

## **ECHO HALL, HM PRISON PETERHEAD - AN ANALYSIS OF THE EVENTS OF 7TH-11TH JULY 1994.**

### **PREAMBLE:**

1. This submission analyses the reasons behind the circumstances of 7th-11th July 1994 in relation to Peterhead E hall and Peterhead separate cells, examining the reasons behind the removal of prisoner William Cadder and the voluntary relocation of prisoners from E Hall back to the separate cells. This submission explains the reasons behind the decisions taken and the rationale behind the changes to the regime. The positive aspects of the Hall are explored and a recommendation is made that standardisation of Rule 36 regimes and cooperation between establishments on the movement of difficult prisoners will improve the service offered by E hall and thus enhance the way the Scottish Prison Service handles the problems presented by such prisoners.

### **BACKGROUND:**

2. The current regime in E hall started on 1st November 1993, after a period in mothballs and a lengthy planning period.

3. The original idea to utilise the E hall resource arose through the Strategic Planning process for year 1993 1994. Our regime at that time for dealing with difficult prisoners consisted solely of locating them in almost total segregation in our separate cells, addressed by staff wearing full protective body armour.

#### **4. This was unsatisfactory for the following reasons:**

4.1. The regime was designed to house those prisoners who presented such a threat to staff safety that they could not be located elsewhere. However, as prisoners arrived without prearranged exits, stagnation set in as it became almost impossible to upgrade prisoners to other prisons.

4.2. Protracted periods in these conditions desensitised prisoners and negated any deterrent effect that the regime may have had.

4.3 The constant use of body armour acted as a barrier to effective communication, which further isolated the prisoner. It also provided an excuse for the prisoner to withdraw from any sort of relationship with staff.

4.4 Our constant use of body armour acted as a stumbling block in any negotiations on upgrading prisoners regarded as ready to move - how could we justify upgrading a prisoner whom we felt still required body armour?

4.5 Peterhead separate cells began to achieve almost a mythology amongst prisoners, with being located there almost regarded as a status symbol within the prison community.

4.6 In such restricted conditions, it became almost impossible for the prisoner to prove that he no longer posed a threat to staff safety - no risk was taken to allow adverse behaviours to exhibit themselves.

5. This left us in a situation where there was a stagnant group of prisoners with no sign of progression on the horizon. The prophecy became self fulfilling as the frustration manifested itself in acts of physical violence or threats against staff.

6. E Hall was originally intended as a semi lockdown regime, acting as a halfway house between lockdown and mainstream.

7. However, after the visit of Professor Hans Toch in June 1993, it was felt that the facility would be better utilised dealing with those prisoners regarded as subversive or manipulative within a mainstream setting. In common with the way Peterhead was working with Sex Offenders, it was envisaged that the staff in E hall would challenge the prisoner on his offending behaviour whilst in prison, with a view to effecting changes in attitude prior to returning to the sending establishment.

8. A great deal of emphasis was placed on the necessity for the prisoner to have a prearranged exit location and date, prior to transfer in. This was as a reaction to the stagnation in the cells and to previous experience of regimes in E hall, which had faltered in part due to similar stagnation amongst the prisoners there.

9. E hall would also be available as a conduit for those existing prisoners in the cells, giving them a chance to prove that they could cope in association before moving on to a freshly negotiated exit location.

10. The Departmental Circular outlining the aims and intentions of E hall is contained at Annexe 1.

11. A chronology of prisoner movement into and out of E hall is attached at Annexe 2.

## **EVENTS OF THURSDAY 7th - MONDAY 11th JULY 1994**

12. Annexe 3 contains extracts from the E hall occurrence book maintained by the Senior Officer, which offer a narrative of events as they took place between the above dates.

### **DECISION MAKING PROCESS:**

13. Given that the prisoners were locked in their individual cells for the duration of the meeting, management had controlled time within which to consider the situation. Small Units staff were consulted at a meeting and the management team decided that action had to be taken.

### **Removal Of William Cadder:**

14. Cadder was felt to have been the main negative influence within the hall. His increasing frustration at not being granted a move to Aberdeen on his terms and in his time scales and his natural tendency towards the manipulation of others, had reached a level where he had significant influence over the other prisoners in the hall.

