

IMPRISONMENT: WHERE?



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ACQUISITIONS

Imprisonment: where?

Institutions (prisons and remand houses) to which persons* sentenced to terms of imprisonment may be committed

There are various types of prison in the Netherlands, each type being intended for a particular category of prisoner, for instance young persons or adults, prisoners serving short-term or long-term sentences, men or women. Selection for any of these institutions takes into account:

- age;
- length of sentence.

Another important factor is whether or not the person concerned was already in custody when sentenced (i.e. on remand in a remand house).

Age

As far as age is concerned, a distinction is drawn between adults (persons aged 23 and over) and young persons (the 18-23 age-group; in some cases, persons under 18 or even persons of 23 and 24).

Length of sentence

When distinguishing between persons serving short-term and long-term sentences, the actual duration of the sentence is taken into account, that is to say, the sentence imposed less any period spent in custody awaiting trial or sentence (i.e. in preliminary detention). The length of sentence is important since, as already

* the only establishment to which women sentenced to imprisonment are committed is the Rotterdam Women's Prison; the information given in this pamphlet, therefore, refers only to male prisoners.

stated, a number of institutions are intended for prisoners serving short-term sentences and a number of others for those serving long-term sentences. The borderline between short-term and long-term sentences may in principle lie between 4 and 6 months; at the moment, it is drawn

- at 5 months for young persons;
- at 6 months for adults.

Are you already in preliminary detention?

You may well be under preliminary detention at the moment you are sentenced; if so, your sentence will start from the commencement of your preliminary detention. The institutions to which you may be committed if you are aged 23 or over are shown in the diagram opposite (figure 1), and in figure 2 if you are under 23.

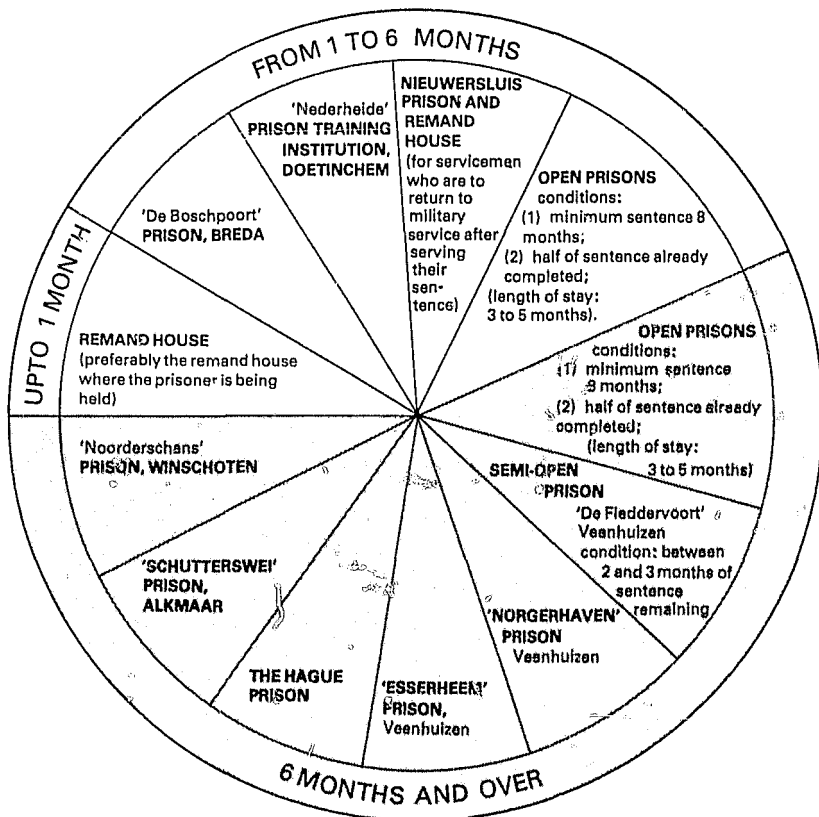


Figure 1. Penal institutions to which adults may be committed following a period spent in custody awaiting trial or sentence (i.e. in preliminary detention)

How to 'read' the diagrams

You will note that the outer band of each circle shows the duration of the sentence, i.e. the period remaining after deduction of time spent in preliminary detention; it tells you which sector applies to your sentence and hence in which institution you may serve your sentence.

