

Jail 'Work Release' Plan Paying Off



The low walls of Danbury Correctional Institute, called by some "the country club of federal prisons, confine more than 700 prisoners

By BARNWELL ELLIOTT

JAILS WERE ONCE PENS to shut in society's shutouts. But new programs in our federal institutions are changing all that. The emphasis now is on opening new doors for the recast.

Danbury Correctional Institute is one example of its new school of thought. The prison sits high on a naked bluff above Candlewood Lake, two hours drive from New York City. The severe, green walls of its medium security prison house over 700 small-time federal offenders, none of them drawing more than five years.

Carlos is typical. He was 28, from a deprived home in a New York slum. He was in for two years for a car theft; he had been busted before. He was uneducated, untrained and cut loose from society. Danbury was one last chance.

Good Conduct Helped Convict

For at Danbury, there is an imaginative two-year program called "work release" which has had far-reaching effects on the more than 700 men who have gone through it.

Carlos was one of them. With nine months left to serve and a good conduct record inside the walls, he was picked to go out.

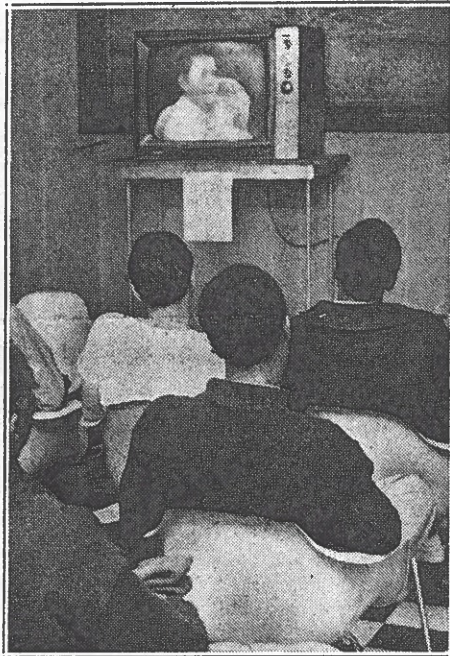
Commuting by bus hired by the prison, Carlos spent each day outside working as a carpenter in a Danbury woodworking firm. Half of his \$120-a-week salary automatically went to his wife and four children. Now at home he is working, he could pay the prison a weekly allowance for room and board.

The program, says Warden Frank Kenton, pays in the long run: "It costs \$3,000 a year to keep a man locked up. It may cost the public \$10,000 annually if he is a family. It pays to invest in a prisoner's future."

"The major job of any prison is protection for the public," says Kenton. Men picked for the program beforehand must have no record of violence or narcotics. In its two years, over 700 men have learned a trade through work release. Nine have walked away.

The emphasis on learning a trade also goes on inside the walls. A small engine class was begun seven months ago which instructor Jim Mahon calls a "sleeper."

"No one in the New York area is training men in all machines," he says. The course lasts about 10 weeks; it deals with outboards and other small ma-



Inmates take in an evening of TV after a day's work in prison industries.

chines. Thirty-six have graduated so far, and Mahon says he has had dozens of requests for trained machinists since the program began.

Danbury has been called "the country club of federal prisons." It is an overstatement, but no doubt prisoners are well treated there.

In the prison compound, slightly larger than a football field, inmates work an 8-hour day at a whole

gamut of trades ranging from glove making to horticulture.

Recreation, Movies, TV

Recreation includes touch football, basketball, baseball and even baccarat. There are movies once a week, television in the evenings, and each living area has its own book rack. Their evenings are their own.

Prison psychiatrists and four case workers keep tabs on all the inmates, continually updating files with progress reports which can result in a move from medium to minimum security living areas within the prison.

Particular close watch is kept on a group of 58 ex-narcotics addicts who have been sent to Danbury for a special rehabilitation program.

Twice a week, these ex-addicts meet and discuss their problems. They live in close knit quarters in four separate prison areas and are carefully supervised by 30-year-old psychiatrist Donald Stein.

"We are at a crucial point now," he said last week. "The program began in April, and some of the men are now coming up for parole." Success will depend on an intensive "after care followup" which Stein says no other program has tried.

Statistically, it's too early to tell what success all these new programs will have on Danbury graduates. But there are "unlimited examples" of success which Kenton points to when arguing his case for rehabilitation.

70% Are Salvageable

Carlos, for example, is back in New York working as a carpenter, and has joined a community action program in the city.

Kenton best remembers his first graduate. Call him Jim. He was in for three years for passing counterfeit bills. He was in his middle 20s with a long record of arrests, a "real rolling stone," recalls Kenton. On work release, he became a printer, and when he got out he returned to New York to become an offset printer. Today, he is teaching his trade at nights to other reform releasees using his boss' equipment.

Kenton admits that 30% of his inmates are "unsalvageable," but the other 70%, he says, can and are being helped because of a responsive community.

"For years, we had been overlooking our greatest recourse, the American people. Now they are helping us to solve our social problems. We have a lot to learn from these new programs."

Ex-Cons Say Bars Bar Rehabilitation

There are some who feel that prison is no place for rehabilitation, no matter what programs are available. In the following interviews, two ex-cons voice their opinions.

Terry Sullivan is 30, a draft resister and a one-year graduate of Danbury Correctional Institute. Sullivan recommends prison life to other draft refusers. But as for rehabilitation, he thinks prisons fail their inmates miserably.

"Prison is a great experience," he wrote recently in WIN, a magazine opposing the Vietnam War. "It's a lazy, carefree life and it's the next best place

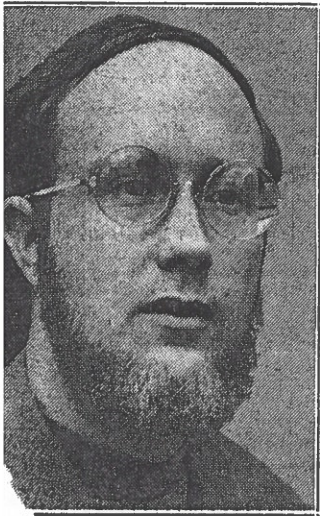
to college in the way of really having time to study."

He likened Danbury to a "seedy college campus" with its flowered inner compound complete with baseball field and basketball court. Sullivan worked in the prison greenhouse. "I spent a lot of time outdoors. The country was a welcome change from New York."

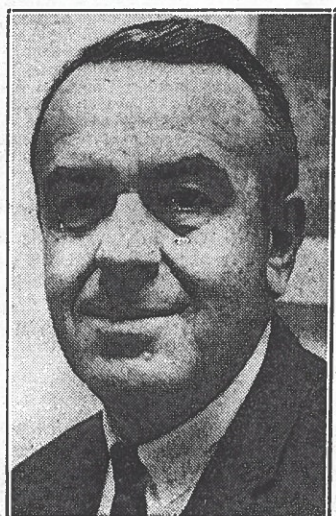
He had only come to New York in 1965. A college dropout, Sullivan spent a decade criss-crossing the country in support of humanitarian causes. He had worked in Catholic settlement houses in Chicago and Salt Lake City.

He had drawn a three month prison term in Jackson, Miss., for his participation in a Civil Rights march. He was working with the poor in the city in

(Continued on following page)



Ex-con Terry Sullivan



Prison warden Frank Kenton

BERRIGAN FREED AFTER 39 MONTHS

Says in Danbury He Will
Continue Antiwar Fight

By LAWRENCE FELLOWS

Special to The New York Times

DANBURY, Conn., Dec. 20—The Rev. Philip Berrigan walked out of Federal prison here today within the limits of his parole to bring an end to the war in Southeast Asia.

The gray-haired, 49-year-old Josephite priest said he harbored no regrets or resentments because of his imprisonment for having burned draft board records.

But he was severely critical of prisons as institutions, contending they contributed more than anything else to crime.

"One can get very subjective about them, having felt their destructiveness in one's bones," Father Berrigan said. "Their time has passed, if they ever had a time. They are an obsolescent, bankrupt loss.

"They are laboratories of waste, injustice and desperation, outstanding examples of reciprocal revenge between society and the prisoner."

Father Berrigan was met by his brother, Daniel, a Jesuit priest who also had been imprisoned and was released in February. Also present were other members of his family and a crowd of antiwar well-wishers that numbered more than 300.

The Berrigan brothers were convicted in 1968 of burning draft board records in Catonsville, Md. Father Daniel Berrigan was sentenced to three years. His brother was sen-

tenced to six years, because of concurrent sentences for a raid on draft records in Baltimore and for smuggling letters in and out of the Federal prison in Lewisburg, Pa., while he was confined there.

Father Philip Berrigan was also tried with six others on a charge of plotting to kidnap Henry A. Kissinger, the adviser to President Nixon, and to destroy heating tunnels in Federal buildings in Washington, but the charges were dropped when the jury reached a deadlock.

Father Daniel Berrigan, who is 51, was released on parole

after 18 months in prison, partly because he is troubled by an ulcer and a hernia.

Another brother, Jerome, an English professor at Community College in Syracuse, was at the prison this morning with his wife, Carol, to take Philip first to New York City and then to their home in Syracuse.

Father Philip Berrigan was hatless and wore a lightweight tan windbreaker when he left the prison this morning. He gave a clenched-fist salute to inmates who could be seen waving from behind bars. To the crowd of supporters who met him he said he was not

sure precisely how he would get active again in the antiwar movement.

"It will take a little while to find out what can be done," he said.

He walked a mile with the crowd to the Amber Room, a restaurant and ballroom, to participate in a religious service there, and afterwards to conduct a news conference.

When Daniel Berrigan was released from prison he had held a similar meeting at a church, but the parishioners complained afterward. Today no church in the neighborhood was available to the Berrigans



The New York Times/Edward Hausner

The Rev. Philip Berrigan, left, waving yesterday after leaving prison in Danbury, Conn. At right is the Rev. Daniel Berrigan, one of his brothers.



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Signs of support

Supporters of the Rev. Philip Berrigan, released from the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury this

'Nutcracker'

morning, carry their peace signs to Amber Room where a reception and press conference were held.

News-Times—Szurlej

Dec 21, 72

es; more planes lost



The Rev. Philip Berrigan greets well-wishers and the curious on his release from the Federal Correctional Institution at Danbury this morning. Immediately

behind him in cap is his brother, the Rev. Daniel, who was released earlier this year.

Prison releases Berrigan

By Mac Overmyer
News-Times staff

DANBURY — Anti-war priest and civil rights activist the Rev. Philip Berrigan, 52, was released from the Federal Correctional Institution shortly after 9 a.m. today after serving more than three years of a six year sentence for destroying draft records and smuggling letters from prison.

He was greeted under the grey drizzling skies by his brother, Daniel, some 60 national and international newsmen, and a crowd of almost 300 supporters.

"I am sorry you had to wait so long," were Father Berrigan's first words to the crowd of newsmen and photographers elbowing each other for a position before the smiling and very healthy-appearing priest.

His release was delayed for nearly an hour while federal officials waited for the arrival of his brother and family.

He said he had mixed feelings about his release because he had many close

friends who remained inside the prison. He said he would be developing no plans until after he had spent Christmas with his family in Syracuse. He added he had been placed under "rather severe restrictions" by his parole board.

He said he "would have to do a lot of listening" before he decided on any course of action.

"I'll do what I can," said the smiling, grey-haired priest.

As he walked by the walls immediately outside the prison on his way to the gate prisoners crowded in the windows to wave to the priest and flash the peace sign.

Father Berrigan said he saw his release as "a continuation of the prisoner of war status."

"This is not so much an act of justice but the end of an injustice," said his brother, Daniel, as he arrived at the prison to sign for the release of his brother.

Father Philip, addressing the crowd of supporters who had gathered at the

gate, said hope was "elusive" inside the prison and he and others watched activities outside for signs of hope.

Father Berrigan said at a press conference, "I emerge from 39 months of prison profoundly grateful to God and friends for health, sanity and hope. Leaving jail for the minimum security of this society is not a pure blessing. Yet I welcome it with great relish."

He thanked the "hundreds who prayed, agonized and toiled" over his release.

"I feel now as I felt in early May when Nixon began his bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong. If anything proves the propaganda smokescreen of the Paris negotiations and our absolute insistence

on a Korean-type solution, it is the President's decision to resume the bombing of the north. The U.S. intends to stand or fall with Thieu and that invites the likelihood of four more years of war."

He read a statement from Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, with the Communist National Liberation Front at the Paris talks, extending her "sincere congratulations together with my best wishes for your health and happiness."

She added, "On this occasion I can't help thinking of the hundreds of thousands of my compatriots, men, women, even children, from every social stratum of all political and religious convictions, imprisoned in the jails of the Saigon administration, for the mere fact of wanting peace, freedom and democratic rights, or even for no reason."

The Amber Room was selected by the organizers of the reception after they

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Forecast

Cloudy tonight, rain tomorrow
High yesterday 37; low today 34
Sunrise today 7:14; sunset 4:27
Map, other details on Page 8

FCI 'safety model' one year after fatal fire

By Joe Hurley
News-Times staff

DANBURY — The time is 1 a.m., July 7, 1977, one year ago today. The place, dormitory G in the Federal Correctional Institution. About 80 inmates are sleeping uneasily in the warm summer night.

A fire starts — how, no one really knows — in the washroom a few yards from the four long rows of single and bunk beds. In minutes the room is filled with thick, acrid smoke as flames devour walls, ceiling and partitions.

Inmates telephone prison guards to unlock the two doors not cut off by the fire. By the time the guards arrive, inmates are pushing at the doors, trying to force them open.

Pressure on the door makes it difficult for the correction officer to turn the key. The key breaks in the lock. Inmates remain trapped, the soot covering their bodies and smoke filling their lungs.

City fire department engines arrive but go to the wrong gate. When they get to the right gate, it's locked. A firefighter smashes the lock.

Inside the prison courtyard, firefighters have no place to hook up their hoses. The fire hydrants are outside the prison.

Prisoners, firefighters and correction officers work side-by-side to help the coughing, blackened inmates as they emerge from the burning building. It is now more than an hour since the fire began.

By sunrise, five prisoners lie dead and more than 80 persons are injured in the worst fire in the history of the federal prisons system.

The fatal blaze sparked controversy that continues today. Prisoners blamed guards for slow action. There were allegations concerning fire code violations. Several lawsuits were filed by prisoners and the families of dead inmates.

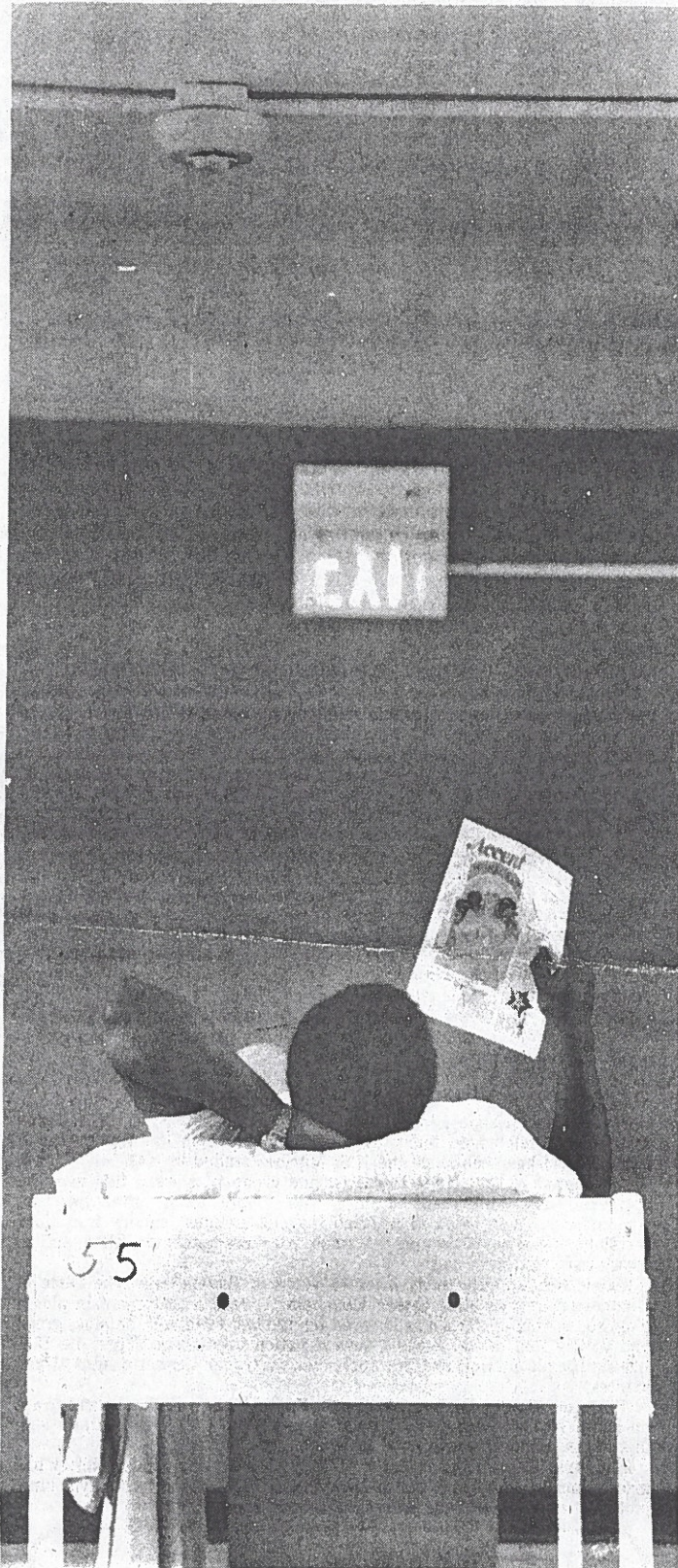
A report by the Bureau of Prisons concluded the fire was "humanly initiated," but failed to say how or by whom. Connecticut's two U.S. senators called for an investigation by the General Accounting Office. That report, which will likely close the book on the FCI fire, is expected to be released in Washington, D.C., later this month.

