

April 2000

Biles Says 19th APCCA "An Outstanding Success"

In the Closing Ceremony of the 19th APCCA in Shanghai in October 1999 the APCCA Coordinator, Professor David Biles, said that in his opinion the conference had been an outstanding success by any measure. He said that the standard of the written and oral presentations to the conference had been extremely high and the informal discussion between delegates during the conference had been stimulating and valuable.

Furthermore, all of the delegates had had extremely interesting visits to correctional institutions and had witnessed some brilliant concerts, both in the prisons and in the community. The hospitality, which included a number of memorable banquets, had been of an exceptionally high order, and all delegates had been overwhelmed by the beauty and the vitality of the city of Shanghai.

Finally, the APCCA delegates had taken the opportunity to strengthen informal friendships and this had led to a number of arrangements being made for visits or assistance between nations in the region. These personal friendships, Professor Biles suggested, were at the very heart of the APCCA.

Professor Biles then suggested that all of these achievements meant that the Peoples' Republic of China deserved warm thanks and congratulations for the work that they had done in hosting the 19th APCCA. He then offered his personal thanks to the Chairman, Mr. Du Zhongxing, and to the Conference Organiser, Ms Bai Ping.

He concluded his remarks by saying that, in his view, APCCA was now stronger than ever and had also reached a stage of maturity which was shown by the fact that delegates were now more prepared than in the past to discuss the problems and shortcomings in their correctional systems, rather than referring only to their achievements.

APCCA Website Already Popular

The APCCA website www.apcca.org has provoked wide interest since it was created in November 1999. In each of the following two months, December 1999 and January 2000, the site has received well over 600 "hits". In total, until 1 February, 2000, the site has received 1450 successful requests for information.

The requests to the site have been identified as coming from many nations around the world including: Japan, Italy, United States, Thailand, Netherlands, New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, Spain, Singapore, Denmark, Argentina, Germany, United Arab Emirates, Fiji, Taiwan, Canada, United Kingdom and Mexico.

The website has been established, under contract with the APCCA, by the Principal Librarian of the Australian Institute of Criminology, Mr. John Myrtle. The site currently contains background information about APCCA and virtually the full details of the 18th APCCA that was held in Vancouver in 1998. Over the next few weeks Mr. Myrtle will add the report of the 19th APCCA that was held in Shanghai in 1999.

He will also include the national discussion papers of those nations who give their permission for this to be done. Mr. Myrtle has suggested that the most convenient way for national discussion papers to be sent to him is as attachments to emails sent to John.Myrtle@aic.gov.au

Alternatively, they could be sent on disc to him at the Australian Institute of Criminology, GPO Box 2944, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia.

When the establishment of the web site was discussed in Shanghai, a small working party was established to provide advice and assistance to John Myrtle. The working party comprises representatives of Hong Kong (SAR), Canada, Singapore, and Australia (NSW).

Members of the working party are now invited to contact Mr. Myrtle at his email address shown above.

It is recognised by all involved with this development that a significant number of APCCA participants do not yet have access to the Internet and therefore the normal 'hard copy' of conference reports and the APCCA newsletter will continue to be published in the coming years.

APCCA Plaque

During the 19th APCCA Conference held in Shanghai, China in October 1999, the Advisory Committee came up with an idea of making an official plaque for APCCA.

The tentative design is a metallic APCCA logo embedded in a woodcut, surrounded possibly by miniaturised national flags of all the participating nations. To this effect, Hong Kong has offered herself to take up the task and to prepare it for use in the coming 20th APCCA, Sydney. However, approval and provision of the design and specifications of the national flag (miniature) is required before Hong Kong can proceed further in the production of the craftwork.

In mid-February 2000, Hong Kong had sent out a letter to each participating nation requesting for the consent and specifications of miniaturised national flags/emblems. If any APCCA member has not received one, please contact Mr. Dicky Chan either by fax at (852) 2802 0184 or by post at Correctional Services Department, Headquarters, 24/F, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, for necessary arrangements. We earnestly solicit your support and early reply, if still outstanding, to enable the first official APCCA plaque to be presented in the coming 20th APCCA, Sydney.

Fiji Likely Host For 21st APCCA in 2001

At the 18th APCCA in Vancouver in 1998 an informal offer was made by India to host the 21st APCCA in 2001, and a similar offer was made by the Philippines for the 22nd APCCA in 2002. Unfortunately neither India nor the Philippines were represented at the 19th APCCA in Shanghai in 1999 and therefore it was not possible for these offers to be confirmed. An attempt to contact India by fax from Shanghai was not successful.

