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REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE JAMES K. STEWART
DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

TO THE
AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION
DENVER, COLORADO

AUGUST 17, 1988

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ACQUISITIONS

Note:

Because Mr. Stewart often speaks from notes, the speech as delivered may vary from the text. However, he stands behind this speech as printed.

"Baldau, Zedlewski, Albrecht, and DeWitt helped with speech."

THANK YOU, HALLEM (WILLIAMS).

I'M HAPPY TO BE HERE, ALTHOUGH BEING ON THE SAME PANEL WITH TOM COUGHLIN AND ORVILLE PUNG IS A TOUGH ACT. THESE GUYS ARE HEAVY-HITTERS WHO TELL IT LIKE IT IS. THEY'RE ALSO AMONG THE BEST THERE ARE IN A TOUGH BUSINESS.

AND IN THIS BUSINESS, YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY. IT'S LIKE THE STORY DOWN IN KENTUCKY, WHERE THE GOVERNOR A FEW YEARS AGO WAS TRYING TO FIND A PLACE TO LOCATE A NEW STATE PRISON. EVERYWHERE HE WENT, HE RAN INTO THE NIMBLY REACTION--NOT IN MY BACK YARD. NOBODY WANTED THE NEW PRISON IN THEIR CITY OR COUNTY.

THEN ONE DAY THE GOVERNOR WENT INTO THIS SMALL TOWN IN ONE OF THE STATE'S RURAL COUNTIES TO GIVE A SPEECH. IT WAS A WET COUNTY, LOTS OF ROAD HOUSES AND THE LIKE, WITH A ROUGH REPUTATION.

AND THE GOVERNOR WAS BOTH SHOCKED AND DELIGHTED WHEN HE DROVE INTO TOWN AND FOUND THE PEOPLE LINING THE STREETS. THEY WERE CARRYING SIGNS, SAYING, "GIVE US THE PRISON."

THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE IN THE CORRECTIONS BUSINESS, AND I'M SURE ALL OF YOU HERE KNOW IT BETTER THAN I DO.

I HAVE A FEW MINUTES TO TALK ABOUT THE FEDERAL INTEREST IN CORRECTIONS. I COULD TALK ABOUT THIS ALL DAY, BUT I WANT TO HIGHLIGHT JUST A FEW AREAS OF FEDERAL INTEREST AND CONCERN--AND ACTION.

CORRECTIONS, OF COURSE, IS A LARGELY NEGLECTED PART OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. INMATES HAVE NO POLITICAL CLOUT AND CORRECTIONS IS NOT ON THE FRONT-BURNER OF PUBLIC ATTENTION UNLESS SOMETHING GOES WRONG--A RIOT, AN ESCAPE, SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

AND SINCE CORRECTIONS DOESN'T GET MUCH PUBLIC ATTENTION, IT ALSO DOESN'T GET MUCH IN THE WAY OF GOVERNMENT FUNDING. IN 1985, LESS THAN 3 PERCENT OF ALL GOVERNMENT SPENDING WAS FOR CRIMINAL AND CIVIL JUSTICE--AND OF THAT AMOUNT, ONLY EIGHT-TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT WAS FOR CORRECTIONS. THAT'S FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL SPENDING COMBINED.

BUT IN THE LAST TEN YEARS OR SO, THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CORRECTIONS HAS BECOME MORE PRONOUNCED AND NOW MORE PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO PAY ATTENTION. AS MANY OF YOU ARE WELL AWARE, CORRECTIONS IS THE FASTEST-GROWING PART OF STATE BUDGETS AND IT'S A TOPIC HIGH ON STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDAS.

WHY THIS NEW ATTENTION? FOR ONE THING, PRISONS ARE MORE EXPENSIVE TO BUILD AND OPERATE.

CRIME ALTOGETHER IS MORE EXPENSIVE. AND THE FEAR OF CRIME BY THE PUBLIC-AT-LARGE HAS ERODED THE ECONOMY BY CAUSING A LOT OF PEOPLE TO ALTER THEIR DAILY LIFESTYLE HABITS.

FINALLY, THERE'S CROWDING--THE FOCUS OF THIS ACA CONGRESS AND WITHOUT A DOUBT ONE OF THE TOP PROBLEMS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM TODAY.

