

They're Forced To Accept Responsibility

By CLIFF JOSON
Sentinel Staff Writer

When a prisoner comes to the new Sheriff's Rehabilitation Center, he doesn't really know how to act.

Instead of the crowded "hole" downtown, where as many as 20 men have been forced to sleep on the floor, there is an unbelievable amount of space.

Instead of four crowded "tanks" there is one structure, with room for men to remember that they are men, and not animals. There are no locks on the doors leading outside.

"At the other place all you thought about was how rotten a place it was to be in," a prisoner said. "Here you think of why you are here."

The absence of locks does not give the men freedom. Rather it forces them to accept a responsibility.

"They know they can leave anytime they want," Dave Rauhen, one of the guards, says. "And they know we won't stop them. All we do is call on the radio, and when patrol units pick them up, they've got a felony jail - break on their hands."

The guards know when a door is opened, because a red light and buzzer are tripped.

Everybody has stayed put so far, with only one prisoner deciding he couldn't handle the escape opportunity.

"This place is too loose," he told the guards. "Take me back downtown before I get into real trouble."

It is the looseness of the place that encourages the growth of social consciousness.

"They really pitch in and try to make a home of it," Rauhen said. "They do things to make the place nice."

One example is an old barber chair the prisoners refurbished, spending weeks scraping rust from the chrome, repainting it and reupholstering it. One of the inmates is a barber, and he averages six haircuts a day. His hours are before breakfast and after work parties. He closes shop at dinner time.

Most of the prisoners are serving sentences for drug or alcohol abuse. So far there are no strong-arm robbers or other violent types. "We don't think we'll have a lot of problems when we get them, though," a deputy said.

partial freedom, the men like the place because of the food.

"Here the food is really hot when you get it," a prisoner said. "And it's really good."

Working in the kitchen is one of the preferred jobs at the center, even though it means long hours, getting up early and knocking off late, dead tired. A possible reason for the kitchen's popularity is hinted at

by one prisoner, a youth. He has spent his time collecting recipes, so that he can get a job as a cook on the outside.

"He never had a job before," Rauhen said. "He didn't know how to do anything. Now he does."

Visiting privileges for the work crew prisoners at the center are more liberal than those allowed downtown. Each pris-

oner will be allowed three visitors on Sundays. They will be free to wander on the yet-unplanted lawns, with their guests. Or they can relax on the picnic tables. There will be a "no-touch" rule.

From these bright beginnings it would seem that society is at last beginning to attempt a valid "cure" for criminal behavior instead of merely locking away those who deviate from the social norm.

If it works, the \$650,000 spent on the building will be cheap, indeed.

But there is a sad note, which must be appended. The rehabilitation center is directly across a gulley from the "temporary" county labor camp.

"It's really something," the

deputy said. "The laborers come driving up here and see this building and say 'Wow! What a great place to live'. He smiled. "Then we point across the gulley to those shacks. It's a real come-down."

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STUDENTS

From near and far the cry is heard: "Listen to the college students. They have something to tell you. Let them communicate."

Communications are indeed essential to understanding; but since when has rhetoric become the sole avenue of factual expression? It is a very shallow thinker who equates communication with the words but not the acts of an individual.

If one claims to have an open mind but instead raises a clenched fist, (or picture of same); he communicates.

If he claims to believe in "Freedom of Speech" but instead he loudly stamps his feet, and deliberately shouts down a public speaker, whose views he personally dislikes; he communicates.

If he self-righteously parades as a champion for 'Civil Rights' but instead physically resists and even attacks the very officers duly authorized to defend the civil rights of all (not just a chosen few) of the citizenry; he communicates.

If he claims to be a faithful, trustworthy citizen of the country from whom he derives all of his personal freedoms, liberties, benefits, and protection, but instead treacherously "bites the hand that feeds him" as he stoops so low as to actually cheer for the victory of the foreign power engaged in killing his own fellow countrymen; he communicates.

Don't bother to tell us what the above type of college student is mouthing; rather show us what he is actually doing, for 'actions speak louder than words' in every generation without exception.