When this subject was discussed in Shanghai, the delegate from Fiji informed the conference that it was possible that his government would agree to Fiji being the host in 2001. This suggestion was received with acclamation by the conference, and the Fiji representative agreed to inform the APCCA Coordinator when he received his government's approval.

Since then, the Fiji Commissioner of Prisons, Mr. Aisea Taoka, has informed the APCCA Coordinator, Professor David Biles, that the response he has received from his government to date is "encouraging" even though final approval has not yet been given. It is hoped that this matter will be settled well before the 20th APCCA in Sydney in November 2000.

Also on a positive note, the Philippines has indicated that it would like to be the host "in the near future". It is suggested that this could mean 2002. Singapore informed the Shanghai conference that it would like to be the host on 2004, so the only clear gap in the immediate future is 2003.

Multimedia Prisoner Rehabilitation Project

Ending Offending: Our Message

Northern Territory Correctional Services, Australia

Northern Territory Correctional Services provides an essential service to the community through its five core elements of containment and supervision, resource management, offender care, rehabilitation and reintegration and reparation.

"Ending Offending: Our Message" is a rehabilitation and reparation initiative implemented by the Alcohol and Other Drugs Unit and the Prisoner Education Unit. Over 15 male and female prisoners (predominantly indigenous prisoners) are involved in this 'unique' project. Participants have produced a collection of stories, paintings, songs, music and interactive web site addressing the issues of offending and alcohol and drug use. Throughout this process they receive nationally accredited education and training in areas such as literacy, numeric, music and art industry skills, computing, woodwork and trades.

The interactive website is one element of the overall project. This medium documents the various elements of the project including artwork, music and personal stories of the participants, along with general information about NT Correctional Services

<http://www.ourmessage.org>

Prisoner art and music exhibitions have also been held in community venues across the Territory. Young offenders will soon be contributing to the project via their involvement with the National Alcohol Campaign and the Next Wave Youth Arts Festival to be held in Melbourne. In support of our reparation commitments, any profits resulting from the sale of music and artwork will be channelled back into remote community projects via the Council of Churches.

Log in to <http://www.ourmessage.org> if you have any suggestions or comments, please contact us. We value your input. We can be contacted via the website email button.

Canada's Bridging Project 2000

The Pacific Region is currently working on a Pilot Project that will assist in improving its reintegration processes by increasing the quality and timeliness of our case preparation for decision makers. This project is called the Bridging Project and will run for one year beginning on 99/12/06 and will end on 2000/12/06. If successful, it is expected that increased numbers will be released to the community via the National Parole Board as

opposed to the mandatory Statutory Release Date which is at two-thirds of the offender's sentence. The main goal of this project is to ensure not only the safe reintegration of offenders at the most appropriate time of their sentence but also to sustain their release to community.

The design of this project includes 3 Bridging teams, which consist of 4 Parole Officers, one administrative support and two Reintegration Managers for each team. These teams are dedicated to:

- improving communication and release planning between institutional and community parole officers;
- focusing increased attention on case preparation and the development of release planning on a region wide basis;
- increasing the frequency of reviews for release;
- ensuring each geographic region is represented to ensure safe reintegration in all communities.

The Bridging Project assigns a level of specialization to the case preparation function and attempts to provide more focused attention to the development of creative and innovative release plans which incorporate the services, resources and programs of the entire region. An evaluation strategy for the project is in place and will have results on a monthly basis.

Who's Who

- Mr. Ichiro Sakai, Director-General of the Correction Bureau, Japan, was transferred to the Yokohama District Public Prosecutor's Office and appointed Chief Prosecutor on December 22, 1999. Mr. Rukuro Tsuruta has succeeded Mr. Sakai as Director-General of the Correction Bureau. He was appointed on the above date. He was a Public Prosecutor of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office until his present appointment.

- Mr. Kelvin PANG Sung-yuen has succeeded Mr. CHENG Chi-leung as the Deputy Commissioner of the Correctional Services Department, Hong Kong SAR, China. He was appointed on February 13, 2000, the same date on which Mr. CHENG commenced his pre-retirement leave. Prior to his present appointment, Mr. PANG was the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Rehabilitation Division.