I'M NOT GOING TO THROW A LOT OF STATISTICS AT YOU, BECAUSE YOU ALREADY KNOW THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM. TODAY, MOST STATES AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ARE OPERATING FAR IN EXCESS OF THEIR CAPACITIES.

IT HAS BEEN DIFFICULT FOR MANY JURISDICTIONS TO ACCOMMODATE THE TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN PRISON POPULATIONS. PLANNING, FUNDING, SITING AND BUILDING A NEW FACILITY--AND GETTING TRAINED STAFF TO OPERATE IT--MAY TAKE FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS BEFORE IT CAN OPEN.

MEANWHILE, SPACE SHORTAGES DISTORT AND SUBVERT THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. FOR EXAMPLE, THE JUDICIAL POLICY OF GRANTING PROBATION TO FELONS SEEMS TO HAVE EVOLVED IN RESPONSE TO AN UNBALANCED EQUATION OF TOO MANY SERIOUS CRIMES AND NOT ENOUGH SPACE TO HOUSE CONVICTED FELONS.

SO IN AN EFFORT TO DEAL WITH ONE CRISIS--PRISON CROWDING--WE APPEAR TO BE CREATING ANOTHER ONE. AT LEAST WE HAVE CREATED A DEBATE ABOUT PROBATION AND OTHER OPTIONS TO PRISON CONFINEMENT--ELECTRONIC MONITORS, HOUSE ARREST, DRUG TESTING, THINGS LIKE THAT.

GIVEN ALL THIS, CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATORS HAVE
DIFFICULT CHOICES TO MAKE. WITH CROWDED INSTITUTIONS AND
INSUFFICIENT OTHER RESOURCES, THEY HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN:

...RELEASING PRISONERS TO SAVE SPACE AND MONEY, BUT THEN
POSSIBLY ENDANGERING THE COMMUNITY BY PUTTING CONVICTED OFFENDERS
ON THE STREETS WHO ARE LIKELY TO RETURN TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY; OR

...KEEPING PRISONERS IN CONFINEMENT, THEREBY REDUCING THE
PUBLIC'S FEAR OF CRIME BUT EXACERBATING PRISON CROWDING AND
MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS.

SOME RECENT RESEARCH BY THE AGENCY I DIRECT--THE NATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE--MIGHT HELP ADMINISTRATORS MAKE THE RIGHT
DECISIONS.

THE RESEARCH PROGRAMS WE CONDUCT ARE POLICY-RELEVANT. THEY
FOCUS ON YOUR NEEDS, INTERESTS AND CONCERNS AND THEY WIDEN THE
OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO YOU. THEY HELP STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES
MAKE INFORMED POLICY DECISIONS BASED ON THE RULE OF EVIDENCE, NOT
THE RULE OF THUMB.

IN THIS CASE, WE STUDIED THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF PRISONS AND CRIME--AND OUR CONCLUSION IS THAT PRISONS ARE GOOD INVESTMENTS FOR REDUCING CRIME. BUILDING MORE PRISONS AND FILLING THEM WITH CRIMINALS COSTS LESS THAN WHAT COMMUNITIES PAY FOR CRIMES BY OFFENDERS WHO ARE FREE.

OUR RESEARCH SHOWS THAT WHEN INMATES IN PRISON WERE ON THE STREETS, THEY COMMITTED AN AVERAGE OF 187 CRIMES PER PERSON IN A YEAR--AND THIS CRIMINAL ACTIVITY COST AN ESTIMATED \$430,000 IN LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPENDITURES, VICTIM LOSSES AND PRIVATE SECURITY MEASURES.

ACCORDING TO OUR STUDIES, IT COSTS ABOUT \$25,000 PER YEAR TO KEEP AN INMATE IN PRISON, INCLUDING THE DEBT SERVICE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION COSTS. [HOLD UP RIB]

PUBLIC DEBATE UP TO THIS POINT HAS MISTAKENLY FOCUSED ON THE COST OF IMPRISONMENT COMPARED TO THE COST OF PROBATION. THE CORRECT WAY TO LOOK AT THE ISSUE IS TO COMPARE THE COSTS OF IMPRISONMENT TO THE COSTS OF PROBATION PLUS THE COSTS OF CRIME TO

INDIVIDUAL VICTIMS AND THE COMMUNITY.