I would not close without a word of heartfelt appreciation and praise for the truly honorable students. Not very many have displayed courage as openly as have KEVIN MORAN (UCSB who put out the radical's firebombs at cost of his life); WALTER SCHIRRA III (Stanford who was reportedly trying to prevent violence from the club-swinging radical 'demonstrators' when injured); and BILL PIERSON (San Diego State College who stood alone between the U.S. flag and a reported 150 campus 'demonstrators' for three hours). We can be truly proud of all those who stand true to



The "command module" is the humorous designation for the communications and electrical control center. From this room, guards can see and hear the prisoners, as

well as control the heat and lights. The hand painted Command Module sign above the door features a peace emblem in its corner.

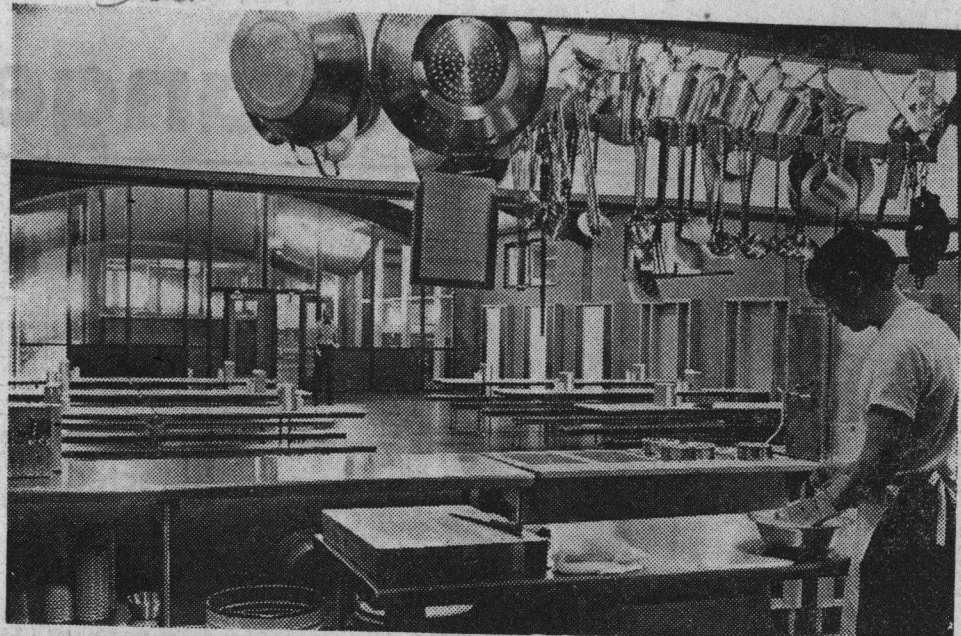
X-Ray Office Slates Vacation

The X-ray department at the county health center in Santa Cruz will be closed for vacation May 28 through June 5.

Free chest x-rays will be available both before and after the vacation period on all Mondays of the month, except the

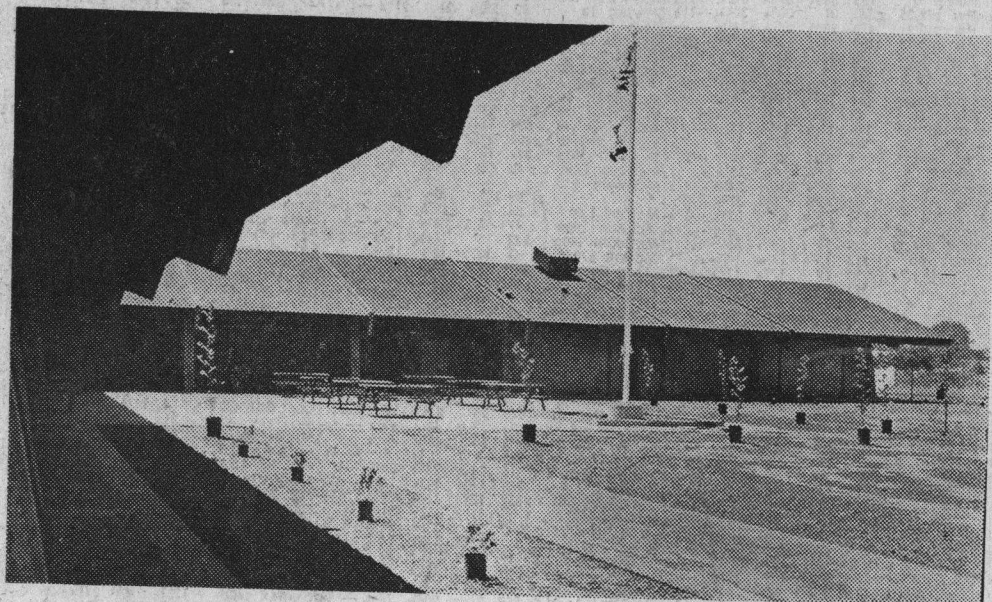
for possible tuberculosis but for other lung ailments, such as cancer and cardio-vascular disease, according to the Santa Cruz County Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association.