Unprecedented Correctional Centre Infrastructure Expansion Programme in Queensland

Australia is a federation made up of six states and two self-governing territories, with each having responsibility for the delivery of corrective services within their boundaries.

The national population stands at 19 million and on any one day there are between 20,000 and 21,000 men and women in prison.

The state of Queensland, with 3 million people, is the third most populous of the eight jurisdictions, yet it has the second highest prison population. On January 1, 2000 there were 4618 men and women in custody.

Since June 1993 the Queensland prison population has more than doubled - up from 2068 at that time - and for a period the state had the fastest growing imprisonment rate in Australia. However, in the 12 months to September 1999 the average daily numbers of prisoners held in Queensland fell by 2% while the corresponding national figure rose by 1%. (In this 12 month period the average daily number of prisoners in Western Australia increased by 23%.)

In mid-1999 the Queensland imprisonment rate was 194 per 100,000. The latest available statistics now put this figure at 191.3 per 100,000.

Research, both inside and outside correctional agencies, has been carried out in recent years to try to explain the rapid increase in prisoner numbers. This identified a number of possible causes, such as:

- improved policing methods, including advances in law enforcement technology;
- less reliance by courts on community-based correctional options;
- introduction of tougher sentencing legislation, and slower progress by prisoners through the correctional system.

The Queensland Government embarked on an unprecedented correctional centre infrastructure expansion program to cope with the rise in prisoner numbers.

In May 1999 the largest prison project in the state's history - the \$A120million Wolston and Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre Complex in Brisbane - was officially opened, providing accommodation for 600 men and 270 women. Before this facility opened there were 3800 cells throughout the state, with only 194 of these for women.

In just one year the total budget for corrections in Queensland increased by 45% to just short of \$A0.5 billion in 1997/98. Of this total, \$A178 million was dedicated to capital works to provide an additional 1093 cells.

Since the commissioning of Wolston Correctional Centre and the replacement of Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre, the Department of Corrective Services has opened a \$A7 million extension to Rockhampton Correctional Centre in central Queensland to provide 96 more bed spaces.

The department has also begun work on the \$A89.5 million high security Capricornia Correctional Centre north of Rockhampton which will accommodate 400 men. This is expected to be completed by June 2001 and will replace an existing facility.

The Queensland Government has also announced the expansion of Woodford Correctional Centre, about 150km north-west of Brisbane, by 400 cells to bring it to 1000 cell capacity. This will make it the largest in the state and one of the largest in Australia.

The Woodford expansion will account for \$A69 million over two years. Preliminary work has also begun on a 500-cell facility for men at Maryborough, about 250km north of Brisbane. This project represents an investment of \$A97 million over three years.

Since the antiquated and inadequate 19th century Boggo Road jail in Brisbane was decommissioned in 1991 and replaced by a modern facility, more than \$A500 million has been spent on new prison infrastructure in Queensland. [Costs are expressed in Australian dollars. \$A1 = \$US0.66.]

Voluntary Contribution Acknowledgement

Vietnam is gratefully acknowledged for her contribution of US\$2,000 to the APCCA Fund made after the meeting of APCCA Finance Sub-committee held in Shanghai last October.

The Mission, Vision and Future Direction of the Singapore Prison Service

Developing a Shared Vision and Revising the Mission

Year 1999 was an exciting year for the Singapore Prison Service. Although rehabilitation of offenders was one of the two main functions of the Service, the other being secure custody of offenders, not very much was done to help the inmates correct their offending behaviour. The Service hence required a new vision to refocus its energy on the helping mission while not neglecting the important role of keeping offenders in secure custody. For

this reason, the Service set out to craft a new vision and to revisit our mission statement in the beginning of the year. It was also time to set new challenges for the future.

The new vision and revised mission of the Service were not "top-down" initiatives but were crafted in consultation with more than 800 of our staff from all levels, as well as our stakeholders. The consultation process started in earnest when the Service held its last Prisons Workplan Seminar of the century in May 1999. After many iterations and refinements, the statements were momentarily unveiled on 31 Dec 99, the last day of the millennium. It was a slow and painful consensus forging process but the Service is better off for having undergone this process as we are reasonably certain that we have the commitment of the majority of our staff on the direction we are heading. The Singapore Prison Service is thus proud to announce that our new mission and vision reflect the views and aspirations of the officers in the service and is a clear guide to our staff as to where their focus should be in the carrying out of their daily duties.