FOR EXAMPLE, IN 1983, DIRECT EXPENDITURES DUE TO CRIME AND CRIME PREVENTION WERE ABOUT \$100 BILLION, BROKEN DOWN THIS WAY: CRIMINAL JUSTICE, \$34 BILLION; PRIVATE SECURITY; \$31 BILLION; AND VICTIM LOSSES, \$35 BILLION.

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXPENDITURES INCLUDED \$5.9 BILLION FOR RUNNING PRISONS AND \$2.7 BILLION FOR JAIL OPERATIONS. SO YOU CAN SEE THAT PRISONS AND JAILS TOGETHER REPRESENT LESS THAN 10 PERCENT OF OVERALL CRIME COSTS.

THE KEY QUESTION FACING POLICYMAKERS IS WHETHER INCREASING THE SHARE OF PUBLIC RESOURCES ALLOTTED TO CONFINEMENT CAN REDUCE THE TOTAL COST OF CRIME TO THE PUBLIC. FROM OUR RESEARCH, THE ANSWER CLEARLY IS YES, BECAUSE COMMUNITIES ARE ACTUALLY PAYING MORE BY RELEASING REPEAT OFFENDERS THAN BY EXPANDING PRISON CAPACITY.

IN CORRECTIONS, YOU ARE FACED WITH PUBLIC OPINION THAT IS USUALLY CRITICAL, LIKE THE JOKE ABOUT THE TWO CELLMATES, AND ONE

ASKS THE OTHER, "HOW LONG ARE YOU IN JAIL FOR?"

THE OTHER GUY SAYS, "TWENTY-YEARS."

THE FIRST ONE ASKS, "WHAT'S THE CHARGE?"

AND THE OTHER GUY SAYS, "NO CHARGE. EVERYTHING IS FREE."

WELL, IT ISN'T FREE TO THE PUBLIC TO KEEP A PRISONER IN CONFINEMENT. YET ACCORDING TO NIJ RESEARCH, IT SURE IS CHEAPER THAN RELEASING HIM EARLY.

INCIDENTALLY, COPIES OF OUR RESEARCH BRIEF ARE AVAILABLE.

HOW CAN WE MAKE THE BEST OF THIS DILEMMA?

WHAT CAN WE DO TO REALIZE MAXIMUM BENEFIT OUT OF THAT \$25,000 COST PER INMATE PER YEAR?

FOR ONE THING, WE CAN PUT THEM TO WORK.

ALL TOO OFTEN THE PRINCIPAL PRODUCT OF PRISON TODAY IS IDLENESS.

BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THAT WAY. PUTTING PRISONERS TO WORK--IN PRIVATE-SECTOR PRISON INDUSTRIES--SOLVES THE IDLENESS PROBLEM AND PROVIDES MANY BENEFITS TO ALL SIDES OF THE ECONOMY.

FIRST OF ALL, INMATES GAIN ACCESS TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES, AND ALSO THE PRIVATE SECTOR GAINS A VALUABLE LABOR RESOURCE, ESPECIALLY CERTAIN TYPES OF BUSINESSES--FOR EXAMPLE, BUSINESSES WITH FLUCTUATING PRODUCTION AND SERVICE NEEDS; BUSINESSES NEEDING LOW-SKILL OR ENTRY-LEVEL WORKERS--AND THERE ARE REAL SHORTAGES IN THE JOB MARKET AT THIS LEVEL; AND BUSINESSES NEEDING A STABLE WORK FORCE THAT IS AVAILABLE DURING HOLIDAYS, FOR DIFFERENT SHIFTS, AND IN BAD WEATHER.

IN THE 1985-86 FISCAL YEAR, SALES OF PRIVATE-SECTOR PRISON BUSINESSES LIKE THESE WERE \$39 MILLION.