14.1 An instance where he stated that he wished to return to the separate cells typified Cadder's influence. In an effort to intimidate staff, Cadder had stated that unless he heard of a decision on his move by that afternoon, he would be moving to the separate cells. On hearing this, the other prisoners voiced solidarity and applied the same threat to their own circumstances. The threat never materialised and in discussion, Cadder stated that he had withdrawn the threat as he had not wanted to "ruin things for the others."

14.2 There is little doubt that he was at least influential in the decision of Leggat and Easton not to cooperate with their own prearranged exits. Similarly, with prisoner Gordon Smith's fault finding on every petty aspect of his forthcoming move to Edinburgh for accumulated visits. All prisoners had voiced complaints to staff about the perceived injustices suffered by Cadder.

14.3 It was felt that Cadder was fuelling the tension in the hall, in the hope that management would capitulate and negotiate an immediate and desirable exit for him, in an attempt to diffuse the situation.

14.4 By removing Cadder, it was shown that we would not accept this continued intimidation, sending a message to the other prisoners that we would be prepared to downgrade them if they refused to cooperate. It also removed the instigator and allowed for a period within which we could ascertain the thoughts and feelings of the remaining prisoners.

### **Restriction Of Regime:**

15. The tension in the hall was such that open association, even without Cadder was not considered appropriate. Time and space was required within which to allow the situation to defuse, especially as it was known that the others may react violently to the removal of Cadder.

15.1 Total lockdown was not considered appropriate - realising that the situation was only temporary, normalisation would be easier from a baseline of limited association. It was vital that communication was maintained - a total lockdown would have made withdrawal easier.

### **The Exodus From E Hall:**

16. Apart from the incident with Gordon Smith, the prisoners gave their tacit co-operation until Friday 8th July.

16.1 Thomas Easton became the elected spokesman for the prisoners. In an effort to pressurise staff and management into restoring full association, he stated that unless this happened immediately the remaining prisoners would make sure that they were relocated to the separate cells by smashing their cells and embarking on a dirty protest.

16.2 When advised that full association was not to be granted over the weekend, he stated that all prisoners would want to return to the separate cells. When it was acknowledged that management would not stand in the way of a voluntary, peaceful move back to the separate cells, if it was the genuine wish of each prisoner, Easton appeared taken aback. It became clear that he had expected management to back down at this threat, stating that he thought management wanted the separate cells empty.

16.3 That evening, prisoners Easton and Smith moved peacefully and voluntarily back to the separate cells.

16.4 Further dialogue continued over the weekend with the remaining prisoners, Leggat and Hamilton, but it was perceived that they had to display solidarity with their colleagues and both moved peacefully and voluntarily on Monday 11th July, leaving no prisoners in E hall and 8 in the separate cells.

**17. Analysis of the situation suggests that the following factors may have been influential in the lead up to the events of Thursday 7th July:**

17.1 Several unfortunate precedents had been set early on in the life of the regime. Prisoner Gordon Smith had reneged on his agreement to move on from

Echo hall to Aberdeen. At that time, the decision was taken to allow him to stay in the hall and to subsequently attempt to re negotiate a fresh exit for him. This then suggested to the remaining prisoners that the issue of onward movement was negotiable, even after agreements had already been reached. This exhibited itself in the cases of Smith, Easton, Hamilton and Cadder, all of whom either changed their minds completely or began to add extra demands such as choice jobs, progression to open prisons etc.

17.2 Prior to transferring to E hall, prisoners were informed that they would be expected to work. Apart from domestic duties, they would be allowed to suggest a hobby which would be supported by staff. Upon arrival in E Hall, however, every prisoner, with the exception of Leggat refused to suggest any form of constructive employment of time. They subsequently began to spend more and more of the day watching television, which resulted in boredom.

17.3 The opening of E hall came at a time when we temporarily lost both our clinical psychiatrist and psychologist. This meant that the needed specialist support and backup was not available.

17.4 It was intended that staff and prisoners would be encouraged to communicate in a positive manner. As such, the sanction of placing a prisoner on report was rarely used, with attempts made to talk through the issues instead. This became abused by prisoners, however, with instances passing where the prisoner should have been placed on report. Staff did not feel confident in placing prisoners on report, perceiving that it was management's wish to keep the prisoners in E hall at all costs. Whilst this was not strictly the case from a management perspective, management accept that placing a prisoner on report was not encouraged.