MISSION STATEMENT

As a key partner in Criminal Justice,
we protect society through the safe custody
and rehabilitation of offenders,
co-operating in prevention and aftercare.

There are three key components to the revised Mission Statement of the Singapore Prison Service:

- ***A key partner in Criminal Justice,***

The Prison Service is a key component of an effective Criminal Justice System.

Together with the other agencies in the Criminal Justice System, such as the Judiciary, other enforcement agencies in the Home Ministry, we contribute to a safer and just society.

- ***Protecting society through safe custody and rehabilitation; and***

The Prison Service protects society by holding in safe custody those offenders who are committed to our care through the Criminal Justice System. While in custody, offenders are managed by strict discipline and regime. We are committed to doing so in a humane manner. The Service also strives to rehabilitate offenders for the long-term protection of society. Rehabilitation will be done through changing their values and behaviour, as well as through enhancing their employability through role modeling and training. We strive to work with the offenders' families and the community in their reintegration.

- ***Co-operating in prevention and aftercare.***

Prisons can act as an early warning system to policy makers, predicting criminal trends and social ills so that preventive measures could be taken early. Our daily contact with offenders will enable us to collate valuable information which may be used to prevent and detect crimes. Similarly, Prisons can also play a role in preventive education for youths and children at risk of drug abuse or crime in the larger community.

While our obligation ends at the release of the offender from Prisons, the Service will strive to also prepare offenders to take advantage of the community programmes and resources which provide the aftercare support that is beyond the Service's mandate.

VISION STATEMENT

We aspire to be captains in the lives of offender
committed to our custody.

We will be instrumental in steering them

towards being responsible citizens,
with the help of their families and the community.
We will thus build a secure and exemplary prison system.

There are also three key components to the new Vision Statement of the Singapore Prison Service:

- ***Captains in the lives of offenders***

We, as Prison Officers, will ensure that the offenders are detained in a safe, secure and disciplined environment. We are committed to be a positive influence on the lives and behaviour of the offenders in our custody. We believe that we can only do so if offenders respect us and look to us for guidance, direction and discipline (the captain of their lives). To achieve this, we have to be positive role models for the offenders in our daily interactions.

- ***Steering them toward being responsible citizens with involvement of families and community***

We want to "steer" the offenders towards not merely leading crime-free lives, but also becoming more responsible citizens upon their release, e.g. a better husband and parent, an active citizen contributing to society, etc. We recognise that we need the support of the families of offenders as well as the community if we are to succeed in our above aim.

- ***Secure and exemplary prison service***

We aspire to be a secure and exemplary prison service, modelled after for our positive impact on the lives of offenders through our unique correctional approach which has a balance of deterrence, discipline and rehabilitation.

Development of Strategies

The Service is currently formulating our strategy to support the achievement of our mission and vision. We have identified 4 focal areas to work on for the next 3 years. They are:

- ***Operational Capabilities***

Having strong operational capabilities is critical to ensuring that our prisons and drug rehabilitation centres are safe and secure. Our prison officers must know their inmates well and exercise a strong positive influence over them. The Service must also be operationally ready to respond to any exigency that may occur.

- ***Staff Development***

This new role of prison officers as captains in the lives of offenders necessitates that the Service focuses on staff development. For our staff to be positive role models to the inmates, they must possess the right values and attitudes. The Service is now developing structures to enable us to recruit suitable staff, weed out those with questionable integrity and enhance the level of training to enable them to be effective in their work.

- ***Integrated In-care and***

The Service will also be doing more in the area of in-care of offenders. A new rehabilitation framework is in place to guide the allocation of scarce rehabilitation resources for suitable inmates. The "one size fits all" approach of the past will be replaced. Each inmate will have a personal route map to deal with individual rehabilitation needs. To support all these, we are currently looking into developing a comprehensive classification system. Owing to finite resources, the Service will be selective and prudent in deciding how to and who to invest our resources on.

- ***Coordinated Aftercare***

In the aftercare arena, the Service see our role as a facilitator of the various aftercare organisations in Singapore, helping them to coordinate their efforts so that no discharged inmates deserving of follow-up will fall through the net. Ultimately, we hope to see a strong network of aftercare organisations providing beyond coordinated aftercare but also integrated aftercare support.