THE TAXPAYERS BENEFIT FROM PRIVATE-SECTOR PRISON INDUSTRIES BECAUSE THE WAGES PRISONERS EARN HELP PAY TAXES, PRISON ROOM AND BOARD COSTS, VICTIMS COMPENSATION, AND THE SUPPORT OF THEIR OWN FAMILIES. IN SHORT, THE PRISONER CAN PAY HIS DEBT TO SOCIETY IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

THE CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM BENEFITS, BECAUSE INDUSTRIES PROVIDE MEANINGFUL WORK FOR A SEGMENT OF THE PRISON POPULATION; THEY

PROVIDE ACCESS TO PRIVATE-SECTOR EXPERTISE; AND THEY REDUCE IDLENESS AND "NORMALIZE" PRISON LIFE THROUGH THE PRESENCE OF PRIVATE-SECTOR PERSONNEL.

AND THE INMATES BENEFIT. IN ADDITION TO EARNING REALISTIC WAGES THAT CAN HELP SUPPORT THEIR FAMILIES AND THEREBY PERHAPS REDUCE THE WELFARE ROLLS, THEY GAIN TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE THAT ALSO ARE TRANSFERABLE TO THE REAL WORLD AFTER THEY ARE RELEASED.

IN NOVEMBER, 1987, THERE WERE 38 PRIVATE-SECTOR PRISON INDUSTRIES, UP FROM 26 IN 1985. FOURTEEN STATES AND TWO COUNTY PRISON SYSTEMS ARE INVOLVED.

JUST LAST MONTH, NIJ SPONSORED A TRAINING-DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF THREE TO FIVE NEW INDUSTRIES. WE'RE WORKING WITH THE WHARTON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE AND LABOR TO IDENTIFY THOSE INDUSTRIES THAT HAVE NEEDS THAT CAN BE MET BY A PRISON WORKPLACE.

WE ALSO HAVE TO IDENTIFY THE KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS OF BUSINESS LEADERS FOR THEIR INVOLVEMENT, BECAUSE THE CORPORATE SECTOR STILL IS LARGELY UNINFORMED AND UNINVOLVED AND NEEDS TO BE MADE MORE AWARE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT PRIVATE-SECTOR PRISON INDUSTRIES PRESENT.

THIS IS WHERE I GET BACK TO THE COSTS OF BUILDING AND OPERATING PRISONS THAT I ALLUDED TO EARLIER--THE COSTS OF KEEPING MORE PRISONERS IN CORRECTIONS SYSTEMS THAT ALREADY ARE CROWDED.

JUST AS IN PRIVATE-SECTOR PRISON INDUSTRIES, THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR--AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR--IN PRISON CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION. THAT'S THE PURPOSE OF NIJ'S PRISON CONSTRUCTION INITIATIVE, WHICH ENCOURAGES CORRECTIONS OFFICIALS TO NETWORK WITH EXPERTS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHO CAN HELP TO SPEED-UP CONSTRUCTION, REDUCE COSTS AND IMPROVE PRISON MANAGEMENT.

FIRST, CONSTRUCTION. BUILDING COSTS ALONE TRIPLED FROM 1984 TO 1986, FROM LESS THAN \$1 BILLION TO \$3 BILLION ANNUALLY.

STATES WILL SPEND MORE THAN \$20 BILLION ON PRISON CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS.

THERE'S AN URGENT NEED FOR QUICKER, MORE ECONOMICAL AND MORE MODERN PRISON CONSTRUCTION METHODS. THE KEY IS TO USE THE MOST UP-TO-DATE DESIGN, MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES. AND WE CAN LEARN THEM FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

RESPONDING TO THAT NEED, THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE ESTABLISHED THE CONSTRUCTION INFORMATION EXCHANGE TO HELP STATE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ON BUILDING OR EXPANDING PRISON FACILITIES.

THROUGH THIS COMPUTERIZED DATA BASE, WE PUT AUTHORITIES IN TOUCH WITH OFFICIALS IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY USED MORE EFFICIENT BUILDING TECHNIQUES--FOR EXAMPLE, THE USE OF PRE-FAB CONCRETE PANELS IN VIRGINIA AND CALIFORNIA; PRE-CAST CONCRETE CELL MODULES LIFTED INTO PLACE BY TRACTOR CRANE IN FLORIDA; AND THE USE OF INMATES TO BUILD PRISON FACILITIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA. IN EVERY CASE, THESE NEW TECHNIQUES SAVED TIME

AND MONEY IN PRISON CONSTRUCTION.