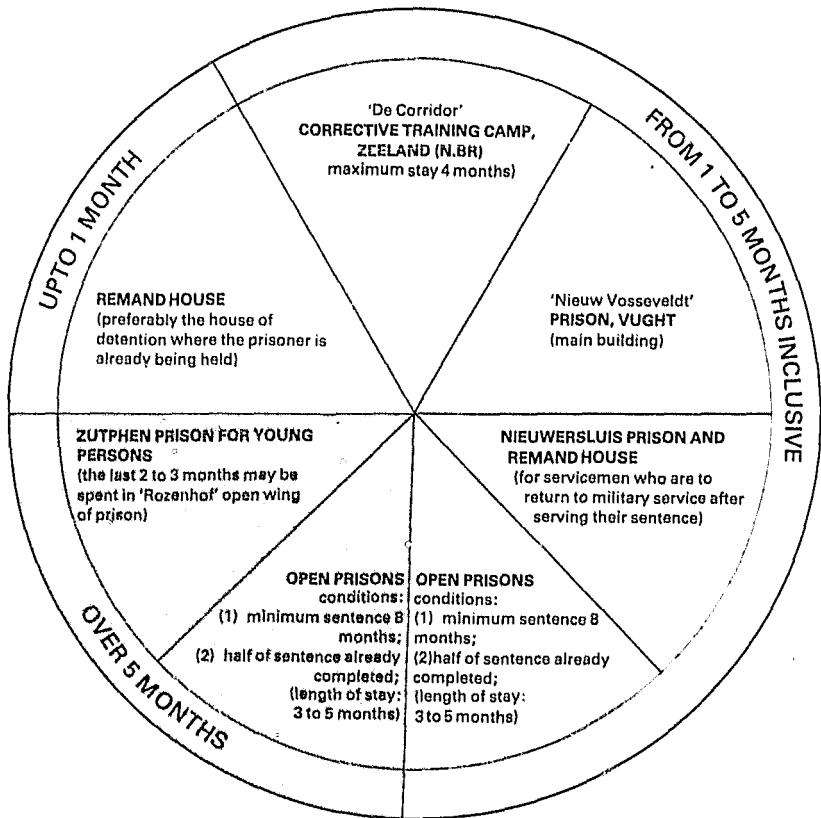


Figure 2. Institutions to which young people may be sent following a period spent in custody awaiting trial or sentence (i.e. in preliminary detention)

If you are *not* in preliminary detention

In certain cases, the judge may decide not to remand a defendant in custody and order instead that he remains free until such time as he is called upon to report at a certain institution to serve his sentence. If he fails to report, the police will usually be ordered to arrest him. Therefore, if you have not been remanded in custody to await trial, you will, if convicted, be sent direct to the place of imprisonment without serving any period of preliminary detention. If you are 23 or over the upper half of fig. 3 shows you the institution to which you may be sent; the bottom half will show you the institution to which you may be sent if you are under 23.

In other words, there are special prisons for the category of defendants left free until trial, but those who have been remanded in custody are sent either to a remand house, to an ordinary prison (see figures 1 and 2) or to a separate wing of the Leeuwarden Remand House.

Imprisonment following preliminary detention (adults) – see fig. 1

- Remand house (preferably the remand house where the prisoner is already in custody). Lack of accommodation, however, may sometimes necessitate committal to some other remand house.
- 'De Boschpoort' Prison, Breda;
- 'Nederheide' Prison Training Institution, Doetinchem;
- Nieuwersluis Prison and Remand House (for servicemen who are to return to military service after serving their sentence);
- Open Prisons (to qualify for one of these prisons, a prisoner must have been sentenced to 8 months or more and he must already have completed at least half of that term. Length of stay between 3 and 5 months);
- 'De Fleddervoort' Semi-open Prison, Veenhuizen (the remainder of the term to be served should not be less than 2 months and not more than 3 months);
- 'Esserheem' Prison, Veenhuizen;
- 'Norgervhaven' Prison, Veenhuizen;
- The Hague prison;
- 'Noorderschans' Prison, Winschoten;
- 'Schutterswei' Prison, Alkmaar.