Our Levers

In this age of having to do more with less, the Service has identified technology, knowledge management and community resources as our levers. We will look towards technology, when appropriate to reduce the need for manpower, to share information and to enhance our security and operational capability. Our officers will be learning officers, aspiring to acquire new knowledge from model correctional agencies. In addition, our officers will share our knowledge of managing and rehabilitating offenders with each other and with overseas correctional agencies. The Service also recognizes that we cannot do it all. Most of our inmates will return to the community one day. The Service hopes to mobilize the community support for offenders who want to change for the better through involving members of the public, community organizations and the families of inmates in in-care and aftercare.

With our new mission and vision, the Singapore Prison Service is looking towards the future with anticipation. Our mission statement has set forth clearly our core duties and objectives. Our vision will be a destination we strive and stretch for. Our focal areas and levers will guide the Service in formulating concrete strategies to get us there.

Announcement

Dates For 20th APCCA Fixed

The New South Wales
Department of Corrective Services
has announced that the
20th APCCA in Sydney
will be held from 5 to 10 November 2000.

Integrated Offender Management in New Zealand

The New Zealand Department of Corrections is developing and about to trial a new integrated system of managing offenders.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is about integrating rehabilitation with the requirements of managing a prison or community-based sentence. The system involves identifying offenders most at risk of reoffending, the factors that contribute to their offending, and then ensuring they get the right programmes and services to address those factors.

The Department has designed New Zealand-specific tools to measure risk of reoffending and assess offending related (criminogenic) needs. Reoffending risk and criminogenic needs will be identified as part of presentencing interviews. This information will be used to provide judges with accurate advice to assist sentencing, and give Corrections information to manage offenders' sentences. The needs assessment tool also incorporates assessment of Maori culture-related needs that might be a factor in offending.

New intensive programmes have been developed based on principles proven to change offenders' thinking and behaviour. Three new intensive programmes that deal with violence, driving offending and substance abuse will be trialed early in 2000. Straight Thinking, an intensive cognitive skills programme, is now well established. And a new

rehabilitative programme that provides basic literacy, numeracy, employment and social skills is also being tested.

IOM will also identify ways to help reintegrate offenders back into the community. The reintegration needs that will be addressed include accommodation, employment, budgeting skills, parenting skills, improving family relationships etc.

Support for New Zealand Families and Inmates

A programme aimed at helping offenders and their families to break the cycle of offending is being piloted in Christchurch, New Zealand.

"A family member going to prison often comes on top of a whole series of other family problems like substance abuse, family violence, poor budgeting, illiteracy and a history of family offending," said Tony Johns, General Manager Policy Development for the Department of Corrections.

"Families of inmates face common problems including the stigma of having a family member in prison, financial difficulties and ongoing stress. This programme focuses on the needs of the offender and family or *whanau* (extended family in Maori communities) during the vital period of returning to the community."

Tony said the pilot programme will target both the offender moving back into the family and the family receiving the offender back. "There will be intensive support both before and after the offender is released."

A community group called PILLARS, who already have experience in supporting the families of those in prison, is running the pilot programme.

To be considered for the pilot an offender must be regarded as a serious repeat offender, be willing to assume parenting responsibilities within a family/whanau and have at least one child under 12 years of age.

This pilot programme comes as a part of the budget package set aside for the Government's Strengthening Families strategy. Two pilot programmes are being developed in both Christchurch and Auckland each for 60 offenders at a total cost of \$2.45m over the next two and a half years.

It is intended that the Auckland based pilot programme will be running by mid 2000.

Home Detention

The New Zealand Department of Corrections introduced the order of Home Detention in October 1999. Over 80 eligible offenders have since been allowed to serve their sentences outside prison on home detention. The Department aims to have 300 offenders on home detention by July 2000.

The aim of home detention is to reduce re-offending and reduce the rate of growth in the prison population.

"Home detention means offenders can remain in a positive environment while undertaking rehabilitation programmes and lowering the risk of institutionalisation. Offenders who have jobs are also able to keep working and maintain their family responsibilities," says Sue Montgomery, Home Detention Project Manager.

The eligibility criteria for home detention are very strict. Only detainees who have been assessed as presenting minimal risk to the community and have shown a desire to address the causes of their offending can be released on to home detention. Offenders serving an indeterminate sentence - for example, life imprisonment and preventive detention - or who have been convicted of a serious violent offence are not eligible for home detention.

The sentencing judge can grant leave to apply for home detention to an inmate who has been sentenced to two years or less in prison. Once in prison the inmate is assessed for suitability. The application for Home Detention is then considered by a District Prisons Board.

