



ESQUE STAFF LINE

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Friday September 15, 1978

Notes: From the Warden

According to Warden Sumner things are running fairly smoothly and there is not much going on right now other than routine.

Warden Sumner did note, however, that we just completed testing and hiring of a group of applicants for C/O. Out of 200 who filed 30 passed. Warden Sumner said he believes we are hiring "higher caliber people" than ever before. "Almost all of those hired have some college or are college graduates; many have experience in the field," he reported.

We are now doing a more extensive background check than before. Sergeant Hahn has been placed in charge of this project.

Warden Sumner also mentioned that the legislature has appropriated \$2 Million for a study to "raze" San Quentin. This does not, he emphasized, reflect the departments own plan which is to extensively remodel the prison.

Mr. Sumner hopes to eventually remodel all of our cell blocks. In D section six cells are being remodeled into three cells as an example of what can be done. This and other plans are being considered as part of an effort to meet the standards required for accreditation by the ACA.

Mr. Sumner noted several other prisons in the country are undergoing extensive remodeling to provide safer, more comfortable and manageable housing. Among these are Trent State Prison in New Jersey, Carson City Prison and Canyon City Colorado.

C. J. System Employment

Over 1 Million Americans were employed in the Criminal Justice System in 1975. (U.S. Bureau of Census)

American Correctional Assoc. Well Attended

The annual conference of the American Correctional Association was well attended according to Dolores Barron, west block administrator. She estimated that 2,500 to 3,000 people from all levels of correctional work across the country were present.

Ms. Barron was a speaker and panelist for two work shops, "The Utilization of Minorities and Women's Groups as Resources in the Decision-making Process," and "Minority and Special Offender Programs."

Both of her presentations emphasized the importance of hiring more minorities and women as well as placing them in "key positions" where they would have greater influence in

the system. She noted that the numbers of minorities and special offenders are increasing. (EDS note: a recent issue of New West Magazine predicts that by 1990 ethnic groups other than white will comprise the majority in California, making it the first "Third World State")

Ms. Barron proposed that these groups will make increasing demands of the system. And that corrections must meet those demands in a professional manner. To do so will require programs specially designed and staffed by "minorities" in the conceptual, planning and implementation of programs utilizing their cultural backgrounds as well as technical skills.



C/O D. I. Roberts with SQ Buckle

San Quentin Buckle OK'd

The popular brass San Quentin belt buckle is now authorized for use as an optional part of the official uniform.

In a memo dated July 27, Warden Sumner announced that he had requested and received Deputy Director Walt Craven's verbal approval of the buckle. He also noted his appreciation of staffs' efforts to "upgrade" their appearance.

The buckle is available through Metropolitan Arms Concord or C/O D.I. Roberts for \$15. The buckle was originally offered in series to staff and quickly sold out. Because of the large demand an unnumbered buckle has since been made available.

To date approximately 1,000 buckles have been sold to employees at San Quentin.

Crime Fighting Cost

According to figures published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, over \$17 Billion was spent in 1975 by the Criminal Justice System.



A concerned Officer Springer receives reassurance before giving blood. (For story see page 3).

Staff Shows Off Catch After Great Fishing Expedition of 1978

(See Inside)