs into the prison. The prison itself is as close to a medieval dungeon as any operating institution.

"How can we continue to operate institutions like Vermont's maximum security prison and pretend we are building a noble civilization is beyond me. This film gives ample reason why the prison should be closed immediately."

--Windsor Prison Vigil Group

VERMONT STATE PRISON- 20minutes, 16mm black and white, rental/\$20, sale/\$125, sliding scale available.

WITH INTENT TO HARM, **3000 YEARS AND LIFE**, and **VERMONT STATE PRISON** are available from:
New England Prisoners' Association New England Prisoners' Association
Public Education Program Public Education Program
Franconia College or 116 School St.
Franconia, N.H. 03580 Waltham, Mass., 02154
603-823-5266 617-899-8827



Community Centers

In New England we now have four Prisoner Community Centers, each of which has a different name, but all of which have the same function: to try to aid prisoners and their families with whatever problems are brought to them. Each of these centers attempts to enlist the assistance of volunteers to help. If you have some time to help, or if you need some help, or if you just want to talk, please get in touch.

MAINE

SCAR Drop-in Center
374 Fore Street
Portland, Maine 04111
207-772-2303

MASSACHUSETTS

Prison Information Center
932 Main Street
Worcester, Ma. 01610
617-754-0756 or 8968

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Prisoner Family Center
104 North Main
Concord, N.H. 03301
603-225-2910
Mail: Box 604
Concord, N.H. 03301

VERMONT

Prisoner Community Center
9 State Street
Windsor, Vt. 05089
802-674-2708