This again began to set precedents, where the tolerated level of behaviour dropped further and further.

17.5 The issue of target dates for onward movement raised problems. Intended as a guide for prison management, this was allowed to become almost a contract with the prisoner. Any slippage was seen by the prisoner as a break of that contract and allowed him to focus solely on that issue as an example of injustice. The matter became a classic case of goal displacement, where the target date became the focus, rather than the prisoner's behaviour and progress.

17.6 Destinations for onward movement became another factor that the prisoners attention became focused on. Prisoners began to see Echo Hall as a fast stream to either other units such as Perth or Shotts or to the top end prisons such as Greenock, Noranside and Dungavel. This is a symptom of units, where any return to normal mainstream is perceived as a backward step and acts as a disincentive to onward movement.

17.7 Originally intended as to be placed below mainstream to prevent this happening, it became apparent that different value systems measured "less than mainstream" in different ways.

17.7.1 We concentrated on issues such as access to gymnasium facilities and segregation from the mainstream as factors. However, we allowed prisoners to wear their own clothes throughout the day, allowed them to watch television most of the day, removed them from any threat to their own personal safety and allowed them almost personal attention from staff. This was enhanced by a growing realisation that disciplinary reports were not favoured. In an effort to create an environment that was conducive to good communication and challenging behaviour, E Hall inevitably became more attractive than mainstream.

17.8 Similarly, prisoners began to play on the fact that they were perceived as subversive within a mainstream setting, threatening disruption if returned to an appropriate mainstream setting. This coupled with their introduction to a unit style life, presented the attainment of a long term unit placement as a goal to a new group of prisoners, prisoners who may not have even considered themselves as appropriate prior to arrival. This further exacerbated the problem of onward movement.

17.9 It must also be remembered that the very nature of the particular client group was factor. At the time of the incident, four of the five prisoners had been involved to some degree in hostage taking incidents and had displayed the capability for extreme violence in the past. This fact was well known to staff and management who were aware of the warning signals presented.

#### **POSITIVE FACTORS:**

18. The last eight months cannot be regarded as a failure. The following are regarded as amongst the most important positive aspects:

18.1 Two prisoners, Stephen Smith and William Lobban have been successfully upgraded after a spell in E hall.

18.2 Staff have learned how to deal confidently with difficult and subversive prisoners in a much more challenging environment.

18.3 The Hall has removed a number of subversive prisoners from general circulation, helping out our colleagues in other mainstream prisons.

18.4 Prisoners in E hall have been confronted and challenged by staff on their subversive nature.

18.5 No staff have been assaulted in E hall and the flashpoint of the 7th July was managed in a controlled fashion.

18.6 Management successfully managed to regain control of a situation without resorting to any form of appeasement, retaining the confidence of staff.

18.7 E hall provided an opportunity to study the behaviour patterns of subversive prisoners, with a practically complete case history on William Cadder.

18.8 Our separate cells now operate on a basis where staff deal with prisoners as individuals to a greater extent than before. At the present moment, only one prisoner is addressed by staff wearing body armour, as opposed to all prisoners in the separate cells prior to the opening of E Hall.

#### **CHANGES:**

19. The following changes in approach and regime have been implemented in light of the above. It has been acknowledged that E Hall requires reinforcement in the areas of structure and sanction.

19.1 The issue of less than mainstream has been re-evaluated, although it is our perception that material factors alone would not deter a prisoner from wishing to return to the mainstream.

19.2 Prisoners will no longer wear their own clothes throughout the day. Television will only be allowed on for an hour at lunch time and during evening recreation.

The issue of the gym has been reassessed and some inside exercise facilities have been introduced. This is positive in that it allows a legitimate channel through which prisoners can vent tension and stress. It also provided a constructive alternative to television. It also provides another arena in which staff and prisoners can build relationships.

Working throughout the day will be compulsory, with non participation resulting in normal disciplinary procedures. Prisoners will not be allowed to partake in the regime if they refuse to work.

19.3 To back up these changes, staff have been reassured by management that full disciplinary measures will be supported in cases where it is justified.