But the tragic fire brought some good. It sparked widespread concern about fire safety in federal prisons, and the fire safety program at the FCI is now being called a model for the entire federal system.

A tour of the prison this week showed work still going on.

Starting with dormitory G, the fiberglass paneling is being replaced with ceramic tile and metal. The paneling was installed to give the complex a home-like atmosphere, but was cited as one of the chief culprits in the fire.

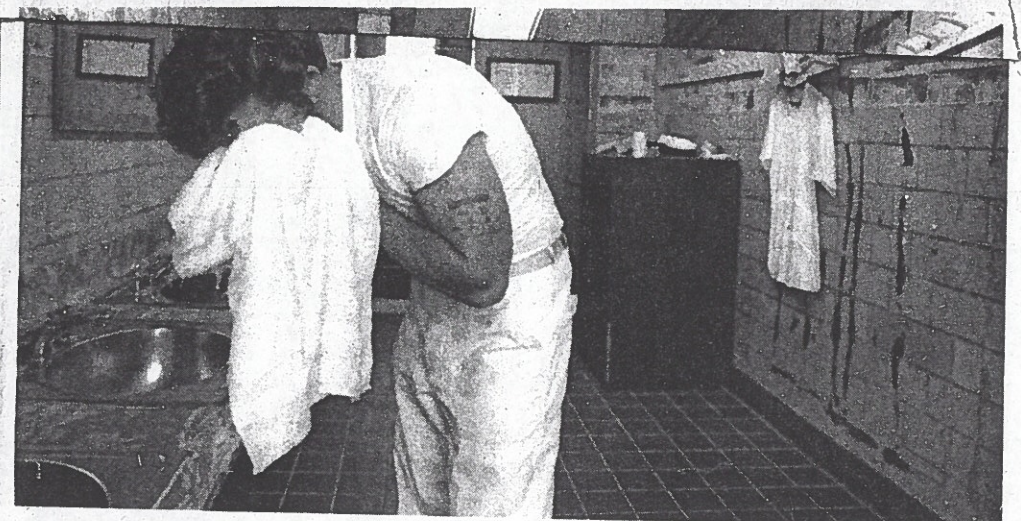
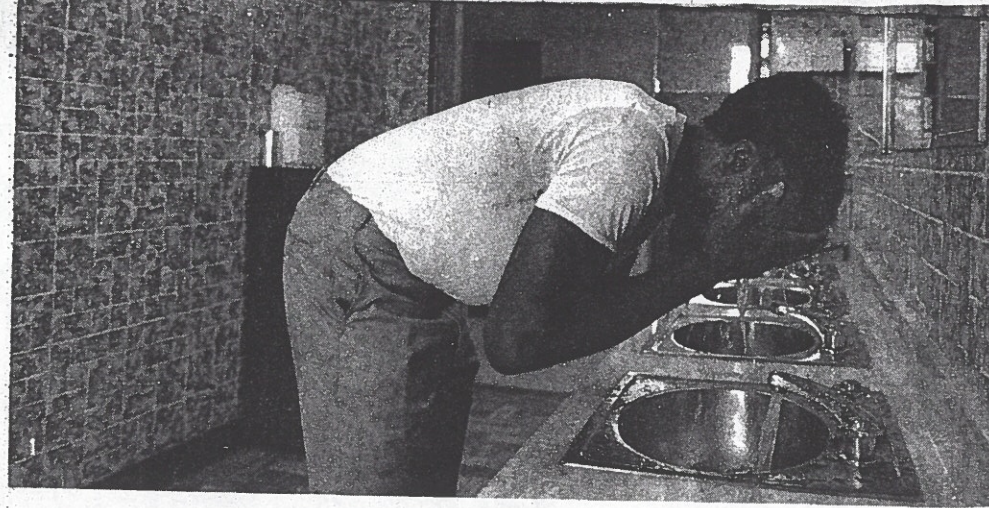
Smoke detectors have been installed.
See FCI, Page 8



News-Times photo by Stephen Szurlej

Improvements

Smoke detectors and exit signs, like the ones in dormitory G, are among the long list of improvements which made the Federal Correctional Institution a safer place to live after a fire killed five inmates one year ago today.



News-Times photos by Stephen Szurlo

Work under way

Prison officials are attempting to reduce the chance of a repeat of last year's fire at FCI by replacing wood paneling in washrooms with ceramic tile. The

paneling which had been installed to give the prison a home-like atmosphere, was one of the materials which fed the fatal fire. Work in dormitory G, left, is

complete while the dormitory F washroom is still being renovated.

FCI 'safety model' one year after fatal fire

Continued from Page 1
to give guards and inmates quick warning. Ceilings have been sprayed with a fire resistant mixture. Exit doors have locks which will not jam under

pressure. Fire hydrants are being installed inside the prison walls.

Exit signs and fire extinguishers are sprouting across the complex. Two new exits have been built. Roadways are

planned to give firefighters better access to fire hydrants.

Guards and prisoners receive fire safety instructions. There are weekly fire drills in each dormitory. More correction officers have been hired. The night staff jumped from nine to 15.

Prison workers and local fire officials work more closely together. The prison's fire plan, detailing what will be done during a fire, has been revised.

"As far as humanly possible we have done everything we could to correct the problems," Warden W. Ray Nelson said this week.

Nelson, who arrived at the prison in September, replacing George Wilkinson, said prison safety is one of his main goals.

"We sort of had an obligation to set the pace for a virtually fireproof building," Nelson said. He said FCI pioneered in giving prisoners access to fire and alarms and firefighting equipment.

The inmates themselves give Nelson high marks for trying to improve the system. Three inmates who were at FCI during the fire said the changes have helped convince them the administration is concerned about their safety.

But the inmates, who asked not to be identified, said one major safety

The prison was built to hold 500 inmates. At the time of the fire there were 840 prisoners at FCI. The number dropped drastically after the fire but began edging upward almost as soon as dormitory G was reopened. Today there are about 760 prisoners at FCI.

Prisoners say there are other things which could be done to improve safety.

There could be more fire drills for the guards, one inmate said. He said the guards should be thoroughly aware of how to control traffic during an emergency while keeping the institution secure.

Others said replacing bunk beds with single beds has crowded beds together creating a possible danger in an emergency.

A correction officer said he would like to see every prisoner get thorough fire safety instruction.

But, in general, the criticisms are minor. Administrators, inmates and guards agree that everybody is trying to make the prison a safer place.

Although prisoners could easily harass guards and administrators by setting off the smoke detectors, Nelson

said there have been few such incidents.

Prisoners and guards agree there is no lasting bitterness because of the fire which one inmate called a "freak accident." He said he believes the guards did their best but could have been better trained.

Most of the men involved in the blaze

said they would rather forget the incident than carry grudges.

Prison officials say none of the prisoners injured in the fire are still receiving treatment. But law books remain open. Court claims involving at least 17 prisoners are pending in U.S. District Court in Hartford.

Waiting for the Moon

By Ruth Lockwood
News-Times staff

DANBURY — They didn't want to miss it.

Some arrived before midnight Thursday and stuck around throughout the night.

Most showed up around 6 a.m. yesterday and waited and waited and waited and baked under the hot beautiful sun.

The moon had set once for many and the had sun risen and set for the other paparazzi before they got to train their cameras and microphones at the Rev. Sun Myung Moon when he arrived last night at the Federal Correctional Institution to serve an 18-month prison term for tax evasion.

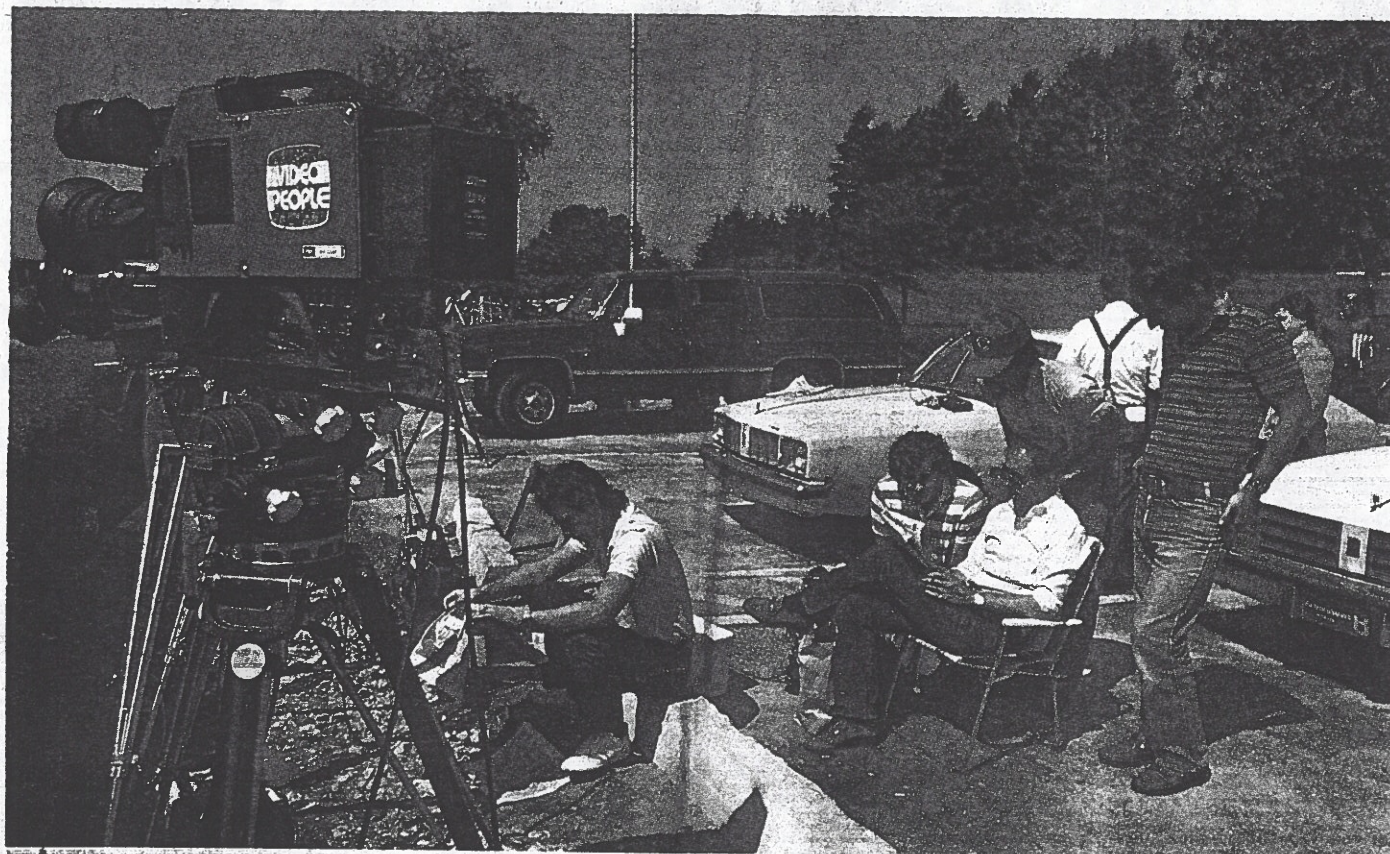
They were photographers and reporters, the paparazzi, waiting to take a photo or get an interview with the 64-year-old founder and worldwide leader of the Unification Church.

It had been a long vigil for the four dozen, herded into a parking area prison officials had reserved for them outside the prison's main entrance.

Those who had come at night spent hours testing and training their strobe lights on the prison's entrance.

At daybreak, as they changed equipment for the difference in light, more photographers and reporters arrived. By 8:30 a.m. there were some 40 standing behind tripods, cameras perched on top like machine guns, lined up along the driveway. Pieces of cloths or paper were tied to the top of the cameras to serve as sunshades.

They represented the wire ser-



News-Times/T. Dean Cople
Newsmen wait at the federal prison in Danbury yesterday for the arrival of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon to begin an 18-month term for tax evasion.

vices, major television networks, Connecticut TV stations, major newspapers including The New York Times, New York City's tabloids and even a London newspaper.

As the hours dragged on, some drove off to buy coffee and breakfast and later soda and lunch. Refuse littered the area.

Every few hours a prison official would walk over and assure the group they would be told in advance before Moon was to arrive. He also explained what was going on at the prison.

Twice, a vehicle drove up which

looked like it might be Moon's and sent the paparazzi scrambling for their stations.

They were false alarms and everyone went back to waiting.

In the early morning, a television was hooked up to a battery and some reporters watched the news.

Later on, there was a game of backgammon, others played blackjack, photographers cleaned their camera lenses and every so often moved the cameras to better vantage points. But most read — newspapers, books, manuals, anything to pass the time.

There were discussions about

cars, the Democratic National Convention, crime, and the possibility of Miss America losing her title for having posed nude for Penthouse.

"I haven't bought that magazine in a long time, but I think I'll pick up a copy Monday and check her out," said one television reporter wishing he already had a copy.

The gorgeous weather, the contents of a bottle of Pepsi Light and the massacre at the McDonald's restaurant in California took up the better part of another discussion.

It was mostly a serious crowd. And there was a lot of people watching.

Moon enters FCI

By Trink Guarino
News-Times staff

DANBURY — The Rev. Sun Myung Moon was whisked through the doors of the Federal Correctional Institution at 10:59 last night, just one hour before deadline for the beginning of his 18-month prison sentence for tax evasion.

Flanked by 15 federal, state and prison officials, the Rev. Moon disappeared through prison doors without making any statement to members of the media, some of whom had waited nearly 24 hours for his arrival.

The 64-year-old leader of the Unification Church arrived in a convoy of three cars. Federal officials and local police maintained tight security throughout the day.

As soon as the Rev. Moon was inside prison doors, the convoy headed for Pembroke Elementary School, where the Rev. Moon's followers conducted a press conference.

The first to issue a statement in the Rev. Moon's behalf was Dr. Mose Durst, president of the Unification Church in America.

"The United States has just imprisoned an innocent man of God," Durst said.

He compared the Rev. Moon's suffering in the prisons of Korea to his suffering in America, "which has never been kind to its religious or racial minorities," he said.

Durst said the Rev. Moon surrendered peacefully "to confirm his love for God in his service to this country."

The Rev. Moon's followers also issued signs.

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Moon

Continued from Page 1
sued a written statement from their leader.

"I am innocent of any wrongdoing; on the contrary, I am the victim of government abuse and persecution," he said in the release.

"I am willing to suffer in an American prison if it will serve God's purpose of awakening America from its spiritual sleep," he said.

Also speaking at last night's press conference was Earl Trent, counsel for American Baptist Church and the National Council of Churches.

Trent protested the Rev. Moon's imprisonment as a threat to American religious freedom.

"This is a sad day for the entire religious community of this country," Trent said. "Rev. Moon has not done anything that any other religious leader in this country has done. For the first time in American history, a minister has been sentenced to jail for administering the affairs of his church exactly according to the theological principles of his faith."