Term of imprisonment following preliminary detention (young persons) – see figure 2

- Remand house (preferably the house of detention where the prisoner is already being held. Lack of accommodation may, however, necessitate committal to some other remand house);
- ‘De Corridor’ Corrective Training Camp, Zeeland (maximum stay 4 months);
- the main building of the ‘Nieuw Vosseveldt’ Prison, Vught;
- Nieuwersluis Prison and Remand House (for servicemen who are to return to military service after serving their sentence);
- Zutphen Prison for Young Persons (prisoners may serve the last 2 to 3 months of their sentence in ‘Rozenhof’ open wing of the prison);
- Open Prisons (to qualify for one of these prisons, a prisoner must have been sentenced to 8 months or more and he must have completed at least half of that term. Length of stay between 3 and 5 months).

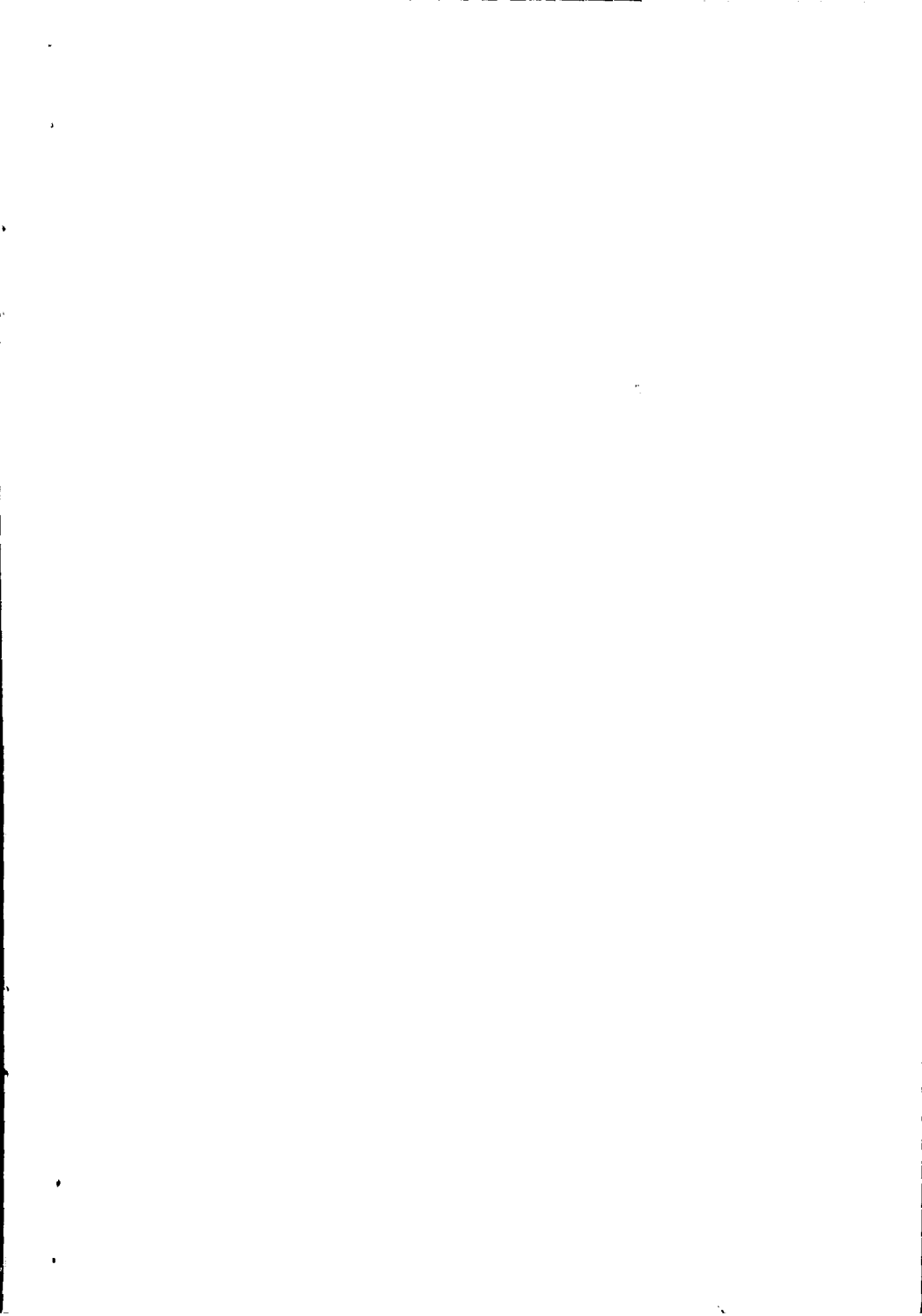
Committal of prisoners who have not been in preliminary detention (adults) – see upper half of figure 3

- Remand house (preferably the house of detention in the district in which the prisoner was convicted or in an adjacent district);
- ‘de Raam’ Prison, Grave, North Brabant (less than 1 month);
- ‘Oostereiland’ Prison, Hoorn (length of sentence 14 days to 2 months);
- ‘Ter Peel’ Prison, Sevenum (length of sentence: up to 6 months);
- the ‘Bankenbosch’ and ‘Nieuw Bergveen’ wings of the ‘Groot Bankenbosch’ Prison, Veenhuizen.