19.4 The staff will be tasked with ensuring that the structure of the regime is maintained at all times, under supervision of hall management.

19.5 A slightly different approach is now favoured, where staff's role becomes almost educational, creating an environment where the prisoners can learn what

is and what is not acceptable in mainstream prison. The opportunity is then created to highlight specific weaknesses in the prisoners approach to his sentence that can be discussed and tackled.

19.6 If a prisoner moves to E Hall with an agreed exit and subsequently reneges, he will be relocated in our separate cells. Whilst there, he will have the opportunity to reconsider his actions and his future progression will be decided on the strength of this. It would not be our intention to allow prisoners who have opted out of E hall to stagnate in our cells.

20. This combination of structure and sanction will be a much more positive motivation towards spending time in E hall constructively. This allows for the fact that reasonable physical conditions are conducive to the building of meaningful relationships, whilst acknowledging that the prisoners must be exposed to the same level of discipline as would be expected in mainstream. This removal of the comfort factor should act as a stronger incentive for onward movement. The non negotiable aspect of onward movement has been reaffirmed, although this will require the full co-operation of mainstream establishments.

#### **CONCLUSION - A NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE:**

21. From a national perspective, it is acknowledged locally that some mechanism is required to allow movement of prisoners who have chosen to opt out of the system. Peterhead can accommodate only 10 difficult prisoners in total, spread between our separate cells and E hall. Prisoners who cannot cooperate in E hall and who choose to languish in our cells are taking up a valuable space, which could be more effectively used by some one else who can gain benefit from E hall.

22. Peterhead is not in a position to test difficult prisoners in it's own mainstream, as the population here consist of either protection or vulnerable prisoners.

23. E Hall will only work effectively if movement can be sustained and the system remains properly ventilated.

24. The best way to manage this is to ensure that agreements are reached with prisons who run similar "Rule 36" regimes. As body armour is no longer worn as a matter of course, it should in theory be easier to move prisoners from regime to regime, prison to prison. The possible standardization of similar regimes would mean that Peterhead would become on a par with other regimes, which would allow movement of prisoners without signifying any change in status or upgrade.

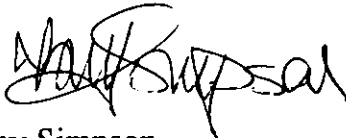


25. If a prisoner cannot cope with E hall, he would be best placed in a mainstream establishment such as Shotts or Glenochil, where a progression system is operated and where he can be tested in a range of restricted regimes, and where staff can assess if he should return to E hall at a later date.

26. Without this approach, we may be left with the situation where the population at Peterhead is stagnant and the places available are blocked to those in other establishments who may require the regime.

27. Whilst it may be a short term benefit to mainstream prisons to have well known troublemakers locked down and out of circulation for long spells, this is only postponing the time when the system has to cope with the individual and leads to the problems already encountered and described at paragraph 4.

**28. A proposal will therefor be made to the Head of Custody that this matter be considered as a matter of operational urgency with dialogue between all relevent establishments.**



Tony Simpson  
Governor 5  
HMP PETERHEAD

19th July 1994

# HM PRISON PETERHEAD

## ECHO HALL

### 1. NATURE OF REGIME:

Echo Hall will run on an open basis, with a defined daily structure. Although positioned lower than mainstream prison, the hall will provide positive opportunities for prisoners there.

Prisoners will stay in E hall for a relatively short term, as defined by prison management - onward movement will be dependent on the achievement of agreed targets.

Prisoners will arrive in E Hall with an agreed exit location. Should a prisoner subsequently renege on the agreed exit, he may be removed from the hall.

A copy of the regime plan is attached. This regime will be adhered to at all times - no deviation will be permitted.

### 2. WORK:

During the times specified, work will be compulsory. A job or project will be allocated to each prisoner on induction, although there may be scope for the prisoner to undertake work of his choice, subject to the approval of hall management.

Should a prisoner fail to undertake tasks required of him, he will remain in his cell for the duration of the day. He will also forfeit a daily rate of 50p.

Persistent refusal to work will result in the prisoner being placed on report and eventually removed from the hall.

### 3. RECREATION:

Recreation periods will be as specified in the regime plan.

Television will be available from 1145-1315 and 1815-2100 during the week and during unlock times at the weekend.