Trent said he feared for the future of religious liberty, particularly for new religions.

"We are hopeful that someday the courts and judicial system will look at this case and consider reducing his sentence or granting a pardon," Trent said.

The final speaker at last night's press conference was Franklin Littell, author of the Amicus briefs supporting the Rev. Moon's appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I am here as a specialist in the history of religious persecution and religious liberty. We are celebrating one of the major events in the history of religious persecution," Littell said.

"Above all," he said, "it is none of the government's business to tell the Roman Catholic Church what order to follow, the Unification Church, the Methodist Church or any other church what their structure is to be."

Littell called the refusal of the U.S. Supreme Court to issue a decision in the case a "moral failure," which he said "will go down with the Dred Scott decision as one of the most disastrous in American history."

Danbury Mayor James E. Dyer was among those who waited for the Rev. Moon's arrival at the FCI on Pembroke Road last night.

"Whenever we have a command post out in the field, I like to be present," Dyer said.

Danbury Police Chief Nelson Macedo and two shifts of officers, including a SWAT team, brought the number of local police on hand to about 20.

"It cost the city about \$5,000 in overtime and gave us a lot of national attention we don't need," Dyer said.

Federal officials had requested assistance from the Danbury Police Department, he said.

"I am not here to welcome Moon. He is just another prisoner," Dyer said.

The Rev. Moon spent most of the day at his estate in Irvington, N.Y., in Westchester County where he met with church leaders, according to a church spokesman.

Authorities at the prison said there were no special arrangements planned to house the evangelist. He is to be housed in the medium-security facility's prison camp and sleep in a dormitory-style room with 40 to 50 other inmates, said Bill Wood, assistant to the warden.

As a new inmate, the Rev. Moon would probably be assigned to work in laundry or food services, Wood said, but may later switch to other jobs such as working at the prison's fire department, as a groundskeeper, or in the prison factory that manufactures underwear.

The Rev. Moon was convicted in 1982 for failing to report \$162,000 in income on his federal tax returns. He has maintained throughout the court battle that he is innocent.

tinuing business while in federal prisons.

"I'm not aware of anything that touches specifically on converting inmates," said Kathy Morse, the spokeswoman, who said she would have to check with Luther to determine what rule was being applied in the Rev. Moon's case.

The Unification Church claims 45,000 American followers and a total of between 2 to 3 million in 127 nations worldwide.

On Thursday, the Rev. Moon said he would move his Unification Church headquarters to the prison and that he would "pray and work for this country" while serving his sentence.

Luther said the Rev. Moon would be barred from trying to convert other inmates at the prison to his beliefs.

A spokeswoman for the Bureau of Prisons in Washington, D.C., said later that there is a rule against con-

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Moon ordered to serve term at Danbury FCI

WATERBURY (AP) — A federal judge yesterday ordered the Rev. Sun Myung Moon to begin serving an 18-month prison term this week for a 1982 tax evasion conviction.

The 64-year-old founder and leader of the Unification Church did not attend the hearing here before U.S. District Judge Gerard Goettel.

Moon, who was convicted in 1982 of failing to report \$162,000 in income, must report to the federal prison in Danbury tomorrow, the judge said.

The prison sentence was imposed on the native of Korea two years ago, but he remained free while the case was on appeal. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the case May 14.

Moon had been scheduled to enter prison June 18. But Goettel agreed to a delay while attorney Michael J. McAllister sought a reduced sentence or an alternate form of punishment.

Yesterday, McAllister asked that the sentence be suspended or that Moon be "exiled" from the United States for no more than six months. But Goettel said six months was "not an exile by any means" — especially since Moon spends several months a year abroad.

Attorneys for Moon had successfully argued two years ago against the federal government's attempts to have him deported, saying "banishment" would be an overly severe penalty.

In mid-June, McAllister told Goettel in New York that Moon had decided to drop previously announced plans to try to overturn his conviction in order to attempt to have the punishment changed or reduced.

Goettel said yesterday that he

always considers reducing a sentence, but there wasn't sufficient reason in Moon's case to warrant such action. The judge said he wanted to show the public "that wealth can't effect" sentences given to convicted criminals.

"There must be equal application of the criminal laws," Goettel said.

The judge said he had given careful consideration before ordering a prison term for a religious leader considered "divine" by his followers.

Goettel said it is "an unfortunate situation, and (Moon's) followers will be unhappy" but the sentence would stand.

Moon also has to be ordered to pay a \$25,000 fine and the cost of prosecution, which according to McAllister the government has estimated at \$70,000.

McAllister argued that there should be no prison term because the absence of Moon would have "severe, tragic implications" for his 12 children.

He said the family has been ridiculed throughout the entire court process and that the emotional stress has intensified since the recent death of one of Moon's sons. McAllister also argued that Moon's incarceration would cut off "daily access" to church leaders.

McAllister refused to comment after yesterday's proceedings. But Bart M. Schwartz, chief of the criminal division for the U.S. attorney's office for the southern district of New York, called the decision "a just result."

The hearing was held in Waterbury rather than Manhattan because Goettel has been temporarily assigned to Connecticut.

Moon, released, to serve sentence at halfway house

By Olivia Winslow
News-Times staff

DANBURY — The Rev. Sun Myung Moon, founder and leader of the Unification Church, was released from the minimum-security prison camp at the Federal Correctional Institution yesterday morning.

Dressed in a blue short-sleeved shirt, dark blue slacks and running shoes, Moon left the prison smiling. He shook hands and hugged more than a dozen friends and well-wishers — some of whom were members of his church and others of various religious faiths who had come to denounce his imprisonment. For a few minutes, they also prayed.

Moon did not issue a statement, but waved to members of the press and said "thank you" before being driven away in a blue Mercedes Benz. In a written release, the Unification Church said Moon "will refrain from making his statement" until his release Aug. 20.

Jeff Garbow, camp administrator at the prison, said Moon is to serve out the rest of his sentence at the Phoenix Halfway House in Brooklyn until Aug. 20, when he will have served approximately 13 months of

his 18-month sentence for income tax evasion.

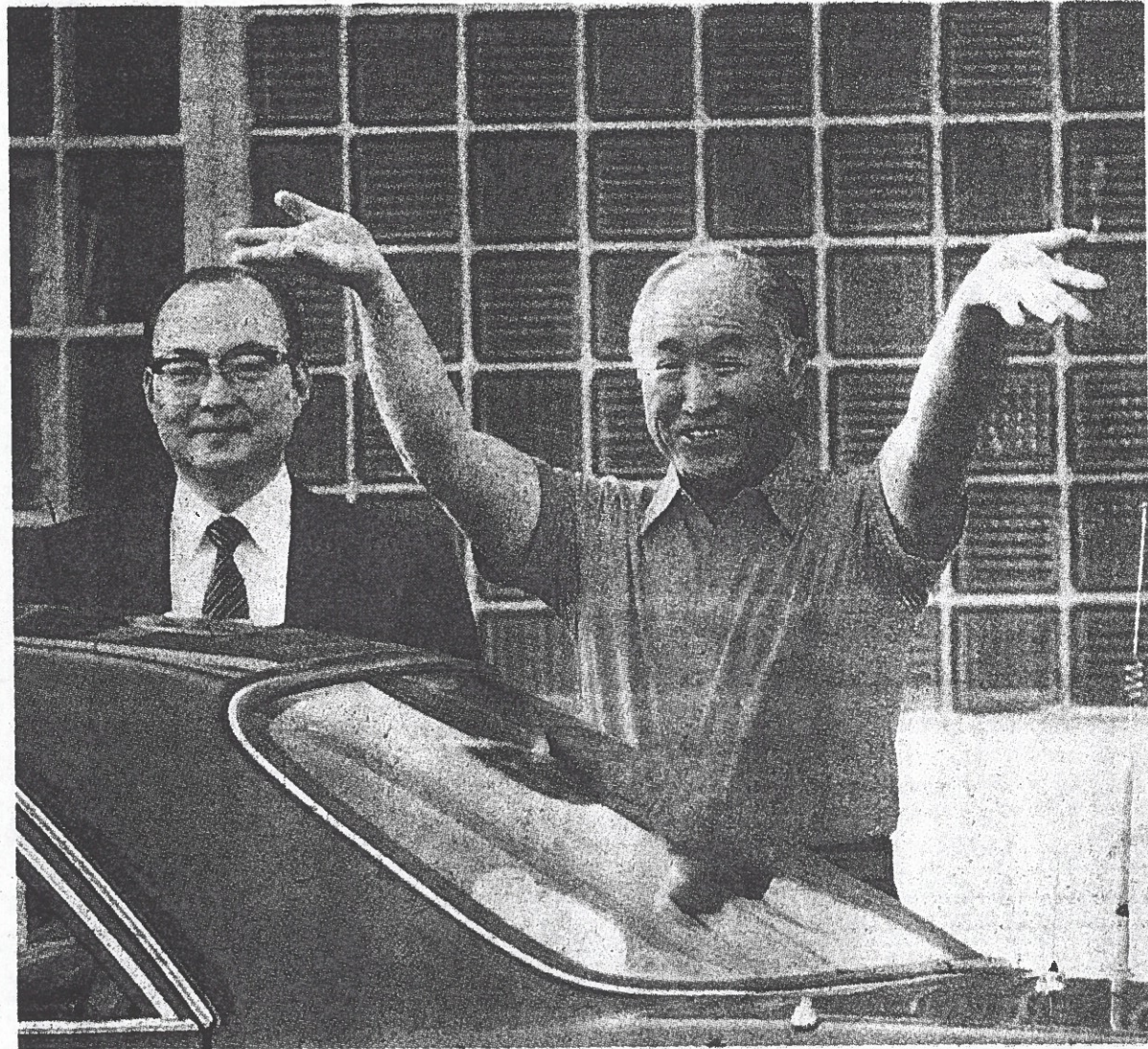
Garbow said Moon has earned "good time" credits that are available under federal law, resulting in the reduced time he has to serve. Garbow said Moon will be subject to the rules of the halfway house, which he was supposed to report to yesterday, where he will have to sign out and sign in each day.

"We send a majority of our residents to halfway houses," Garbow said, primarily so they can participate in work release programs and to allow them to be close to their families. The Unification Church's headquarters is in New York City. The Phoenix house is one of several the prison has contracts with, Garbow added.

Garbow declined, however, to talk about what kind of prisoner the reverend had been, saying to do so would violate privacy laws. He mentioned only that Moon "prayed regularly" at the prison chapel, though he had been prohibited from conducting services or otherwise engaging in church business, Garbow said.

Moon had been working in the prison's food service department where some of his duties included

See MOON, Page 8.



News-Times/David W. Harple

The Rev. Sun Myung Moon, Unification Church founder, waves to newsmen on his release yesterday from the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury. An associate is next to him.

Moon

Continued from Page 1
sweeping floors and wiping off tables, said Garbow. Last July, prison officials said Moon had been assigned to kitchen duty because his limited command of English made it too difficult for him to do clerical tasks.

Mose Durst, president of the American branch of the Unification Church, said he has visited Moon about once a week since he started serving his sentence last July 20. He described Moon's demeanor as "joyful" during his imprisonment.

"The Rev. Moon hasn't taught us to be resentful," Durst said, but rather to be "humble" and to "love America more." He said Moon's message has been one of humility and sacrifice. He added the church has not suffered despite the conviction of its 65-year-old leader.

Saying Americans are a "fair people," Durst said he feels the public thinks the Moon has been abused.

"He was singled out because he moved thousands and thousands of people." He added that the Unification church takes religion seriously and abhors illegality or immorality. Durst claims 45,000 members in the American branch of the church and between 2 to 3 million worldwide.

Durst and other members of the clergy spoke during a press conference at the nearby Pembroke Elementary School parking lot where they called Moon's imprisonment a sample of persecution of a religious minority.

"We support his release, not as it has occurred today, but a total pardon and an erasure of all action against him," said Don Sills, president of the Coalition for Religious Freedom based in Washington, D.C., reading from a prepared statement. The group was formed last year.

"We have not come to support Rev. Moon because of our like theological views, but rather because we have found common ground upon which to stand together," Sills continued.

Sills and other clergyman said they believed Moon's conviction for income tax evasion in 1982 came about because he heads a church that has not been popular in the United States and because Moon, a Korean, is a member of a minority group. They said they protested Moon's imprisonment on "principle."

The Unification Church is best known for attracting many young people to its faith, commonly called "Moonies," who seek converts on city streets.

Franklin Littell, a methodist min-



News-Times/David W. Harple

Mose Durst, president of the American branch of the Unification Church, says the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's demeanor was "joyful" during his stay at FCI.

ister and chairman of the Hamlin Institute and member of the National Council of Churches, said the Moon's conviction sets a dangerous precedent that could in time be used against more mainstream religious faiths. He said the entire religious community must band together to protest what has happened.

Moon was charged with failing to report \$112,000 in interest earned in 1973, 1974 and 1975 on \$1.6 million in deposits in his name in the Chase Manhattan Bank.

Durst said Moon was not using the money for his own purposes, but was holding the money for the church, which was highly mobile at the time.

Durst added that financial procedure was halted nine years ago. He claimed the Internal Revenue Service spent six years trying to find

something with which to prosecute Moon.

Milton Reid, pastor of the New Calvary Baptist Church in Norfolk, Va., said Moon's imprisonment was another indication that religious freedom in the country is being eroded.

Reid added that he has been imprisoned for refusing to comply with a court order to release the names of his church membership. He said the case stemmed from "three dissident members" of his church who wanted to oust him as pastor and to audit the church's books.

Sills said his group hopes to bring to the public's attention the plight of Moon and other religious leaders whom he said are being denied their right of religious freedom by agencies of the government.

Supporters can't free spy's wife

12/5/88

By Nanci G. Hutson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — The father of Anne Henderson Pollard, wife of convicted Israeli spy Jonathan Jay Pollard, says he blames himself for encouraging his daughter to accept a plea bargain agreement that led to a five-year federal prison sentence.

"I'll never forgive myself for encouraging her to plead guilty to the charges," said Bernard Henderson, a partner in the New York City public relations consulting firm The New York Staff.

"I never believed for a moment she would go to jail. The whole thing is a ridiculous nightmare."

Anne Pollard was a bride of three months when she received a frantic call from her husband, a civilian Navy Intelligence analyst, asking for her help getting rid of some classified documents he had in their Washington D.C. apartment.

That was 1985.

Today, she is serving the remainder of a five-year sentence for conspiracy to receive embezzled government property and being an accessory after the fact to possession of national defense documents.

She now lives at the Federal Correctional Institution minimum-security prison camp in Danbury, to which she was transferred in September. Her husband is serving a life sentence at the maximum-security penitentiary in Marion, Ill., for selling national secrets to the Israelis.

Many family members, friends and supporters believe the Pollards are receiving harsher treatment than they deserve. The group has spent hours writing letters to government officials, making phone calls and giving media interviews in an effort to free them.

"We are fighting every way we
See FREE, Page 8

FCI warden leaving proud

By Nanci G. Hutson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — Federal Correctional Institution Warden Dennis Luther had only been at the prison a month when he said he wanted his legacy here to be a "correctional facility that the staff can be proud to work at."

A month before his impending departure to become warden of a new, low-to-medium-security federal prison now under construction in McKean County, Pa., Luther says he is satisfied he has completed his agenda and the prison provides a "safe, clean and humane" environment for both staff and inmates.

"I'm leaving with a tremendous feeling of satisfaction," said the 43-year-old warden, who came to Danbury 4½ years ago after his five-year tenure as warden at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Chicago. "I don't know that there is a whole lot more I could do in Danbury, frankly."

Craig Apker, the executive assistant to the warden, praised Luther for making the prison a place where people enjoy coming to work in the morning.

"Danbury is now a great place to work," Apker said. "It's a place to be proud of."

Opening a new prison is about the

only task Luther hasn't taken on in his 17 years with the federal Bureau of Prisons. The federal prison in McKean is scheduled to open in August 1989.

He started his career in 1971 as an intern at the maximum-security prison in Marion, Ill., and then was hired as a case manager at the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa. He has worked in the system's central office in Washington D.C., the regional office in Kansas City, Mo., and four other prisons or prison camps.

"This will be my last new experience," said Luther, who plans to stay in McKean until he retires from the Bureau of Prisons in six years.

Sitting in his comfortable office in the 50-year-old prison, Luther highlighted what he considers to be his major accomplishments here, most of which focused on the staff.