NB: Any prisoners who, without any explanation fail to report to serve their sentence when ordered to do so by the Selection and Guidance Division of the Penal Selection Centre will be sent to one of the prisons named for the prisoners listed under 1.

See lower half of fig. 3 for prisoners who have not been held in custody (young persons)

- Remand house (preferably the house of detention in the district in which the prisoner was convicted or in an adjacent district);



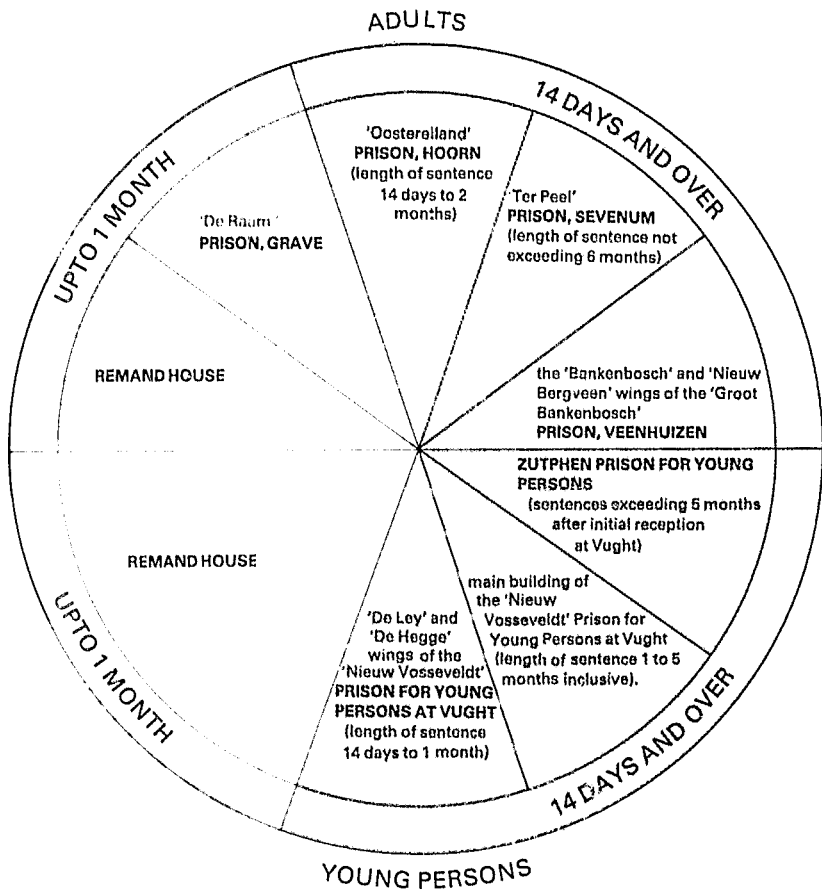
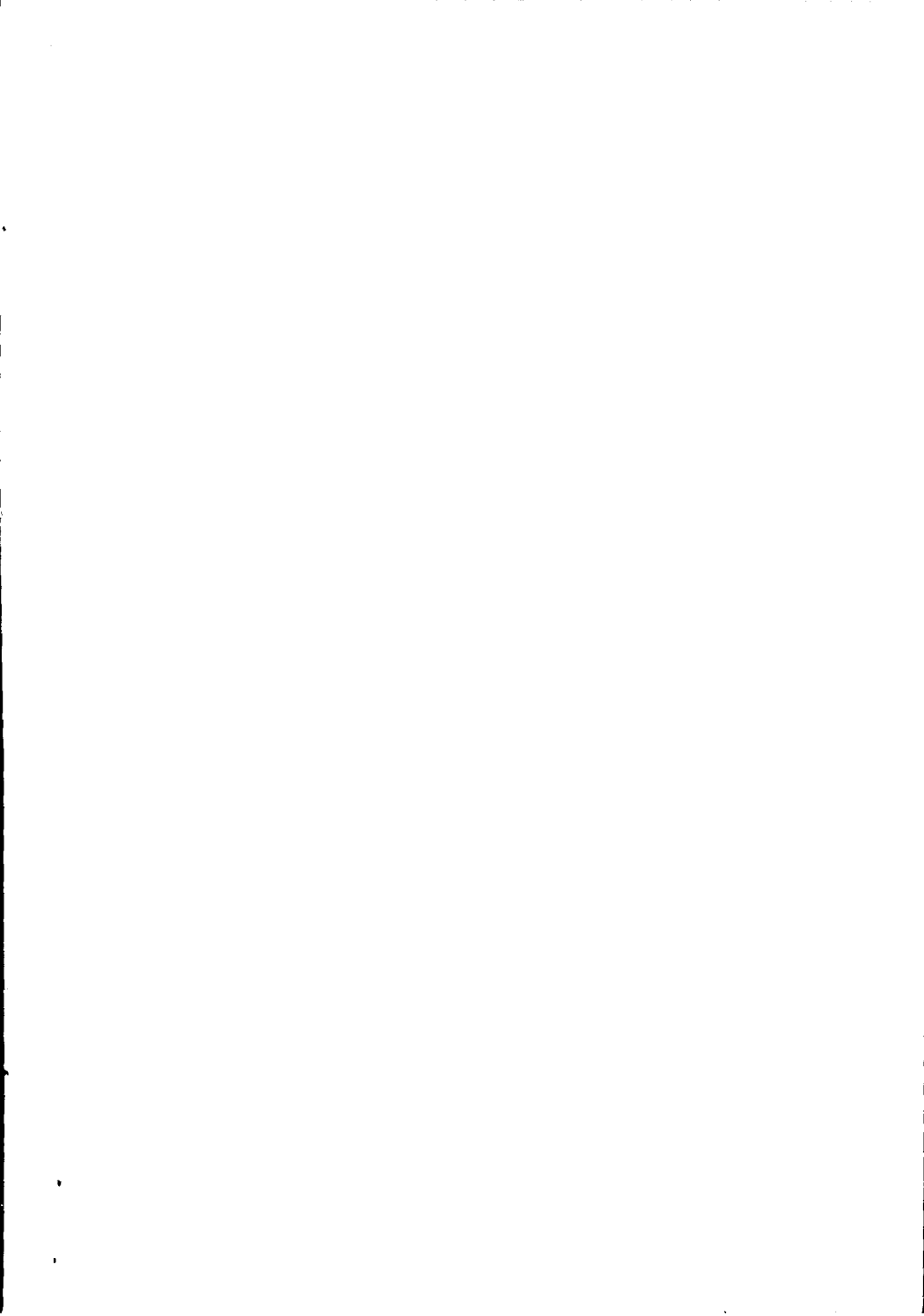