Prisoners will have access to PT at the following times during the week, if work is completed:

0745-0815 : 1145-1315 : 1530-1630 : 1815-2100

Prisoners will have access to outside exercise, inside exercise, rowing equipment, exercise bicycle and punch bag.

**4. CLOTHING:**

Prisoners will wear prison issue clothing during the working day, although own clothing will be permissible during evening recreation and weekends.

**5. WAGES:**

Each prisoner will be paid £5.00 per week - a minimum of £2.50 plus 50p per weekday for satisfactory completion of work duties.

Each prisoner will also receive 19p per week for postage - this will not be affected by any disciplinary loss of wages.

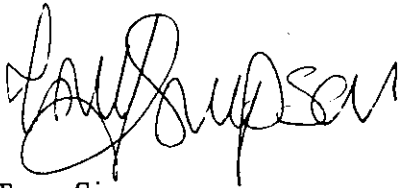
Prisoners will have access to £11 per month PPC.

**6. WEEKLY ASSESSMENT:**

Prisoners will have the opportunity weekly to discuss their progress with hall management. This meeting will be recorded and prisoners will be given a copy of the reports for their own retention.

**7. ARTICLES IN USE:**

As per the attached sheet.



Tony Simpson  
Governor 5

July 1994



Peter Hetherington

THE DRAMA is played out throughout the day in G hall. Prison officers, in body armour and riot helmets, make for 10 cells in the restricted block at Peterhead. One warily opens the door and passes in a tray of food. The others stand guard. Few words are exchanged. Then it's stopping out, with each prisoner escorted between protected officers, before exercise — 30 minutes in a pen 30 feet by 10 — followed by lunch, showers and more exercise.

The 10, including four lifers and four who have taken prison officers hostage, will sleep for much of the day, each in his small, spartan cell, with a reinforced cardboard table and chair. At night when the surrounding prison is sleeping, they either trade insults or attempt a shouted conversation to break the monotony. They are 'locked down' for 23 hours of the day.

No one, from ministers to a reforming governor, is happy with a dehumanising regime labelled "repressive" in a report by the Scottish Prison Inspectorate earlier this year — "the sense of frustration, disorientation and even despair we saw in some of the prisoners was unsurprising in

such conditions." But few can find any easy answers for the containment of the hard men of a Scottish system which dumps prisoners in Peterhead when all else has failed.

Scotland's former maximum security jail, high on a windswept hill overlooking the North Sea, has had its share of troubles over the years — not least a five-day siege in 1987 which triggered other disturbances and ultimately led to a brief 'lock down' throughout the system. As a consequence, 50 of the most difficult prisoners were sent to cool down in Peterhead, while the numbers have slowly come down, with some moving on and others returning after a disturbance elsewhere, the intractable 10 remain. And while they freely complain about a brutal regime and intimidatory Mufti squads — activity for the "minimum use of force" — they apparently preferring lock down to open association.

"They've had the opportunity of going away from here," sighs Eddie Keith, principal officer in G hall. "One man went to Shortts [Scotland's showpiece prison], complained conditions were not good enough, and asked to come back. He's been complaining ever since."

Officers act as a buffer between prisoners, he says. Old scores, sometimes born in a violent street culture, are never far from the surface.

"We try to play down difficulties and arguments as much as possible. There's a difficult mix at the moment from rival factions."

Andy, taken to Peterhead after an incident at Shortts, blames himself for his present predicament. "But I've not seen another prisoner since the end of June. All you see is the Mufti. They talk about reform and this and that you see. Yes, I've reacted violently against things. I am rather explosive." He turns to an officer for support. "But I wasn't always like this, was I? I was here from '84 to '87 and I was brand new then."

Andy, aged 31, has been in and out of institutions since he was 12.

Rob, aged 29, appears more determined. He has spent two years of a life sentence in the block and says he will not conform.

"After these barbaric conditions they want me to comply — oh, no, I am just sleeping, bored out of my

mind. What have I got to look forward to? What is the point of communicating with people?"

Scott Ogilvie, deputy governor, points to a series of minor incidents in 1988-89 involving injuries to staff and prisoners, which forced the authorities to issue protective clothing. "There were staff assaults involving weapons, although most involved the contents of a chamber pot being tipped over the head. There was a problem almost of loss of control. We still have great difficulty reintegrating these fellows to the mainstream."

