

1 has been selected for its site.

13

2 'Almost any citizen can tell the tran-
3 sient that in the new unit costing \$7 million
4 when completed, nothing has been spared to assure
5 decent living conditions for its inmates."

6 I would like to begin now with a member
7 of my staff, a deputy general counsel, David
8 Addison, who, with Miss Barden, who is sitting
9 on my right, has made a study of pertinent
10 statistics pertaining to prisons and to Attica.
11 Prisons in New York, I am referring to.

12 D A V I D A D D I S O N, called as a witness,
13 was examined and testified as follows:

14 EXAMINATION BY MR. LIMAN:

15 Q Mr. Addison, have you prepared a map of the
16 prison in New York State for adult males over the
17 age of 21?

18 A Yes, I have, Mr. Liman.

19 Q And, Mr. Addison, would you describe your
20 findings by reference to the map.

21 A Well, my map portrays location and type of
22 institutions to which adult males over the age of
23 21 convicted of a felony in New York State can be
24 sent. There are three types of such institutions.

25 Maximum security institutions, a medium

1 security institution and a minimum security 14
2 institution.

3 Q Could you describe for the public what the
4 differences are between maximum security institutions,
5 medium security institutions and minimum security
6 institutions?

7 A Maximum security institutions, as indicated
8 by our black squares, is the most secure institution
9 in New York, characterized by inside cells with
10 single-cell occupancy. This type of institution pro-
11 vides for constant supervision of inmates and requires
12 that they be locked in their cells by 5:00 or 6:00
13 o'clock every day.

14 Q This is the description by the Department
15 of Corrections of what constitutes a maximum security
16 prison; am I correct?

17 A Yes, it is.

18 Q What is the difference between a maximum
19 security institution and a medium security institution?

20 A The medium security institution is as
21 indicated by our diagonal lines on our map, are
22 characterized by different housing requirements. There
23 are more hours of flexibility than in the maximum
24 security institution and inmates receive frequent observa-
25 tion rather than constant observation.

2 institution specifically for men over the age of 21
3 in New York.

4 Q What is the name of that institution?

5 A Wallkill.

6 Q That is the only medium security institution
7 in New York for men over 21?

8 A Yes, sir, it is.

9 Q What about minimum security institutions?
10 Are there any in New York State for adult males, 21
11 or older?

12 A Yes, there are. They are indicated on our
13 maps by our dots and as you can see, there are four
14 such institutions. Elmira, Coxsackie, Catskill and
15 Wallkill.

16 Q Those are the medium security institutions
17 that you were referring to?

18 A Yes, they are, I am sorry.

19 Q And the minimum security institutions are
20 what?

21 A Minimum security institutions are located
22 in this area.

23 Q What are their names?

24 A Camp Georgetown, Camp Summitt, Camp Pharsalia.

25 Q You call them camps. These are work camps

1 for men?

16

2 A These are work camps.

3 Q Such as forestry camps?

4 A Yes, they are. Inmates at these institutions
5 are not confined to the institution's security area
6 and inmates are given only adequate supervision as
7 compared with the frequent supervision at the medium
8 security institution and the constant supervision at
9 the maximum security institution.

10 Q Mr. Addison, would you point out with your
11 pointer and give the names of the maximum security
12 institutions in New York.

13 A I am now pointing to Greenhaven and Ossining,
14 sometimes known as Sing Sing. These two institutions
15 are located nearest New York City.

16 This is Great Meadow located at Comstock,
17 New York, five miles from Vermont border.

18 Clinton is an institution located near the
19 Canadian border.

20 Q You have traveled to Clinton for the
21 Commission. How did you get there, Mr. Addison? To
22 Montreal?

23 A Yes. I left LaGuardia, flew to Montreal
24 and then we drove approximately 54 miles to Clinton.

25 This is Auburn and, of course, Attica.

1 Q Attica is a maximum security

17

2 institution; am I correct?