"Certainly the thing I feel best about is what we've done for the staff over the last five years," Luther said.

He said he played a key role in getting the special salary rate that hiked the pay for prison guards as much as \$4,000 a year. The beginning salary is \$20,785, up from \$16,851.

Under his direction, he said, the prison also was able to reduce the

See FCI, Page 8

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FCI

Continued from Page 1
rent charged for staff housing. Once based on the local economy, the housing is now tied to the employees' pay, which doesn't match the high cost of living here.

This is also the only federal prison in the past 20 years that has added staff housing, Luther said. Twelve factory-built units were located on the prison grounds so that newly hired correctional officers would have a place to stay while they found a residence in the area, he said. The cost to live in these units is \$50 a month.

In his tenure, Luther has also given out about \$350,000 in staff incentive awards, which provide a cash bonus of \$400 to \$1,000 for employees who have excelled in their job.

Relations between the union and management, which were a serious problem, have become amicable, Luther added. The union and management pushed together for the salary increases.

And the prison is in the process of trying to get the money to have a day care center for employees on the prison grounds. Luther said he is optimistic that this will happen soon.

"In general, I think we've made it easier for people to do their job," he said. "I just don't think there is another situation in the agency where so much energy has gone into improving the working situation for the staff."

Luther said he looks forward to



Dennis Luther
Outgoing warden

the transfer because he and his wife, Danielle, have family near the new prison, and the area to which they will be moving is more affordable. The Luthers now live in a house on the prison grounds, but plan to buy their own home in Pennsylvania. Luther's annual salary is \$71,000.

He also anticipates creating a "model institution."

"I want to create a climate and a culture that exemplifies the state of the art in correctional management," Luther said.

Luther says his only regret will be the people he must leave behind.

"I feel badly about leaving some of the best people I've ever worked with," Luther said. "We have some extremely dedicated staff."

Free

Continued from Page 1
know how," said Henderson, who has written a book about the case titled "Pollard: The Spy's Story — An American Dreyfus Affair."

He has also hired teams of lawyers on behalf of his daughter and son-in-law. The legal expenses have already reached \$500,000, he said. "And they haven't even gone to trial yet," he said.

Even members of the Knesset, Israel's parliament, have sent a petition to President Reagan seeking executive pardon for the Pollards.

An appeal is pending in the U.S. District Court of Appeals in Washington D.C. for a reduction of Anne Pollard's sentence, and other legal actions are being prepared to try to overturn the plea agreements so the Pollards can have a trial.

The key concern of Pollard supporters is Anne's gastrointestinal disorder and other chronic ailments.

"What we've been working on for a long time is to just get her medical treatment," Henderson said. "That is the No. 1 objective of everybody."

He wants to get her a medical furlough so she can be treated by a specialist. But requests for a furlough or for her to be seen by a personal physician have so far been denied.

Prison officials have said Pollard has received thousands of dollars worth of medical treatment, and that her conditions do not require hospitalization and are manageable by common medications such as laxatives.

"I can't tell you how bad initially it was to see a healthy, robust woman in 90 days almost disappear," Henderson said of his daughter's first incarceration in a Washington D.C. jail, where she went from about 150 pounds to 90. "Even after three years, I'm not used to it."

FCI Camp Administrator Paul LeFebvre said that as far as he knows there are no plans to allow Pollard to see her own personal physician.

"We can deal with whatever she's got," he said. "We can provide her with excellent medical care and have done so."

Pollard's sentence expires on April 2, 1990.

Her transfer to the Danbury prison camp from the federal prison in Rochester, Minn., where she was held while being tested at the Mayo Clinic, was brought by her lawyers. They said the move would allow her to be in a more healthy environment and allow her to be closer to family.

Officials have said that if Pollard requires more medical attention than can be offered in Danbury, she could be transferred to another prison medical facility, such as Lexington, Ky., to which she was originally sentenced.

One of her lawyers, Nathan Der-showitz of New York City, said he finds it disgraceful that when Anne complains about her health problems the government threatens to send her back to a prison medical facility that she fought hard to leave.

"She simply does not trust the Bureau of Prison medical staff," he said.

Officials claim Pollard is contributing to her own deterioration by not cooperating with medical personnel and by refusing to eat when she is able.

Henderson is not the only one concerned about Pollard's well-being.

According to Henderson, more than 100,000 letters have been sent to President Reagan and other members of Congress, and there are 47 Jewish and Christian organizations trying to get her better medical treatment, as well as win her release.

Nikki Levy, a Norwalk veterinarian who is president of Citizens For Justice, is impassioned about the Pollard case, and outraged at the sentences they have received. Levy does not deny that Jonathan Pollard broke the law, but said he did so because the United States government was refusing to obey an agreement it made with Israel to give it certain information important for its security.

Unlike Jonathan Walker Jr., who was also sentenced to life in prison for spying for the Russians, Pollard

spied for a friendly nation and did nothing to harm American security, Levy said.

Sentencing Judge Aubry E. Robinson Jr. saw it differently. He noted a classified affidavit from former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, who detailed specifically the harm Pollard had done to the United States through the information he sold to the Israelis. Jonathan Pollard received as much as \$2,500 a month, the affidavit said.

One prosecutor said Pollard gave the Israelis thousands of documents, including some that gave information about the location of American ships and training exercises.

Levy defended the action.

"When you talk about right and wrong you have to talk about the circumstances," Levy said. "It is a terrible thing to shout 'Fire!' in a crowded theater if there is no fire. But if there is a fire, then the one who shouts 'Fire!' is doing a great deed by saving many lives."

She believes this analogy applies to the Pollard case.

"There is truly a rogue operation in the highest places of the United States government, which is actively working against Israel in defiance of legitimate United States foreign policy and in violation of the will of the American people," she said.

As far as Anne Pollard is concerned, said Levy, her crime was simply trying to help her husband.

The night of Nov. 18, 1985, Anne received a call from her husband to take the "cactus" in their living

room to Israeli friends they were supposed to be meeting for dinner, Levy said. "Cactus" was the Pollards' code for the secret documents Pollard had in the apartment, and Anne packed whatever documents she could find into a suitcase and attempted to get them out of the apartment.

She was deterred by some men she saw outside the apartment, and turned to neighbors for help. The neighbors later turned the documents over to the FBI, Levy said.

A few days later, the Pollards tried to seek asylum at the Israeli embassy, but were turned away and then arrested by FBI agents. Originally, Anne was charged with spying for the Chinese because she had used some documents her husband obtained — including some classified information — during her preparation for a public relations presentation to the Chinese embassy.

She used the material for background and ignored the classified information, according to Levy. But the prosecutors used the fact she had seen it to charge her with conspiracy to receive embezzled government documents.

Henderson is optimistic that early next year there will be a Congressional investigation into the Pollard case. But he said all efforts to free the Pollards are going to take time.

"My God, if she committed first-degree murder she would be out on parole by now," he said in frustration.

D. 2/2

FCI warden to leave for new prison

Dec 2
88

By Nanci G. Hutson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — Federal Correctional Institution Warden Dennis Luther is leaving to be warden of a medium-security prison opening next summer in McKean County, Pa.

"We're very happy for him . . . but we're very sorry to see him go," said Craig Apker, executive assistant to the warden. Luther has been warden at the Danbury federal prisons since June 1984. He leaves next month.

Luther will be replaced by John Sullivan, who is now the warden at the federal prison in Sandstone, Minn. Sullivan is a native of Massachusetts and started his career in Danbury as a correctional officer.

The prison Luther will direct is scheduled to open in August 1989, with a main medium-security facility and a minimum-security prison camp on the premises, much like the layout at the Danbury prison. The Pennsylvania facility is all-male as was the Danbury prison until September when female inmates arrived at the camp.

Luther, a native of Pennsylvania who has a bachelor's degree in corrections from Pennsylvania State University and a master's degree in correctional administration from Southern Illinois University, started his career in the Bureau of Prisons 17 years ago as an intern at the maximum-security prison in Marion, Ill. From there he went to Lewisburg, Pa. as a case manager and then moved to nine other institutions



Dennis Luther

prior to coming to Danbury. Such job movement is common in the administrative hierarchy of the prison system. Immediately before coming to Danbury, Luther was the warden at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Chicago.

In the years he has been in Danbury, Luther has spent much time developing good relations with staff and inmates and recently has orchestrated conversion of the prison camp to an all-female facility. He has invited civic groups to tour the prison, and has taken the attitude that an attractive correctional atmosphere fosters better cooperation

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FCI

Continued from Page 17

from the inmates. He has kept a low profile, but has not been afraid to stand up for his staff when the need has arisen.

In January, Luther was outspoken about how underpaid the correctional officers were in Danbury, and said because of the high cost of living here the prison would continue to have difficulty hiring officers until pay was increased. If the government was unwilling to pay better wages here, he suggested it might want to close the prison.

In July, the salaries for correctional officers were increased from \$16,851 to \$20,785 for starting pay and from \$20,739 to \$22,812 for top pay. Apker said Luther's integrity in dealing with both staff and inmates "is without equal as far as I'm concerned."

Spy's wife dehydrated, in hospital

By Mark Langlois
NEWS-TIMES STAFF

DANBURY — Anne Henderson Pollard, imprisoned at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury since Sept. 30 for helping her husband, an Israeli spy, is severely dehydrated and under guard at Danbury Hospital.

Details of Pollard's hospital stay are sketchy, but visitors who saw her yesterday said she is dehydrated and receiving fluids intravenously.

"We were able to pray with her and speak with her and bring her a lot of comfort," said Sister Rose Thering, a Dominican nun who teaches at New Jersey's Seton Hall University.

Sister Thering visited Pollard with Lois Draniloff and Pearl Randall, who are members of the Judaic Christian Committee of Seton Hall, which works for greater cooperation

between Christians and Jews.

Pollard's husband, Jonathan, was sentenced to life in prison for selling thousands of classified documents to Israel while working for the Navy's Anti-Terrorist Alert Center in Maryland.

Prosecutors claim Anne Pollard, who had been married to Jonathan for three months at the time of her arrest, tried to destroy documents after her husband's activities were discovered. She pleaded guilty to being an accessory after the fact, to possession of classified information and conspiracy to receive embezzled government property. Her five-year sentence ends April 2, 1990.

Efforts to discover Pollard's medical condition were unsuccessful last night. Calls to the hospital were referred to John Morgan in the hospital's public relations office. Morgan declined to confirm if Pollard is a

patient in the hospital.

He referred the call to FCI in Danbury. Craig Apker, executive assistant at FCI, referred all questions concerning Pollard to the Public Information Office of the federal Bureau of Prisons. Calls to the bureau's Washington headquarters last night were not answered.

Sister Thering said she has tried since August to get permission to visit Pollard, who she said may have been treated more harshly by the criminal justice system because she is a Jew.

"I think the Justice Department needs to take another look at this," Sister Thering said.

She said she was impressed at the care Pollard is receiving at the hospital, and with the help the trio from New Jersey were given when they visited yesterday.

"The case has to be reopened," she added.

Lois Draniloff said one disturbing part of the visit was that guards continually entered the hospital room every two or three minutes. The guards also did not allow her to give Pollard a dozen yellow roses.

"We left them with the nurses," Draniloff said. They visited Pollard for two hours, from about noon to 2 p.m. yesterday.

After leaving the hospital, they returned to FCI to thank its director, Paul LeFebvre, for allowing the visit.

They also left two presents for Pollard at the prison. One was a prayer book. The second was a mezuzah, which is a mark or notice Jews put on doors — a carryover from the original Passover — to let the Angel of Death know people in the house are believers.

Jan 14 89



Inmates Gustavo Villegas and Patricia Tuff package cable at the prison factory.

A new kind of inmate

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — A slim woman in her early 50s sits on a linoleum floor scraping away dirt and scuff marks from the tiles with a razor blade.

She wipes away tears from her eyes as she holds up her fingernails to show how scrubbing floors has peeled off her polish and caused cuts around her cuticles.

"I'm in jail, I made a mistake ... but I never did maintenance before," she said, her voice breaking.

One of the first women to be housed at the Federal Correctional Institution prison camp, she makes no attempt to hide her disgust and frustration with the work she has been assigned.

It is the expression of emotion — both positive and negative — that most distinguishes female prisoners from the male inmates for whom the main FCI prison was built in the 1940s. The camp was opened in 1982.

"There is a pretty clear impression that they are more emotional," said Camp Administrator Paul Lefebvre. "They have a greater penchant for getting very vocal and emotional, much more than a man would."

"I've had more women crying in

zlement, wiretapping and assorted drug charges.

"Every woman here said the crime they pulled wasn't worth none of this," said Rosemarie Miller, a 31-year-old mother of five who is serving a one-year sentence for violation of probation on an original charge of altering postal money orders.

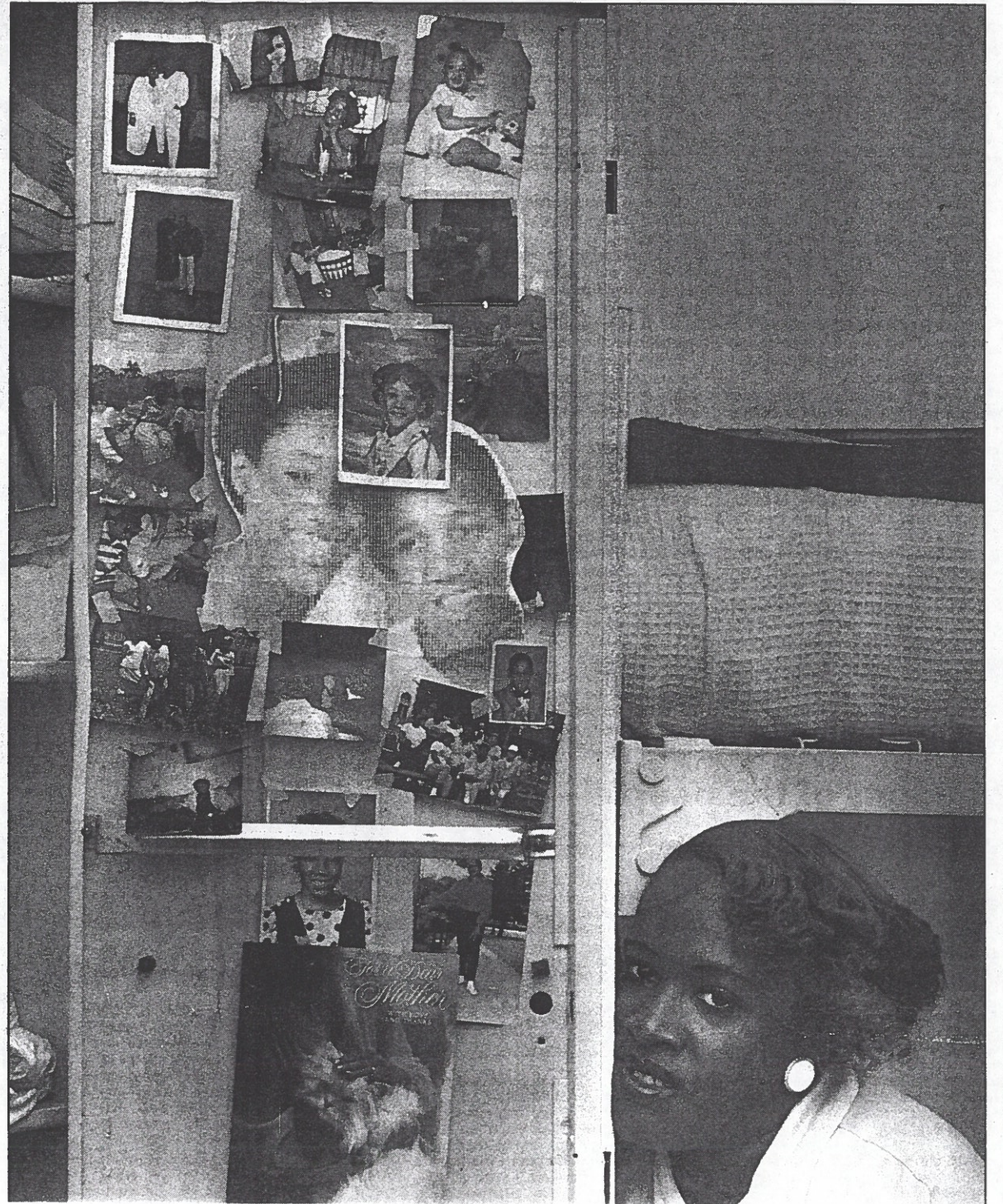
Even in a minimum-security camp, there are, as Lefebvre says, "some very inflexible rules."