District Prisons Boards and the Parole Board can also decide if inmates serving sentences longer than two years - who have not committed serious violent offences - can be released onto home detention three months before their parole eligibility date.

While on home detention, offenders wear an electronic, waterproof and tamper-proof ankle that will trigger an alarm if offenders leave the confines of their property without permission. Should this occur, the monitoring centre will dispatch security officers to investigate. Police are only called if an offender has clearly absconded. Offenders can also be monitored at work.

Helping Offenders Develop Their Cognitive Skills

More than 600 offenders in New Zealand have attended the Straight Thinking cognitive skills programme. The New Zealand Department of Corrections implemented this programme in March last year to address offenders' lack of reasoning ability.

The programme's Implementation Manager, Linda Barrie, says 40 coaches have been appointed and trained to deliver the programme. They have also provided awareness training about the Straight Thinking programme to more than 700 staff at prisons and at Community Probation sites over the eight-month period.

"We're aiming to have appointed and trained 80 coaches by July," she says. "The team of four national training managers supports the Straight Thinking coaches."

"By the middle of this year, 1600 offenders will be registered for Straight Thinking. It will be available at every prison and Community Probation area, and to offenders on home detention."

Straight Thinking comprises 35 two-hour sessions during which offenders are taught to stop and think before acting, and to consider the consequences of their behaviour.

The programme is suitable for male and female offenders of all ages from all ethnic groups. Offenders must have a medium-to-high risk of reoffending and a medium-to-high need for a cognitive behavioural programme.

It is not considered suitable for offenders with unmanaged addictions and/or mental illnesses, intellectual disabilities, or for illiterate offenders. Low literacy is not an issue, because the programme is largely based on group discussion and role-plays.

NSW's Monitoring Device Trial Hailed a Success

Electronic monitoring of inmates for pre-release and home detention programme is being judged a tremendous success with 280 inmates in communities throughout NSW taking part in the programme.

The Electronic Monitoring Alert System, (EMAS) is a highly sensitive, tamper-proof device which is strapped to the ankle and monitors an inmate's movements 24 hours a day. A radio transmitting receiving device is positioned in the home and workplace while the ankle bracelet acts as a transmitter.

The system monitors the inmate's compliance patterns, registering within seconds whether offenders break curfews, meet with other inmates or are regularly early or late for work.

Parramatta Correctional Centre Governor, Steve D'Silva says correctional officers will quickly know if an inmate is not complying with the programme's conditions.

"Officers can now drive past an office building or residential premises with a hand-held device which will register whether the inmate is there or not. It allows officers to quickly and efficiently know if the inmate is complying with their conditions without the inmate even knowing they have been checked," said Governor D'Silva.

"From where we were with the management and supervision of work release inmates from March 1998 to today - is a quantum leap. The technology is constantly evolving and improving, providing enormous potential for expansion of the system. We are looking at placing receivers at major bus terminals and key railway stations which register as the inmate enters the station on their authorised route to work. As technology improves, a GPS tracking system could be incorporated," he said.

Once an inmate is screened and deemed suitable for a work release programme, only then is the application of electronic monitoring suitable. It is not a substitute for a security classification and is an addition to regular telephone and physical checks.

"This is the last form of monitoring before release. We are basically saying to inmates that these are your conditions of release and we are going to monitor your compliance. We will hardly see you but we know where you are supposed to be - it's another layer of security," he said. "The onus is then on the offender to rehabilitate and establish their credibility and increase the chance of parole."

"Feedback from offenders is extremely positive as this form of monitoring is less intrusive on inmates and their families, which actually improves compliance rates. Electronic monitoring also results in significant cost savings to the public and establishes community faith that we as a department know where these people are at all times," he said.

Although electronic monitoring is widely used throughout the world, NSW is the first to use the system on work release programme. As a result, there has been significant interest from interstate correctional administrations, with the ACT currently trialing the electronic monitoring device.

"Junee Correctional Centre will implement electronic monitoring by the end of the year and we are also hoping to negotiate a contract whereby NSW will conduct the full-time

monitoring of ACT inmates on a cost recovery basis by 2000."

Therapeutic Community Programme in Malaysia

In Malaysia, a number of rehabilitative programmes have been introduced recently, the foremost of which is the Therapeutic Community Programme. TC is based on the innovative concept of self-help/mutual help among inmates. The primary goal of TC is to foster personal growth and this is accomplished by changing an individual's negative behaviour of lifestyle through a community of concerned people working together to help themselves and each other.