LEC SPENCER, the governor, who arrived in August, acknowledges the regime is repressive. "The way it operates — very little opportunity for association, no recreation, staff in protective clothing — is unacceptable and we have to find alternatives. I would like to move those who are amenable on to a better regime."

One idea is to set good behaviour targets for the hard men by giving them the option of gradually moving back to the mainstream after a spell in another section of Peterhead which is shortly to be refurbished. Counselling is also being considered.

Such a move represents the ultimate challenge in a 104-year-old prison which is pioneering a new role in the treatment of long-term sex offenders — the so-called "protection" prisoners denied freedom of association, for their own safety, in most jails.

In Peterhead, 185 of the 196 inmates are in this protection category, and 175 of them are sex offenders (110 convicted of offences against children). The contrast between the regime in G hall and elsewhere in the prison could not be greater, with men regarded as among the most dangerous to society — "household names", according to Mr Spencer — given freedom of association while some of Scotland's most notorious "neds" (hard men) are locked-down.

Outside prison, the "neds" are invariably territorial, often restricted to gangland, drug-related feuding. "But they are more troublesome in-aside," concedes Mr Ogilvie. "We have people (sex offenders) considered more dangerous to the public who are not so troublesome in here — it's a kind of role reversal, if you like."

Partly as a result of political pressure to curb re-offending once prisoners are released — some estimates put the recidivism rate at over 60 per cent — Peterhead is now building on open association and the relaxed regime away from G hall to develop a "relapse prevention strategy". Next month, prisoner volunteers will meet specialist officers and social workers up to three times a week. As part of a contract with the authorities, offenders will have to agree to conditions — not least keeping pornography out of their cells.

Philip English, a senior social worker, is hopeful that group discussions will help offenders take personal responsibility for their actions. "It's looking at it as a behavioural rather than a psychoanalytical problem... something that has to be controlled rather than cured."

In the airy halls, offenders speak of a generally good relationship with staff. "You've liberated when you come here," says 23-year-old Geoff, who has bitter memories of his last prison. "You don't always have to watch your back. We get on with the officers quite well. You can talk to them if you have a problem."

Les, aged 32, has one complaint — the noise at night from G hall. "They sleep all day and shout all night."

For a reformist governor, the challenge is only beginning. After the intake with sex offenders, he hopes to tackle the deep-seated problems of violence and alienation in the restricted block that will mean the ~~assuring some anxious officers with~~ ~~better experience of Peterhead violence, before attempting to counsel~~ ~~the prisoners themselves.~~

The Guardian  
Dec 9, 1992

# *HMP PETERHEAD*

## *SMALL UNITS GROUP*

### *DISCUSSION DOCUMENT 1*

*PROPOSALS FOR THE WAY HMP  
PETERHEAD HANDLES DIFFICULT AND  
DANGEROUS PRISONERS.*

#### SEPERATE CELLS REGIME:

Prisoners shall be held under rule 36 conditions, with staff retaining the option to use body armour in their contact with prisoners who present a direct threat to their safety.

#### EXERCISE:

Prisoners shall be allowed 2 periods of exercise daily, consisting of half hour period AM and half hour period PM.

There shall be no association during exercise.

#### HYGIENE:

Slop outs shall be done on an individual basis; every prisoner shall be offered the opportunity to slop out twice each day, once in the morning and once in the evening.

Prisoners shall be allowed a maximum of 10 minutes for each slop out. A verbal 2 minute warning shall be given, at the end of which the prisoner shall be expected to return to his cell. Failure to comply shall result in the prisoner being returned to his cell by staff using the approved control and restraint methods.

Showers must be booked at least 24 hours in advance. No prisoner shall have any more than one shower booked at any one time. The time allocated for showering is 15 minutes. Time constraints dictate that only 2 prisoners may shower per night.

**CLOTHING:** All prisoners shall wear standard prison clothing, although PT kit shall be allowed.

#### VISITS:

Prisoners are allowed 2 one hour visits per month. All prisoners shall be searched and handcuffed to and from visits.

