DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
GEORGE F. McGrath

Commissioner

WILLIAM VANDEN HEUVEL, Chairman
William H. Dribben, Vice Chairman
Nyrka Torrado Alum
Joseph T. DeMonte
Geraldo Rivera
William H. Satterfield
David A. Shulte, Jr.
Rose M. Singer
Rev. Manny Lee Wilson



Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1970

MINUTES

In attendance:

vanden Heuvel Singer de Monte Schulte Dribben Terry Strauss - CJCC
K. Hawks
Leo Zefferetti COBA
Mr. Cranston "
Mr. Brown "

Mrs. Singer was asked by the Chairman to visit the Women's House of Detention to try to determine the opening date of the facility on Riker's Island.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Zefferetti, Mr. Brown and Mr. Cranston of the Correction Officers' Benevolent Association were asked to discuss their view of problems of the Department and of the Tombs in particular. In essence the problems were as follows: Overcrowding; Inadequate staffing of CO's; Inadequate training of new CO's; Social problems brought in by prisoners from the streets; re staffing, the DC is the only department not to recognize emplyment of veterans returning from Vietmam; Absence of classification system for incoming prisoners; Absence in Tombs of maximum security areas for isolation of inmates considered riot material.

Mr. Zefferetti made some suggestions for actions desirable for improvement of conditions within the existing system: Increase safety of CO's on the job; Increase in dialogue between inmates and CO's; Increase training of CO's.

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BOARD OF CORRECTION CITY OF NEW YORK 51 CHAMBERS STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007 Tel: 566-3856

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The remainder of the meeting was spent in discussion of the Lavon case and the ensuing report.