"This is a work camp and even though it is in a beautiful setting, they must remember it is a prison."

All the women are assigned eight-hour work shifts around the prison, including grounds maintenance, housekeeping duties, secretarial work and food service. The pay ranges from 11 cents an hour to 27 cents an hour at the camp, and for those women who work at the Unicor Federal Prison Industries warehouse, the pay starts at 66 cents an hour.

Limits are placed on the amount of clothing, cosmetics, jewelry and other personal articles they can have.

The FCI prison camp is the second camp for women to open in the federal prison system and is the first to be converted from an all-male facility.



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Paul Lefebvre. "They have a greater penchant for getting very vocal and emotional, much more than a man would."

"I've had more women crying in my office in one day than I had in four years," one staff member said.

Of course, there are other little things that set men and women apart — aroma, for instance.

"This place smells different," the staff member continued, referring to the smell of fragrances, hairspray and bath soap the women use.

When the women first arrived at the camp — most from a medium-sized federal prison — they were awed by its spectacular scenery, which includes a lovely view of Candlewood Lake. They were impressed by how fresh everything looked inside the building, Lefebvre said. After the newness wore off, however, some began to find fault with the facilities and even the food, which many had complimented earlier, he said.

What the women quickly realize is that even though FCI is a minimum-security camp with no fences or bars and although the interior resembles a college dormitory, they are still prisoners, Lefebvre said. The women are serving time for such offenses as tax fraud, embez-

ond camp for women to open in the federal prison system and is the first to be converted from an all-male facility.

The first 42 women, including 39 transferred from the federal prison in Alderson, W.Va., arrived Aug. 17. A majority of the men who were housed at the camp were transferred in July to four other minimum-security prisons. About 40 of the men were retained to become members of a skilled work cadre; they now live in FCI's main, all-male, medium-security building. Many of these men work with the female prisoners.

Prison officials predict the number of female prisoners will reach about 100 by mid-October. The camp does not want their numbers to exceed 180, officials said.

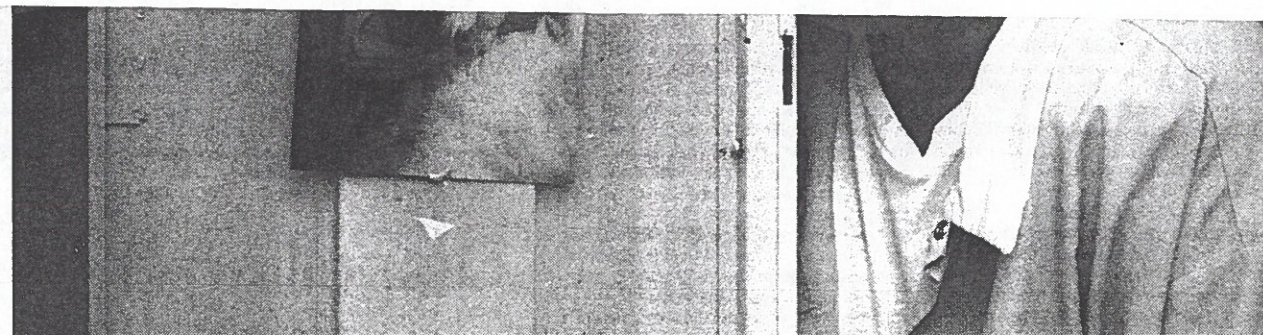
The conversion of the camp has meant an adjustment for the women as well as the staff, many of whom are for the first time working with female prisoners.

"I find them nicer and I find them more repulsive," said one staff member. "I find them more willing to cooperate, I find them more childish."

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Paul Lefebvre, administrator of the minimum-security camp where the women are quartered, says that FCI's staff, initially apprehensive, has adjusted well to female inmates.



Yolanda Hayes, among the first female inmates at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury, keeps treasured photos of family and friends close by — on her locker door. Imprisoned for credit card fraud, she is eager to return to her children.

'I feel I let my children down'

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — Yolanda Hayes wanted to give her children the best of everything: designer jeans, name-brand sneakers, private schools, music lessons and a comfortable lifestyle.

But making \$9.10 an hour as a hospital secretary just wasn't enough to pay for it all. So she found an easy way to afford the extras — illegally.

"The only thing I'm guilty of is being a

mother. I'm guilty of trying to take care of my children alone," said the 28-year-old mother of two children, Brian, 11, and Kimberly, 13.

Hayes, among the first group of women to be housed at the Federal Correctional Institution prison camp, was given a six-month sentence for credit card fraud. She served four months in the federal prison at Alderson, W. Va. before she was transferred to Danbury.

In August, the previously all-male camp was converted to an all-female camp. Most of FCI's

female inmates are transfers from Alderson.

Hayes now knows she should have found another way to afford the luxuries she wanted her children to enjoy, but said she got mixed up with the wrong people and ended up using illegal credit cards for her purchases.

"There is no excuse for me not getting a better-paying job. I just found an easy way out and I took it," the tall, heavysset woman with short reddish brown hair.

See CHILDREN, Page B-14

For FCI's staff, a challenge

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — Paul Lefebvre won't say it's been hard, and he won't say it's been easy. He will say it's been interesting.

As administrator of the Federal Correctional Institution's minimum-security prison camp, Lefebvre has supervised this summer's conversion of an all-male facility to one of the first federal prison camps to house female prisoners.

"I like the challenge of facing this prison change," said the tall, slim 47-year-old administrator who came to FCI in May.

The camp opened with 42 women,

39 of whom were bused from a federal prison in Alderson, W. Va., on Aug. 17.

Lefebvre acknowledged that some rough spots have had to be overcome, but he said housing women has not caused the upheaval that some expected.

After the initial "honeymoon period" when the women were complimentary about camp conditions, he said he did start getting complaints about the food, the lack of activities, and rules on the amount of personal property the women can have. Some women even said they wanted to be returned to Alderson.

"They had almost an unrealistic expectation," he said. "They're

See CHALLENGE, Page B-14



Built for men, FCI's minimum-security camp has housed women since August.

finding it is a prison institution ... The reality has set in that this is a correctional environment and this is not what they may have romantically envisioned.

"We had our first disciplinary ex-

perience and that took its toll on some of the women," Lefebvre said. In that incident, a woman refused to go to her work assignment, and as she was being escorted to a detention area, she started threaten-

Photography by Carol Kaliff

New kind

Continued from B-1

Warden Dennis Luther said there was much more apprehension about the change than has proven necessary.

"I don't think the staff have missed a step," Luther said. "I think it is pretty much business as usual."

Correctional counselor Richard Russell said the initial shock staff expressed when they first learned in March that women were coming has worn off and they "see it is not the nightmare we expected it would be."

But it has been a time of rethinking prior practices and an exercise in patience and perseverance, he said.

"It's different, definitely different than dealing with men," said correctional counselor Richard Russell.

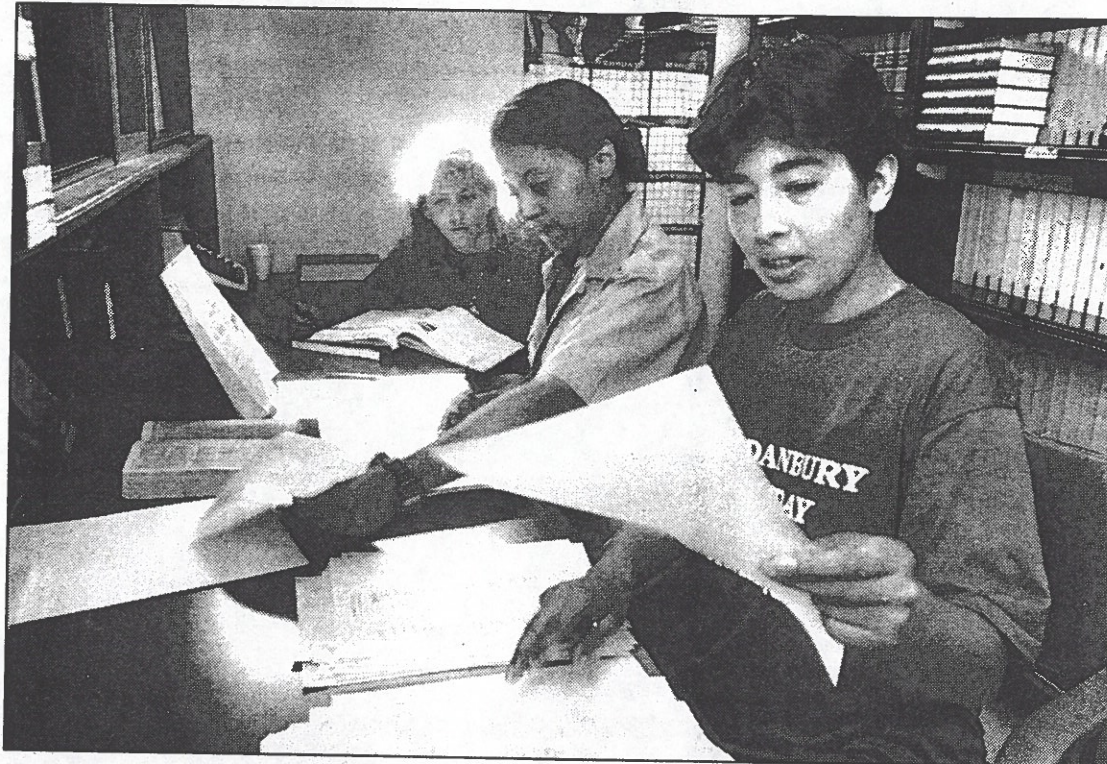
One pleasant surprise for prison officials is how hard the women work.

The camp exists to support the main prison, with the inmates handling grounds maintenance and the general upkeep of everything on the 350-acre property. Male prisoners often arrive at the prison with skills as contractors, mechanics, electricians and carpenters, but prison officials weren't sure what women would be able to do.

"We didn't know what to expect with the women," said Craig Apker, executive assistant to the warden. "What we found out is that females can do an awful lot. Their work ethic is amazing."

Another key contrast between the male and female prisoners is their educational needs, staff members said.

All inmates coming into the prison camp take a test to determine their educational level; if they score below the eighth grade they must take a mandatory 90-day course, said camp Education and Recreation Coordina-



Lydia Delgado, center, tutors Nellie Miranda, far left, and Nubia Gomez, foreground, in Spanish, reading and the Bible at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury.

tor Susan Nanassy. About half of the women do not pass the test, a higher percentage than among the men, she said.

The women are more willing to participate in recreational events purely for fun, whereas the men either do not get involved at all or "compete down to the wire," Nanassy said. The men would never be found playing in a tournament featuring egg tosses and wheelbarrow races, she said.

"I don't find it more difficult (dealing with women)," Nanassy

said. "I kind of treat them the same. There certainly are differences: the way they think, the way they move things and accomplish things. Women have a lot more energy," Nanassy said.

"Basically, they have the same needs with a little different accent," Nanassy continued.

Several staff members said the women are concerned about how much jewelry they can wear and whether they can do their own laundry or not.

The women kicked up quite a fuss

over the fact they they could not have purses, a staff member said. One woman said that not being able to carry a pocketbook was stripping her of her femininity and said the staff might as well "take away our bras."

"I'm not used to hearing that," the staff member said.

Lefebvre said many of the complaints and problems the women have brought to the staff's attention are new to the staff.

Men do have worries and concerns

about their families and what types of jobs they will get upon release, but were less inclined to talk at length about these problems, staff said.

Another noticeable difference between male and female prisoners is that the women often got involved in a crime along with a husband or boyfriend.

"I've yet to see any masterminds," a staff member said of the female inmates. "What I'm seeing at the camp are pawns."

Some of the female prisoners say they are privileged to serve their time in a camp as opposed to a higher-security prison. Others loathe every moment at the camp. And then there are those who take it in stride and try to make the best of a less-than-perfect situation.

"It's nice here. Look at the grounds. It feels more like a country club than a prison," said 22-year-old Karen Maciunski of New Jersey, who also came from Alderson. Maciunski, who is serving a nine-month sentence for violation of probation based on a possession of cocaine charge and was, on a recent day, listening to a portable radio as she mowed the camp's front lawn.

Like all the women here, Maciunski is eager to be released. But she credits prison with helping her break a drug habit and giving her a second chance to make a life for herself.

"If I hadn't gotten locked up, I'd still be out on the street. ... This place saved my life."

A tall, auburn-haired woman who owned a landscape business and has a master's degree in business administration said, "My God, yes," when

asked if she preferred the camp to the prison in Alderson.

"That (Alderson) was prison. This is a place where you do your time as a person," said the woman who is serving a three-year sentence for tax fraud. The woman, who would not give her name, said she had to share a room in Alderson with a woman who had killed four people.

But even though she is glad she is serving her sentence in what she considers a more humane environment, she, unlike some of the other women, does not believe she will derive any benefit from the experience.

"This is just a waste of my life," she said.

However, some women prefer Alderson prison, which housed about 900.

A woman who gave her name only as "Frenchie" said she was told that serving time in Danbury would be easier (than Alderson), "but instead there is more tension, more pressure."

Rosemarie Miller said she preferred Alderson to the camp because there were more courses and other activities to occupy the time. There was also more space.

"There's really nothing to do except work," Miller said. "We want some leisure time, too."

She said she would like to see games between the women and members of the male cadre, but prison officials say that cannot be allowed.

Peter Dionne, a member of the male cadre, likes the idea. Co-ed sports, he said, "would relieve some pressure and tension all around."

"If we could play baseball with them once in a while, it would break the monotony," Miller said.

News-Times/Carol Kaliff

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Children

Continued from B-1

In prison, Hayes' job is to teach English to other inmates in the camp's educational program. Before her conviction, the New Jersey native had earned a college degree in accounting at Virginia State University, was a Girl Scout leader and sang in the church choir.

At the camp, she is one of the women others turn to when they need help.

"I'm like an Ann Landers," she said. "Everyone in here that knows me comes to me with their problems."

She does not hesitate to say that she preferred the Alderson prison to the camp, although at least here she can be closer to her family. FCI is more crowded, she said, and there are fewer privileges and educational opportunities for the women.

"There should be more to prepare them (inmates) to go into the world," she said. "You have to have an education to go into the world, because if you can't make money, you'll find

an easy way to make it."

"I made a stupid mistake," she said. Getting caught was almost a relief.

"In a way I was glad it was finally over," said Hayes as she sat around a round table in the camp's visiting room dressed in her khaki prison uniform.

She said she is fortunate that she was given only a three-year sentence, with 2½ years suspended, because she faced 10 years. This was her second arrest for the same offense; the first time she was given probation.

"Only God got me where I am today. He knows I'm not a bad person, and I know I'm not a bad person," she said. "My children have suffered the most from all this."

Not only did they lose their mother for six months, but while she was in prison, their father — who Hayes had not seen in about 11 years — died.

"I feel I let my children down," Hayes said.

"This is a major stumbling block in my life and it's something that I'll never get over. But I'm glad it happened when it did because it makes me appreciate the little things in life that I have."

One positive thing about prison is that she believes she has met some of her "truest friends" there.

"But I'm not sorry to be leaving," said Hayes, who will be released next month. "What's done is done. This part of my life is going to be forgotten. These are just six months that I'm going to black out. I'm starting all over again and leaving this behind."

Her plans for a fresh start include marrying a boyfriend around Christmas. She is determined to find a good-paying job, and before she would ever again get involved in something illegal, she would work two jobs, because "I can't be without my children."

"Maybe I'll even get a government job," she said.

Challenge

Continued from Page B-1

ing staff, he said.

Though there are differences between male and female prisoners, the staff is discovering that incarceration causes people to act differently whether they are male or females.

"There is something in the dynamics of being confined ... and how they (prisoners) behave toward people who set those limits," Lefebvre said.

Men and women both will seek ways to maneuver themselves into situations that will benefit them, using an array of ploys, he said.

"People who best manipulate their circumstances create the most comfortable of worlds for themselves," he said.

The "honeymoon period" has now ended and both the women and the staff are becoming entrenched in routines. For the most part, a mutual respect has developed, Lefebvre said, and the staff is realizing that "inmates are inmates," whether they are men or women.

"... It would be simpler with the men but we're tackling our mission. That's what our duty and responsibility is," Lefebvre said.