WE ALSO HAVE INFORMATION ON ALTERNATIVE PRIVATE-SECTOR FINANCING METHODS FOR FASTER CONSTRUCTION, INCLUDING LEASE PURCHASES, CONTRACT PACKAGES, AND THE LIKE.

NIJ'S CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM IS REACHING CORRECTIONS OFFICIALS ACROSS THE NATION BECAUSE OF A VERY SPECIAL PARTNERSHIP. THE AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION HAS JOINED WITH NIJ TO PUBLISH THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF CORRECTIONS CONSTRUCTION, A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO PRISON AND JAIL EXPANSION IN THE UNITED STATES. FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS TURNED OVER A GOVERNMENT REPORT TO A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION. I TOOK THIS STEP IN RECOGNITION OF ACA'S LEADERSHIP IN CORRECTIONS, AND TODAY I WANT TO THANK YOUR PRESIDENT, SU CUNNINGHAM, AND YOUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TONY TRAVISONO, FOR MAKING THIS PARTNERSHIP POSSIBLE.

THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF CORRECTIONS CONSTRUCTION IS A HEFTY VOLUME THAT REPORTS ON COSTS OF JAIL AND PRISON CONSTRUCTION - A MASSIVE REPORT THAT RESPONDS TO AN ENORMOUS PROBLEM. COPIES ARE AVAILABLE ONLY FROM THE ACA, AND IF YOU FACE THE PROSPECT OF FACILITY CONSTRUCTION OR EXPANSION, I URGE YOU TO GET A COPY WHILE YOU CAN.

NIJ RESEARCH HAS GIVEN A NEW DIRECTION TO CONSTRUCTION, AS OUR STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT IT'S LESS EXPENSIVE TO KEEP AN INMATE IN CONFINEMENT THAN RELEASE HIM INTO THE COMMUNITY.

IT COSTS MORE TO KEEP A PRISONER IN JAIL FOR A YEAR THAN IT DOES TO TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD ON THE QUEEN ELIZABETH II.

AND JUST AS THERE ARE OPTIONS FOR REDUCING CONSTRUCTION COSTS BY WORKING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, SO THERE ARE WITH OPERATING COSTS.

ONE OPTION IS CONTRACTING-OUT FOR PRIVATE OPERATION OF PUBLIC CORRECTIONS FACILITIES. AT LAST COUNT, THERE WERE PRIVATELY-MANAGED MINIMUM SECURITY PRISONS AND JAILS IN FIVE

STATES--KENTUCKY, FLORIDA, NEW MEXICO, TENNESSEE AND MINNESOTA.

CONTRACTING-OUT IS A SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE DEBATE. WELL OVER A YEAR AGO, NIJ COMMISSIONED THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS AND THE URBAN INSTITUTE TO EXAMINE EXISTING CONTRACT PROGRAMS AS A GUIDE FOR OTHER STATES AND LOCALITIES THAT MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER THIS OPTION.

STATES IN THE STUDY FOUND THAT PRIVATE INDUSTRY CAN PROVIDE NEW CELLS FASTER THAN GOVERNMENT, THAT THE TREATMENT OF INMATES IS AT LEAST EQUAL TO THAT IN STATE INSTITUTIONS, AND THAT PRIVATE CORRECTIONAL CONTRACTORS APPEAR TO HAVE PERFORMED CREDITABLY.

BUT ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT STATES ARE TAKING A CAUTIOUS APPROACH TO PRIVATE-SECTOR PRISON OPERATIONS. THERE HAS BEEN NO RUSH TO TURN THE KEYS OVER TO ENTREPRENEURS. RATHER, JURISDICTIONS ARE USING PRIVATE OPERATIONS TO SUPPLEMENT PUBLIC CORRECTIONS FACILITIES, NOT TO SUPPLANT THEM.

FINALLY, A FEW WORDS ABOUT ANOTHER HOT TOPIC OF FEDERAL INTEREST AND CONCERN IN CORRECTIONS--AIDS.