Figure 3. Institutions to which adults (see upper half) and young persons (see lower half) may be sent if they have not been in preliminary detention



- 'De Ley' and 'De Hegge' wings of the 'Nieuw Vosseveldt' Prison for Young Persons at Vught (length of sentence 14 days to 1 month);
- the main building of the 'Nieuw Vosseveldt' Prison for Young Persons at Vught (length of sentence 1 to 5 months inclusive). Prisoners may be transferred from the Prison for Young Persons at Vught to 'De Corridor' Corrective Training Camp (length of sentence 1 to 5 months inclusive);
- Zutphen Prison for Young Persons (sentences exceeding 5 months after initial reception at Vught).

NB: Any prisoners who, without any explanation fail to report to serve their sentence when ordered to do so by the Selection and Guidance Division of the Penal Selection Centre will be sent to one of the prisons named for the prisoners listed in 2.

SHORT TERMS OF IMPRISONMENT WHICH MAY BE SERVED PIECEMEAL

In a number of houses of detention, short terms of imprisonment may be served piecemeal, for instance at weekends (hence the original name: 'weekend sentence'). The remand houses at which this is possible are:

Leeuwarden, Almelo, Arnhem, Utrecht, Alkmaar, Haarlem, The Hague, Den Bosch, Breda, Zutphen, Rotterdam.

Stafbureau Voorlichting Ministerie van Justitie in samenwerking met het Centraal Wervings- en Opleidings
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