3 A Yes, it is.

4 Q What is the distribution of inmates among
5 these different types of institutions, maximum, medium
6 and minimum security?

7 A Nineth per cent of the prison population in
8 New York State is maximum security institutions. Less
9 than ten per cent or 8.2 per cent is in medium security
10 institutions.

11 Q And minimum security institutions?

12 A Only one per cent of the population is in
13 minimum security institutions.

14 Q I think we have a chart on this which is
15 being put on camera now.

16 Do I understand, Mr. Addison, that these
17 percentages which you gave reflect the way in which
18 adult males are actually distributed among these
19 different types of institutions?

20 A That's true.

21 Q Does this also reflect the relative capacities
22 of these institutions?

23 A Yes, that is to say that in New York State,
24 90 per cent of our institutional capacity is for
25 maximum security inmates.

1 Q And we're talking again of adult
2 males, 21 years of age or over?

3 A Yes, we are.

4 Q Now, how are inmates assigned to these
5 different institutions?

6 A I have a chart which describes how the inmates
7 are assigned to our institutions.

8 However, I should say that the system is
9 divided into judicial districts. Inmates in New York
10 City or in the metropolitan area of New York are, first
11 of all, assigned to Sing Sing or Ossining, which is a
12 reception center. They are then sent to other institu-
13 tions. Some ultimately go to Attica, some Auburn, some
14 Clinton.

15 In the northern parts of New York State,
16 inmates are sent to Attica, which is considered the
17 reception center.

18 Now, at Attica and also at Ossining, there is
19 what's established, a classification committee, con-
20 sisting of staff members of the institution. They look
21 at the background of the inmate and based upon criteria
22 which they establish, they decide where the inmate
23 will ultimately spend his time.

24 Q Mr. Addison, have you and Miss Barden and
25 other members of the staff, under your supervision,

1 analyzed the trends in the population in 19

2 our adult male maximum security institutions over the
3 last ten years?

4 A Yes, we have.

5 Q You prepared a chart for this purpose?

6 A Yes, I have.

7 This chart portrays the numbers and categories
8 of prison admissions from 1962 to 1971. There are
9 three categories.

10 Violators, which are indicated by the
11 diagonal lines. Recidivists, which the dotted lines and
12 new court commitments until solid white area.

13 By "violators," we mean men released from
14 prison to parole supervision before their maximum
15 sentence expires, and who are returned to prison because
16 of a violation of the terms of that release.

17 The number of men in this category has almost
18 doubled in the ten-year period. The average figure
19 is 33.2 per cent or one-third of total prison admissions.

20 Q Do I understand that one-third of the inmates
21 who are admitted to these maximum security institutions
22 in any one year has averaged at approximately one-third
23 being parole violators?

24 A You are correct. For example, in 1962,
25 3426 men were admitted to the institutions. Of these,

1 983 were violators and in 1971, 1826

20

2 men--pardon me--5285 men were admitted into the system
3 and of these, 1926 were violators.

4 Q You mentioned a category of recidivist.

5 A Yes.

6 Q Would you give the public a description of
7 what constitutes a recidivist for the purpose of this
8 chart.

9 A Our working definition of a recidivist or
10 recidivists are men who have previously served time in
11 a state, local or federal prison and are now being
12 returned for some new crime.

13 Recidivists account for 74 per cent of the
14 men committed to prison by the courts. They make up
15 44 per cent of total admissions.

16 This figure in all probability is considerably
17 higher. It does not include out of state commitments
18 and, in addition, the records from which this data has
19 been taken does not always show a follow-up on previous
20 convictions.

1 Q The third category was new admissions and
2 that's shown on the chart as it appears on the television
3 screen by the white part of the chart?

4 A That's correct.

5 Q Can we have the camera on that chart?

1 That white part that shows up 21

2 on the screen represents the percentage of total
3 inmates who are admitted and who are not there either
4 as parole violators or have not previously been con-
5 fined in an institution; am I correct?