The treatment philosophy proceeds from the premise that man is not a fragile being but he can and should be confronted with his condition and challenged to grow into maturity and responsibility. This is achieved via a caring but demanding family group, a peer group TC. Furthermore, TC impresses upon the offender that 'only you can do it, but you cannot do it alone' except in a group context.

In the Malaysian correctional context, TC programme was first introduced at the Kajang Drug Prison in the year 1992. To date, the results have been promising. For that reason, it has expanded to 7 other penal institutions.

Institution	No. of TC Residents
Kajang Drug Prison	38
Henry Gurney School, Telok Mas	71
Henry Gurney School, Kota Kinabalu	65
Kajang Women's Prison	11

Jelebu Drug Rehabilitation Prison	116
Marang Prison	48
Sibu Prison	20
Seremban Prison	38
Total	407

ACT Hosted the Delegation from the People's Republic of China

On 10, 11 and 12 January 2000, the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Australia, was pleased to host a delegation from the People's Republic of China. The aim of the visit was to explore the methods of design and technology incorporated within Australian Courts.

Justice Zheng Gang (Vice President, Beijing High People's Court) led the delegation of six Justices. They were particularly interested in the operation of the various Courts throughout Australia, as Beijing is considering the construction of a Court that symbolises the law throughout the whole of China.

Over the three day tour, the delegates visited the ACT Magistrates Court, Supreme Court and the High Court of Australia. Delegates also attended at the Australian Federal Police Watch House, ACT Corrective Services Remand Centre, Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal and the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department.

At a dinner meeting, delegates met with officials from the Australian Agency for International Development, the Department of Foreign Affairs and the President of the Senate, Australian Parliament House.

The ACT is interested in supporting and understanding developments occurring within corrective services throughout the Asia Pacific region and is honored to be chosen as a point

of interest by the Justices of the People's Republic of China.

News From UNAFEI - A New Book is Coming

UNAFEI is planning to publish a new book entitled "*Institutional Treatment Profiles of Asia*" this year, which describes the corrections systems of some Asian countries. The countries in these profiles are: China (Hong Kong SAR), Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The authors of these profiles have extensive experience and knowledge of the workings of the corrections system in their respective countries. This book is expected to become an informative reference source not only for administrators and practitioners in the field of corrections, but also for academic researchers.

Strategic Relationship Between Hong Kong Correctional Services and Singapore Prison Service

Seeking continuous improvement through benchmarking and sharing of experience with overseas counterparts is always a key quality enhancement strategy of the Correctional Services Department, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China. To strengthen the cooperation with the Singapore Prisons Department with the aim of achieving mutual development and improvement, a delegation headed by the Commissioner Mr. Benny NG visited the Singapore Prisons Department in January 2000. The visit was successful and fruitful. Apart from benefiting from various learning opportunities, most important of all, the two Departments have established a strategic relationship in the following five fields: -

- Application of Information Technology / Technology;
- Staff Training and Development;
- Research and Knowledge Management;

- Programme Development (for in-care and aftercare); and
- Psychological Services.

ISO 9002 Certification for Sign Making

Business Of Correctional Services Department, Hong Kong SAR, China

The Correctional Services Industries (CSI), a section of the Correctional Services Department, successfully obtained ISO 9002 certification in the Sign Making business, after going through certification auditing conducted by the Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA).

Mr. Howie Ng, Chief Executive of HKQAA, presented the ISO 9002 certificate to Mr. Ng Ching-kwok, Commissioner of Correctional Services on February 10. This is the first time a section of the Department obtains such privileged certification.

The Commissioner was satisfied and happy with the certification. He remarked that this had indicated the Department's determination to progress with time. "The certification would not only benefit the Sign Making business, the experience gained in obtaining this certification would also benefit the Department in other areas," the Commissioner said.

The Commissioner further expressed that he would consider having more sections of the Department seeking ISO certification - for example, the Complaints Investigation Unit. He firmly believed that with the professionalism of the staff, the Department would deliver quality services recognised internationally for excellence.

New Development of Rehabilitation Services of Hong Kong SAR, China

Since the formation of the new Rehabilitation Division of Hong Kong Correctional Services Department in January 1998, its 370 staff have striven to strengthen existing rehabilitation programmes and develop rehabilitation services in eight strategic directions.