This is just one of many missions that Lefebvre has tackled during his 17-year career with the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

His first job with the prison system came after he had spent four years in the military and was working in retail sales while studying for a business career. But he ended up taking a course in sociology that sparked a desire to pursue a master's degree in the subject, specializing in deviant behavior and social control. He earned a scholarship to attend Tufts University in Medford, Mass., where he earned a master's degree in sociology.

"I got out of school and said, 'What do I do now?'" Lefebvre said.

He thought about returning to school for a doctorate, but said he decided instead to take a break from academics and look for a job.

During the job search he came upon some information about a correctional treatment specialist and applied. The next thing he knew he

was reporting to the Federal Detention Center in Greenwich Village, a place he described as "a dungeon" with "really archaic conditions," such as slamming steel doors and cells in which six to eight men would sleep.

"Every square inch was filled with sweating bodies," he said.

Though conditions were less than desirable and he was a bit fright-

ened, he became excited about the work he was doing "and I never looked back."

The challenge of working in corrections is to have a positive influence on the lives of people pulled away from the community into a closed society of the "keepers and the kept," he said.

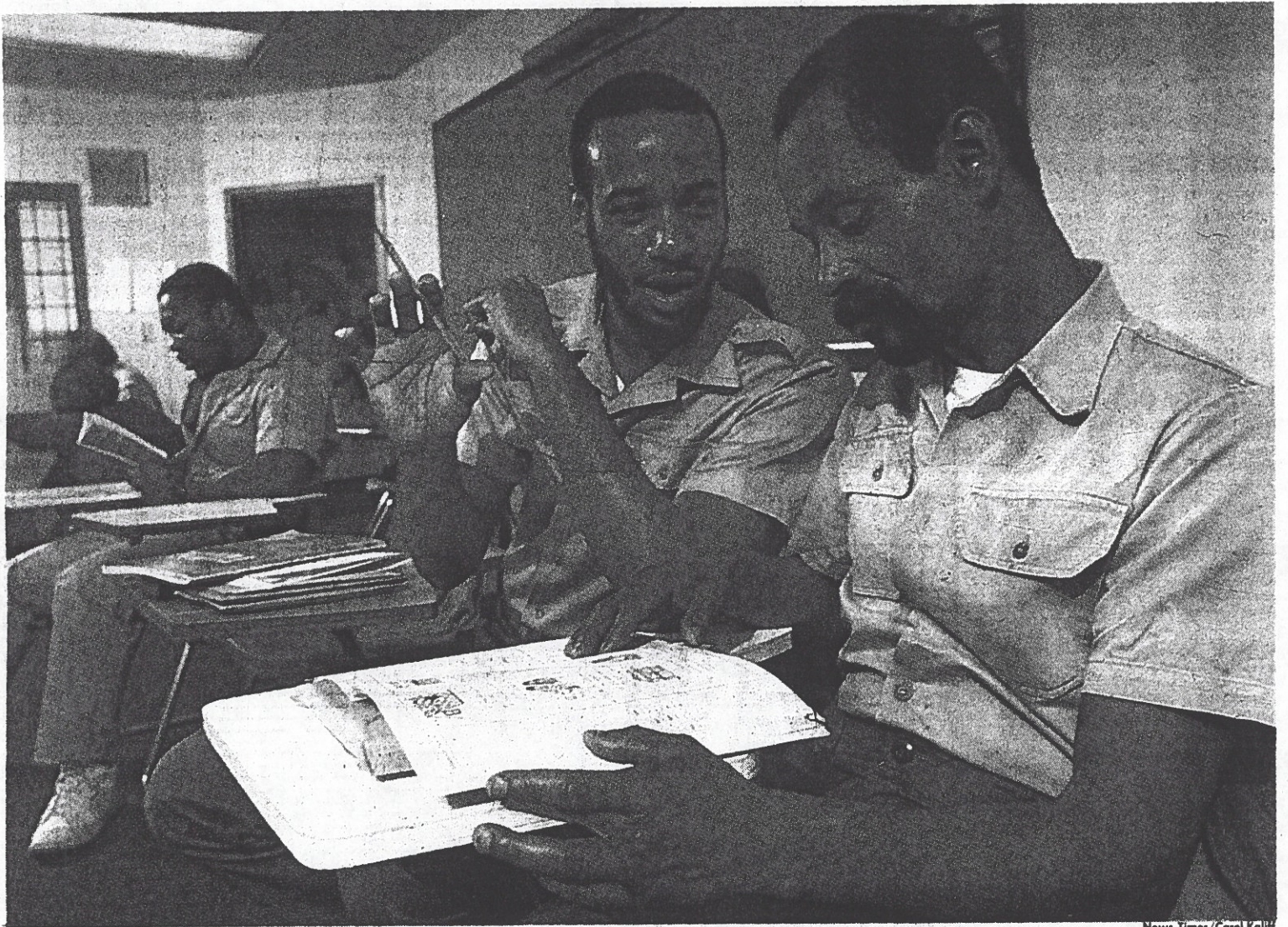
People who work in prisons are not "feelingless robots," he said. "In

fact, you shouldn't lose your humanity in this business."

It is crucial that inmates be treated as human beings in a fair and sensitive manner, and that prison workers do not feel that they must "punish these wrongdoers," Lefebvre said.

"I could just as easily be on the other side of this authority fence," he said.

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News-Times/Carol Kaliff

Barrington Talbot tutors Bernard Barnes, right, as part of a Literacy Volunteers program at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury. David Thompson practices his reading skills in the background.

Inmates help others learn to read

By Trink Guarino
News-Times staff

DANBURY — Prison officials are afraid that unless David Thompson learns to read, he will return to a life of crime to support himself once he is released from prison.

But with the help of Literacy Volunteers of Danbury, prison educators are trying to give Thompson and other illiterate inmates at the Federal Correctional Institute a shot at life on the right side of the law.

If Thompson can read a want ad and fill out a job application, maybe, just maybe, he can stay out of jail.

No one expects that he will remain in prison long enough to be given a full, complete education. No one expects that reading is the long-awaited answer to prisoner rehabilitation.

"But for someone who has never read a word before, it's a big accomplishment to be able to read a letter from home and maybe even write one back," says Brian Cassidy, 29, an inmate at the FCI on the city's north end. "And however you measure success, however much help we

can offer, there is no doubt that learning to read gives a person the tools to start a new life."

Cassidy is one of three inmates who have been trained by local literacy volunteers to teach prisoners how to help each other learn to read.

Last May, Helen Christ-Stockmal, a literacy volunteer in Danbury, began a six-session class to train 13 inmates as tutors. She has given Cassidy enough instruction that he can now train more tutors.

"What we're trying to do is tap into an existing resource — namely the literacy volunteers — to help us develop a self-sufficient system here that would enable us to teach reading to as many illiterate inmates as possible," says Richard Weigler, director of education at the FCI.

For Thompson, learning to read was a tough decision.

"He was really hostile when he started with us," says Susan Nanassy, a prison teacher for the learning disabled. "He made it very clear that he didn't want to be in class and didn't want to learn."

Thompson was ordered to her class in accordance with a prison policy that requires further

education for anyone who performs below an eighth-grade level.

"I didn't want any part of this class," Thompson says. "At first I felt like I was dead on the streets and dead in here (in prison). But after awhile, I decided it was time to get my life together."

Thompson, a husky 22-year-old from Washington, D.C., who will not say why he was imprisoned, says he visualized a day when his infant daughter would grow up and ask him to read her a story.

"I didn't want to have to admit I can't read. I wanted to be able to read to my girl. I want to get out of here and be able to support her," he says with a boyish smile. "I decided that as long as I was in this class, I might as well make the best of it."

Stephen Frazier, 32, has ambitions he hopes to realize with the help of literacy volunteers.

An articulate man, he has spent the past 14 months in prison, convicted of falsifying a job
See INMATES, Page 8

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Inmates

Continued from Page 1

application. "If I had been able to read, I wouldn't be in here," he says.

Frazier says he was convicted after he applied for a government job in child care. "I said I had a year in college and that I had finished high school. None of that was true."

He finished ninth-grade, "but I was slow — I couldn't really read a newspaper," he says.

With the help of his tutor, inmate Barrington Talbot, Frazier hopes to obtain his high school graduation equivalency diploma while he completes his three-year prison term. "Maybe then I can get out of here and do something with my life, support my children," Frazier says.

Talbot says he will never forget the day when, as a prisoner in the Hamden (Mass.) County Jail, he decided to become a literacy volunteer.

"I had no idea that there were adults around who cannot read," he says.

As a favor to an illiterate inmate, he began to read from the newspaper to alleviate the boredom of jail life.

"We kind of got to talking and this guy kept telling me that he was innocent. He said he was in jail because he had signed some paper," Talbot recalls. "But how could he have signed something he couldn't read."

At Talbot's urging, the inmate admitted to his attorney that he couldn't read.

"I couldn't believe it, but the guy got out. His lawyer got him off because he couldn't read the confession he had signed," Talbot says. "When I realized the kind of difference reading can make, I decided I wanted to try and help others learn."

Talbot was later convicted of mail fraud in connection with a credit card scheme and he was transferred to the FCI. "When I heard about the Literacy Volunteer program, I decided to volunteer as a tutor," he says.

As a former accountant and a college graduate, Talbot is fully up to the task.

"There are some real advantages to having inmates tutor inmates," Nanassy says. "Not only does it get tutors involved in doing something for someone else, but they have a personal perspective on the problems of their fellow inmates. They can talk about the legal problems and the frustrations of prison life because they understand firsthand."

The classroom could be inside any

public school in the country, except that curtains on the windows cannot camouflage the heavy bars.

The chalkboard with colorful letters of the alphabet bannered across the top are somewhat incongruous next to a heavily padlocked cabinet full of school supplies.

Although the classroom is full of the latest teaching equipment, from videocassette recorders to computers, there is no escaping the prison atmosphere.

Nevertheless, the inmates tackle their discussion with enthusiasm. Their problem: how to get past a prisoner's hostility and make him want to learn to read.

"Before you can get into the techniques of reading, you have to get past the fact that the students don't want to be here," Cassidy says. "They're used to fighting authority. They've been told they have to be here by the institution they despise. And now they're being told they're inadequate because they can't read."

With the skill of an experienced teacher, Cassidy draws the other tutors into the discussion. By the time they complete his course, they are better prepared to work one-on-one with illiterate inmates.

Cassidy is the ace in the hole for prison officials and Literacy Volunteers of Danbury. He is the product of extensive training from local literacy volunteers that is expected to enable prisoners to teach each other to read.

Lesson plans, videocassettes, the basics of phonics and word patterns, the use of reading test scores were all taught to Cassidy by Christ-Stockmal.

"We are really proud of Brian," says Rosemary Stark, director of Literacy Volunteers of Danbury. "This is really unique to have trained an inmate as an instructor of tutors."

Although literacy volunteers worked at the prison in the past, it was on a much smaller scale. "Now with Brian trained, he has the capacity to reach many more inmates than one or two literacy volunteers could ever have hoped to do," Stark says with pride.

For Cassidy, the experience is particularly rewarding. A Philadelphia tax and investment planner, he was convicted of conspiracy to sell drugs.

"Being a teacher like this and working with literacy volunteers makes me appreciate my own education," he says. "And maybe it will keep me out of trouble when I get out."

P. 1/2

Cell bars don't confine soccer team's spirits

By Kent A. Miles
News-Times staff

DANBURY - The soccer ball thumped each time a player kicked it across the carefully manicured field. Several men, clad in shorts or sweatpants and wearing sneakers or cleats, raced after the ball with each far-flung kick.

Fundamentals came second that afternoon as they showed off to visitors soccer skills picked up in places like Guatemala and Colombia, Jamaica and Nigeria and Puerto Rico.

A short but solidly built player aimed squarely for the net stretched between the painted goalposts, and let fly the ball from 30 yards away.

It missed by a foot, and rolled out of bounds. A plainclothes federal guard kicked the ball back onto the field. Other plainclothes guards, their keys jangling as they moved, walked slowly along the sidelines.

The home field is at the Federal Correctional Institution. The players are all inmates, who have formed the first all-prison team and played against semi-professional teams from New England and New York State this summer on the prison field.

Off the field, dressed in the prison garb of khaki trousers and shirts instead of matching warmup suits and soccer cleats, the all-prison team recently talked about their game.

Other inmates, curious to hear the conversation, peeked occasionally through the glass window that separated the office from the factory.

Their soccer opponents found themselves playing to a more partisan crowd than they had been used to. The home field is inside the prison, although guards are inconspicuous.

The players, the coaches, and in some cases even the officials, were inmates. Yet dirty tricks

and excessive roughness is not characteristic of the team. As some of the players have said, the game is more strategy and skill than roughness.

The players are good. This summer they won seven out of eight games, losing only to a semi-professional team from Rhode Island.

The 15 players on the prison team are mostly natives of Latin America, West Africa, or Jamaica. All share a love and respect for the game.

They acquired their skills over the years in professional and international tournaments. But, the players said, it took two coaches to teach them the subtleties of the game that have been essential to the team's success.

Julio Gavira and Jaime Gomez are natives of Colombia, and like many of their teammates have been imprisoned on drug convictions. They speak little English. Between them the two player-coaches have 37 years of professional and semi-professional soccer experience.

"In the beginning of the summer, we saw some of our people in the yard playing soccer," said Gomez, speaking English awkwardly.

It was Gavira, a former World Cup player for Colombia in the late 1960s and '70s, who recommended the idea of an institutional team after seeing the caliber of the intramural players, Gavira said.

At the time, the prison's Pan-American Society was arranging the tournaments in the facility. Six teams of prisoners competed against each other in elimination tournaments for trophies and T-shirts, and for the right to be called the best soccer team in the prison.

The players, however, wanted to exhibit their skills to civilian clubs.

See KICKS, Page B-15



Federal Correctional Institution soccer teammates Luis Restrepo, left, Jerome Harris and Edwin Alcock chase a soccer ball downfield.

Synn Media

Kicks

Continued from Page B-1

"We had a good team. The main thing was we had to bring in competition from outside teams," said Antonio Virella.

Virella, a soccer player for most of his adult life, played professionally in Argentina and later as a semi-professional in Philadelphia. He has served 14 months of a 10-year sentence for narcotics.

Soliciting outside competition was tricky. Money was no problem; the recreation budget, which funds competition in five different sports and varies annually, helps pay for the two game referees. And visiting teams were undaunted by the idea of playing against federal prisoners.

The problem was that many of the clubs were competing in organized semi-professional leagues and had no room on their schedules for the prison team. Those teams that did schedule a date often had to travel long distances to compete.

The visiting clubs came from Pennsylvania, New York State, and parts of Connecticut to play.

"It's hard for us to get competition sometimes. Most of the teams do not like to travel," said Frank Rotunda, recreation director at the prison.

The prisoners were quick to acknowledge that it was Rotunda, a Danbury native and one of the organizers of the Danbury Police Athletic League, who arranged many of the team's games with outside opponents.

"This is probably one of the biggest soccer programs in the system, as far as how many inmates participate," said Rotunda. "Most Spanish and most Colombians in other institutions cannot get six teams together. This is one of the biggest, if

not the biggest, programs in the federal system as far as how many inmates participate in soccer."

The players involve themselves in the organization of the schedule and tournaments by working with him in the recreation department, Rotunda said. Inmates also police themselves on the infraction of rules by sitting on a sanctions committee, Rotunda said.

League play takes place Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, when the field is available for the players. The players use the field daily on their own time when they are not working in the factory, where inmates build component parts for the defense department, or at other facilities at the institution.

David Phillips, a tall, sinewy team member, has played soccer for 10 of his 26 years, mostly in the West Indies. Phillips said he plays midfielder, a physically demanding position that requires skill in both offense and defense.

Off the field, dressed in his prison garb, Phillips said he was involved with the intramural games when Gavira invited him to try out for the institutional team.

Phillips looks forward to the outside competition for more reasons than the sport alone. "When I first got in jail, I used to call my wife all the time. I used to be frustrated, and talk, you know, all sorts of meaningless talk," said Phillips, who has served 40 months of a 10-year sentence for narcotics.

"When I call my wife, and she asked, 'What happened?' and I tell, 'Oh, we had a game, and we won.'" He laughs. "Now, it's a different attitude. I'm able to talk to her now.

I'm settled. I look forward to do something now, to playing the game."

