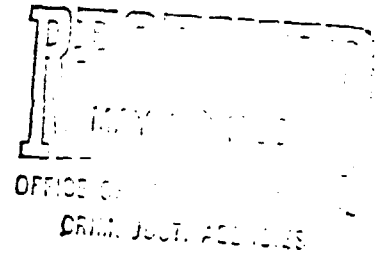




PC-PA-005-010

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA



IMPRISONED CITIZENS UNION,
et al.

: CIVIL ACTION
: NOS. 70-3054
: 71-513
: 71-1006
: 70-2545

FILED MAY 13 1983

-v-

MILTON SHAPP, et al.

M E M O R A N D U M

Lord, S.J.

May 11, 1983

These actions are consolidated class actions, the first of which was filed on September 15, 1970, and the others of which were filed on varying dates thereafter. The actions originally purported to be on behalf of all state prisoners in Pennsylvania and were directed at various facets of all state prisons in Pennsylvania. The actions were concluded by a Consent Decree which was executed on May 22, 1978.

Since that time, there has been a more or less constant stream of complaints from prisoners of violations of the Consent Decree. Some of these were purely alleged individual civil rights violations and were not covered by the terms of the Consent Decree. Others may well have been either institution-wide or state-wide and therefore in violation of the Consent Decree's state-wide reach. Some of these alleged violations have been accompanied by motions for contempt. The result has been a morass of intermingled individual complaints

ENTERED: 5/16/83

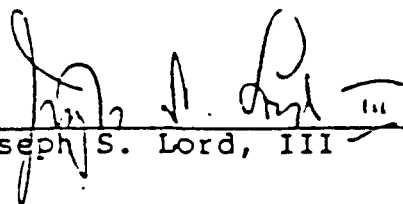
(

(

(which would properly have been brought as individual actions in the proper district), state-wide or institution-wide complaints, motions for contempt, and actions for damages.

United States Magistrate William F. Hall, Jr. undertook to cooperate with counsel for the plaintiffs and counsel for the Attorney General of Pennsylvania to settle all of these differences once and for all. After protracted negotiations and discussions the parties have finally arrived at a settlement which disposes of all of the outstanding complaints. I have reviewed the terms of the settlement. I find that the prisoners' constitutional rights are fully protected and in some instances, the agreements by the State go beyond constitutional mandates. I have therefore concluded that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable and I will adopt the Report and Recommendation of Magistrate Hall.

I also take this opportunity to commend in the strongest possible terms, John T. Snavelly, II, Esquire, counsel for the plaintiffs; Sherree L. Sturgis, Esquire, of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Corrections; and Francis R. Filipi, Esquire, of the Attorney General's office, for their singular and outstanding cooperation, dedication, and wisdom in arriving at this Decree which is of manifest importance to all citizens of this Commonwealth.



Joseph S. Lord, III S.J.