Tails



A prisoner prepares a portion of the evening meal in the well equipped kitchen.

The kitchen crew hold the most coveted job of the prisoners, with the possible exception of previously trained clerical workers.



This is the front of the rehabilitation center, where prisoners will receive visitors. To the left, out of the

picture, is the only locked cell. It is there just in case. Guards are armed only

with two cans of Mace, which is locked up. No guns are permitted here. The center can accommodate 175 men.



The main dining hall has tables that fold into the walls. Future plans include painted shuffleboards on the floors, for use when the dining area is not needed.



The combination lounge-classroom complex is shown here. The area to the left is a library; right front is a lounge; left rear is the TV room, and right rear is a still-to-be completed game room. Along the left walls are conference and medical facilities. Classrooms are beyond the back wall.

Air Pollution Film Showing Set

The first Central Coast area television at a later date in showing of an award-winning Northern California

approval and disapproval are pretty effective so far." The rules forbid a prisoner-run "kangaroo court," but pressure is sometimes brought to bear on a man-to-man basis. The deputy told of one mealtime when he saw a prisoner strike another, openhanded, several times. The guard was in the central unit at the time — a place dubbed "the command module" — so he pushed the intercom button and told the man to settle down. After awhile, the man was at it again. The deputy told him to go to bed and relax. The man went.

Later, guards found out that the man who was being struck had ground out a cigarette on the floor. The prisoner felt he should remember not to do that again. And the others agreed with him.

It is difficult for the older men, some of whom have lived in jails for a good portion of their lives, to understand the new regime. "The young guys almost lead them around by the hand, telling them when to shower, where to go, what to do," the guard said. "They begin to function as a social animal, and are more prepared for life when they leave."

Classes, ranging from religious instruction to textbook courses, will be available to the prisoners as the center gets further along, the deputy said. But meanwhile, the men are working on the grounds, gardens and playing fields.

Even more than the space, the air conditioning and the

from 2 until 6 p.m., and Tuesday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The x-rays are read not only

obtained by calling either the TB association at 423-7619 or the county health department at 425-2022.

CCD, county, and human decency in this challenging hour. Their lives do the communicating.

(Bruce E. Stocking — paid for by writer)
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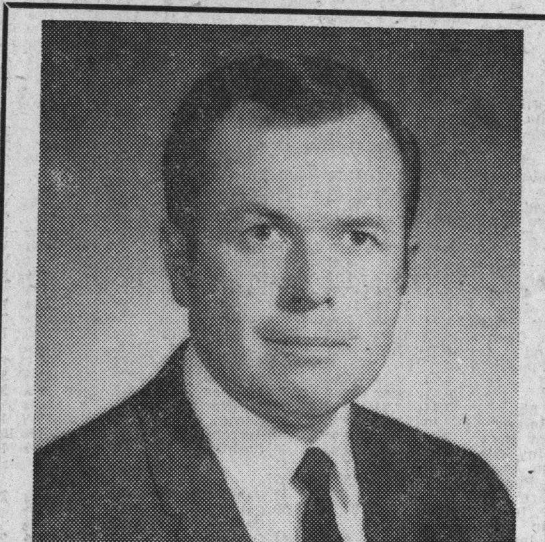
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