Visit times are as follows:

Monday Afternoon:	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Friday Afternoon:	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Saturday Afternoon:	1.45pm - 3.45pm
Sunday Afternoon:	1.45pm - 3.45pm

This is the only time that visits are allowed - no other time or day shall be allowed.

## small units discussion document1

### LETTERS:

One weekly letter supplies by the state. No advance issue of letters allowed. Unlimited additional letters may be purchased through canteen facilities using the appropriate form, providing there are sufficient funds in the prisoners wages.

### PHONES:

Prisoners shall be allowed access to the phone in the evenings only. This must be booked at least 24 hours in advance. Only 2 prisoners may use the phone each night. No prisoner can have more than one day booked at a time.

### WAGES AND PPC:

The weekly wage in the separate cells is £ . . . . .  
Access to PPC is limited to . . . . . per week . . . . .

New phone cards can be purchased through the canteen only and must be checked by staff prior to use.

### EDUCATION:

There shall be no access to education whilst in the separate cells.

### WORK:

There shall be no access to work whilst in the separate cells.

### RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

Prisoners shall not be allowed to attend any religious services, but individual religious counselling may be requested and passed to the appropriate chaplain.

### LIBRARY:

Prison library books can be ordered or changed on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings only.

### SEARCHES:

All prisoners shall be searched weekly and quarterly.

**EXTRACTS FROM E HALL OCCURENCE BOOK AS NOTED BY SENIOR OFFICER:**

1/7/94: This morning during hall cleaning Easton became highly agitated when I walked on his wet floor the result of this was that the mop was thrown down and he stormed off.

stated that he would not be working from now on.

It would appear that Cadder is keeping him boiling over nicely, at check up Cadder felt a need to support Eastons earlier outburst by showing his unhappiness at the length of time he has spent within E Hall regime his finishing comments were that if we dont get him his move he would be returning to the cells.

1/7/94 there was no follow up from this mornings outburst, Cadder was a little bit grumpy but this did not last.

4/7/94 In the morning Cadder walked out the TV room because there was an officer sitting in there when he wanted to do his cleaning. Later I spoke with Easton, Smith, Hamilton and Cadder they all expressed frustration about not knowing about onward movement. They all stated that if they did not find something out today that they would all be going back to the cells.

4/7/94 Very tense towards the end of the shift Leggat went at 9.00pm check up time however remainder sat watching the football and completely ignored me. I informed them to tape the remainder of the match and switched of the television, this brought an aggressive response from Easton who stated that he would throw the video out of the window. Eventually they went Easton informing me that he was going to boot me in before he leaves. Staff were standing by ready in the event of the situation escalating. All prisoners checked up 9.03pm.

5/7/94 Not much communications between staff and prisoners today only Leggat and Smith appear to be carrying on as normal.

5/7/94 A very quiet day with feelings running just as high off and on as they were yesterday. Gov Simpson told W Cadder that he could be here for a further two months. He also had a long talk with G Smith about various things. No problem at lock up but also no banter or conversation as there usually is.

6/7/94 A big improvement on yesterdays shift. All prisoners communicating freely with staff. Cadder had a long chat with 2 staff. Although he moaned about his length of stay in the hall and blamed everybody but him he seemed happier after speaking his mind.



7/7/94 A tense shift, Sue Mitchell (Education) down to interview inmates, had a discussion with W Cadder and T Easton who were spouting about gym and future trouble erupting within the hall if there is no onward movement. Cadder also stated that he will not go to Aberdeen unless there is an open prison at the end of it. Easton stated that he would be here until liberation. Leggat went behind his door high as a kite regarding a problem with paints being ordered wrongly but staff feel that this is a smoke screen and that the tension of the last 3-4 days is beginning to get to him. Perth unit down to interview Leggat but they were told to fuck off and the door was slammed shut.

7/7/94 It was then decided that W Cadder should return to the cells and the remainder should be placed on a limited regime. G Smith has stated that no one should go near him in the mornings or he will bounce something off their heads.

G Smith was let out and filled his flask and started having a discussion with S.O. Forbes he then became agitated and tried to assault Mr Forbes with his flask he was then placed on report and on returning to his cell he ran into the kit room refusing to come out staff then had to remove him and place him into cell no8.