THE MANAGERS AND STAFF OF CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS WERE AMONG THE FIRST CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS TO CONFRONT THE AIDS PROBLEM. TIME HAS NOT DIMINISHED THAT CHALLENGE. BY LAST OCTOBER 1987, A CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF 1,964 CONFIRMED AIDS CASES HAD BEEN REPORTED AMONG INMATES IN THE NATION'S PRISONS AND ITS LARGEST JAILS--AN INCREASE OF 156 PERCENT OVER THE FIRST SURVEY OF INMATE AIDS CASES IN 1985.

THAT'S A STAGGERING INCREASE, BUT IT STILL IS LESS THAN THE 187 PERCENT INCREASE IN CONFIRMED AIDS CASES AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION DURING THE SAME PERIOD. MOST CASES OF HIV INFECTION AMONG INMATES ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO IV DRUG USE--BUT PRISONS ARE NOT BREEDING GROUND FOR AIDS THAT MANY PEOPLE HAVE FEARED.

STILL, CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATORS FACE TOUGH DECISIONS BECAUSE OF THE AIDS CRISIS--DECISIONS ABOUT INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT, THE BEST AND MOST EQUITABLE MEANS OF IDENTIFYING AND TREATING INMATES WITH AIDS, POTENTIAL LEGAL ISSUES, AND THE COSTS OF MEDICAL CARE.

POLICYMAKERS AND CORRECTIONS OFFICIALS CAN NOT AFFORD TO WAIT UNTIL MEDICAL SCIENCE PRODUCES AN ULTIMATE ANSWER. TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE PROBLEM TODAY, THEY NEED THE MOST ACCURATE AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

IN LATE 1985, AS I SAID, NIJ BEGAN ITS FIRST STUDY OF AIDS IN PRISONS AND JAILS. SINCE THEN, WE HAVE ANNUALLY SURVEYED AND REPORTED ON THE INCIDENCE AND INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT OF AIDS IN THE FEDERAL AND STATE PRISON SYSTEMS AND IN THE NATION'S LARGEST JAILS.

THE THIRD EDITION OF OUR SURVEY REPORT IS OUT NOW, WITH THE MOST CURRENT FIGURES AND TREND DATA ON THE INCIDENCE OF AIDS AMONG INCARCERATED OFFENDERS. IT REVIEWS BOTH POLICY OPTIONS AND THE RANGE OF CORRECTIONAL PRACTICES WITH RESPECT TO TESTING, HOUSING, MEDICAL CARE, AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS. AND IT PROVIDES CURRENT INFORMATION ON COSTS AND THE STATUS OF RELEVANT LEGAL ISSUES.

THIS REPORT IS JUST ONE PART OF NIJ'S ONGOING EFFORT TO HELP

CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATORS AND OTHER CRIMINAL JUSTICE

PROFESSIONALS MEET THE CHALLENGE OF AIDS. OUR REPORT ON AIDS

ISSUES IN PROBATION AND PAROLE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.

A YEAR AGO, AT THE REQUEST OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL EDWIN MEESE, NIJ ESTABLISHED AN AIDS CLEARINGHOUSE THAT CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROFESSIONALS CAN TURN TO FOR AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW AIDS EFFECTS THEM AND THEIR WORK. IN THE FIRST YEAR, IT HAS RESPONDED TO OVER 20,000 ORDERS, DISTRIBUTED 95,000 DOCUMENTS, AND PROVIDED SUPPORT FOR OVER 130 TRAINING PROGRAMS AND CONFERENCES. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE ARE RUNNING BETWEEN 350 AND 500 A MONTH.

NIJ'S AIDS CLEARINGHOUSE IS THE ONLY CENTRAL SOURCE OF
INFORMATION ABOUT AIDS AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE.
IT INCLUDES A HOTLINE--STAFFED BY A SPECIALIST ON AIDS ISSUES--
WHO WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS, MAKE REFERRALS, AND DISSEMINATE
INFORMATION AND RESEARCH AVAILABLE FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL. THE HOTLINE NUMBER IS 301/251-5500.

WELL, I'VE TALKED LONG ENOUGH. I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING
THESE AND OTHER MATTERS FURTHER DURING THE QUESTION PERIOD.

THANK YOU.