6 A That's correct.

7 Q And that appears to be a rather small per-
8 centage of the total.

9 What does it come to, Mr. Addison?

10 A The total number of admissions have increased
11 from 3400 in 1962 to 5300 in 1971, or an increase of
12 roughly 40 per cent.

13 In 1962, the entrants made up 35 per cent of
14 the population and in 1971, they made up 64.1 per cent
15 of the population.

16 Q You are saying that that figure of 65 per cent
17 represents people who were admitted in that year?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And that figure then would be 64 per cent
20 of the population in the maximum security prisons in
21 1971 were admitted in that very year?

22 A That's correct.

23 Q And you also said that the total prison
24 population has decreased over this period?

25 A That's right. In 1962, the total population

1 was 9600. In 1966 the population was 22
2 9109 and in 1971, as of December 31st, the total
3 population was 8250.

4 Q It would appear from those statistics that
5 our institutions are releasing inmates at a faster
6 rate than they are admitting them.

7 A That's correct.

8 Q Have you and Miss Barden prepared studies to
9 show the characteristics of the inmates who were in
10 maximum security prisons in New York State during this
11 period from 1966, I believe it is, through 1970?

12 A Yes, we have. And we have charts describing
13 the inmates, a proceed file of the inmates by race,
14 age, level of education, drug use, offense and county
15 of commitment.

16 Q I would like to start first with the chart
17 on race and I would like this to be for the New York
18 State prisons as a whole rather than simply for Attica.

19 Could you focus the camera on the chart so that
20 it will be there when David Addison is talking.

21 A First of all, I would like to say that these
22 charts represent data on adult mem only.

23 As an indication of what's been happening
24 in that category, in 1966, 37 per cent or 37.4 per cent
25 of the population in New York State correctional institu-

1 tions for men were white and in 1970, 31 per 23
2 cent, six per cent fewer.

3 The chart also indicates, as you can see,
4 that the black and Puerto Rican population has increased
5 from 62 per cent in 1966 to 68.5 per cent in 1970.

6 Q Mr. Addison, that's the number of the per-
7 centages for people who were admitted in those years;
8 am I correct?

9 A That's correct.

10 Q And so do I understand then that there was
11 a six per cent increase in black and Puerto Rican
12 citizens who were admitted to prison and a six per
13 cent decrease in white citizens admitted to these
14 adult institutions over this period?

15 A That's correct.

16 Q What about age, how has the age changed over
17 this period, the age of inmates admitted to prison?

18 A In 1966, 31-1/2 per cent of the population
19 were men between the ages of 21 and 29.

20 In 1970, there has been a 12 per cent in-
21 crease in that figure to 43.4 per cent.

22 In 1966, 26.1 per cent of the men were 30
23 or over and in 1970, that figure has increased to 27.3
24 per cent.

25 Q Have you also made a similar study with re-

1 spect to education levels?

24

2 A Yes, I have.

3 In 1966, 82 per cent of the population of
4 new commitments were non-high school graduates.

5 In 1970, that figure decreased to 74 per
6 cent.

7 In 1966, 9.3 per cent of the population were
8 high school graduates and in 1970, that figure has
9 increased to 14.7 per cent.

10 In 1970, four per cent of the new commitments
11 have gone beyond high school.

12 Q Is there any explanation for this increase
13 in the level of education of new admittees to the New
14 York penal institutions?

15 A We have concluded, subject to further study,
16 that the increase in the number of high school graduates
17 and persons who have gone beyond high school is, in all
18 probability, attributed to the drug culture. By that,
19 we mean there has been a large number of inmates who
20 have come into the system as high school students or
21 college students who have been arrested on drug charges.

22 Q You have also prepared a study of drug users
23 among the admittees to the New York penal institutions;
24 am I correct?

25 A Yes, we have.