New developments of rehabilitation services in eight strategic directions are summarized below:

(A) Providing new specialised services

New programmes have been developed to meet the special rehabilitation needs of offenders. The Sex Offenders Evaluation Treatment Unit was set up in September 1998 to provide comprehensive evaluation and treatment services for sex offenders. A Rehabilitation Unit was introduced on a trial basis in October 1999 for the management and transitional adjustment of offenders recovering from mental problems. A draft Rehabilitation Centre Bill has been worked out for implementation of a proposed programme to fill the service gap between Detention Centre and Training Centre programmes for young offenders.

(B) Gaining accreditation for vocational skills

Not only were old trades replaced, enhancement of 17 vocational training courses for young offenders are being prepared to enable them to gain external accreditation such as Pitman or City and Guilds qualifications. These qualifications will help them in job seeking and bridging with technical institute courses, the details of which are being discussed with the Vocational Training Council (VTC). In parallel development, various types of Intermediate Trade 'rests administered by the VTC or Construction Industry Training Authority (CITA) have been introduced to prisoners and arrangements are being made to conduct certificate construction labour courses at adult institutions by CITA commenced in January 2000.

(C) Revamping education & structural review of teaching staff

The first review report recommended four directions of modernizing correctional education, i.e. shift of focus from primary to secondary education; move towards mainstream education; adaptation with modification of Education Department's curriculum guides for maladjusted children, and setting up an inspectorate system. Increase in graduate posts and senior rank posts, which was found necessary by the report in supporting these developments, is being considered in detail by a working group.

A number of new initiatives have also been undertaken, e.g., teachers exchange programme with an aided school, Education Department's inspectorate visits to classes at correctional institutions, etc. Consultancy input will also be injected through the running of a tailor-made training course for teachers and the design of a new self and social development course for young offenders.

The curriculum is being revised in accordance with Education Department's syllabus. It is aimed that in 2001, a good portion of our inmates will attain Form 3 standard upon discharge to enable them to apply for continuous training in related trades at the technical institutes.

(D) Promoting 'beat drug' education

To combat the increasing prevalence of substance abuse among youngsters, beat drug education has been reinforced in Training Centres, Drug Addiction Treatment Centres as well as Halfway Houses. The current initiatives are to extend the beat drug education to adult institutions and impose relapse prevention strategies on inmates with previous addiction history.

(E) Enlisting family support

To enlist family support in the rehabilitation process of young offenders, much effort has been made to enhance parent-inmate communication and relations through the introduction of parent-inmate programmes, educational booklets and quarterly newsletters for young offenders and families.

(F) Promoting cultural activities among adult offenders.

Cultural activities such as pop bands, essay competitions, remedial education and hobby classes are being promoted among the adult offenders. The first issue of a newsletter for adult offenders was published in January 2000. It aims to enhance communication between the management, professional staff and the inmates, thereby adding an outlet of sentiments for the latter and at the same time enhancing their writing skills.

(G) Widening network with professional bodies/Non-Government Organisations

Professional skills and initiatives have been brought into various rehabilitation services through building up work relationships with professional bodies e.g. Education Department, Vocational Training Council, Hong Kong Christian Service and Caritas Lok Heep Club (on 'beat drug') and Hong Kong YWCA Employee Service Scheme (on placement facilitator training). Regular workshops are held with NGOs to explore networking of rehabilitation services. Joint projects with NGOs/religious bodies are also run.

(H) Reaching out for community support

An "Opportunities for the Rehabilitated Offenders" publicity campaign was launched for the first time in end 1999 and early 2000. An advisory committee with mostly unofficial members has been formed to develop long-term strategies on gaining community support in helping discharged offenders reintegrate into the community.

Efforts made in the last 24 months have laid a solid foundation for the way forward. In the coming year, the Rehabilitation Division aims to:

(a) for young offenders -

1. implement the new Rehabilitation Centre Programme;
2. revamp education and vocational training programmes as planned; and
3. continue to enhance parent-inmate relationships.

(b) for adult offenders -

1. enhance vocational training and skill accreditation opportunities; and
2. promote cultural activities.

(c) extend beat drug education from young to adult offenders.

**(d) forge close links with professional bodies and NGOs for more joint-venture projects;
and**

**(e) formulate long term strategies to gain community support for rehabilitation of
offenders.**

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