Virella also credits the game with making life behind bars easier and more tolerable.

"Every time you would call home, it's always the same thing, until you get involved," said Virella, 45. "You have good people here, and they get involved in different kinds of things."

The players say the game is more than a diversion.

"It shows we are inmates, but it also shows we look forward to the competition," said Virella. "We showed, out of the eight games we were only there to play soccer. We didn't look for fights, or dirty tricks, because we knew that if we did those kind of things, we would have no more competition."

"It means we were just looking for the sport."

Espionage entering FCI here

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fort Wayne, Ind., Journal-Gazette Editor Craig Klugman accompanied convicted spy Samuel Loring Morison to the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury when Morison turned himself in after being convicted of violating the 1917 Espionage Statute. Here is the story of that journey to jail.

By Craig Klugman
Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette

DANBURY — Samuel Loring Morison, convicted spy, asked me to stop the car just inside the grounds of the federal prison. He wanted to take a walk for a few minutes before turning himself in. "Don't worry," he said. "I'll come back."

Yes, he did, in about one minute. I watched him walk away from the car, his gait splayfooted and his pants loose fitting because he had lost 15 pounds in the last several weeks.

He was maybe 20 feet from the car when the white prison station

See ESPIONAGE, Page A-3

Espionage

Continued from Page A-1

wagon with an armed guard pulled up. The guard demanded to know why Sam was walking on the road leading to the main prison building and then ordered us to move on.

"If you have a self-surrender," he snapped, "you go up there and get that taken care of."

Welcome to the Danbury FCI, or Federal Correctional Institution, a low- to medium-security prison where only the guards outside carry guns, but where your mail is censored and where 55 percent of the inmates are there for drug-related offenses. For about a year, it will be home for Morison, 43, the only person ever convicted of violating a 1917 espionage statute.

Morison's crime, though, was not espionage as it is conventionally defined. What he did was leak top-secret photographs to the press, and his conviction nearly three years ago has raised deep concerns among U.S. news organizations.

His imprisonment doesn't end his case because the Supreme Court hasn't decided whether to hear his appeal. But it does end a frantic month of court pleas to keep him out of prison pending the appeal, talk of suicide, hospitalization and, finally, acceptance of the inevitable.

I was drawn into the case because of the concern among news organizations. Many of them including The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, the Chicago Tribune, CBS, NBC, ABC, Time, Newsweek, U.S. News ' World Report and the American Society of Newspaper Editors have joined in filing a court brief in Morison's behalf.

I started writing about Morison two years ago, partly because I was on an ASNE committee that was

thinking about recommending support for his cause.

Over the months, I've written three columns about Morison, I've covered oral arguments in the U.S. Court of Appeals and, most significant for this story, I've gotten to know him. We talked on the phone several times a month, we discussed writing a book, we saw each other when I visited Washington, and we exchanged Christmas cards.

When it became clear Morison would very likely have to go to jail before his appeals were exhausted, he became anxious and depressed. So I volunteered to make sure he got there.

I did so not only out of friendship but also for this story. I've never accompanied anyone to prison, and I admit a driving curiosity about what it was like and what the effects of such a prospect would be on someone.

So that's how I ended up having dinner with Morison Tuesday night and flying with him the next morning from Washington to White Plains, N.Y., where we rented a car to drive to Danbury.

On the flight, we talked about his family and his outlook because his family has been a pivotal force in all this. He is the grandson of the late Samuel Eliot Morison, the distinguished naval historian who won two Pulitzer Prizes for his biographies of John Paul Jones and Christopher Columbus.

It was because of his grandfather that the younger Morison served in the U.S. Navy and has worked for the government. And since his arrest, he has been living off a trust fund the elder Morison had set up for his grandchildren.

Some branches of the family have supported Morison through his ordeal. But others, particularly those in Boston, have been less than help-

ful. It appears to me that Morison's case has permanently rent a family already spinning apart.

It was the distinguished family name that weighed heavily on Morison as his case worked its way through the courts, especially as prison came to be more and more imminent.

"When all is said and done . . . I'm Samuel Loring Morison," he said on the flight to White Plains. "I'm a namesake of a famous historian. . . . I never in my life tried to surpass him. . . . I'm not Joe Blow. . . . Whether those jerks and bastards in Boston like it or not, that's it. I am who I am. I know what I am and what I can do. . . . "I sent the photographs. . . . So, I'm wrong. Therefore, I'm over 21, and I have to accept responsibility for doing it, even if it kills me. I use that term figuratively.

"I don't care if the . . . in Boston like it. I will not let the family name down, period."

Those last couple of comments are a change in his thinking and allude to what was going on in Morison's life before he entered prison: He was considering suicide, primarily because of what he thought he was doing to the family name, and he talked with me about it several times. I was worried enough to talk with a local psychologist, who said there appeared to be reason for concern.

This sort of talk intensified shortly before Memorial Day weekend, when he entered the hospital with what he says was a blood pressure of 178 over 140 and what he thought or told himself anyway was a heart problem. He checked himself out two days later. Whatever it was that he had, and it does appear to have in some way affected his heart, the symptoms were almost certainly brought on by anxiety.

At the time that was going on, Morison was under orders to enter prison June 3. But through several court actions that turned on legal side issues, Morison learned the day before that he wouldn't have to surrender until 2 p.m., June 15.

Somehow, from the moment of that delay, Morison seemed to come to grips with himself. He told me that a woman he describes as "a longtime lady friend" had talked him out of suicide, and, equally significant, he made the plane reservations for both of us.

The flight to White Plains went fast because I was interviewing him. I asked him whether he had a knot in his stomach. "No, it's right here," he said, hitting his sternum. And, later, he said: "My mouth feels like sandpaper."

We drove the 40 miles to Danbury pretty much in silence. We pulled over at a rest stop, where I felt a little strange in asking directions to the pen.

"Oh, we get a lot of that," the man behind the counter said. "Federal marshals bring guys in shackles."

He paused, looking at me. "Are you going in?" he asked.

I assured him I wasn't. But since he was curious, I had another question: What's a good restaurant, so that a man who was going in could have a good meal? He gave me the name of a restaurant on the way to the prison.

At lunch, Morison had a turkey club, which he didn't finish, and a gin and tonic, which he did. Our meal was punctuated by long, awkward silences, as he stared at the wall and I struggled to think of things to say. My notes show only one quote from the restaurant:

"If I'd known it was against the law," he said, half an hour before he would enter prison, "I would have handled it differently."



Patricia Cummings rakes leaves as part of her work with the grounds crew at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury.

News-Times/David W. Harple

Inmates are gardeners, too

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — As you drive north along Route 37, on the right side of the road lies a large, carefully manicured piece of land encircled by tall trees, stone walls and flower beds. Occasionally, a flock of geese gathers on the lawn.

At first glance, you might guess this is some sort of resort, maybe a park or even a golf course. But upon closer inspection you would see "No Trespassing" signs and a driveway with a brick wall and a sign identifying the property as the Federal Correctional Institution.

The credit for the attractive surroundings goes to the crew of prisoners who maintain the grounds; some of them were in careers related to landscaping before being sentenced to prison, while others may have hardly mowed a lawn.

"It's a good way for them to do their time," said Dean Hollenbach, the FCI landscape foreman, who oversees the crew of about 10 women and eight men. "It gives them a sense of pride."

The crew maintains the prison's 355 acres, including 14 staff houses.

Inmate Michael Phillippo minored in land-

scaping at Cornell University in 1970 and, as the manager of a country club in New York, had landscapers under his direction. Now he has calluses from the work he does on the prison grounds. But he said he doesn't mind.

"I just like to keep busy," said Phillippo, 42, who is serving an eight-year sentence on drug charges. "It's no fun being in prison, so work is good therapy."

Pat Cummings, one of the newest women inmates at the FCI prison camp, owned a landscaping business before her conviction for income tax fraud, so gardening was not unfamiliar to her and she said it serves as somewhat of a solace.

She considers herself fortunate to have a physical job that she knows how to do and that she can enjoy while serving her sentence.

"It makes this (prison) more bearable," Cummings said.

She and Phillippo said that it is nice to see the fruits of their labor appreciated, and they find the work atmosphere agreeable because Hollenbach accepts suggestions and Warden Dennis Luther promotes neat and attractive grounds.

"Our superiors listen to our ideas . . . and I'm

always coming up with new things to do," said Cummings, who has suggested planting more flowers in front of the prison and was able to get an order of 500 tulip and daffodil bulbs so that there will be "instant color after Connecticut's gray winter."

The prisoners are responsible for all the mowing, trimming, pruning, raking, planting and snow plowing, as well as maintaining all the equipment, Hollenbach said.

"It is one of the hardest jobs around the prison to do," Cummings said.

Phillippo admitted that there are times, especially in the winter, when he doesn't look forward to going to work.

"Getting up at 4 a.m. to shovel snow is painful, but somebody has to do it," he said.

For security reasons, there are certain restrictions on the grounds maintenance, and Phillippo said that often keep the crew from doing as much work as it would like.

But even with the restrictions, Phillippo said the job is better than some because it offers a certain amount of freedom and requires some trust.

"It is a privilege," Cummings said.

FCI going coed

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — There will be a gender change soon at the Federal Correctional Institution prison camp — female prisoners will be coming to what has traditionally been an all-male prison.

Between 65 and 70 women from the federal prison in Alderson, W.Va., will be moved within the next few months to the Danbury minimum-security camp, situated several hundred yards northeast of the main medium-security prison.

The Danbury FCI will be the first prison in the federal system to put women in a minimum-security camp, said Kathy Morse, public information officer for the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

Morse said the women will arrive at the prison within the next 90 days, but FCI Warden Dennis Luther said that timetable is a "ballpark figure," and that the move could take place anywhere from a month to six months from now.

Most of the women who will be sent to the prison camp are serving time for white-collar crimes such as fraud and embezzlement, Morse said, although some will just be finishing out the end of a sentence.

"Some people do whole sentences (in a prison camp), some do part and some never see a camp," Morse said.

The prison camp is a minimum-security facility with no physical barriers to enclose the inmates. It is for prisoners in the lowest security risk category and offers the prisoners more freedom and recreational opportunities.

Camp inmates are assigned different work details, including taking care of the prison's 350 acres, Luther said, and that will not change when the women arrive.

"The public will have to become accustomed to seeing females out cutting the grass rather than males," he said.

But because the women may not have the mechanical skills many men have, Luther said, about 25 men of the current camp inmates will be kept at FCI to form a skilled work cadre.

The other 183 men now housed at the camp will be sent to other minimum security prisons in Morgantown, W.Va., Allenwood, Pa., and Loretto, Pa.

The main prison in Danbury houses another 1,066 men.

The move may be the result of a lawsuit filed by some inmates at the Alderson, W.Va., prison, who complained about the lack of women's prison camps.

Morse said a class action lawsuit — one on behalf of a large group — had been filed, but she had no details and could not say whether the suit was the reason the female prison camp is being established.

She did say that another 200-bed prison camp for women is being built in Phoenix, Ariz. There are about 21 prison camps in the federal prison system.

Morse also said that the nation's largest prison population problem is in the Northeast, which made Danbury a good site for a female camp.

Danbury is the only federal prison in the Northeast with a minimum-security camp, Luther said, and it is located near two large metropolitan areas — New York and Boston —

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News-Times/David W. Harple

The prison camp at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury is in the lower part of the photo. The main prison is at top.

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where many women are sentenced.

For several years, the number of women being sentenced to federal prison has outnumbered the number of men, Luther said, and the trend is likely to continue.

Of the total federal prison population of 43,969, there are 2,799 women, Morse said.

Both Luther and Morse predicted it won't take long for the Danbury camp to reach its capacity of 208.

"I'm sure they'll be able to fill it," Morse said.

Some of the Danbury FCI employees are not happy with the prospect of women inmates.

"I consider it a nightmare come true," said one prison employee, who asked to remain anonymous. "Females are just considered bad. They fight and are more violent, believe it or not. They fight over nothing, just fight for the sake of fighting."

But the man did not expect that there would be any problem with the

male and female prisoners mingling.

"There's a big fence between the two of them," the employee said, referring to the fences around the main building. "That's going to keep them apart."

There is no barrier around the prison camp.

Another staff member was also skeptical.

"Female inmates have unique problems," said the employee who also asked not to be identified. "They're nastier, but they are still inmates."

The camp staff will consist of two case managers, three correctional counselors and three guards working in a 24-hour shift, said camp administrator Lee Enzor.

"I expect by and large the operation procedures will remain virtually the same," Enzor said.

"Certainly we will be involved in some training for those who will be dealing with the women to make

them knowledgeable about how to deal with them."

Luther said a few more women employees will be needed to conduct strip searches of the inmates.

About seven staff members will visit the Alderson, W.Va., FCI early next month to learn how the women's prison operates.

Clifford Steenhoff, steward of the prison staff union and a correctional counselor at the camp, said the union has asked to talk with the administration over the impact of this change. He declined further comment.

Enzor admitted that the change may take some getting used to, but was confident that the staff was prepared to handle the new arrivals.

"The staff has pretty much accepted that we're going to have an admission change, and I'm sure they will make whatever adjustments to make sure that admission change goes effectively," Enzor said.

FCI opens gates of camp to first women prisoners

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — Lydia Delgado had no idea she would be the first woman to be admitted into the all-male Federal Correctional Institution — and she conjured up mental pictures of a place like something “out of an old James Cagney movie.”

To her relief, the 38-year-old woman said FCI on Route 37 looked nothing like that. And she said the staff showed compassion about her nervousness.

Delgado came on Tuesday and was joined yesterday by two other women early in the day. At about 7 p.m., a busload of 39 female prisoners transferred from the Alderson, W.Va., federal prison arrived.

These are the first female prisoners ever to be housed at FCI in its 50-year history. All of the women have been sentenced to the institution's minimum-security prison camp, which until a month ago housed men.

The camp may not appear noticeably different, but there have been a lot of interior changes and other accommodations made in anticipation of the women's arrival, Camp Administrator Paul Lefebvre said.

Camp halls have been painted, bathrooms refurbished, a barber shop converted to a beauty salon, dormitories

cleaned and indoor recreation areas altered for female preferences. An outdoor recreation area will be changed to accommodate women's preferences in sports, and work is under way on an outpatient medical clinic and dentist office.

“We look at today with a great deal of anticipation and apprehension,” said Craig Apker, executive assistant to the warden. “We have tried to anticipate everything to make life comfortable for the women, but we won't have thought of everything.”

Delgado of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Betty Howard, 58, of Norfolk, Va., were the first two arrivals and both praised the reception they received from staff.

Both women are first offenders, and this is the first time they have ever been inside a prison — though FCI's prison camp has no physical barriers and allows inmates more privileges and freedom than any other prison in the federal system.

“I got so scared because I didn't know what to expect,” said Delgado, who spent her first night in the main prison hospital because the camp was not yet ready.

“They (the staff) made a traumatic experience very bearable,” said Delgado, who will be serving a three-

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Lydia Delgado was the first female inmate to arrive at the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury yesterday.

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month sentence for mail fraud. “... I thank God every day I was able to come here. I was really scared about going somewhere else.”

Howard, convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to FCI for six months, said this is the first time in 26 years she has been separated from her husband Harley. She was frightened about coming but the staff has made the transition much easier than she expected.

“It really seems nice here,” said the grandmotherly woman with a Southern accent. “I know it's going to be an adjustment but I have a peace and contentment about it. I'll be fine.”

Preparations for the conversion started when prison officials announced in March that FCI on Route 37 would become the first federal prison camp for women, requiring the reassignment of the 208 male inmates house there.

Some inmates resented being relocated and some unsuccessfully attempted lawsuits to stop the conversion, Lefebvre said.

The majority of inmates were transferred to one of four other minimum-security prisons in Morgantown, W.Va., Loretto, Pa., Allenwood, Pa., and the prison camp at Lewisburg, Pa., he said. About 47 inmates were transferred to the main prison to be a part of a special work cadre to do some skilled jobs at the camp.

The first prison camp for women opened recently in Marianna, Fla., where the federal prison system

built a new facility. But prison officials maintain that FCI was the prison first chosen to be a female camp, and is the first prison camp that had to be converted.

The change was met by both staff and inmates with some trepidation, but as everyone became more used to the idea, a feeling of acceptance settled in and yesterday there was a sense of heightened anticipation for the challenge presented by the new order.

“It's been kind of fun, really,” Lefebvre said. “I think it's going to be an exciting change. I'm really looking forward to it.”

For most of the staff, this is the first time they have ever worked with female prisoners, and though they are anxious about the changes, Lefebvre praised their ability to make necessary adjustments.

The prison camp has 196 beds, and Lefebvre predicted that the number of women will climb from the 42 there now to about 100 by next month.

“They're inmates and they're here to serve time and serve time as productively as possible,” one female prison employee said. “We treat everyone with the same respect, and I just don't see that there is any difference.”

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Keep FCI in Danbury

Dennis Luther, warden of the Federal Correctional Institution, is right when he says the federal government should pay prison employees enough to live in the Danbury area.

But his idea of selling the FCI property and moving the prison to another location where the land costs and living expenses are cheaper is much too drastic.

The FCI is as much a part of Danbury as any other institution in the city. It is a welcome neighbor and good employer.

Condemning prisons to rural areas is not good criminal justice policy. Inmates need to be regularly visited by their families to assure the best readjustment to society once they are released. And society should see prisons as a natural part of any community, not just low-rent districts.

The proposal to move the FCI is

an outgrowth of the problems Luther is having in recruiting and keeping employees. The starting salary for corrections officers at the FCI is \$16,521, an unlivable and uncompetitive salary in the Danbury area.

Adding a housing allowance to an employee's paycheck is not unusual in many industry and even government jobs.

That the federal government has not done this shows a disappointing lack of interest in keeping good employees. The Bureau of Prisons should also build more staff housing on prison property, an idea that is being explored.

The Bureau of Prisons' pay scale is not just a problem in Connecticut. But it is something Connecticut's congressional delegation should try to do something about.

Whatever is done, however, should be designed to keep the FCI in Danbury.

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Move FCI, warden suggests

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

DANBURY — If the federal government doesn't want to pay Federal Correctional Institution employees enough to live in Fairfield County, it should sell the 350-acre prison and build another somewhere else, Warden Dennis Luther said yesterday.

Luther said it is "short-sighted" of the government to continue paying guards and other employees at the Danbury prison the same as employees in rural areas of Alabama.

The starting salary for corrections officers at the FCI is \$16,521; employees in the state of Connecticut's corrections system start at \$20,383.

"It's unconscionable — it's almost immoral," said the 42-year-old warden, who earns \$68,000 a year and lives on the FCI grounds off Route 37.

Luther blamed low wages for a growing shortage of guards and other prison vacancies, and said he does not see the situation improving, especially with the state preparing to build a new 400-bed, medium-security jail — and create more jobs — in nearby Newtown.

"It is clear the problem is only going to get worse," Luther said.

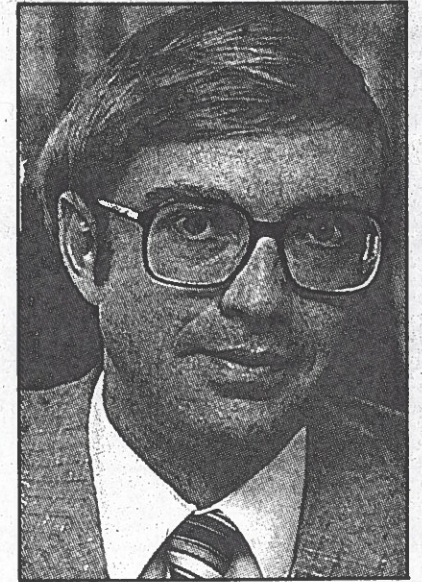
Luther, interviewed in his office yesterday, was transferred to the FCI in 1984 from the Metropolitan

Correctional Center in Chicago, where he was warden for five years. He has worked for the federal prison system for 17 years.

He said he wanted to talk publicly about his concerns over wages for FCI employees and about their safety in a prison that has more inmates than it is designed to handle.

Luther's suggestion to sell the FCI and build in a less expensive area, where the government can afford to fully staff the prison, is not just a throw-away idea. He made a similar proposal to the Federal Bureau of Prisons two years ago, when the problems with staffing and overcrowding weren't

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Dennis Luther
FCI warden

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as acute, and plans to keep it alive.

Federal officials were mildly receptive to the idea at the time, he said, but because of the desperate need for bed space in prisons, it was deemed not feasible.

Salaries for federal prison employees are established by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. For guards, the top salary is \$23,866, unless they get special job performance promotions, which could earn them a maximum of \$26,435. The state's top pay for corrections officers through the regular promotion system is \$24,690.

The FCI has 27 guard openings right now, along with a number of vacancies in other departments, that Luther said he is attempting to fill with temporary and part-time help. Employees in other departments are being switched around to cover the vacant guard posts, causing them to get behind in their own work, he said.

The prison is authorized to have 247 employees, 89 of whom can be corrections officers.

The FCI originally was designed to house 514 prisoners, then was renovated during the mid-1970s so it could accommodate about 1,100. The prison now has 1,274 inmates, 208 of whom are in a separate prison camp.

Luther said the main prison facility should not house more than 800 prisoners, and the camp no more than 165.

"We should at least explore selling the property and building an institution in another part of the country where we can staff it," Luther said. "The facility is 50 years old, we need to put a lot of money into the institution, we cannot staff it and the property is extremely valuable."

"You know, he might be right," said Cliff Steenhoff, a corrections counselor at the FCI and the regional vice president of Local 33 of the Council of Prisons, American Federation of Government Employees. "They're going to have to do something to maintain staff here."

A Federal Bureau of Prisons contractor, who studied the use of space at the FCI, has proposed \$30 million worth of major renovations, which Luther said he will oppose unless salaries are substantially increased. He added that any construction probably would occur about the same time the Newtown jail is being built.

"Over the next year we're going to have to make a decision whether we're committed to continue operating the facility, and if we are, we're going to have to be more competitive in recruiting staff," he said.

The FCI is not in competition with the Connecticut prison system now, he said, but when the Newtown jail is built it will be.

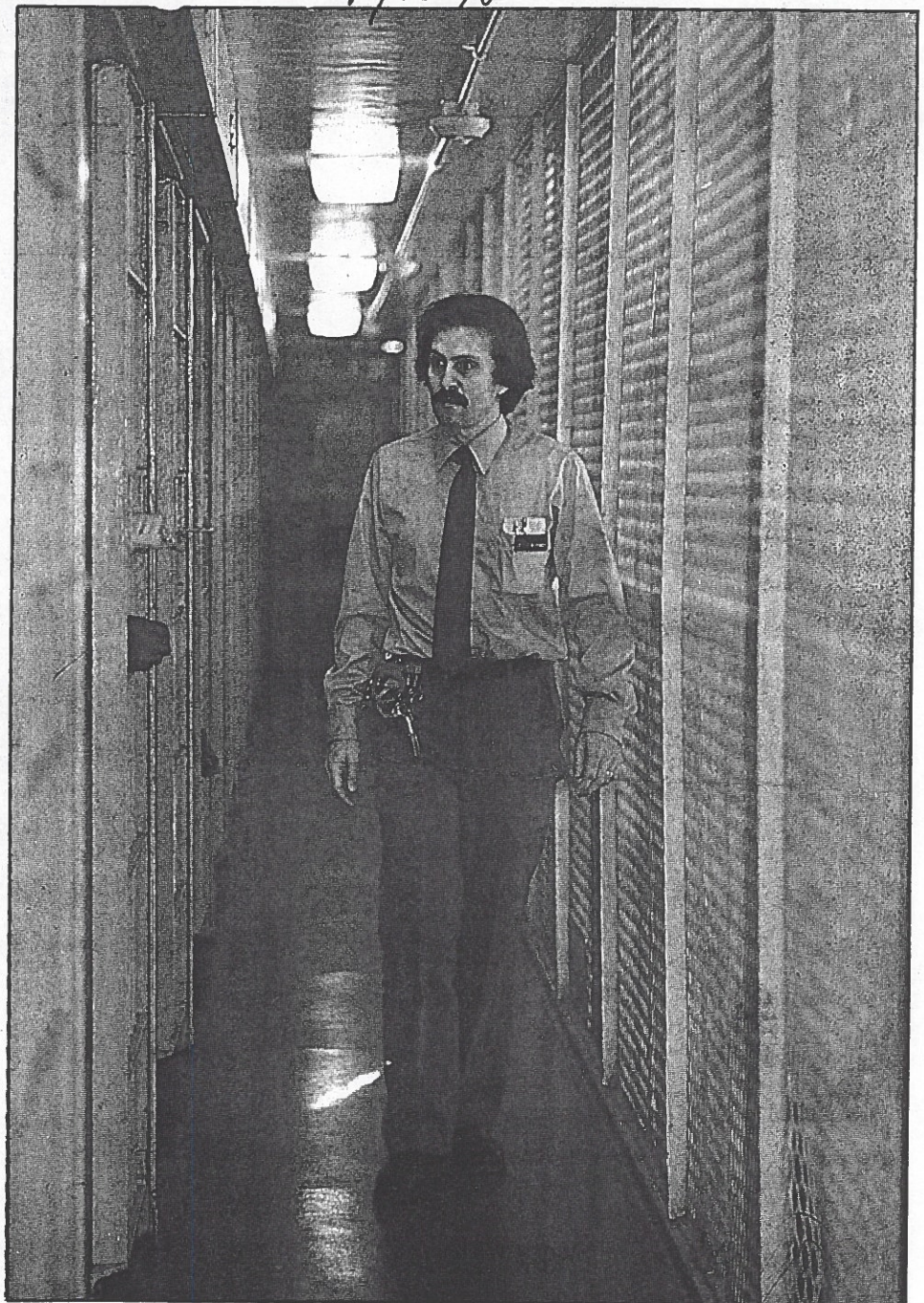
"When Newtown opens up, something is going to have to happen," Steenhoff agreed. "I think that's going to be the catalyst."

Luther said he has suggested a number of options to Federal Bureau of Prisons Director Michael Quinlan, including providing employees in Danbury with housing allowances or pay differentials to make up for the higher cost of living in the area.

Luther and the regional prison director, Z.S. Grzegorek, also are working on a proposal to build 10 townhouses for permanent family housing on the prison grounds. The prison now has about 12 houses for executive staff members.

He said that he has instituted intense recruiting efforts to find replacements for the employees who are leaving, but that because of the salaries, few people want the jobs.

As an incentive for new employees, Luther said,



News-Times/Carol Kaliff

Correctional officer James Blocker monitors cells in the Administrative Detention Unit of the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury.

for temporary housing until they find their own places to live.

"The most frustrating thing about it is that I have a lot of really dedicated staff compelled to do the very best job they can do, and when you have staff shortages it makes their workload so much greater and it places an increased burden on the staff we do have," Luther said. "The whole phenomena is stress-provoking for staff at all levels and contributes to frustration, fatigue and burn-out."

Luther said there has been no increase in assaults on guards or prisoners as vacancies accumulate, but he is concerned over a midnight shift with only eight or nine guards in the building. He also is uncomfortable with a changing prison in which guards are less experienced and prisoners are serving more time for more serious crimes.

Luther said he is proud of the things he has done locally to "put off the inevitable, such as what he called the most active employee incentive program among all the federal prisons. He also said he has talked to prison officials and even met with U.S. Rep. John Rowland, R-5th Dist., about the problems.

"I'm probably making as much noise as I possibly can make," he said.

But he wishes his hands were less tied.

"The thing I see day after day that I find very frustrating . . . is that we just have a great number of really dedicated staff just putting too much energy into their jobs," Luther said. "They're taking time away from their personal lives and families and I'm very proud of them, and I wish there was more I could do for them. I think they really understand that, but it doesn't make it any less

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Crowding, guard shortages plague FCI

By Nanci Gustafson
News-Times staff

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DANBURY — The Federal Correctional Institution is ailing. It has too many prisoners and a shortage of guards, and other employees are leaving because they don't make enough money to live in Fairfield County, according to a union official.

And the picture doesn't look as though it's going to get any prettier soon, he said.

"I don't see a light at the end of the tunnel," said Cliff Steenhoff, a union leader and corrections counselor at the federal prison on Route 37.

It houses 1,274 prisoners, 288 of whom are in a prison camp on the property.

The FCI is designed now to handle about 1,100 prisoners, according to administrators, who don't deny that the prison is suffering but maintain that the illness is not terminal.

"We're not at the point where we can't operate," said Robert Hassen, the executive assistant to Warden Dennis Luther.

But he readily admitted that the shortage of prison guards, mainly owing to disenchantment with low wages, has caused some distress.

The key complaint Steenhoff cites is money — the federal prison system pays about \$4,000 less than the state of Connecticut does for a starting corrections employee.

The starting salary for FCI corrections officers is \$16,521; the state pays its officers \$20,383 to start. Through regular promotions, federal prison guards can earn a maximum of \$23,866, compared to \$24,690 for the state.

The federal prison also has job performance promotions that could bring a qualifying corrections officer up to a maximum of \$26,435.

"The turnover is just so fast, I can't keep up with it," Steen-

hoff, said, adding that, just yesterday, a caseworker and correctional officer quit.

The FCI is authorized to have 247 employees, 89 of whom can be corrections officers, also referred to as guards, Hassen said. There are 66 guards now.

Anytime the number of employees is reduced, "we feel some pain and discomfort," Hassen added. Other prison employees have been taken away from their assigned duties to fill in as guards until all the vacancies are filled, he said.

"Staff frustration levels are just going through the ceiling," said Steenhoff, the regional vice-president of local 33 of the Council of Prisons, American Federation of Government Employees.

And he fears that one day, because of the inexperience of many guards, something will go wrong and someone will get hurt.

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"It just scares me that there are so many rookies," Steenhoff said, adding that a guard who has been at the FCI two years is considered experienced. "Someone is going to get frustrated and something's going to happen here."

The prisoners see the turnover, and while Steenhoff said he does not worry about more prisoners escaping, he said they see that they can get away with a lot more "inside the walls."

And the FCI is no country club prison only for white-collar criminals, such as G. Gordon Liddy and the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, officials said. Of the people serving time at the FCI today, 57.7 percent are in prison for drug offenses, and the average sentence has gone from five years or less to an average of between 2½ years and 10 years, Hassen said.

Hassen said he has heard no complaints about guards fearing for their safety.

"The administration is concerned," he said. "We're concerned when we see that number of vacancies, concerned about the safety and operation of the entire physical plant — not only the lives of the inmates but also of the staff."

Hassen pointed out that the FCI has no control over pay scales. The federal Office of Personnel Management sets the salaries and the prisons have to live with them, whether

they like it or not, he said.

Other areas, like New York, have similar problems with pay scales being inadequate for a geographical area, but the OPM does not set scales based on where an institution is located, according to Maryellen Thoms, spokesman for the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Steenhoff said he is not willing to give up without a fight.

He has contacted Connecticut's congressional delegation, including U.S. Rep. John Rowland, R-5th Dist., and he said yesterday that the union is sending a delegation to Washington, D.C., on Jan. 29 to meet with Michael Quinlan, director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and to lobby Congress for cost-of-living increases.

Steenhoff said he would like to see the pay scales hiked by about \$5,000.

Rowland's office received Steenhoff's letter just before Christmas, according to the congressman's legislative assistant, Hugh Marthinsen. He said Rowland is sympathetic to complaints about pay for federal employees and opposes the 2 percent raise they recently received because he would rather see the national budget reduced by means other than cutting federal employee salaries.

Steenhoff said that employees other than guards are leaving the FCI because of the low pay, as well as other factors, such as constant job reassignments due to vacancies.

"It's the old 'what comes first, the

scratch or the itch?'" Steenhoff said of employees leaving.

The problem is exacerbated by the fact that no one is banging down the doors to come and work at the prison, Steenhoff said.

He recalled that, when he decided to work for the federal prison system, he went first to Springfield, Mo., and was later transferred to Danbury because the waiting list for the FCI was so long. Now, the situation is totally different, he said.

"Our register is empty," he said of list of applicants.

That does not mean the prison isn't actively recruiting new employees, said Sharon Tobin, the prison's acting personnel officer.

The FCI has been recruiting in the Carolinas, as far west as Erie, Penn., in New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, upstate New York and the southeastern part of Connecticut, Tobin and Hassen said.

The difficulty is not in finding people interested in the jobs, but in finding those who can afford to live in the area when rents and housing costs are so much higher than most other places in the nation, Tobin said.

"We seem to be caught in politics," Steenhoff said. "Either they (federal legislators) don't understand the problem, or they don't care, I don't know which."

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