8/7/94 Leggat stated staff were not being threatened and there was no tension in the hall no comments from Easton and Hamilton. Officer Callaghan spoken with Leggat and admitted there has been tension in the hall prisoner still wishes Perth Unit.

All the prisoners have expressed a wish to return to the separate cells but Leggat and Hamilton seem to be swithering. After supper G Smith and Easton were moved to the separate cells with no problems.

9/7/94 Hamilton and Leggat went to great lengths to explain that they did not want to go to the cells but that they more or less had to as a show of solidarity with G Smith and T Easton.

The two of them then said that they would be happy to remain here until Monday morning.

11/7/94 General discussion with both prisoners with P/O I Smith in attendance Leggat and Hamilton both adamant that they wanted to return to the cells. At approximately 11.20am their wishes were honoured it was also explained that it was their choice, hall remains open until such time as a new regime is in place.



SCOTTISH  
PRISON  
SERVICE

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Professor Hans Toch  
State University of New York at Albany  
School of Criminal Justice  
Draper Hall  
135 Western Avenue  
Albany  
NEW YORK 12222

Your ref

Our ref

Date

26 October 1993

Dear Hans

Thank you for the letters re Tommy McCulloch and for the papers which you sent on unit management. Please forgive the deafening silence but unfortunately this has not been a particularly good summer.

In July we were travelling to the north of Scotland, that is my wife, my mother-in-law and myself, when a driver crossed the road and struck us at very great force on the nearside wheel. Given that I was travelling in the opposite direction at a virtually equal speed the outcome was a disaster. The car was totally written off and we were all injured to a greater or lesser extent. Unfortunately the final outcome was that my mother-in-law died in hospital having deteriorated her medical condition as a result of her injuries. She broke a leg and suffered stroke injuries because of banging her head.

It has been a fairly busy time and we have been in a bit of a mess as well because I got a severe injury to my arm and Janet had injuries to her chest and a large hernia erupted through an old gall-bladder wound. It also sounds like a bit of a butcher's shop and at the time it was. However, we are very very grateful that the Good Lord smiled on us and let us stay alive - my wife insists because the Devil hadn't got a big enough shovel ready for me whereas I insist that the Good Lord hadn't got the wings right yet. Nonetheless we're still here and in many ways are starting to see the light.

On top of this my daughter decided at very short notice to get married so you can imagine that my failure to write to you has not been anything to do with lack of interest but more of the considerable pressure on time.

However, now that I have finally got round to acknowledging your letters can I just say thanks for all your help. It really was a privilege to have spent that time with you and no doubt you will have heard by now that Peterhead E Hall has got a new regime and opens on 1 November. The regime is very much in line with the kind of things you were after and indeed we have negotiated, I think, quite a strong line that will use it in extremis rather than as a routine.

The sentence planning side, I am sure you will be pleased to hear, is still going at a high pace and I would hope this week would finalise some details. Broadly, we have managed to configure our estate so that most long-termers, (that is, under our new definition, those serving 4 years

and over, and that also means they are eligible for parole) will be able to serve their sentence virtually within about 25 miles of their sentencing court. In those instances where of course they are sentenced well away from their home area there will still be the opportunity to negotiate a transfer nearer home. So that broadly we will have 2 main line long-term establishments taking generic long-term prisoners. Peterhead will be carrying on with the sex offender, centre of excellence idea; Perth will be taking a mixture to include the north of Scotland people, and our open prisons which have now been generated to about an increase of 100% over previous open places, will move to serve, by and large, the catchment of east and west respectively.

So great things are happening and hopefully in the next 2 months we will have killed the allocation argument and can really get into the meat and drink which is so dear to your and my heart and that is of course to planning the career. I think the details will present quite a logical progression system and again thanks for your support for the ideas of progression. People tend to think they are rather antiquated, antediluvian and pterodactyl or at least dinosaur, but you and I are both aware that everybody in this life needs something to look forward to. Progression, if it is used properly and not as some kind of artificial carrot but rather as an enhancement to people's targets, can be a very positive influence in taking people through a sentence.

That is a brief up-to-date. I would hope before the end of the year to at least be able to send you some idea of what the allocation criteria will be and how we have configured it and by Spring next year we should be really into the business of getting down into the depths of notions of career planning. Of interest to you will be that we have finally exhumed the idea of the HEBS course you heard of at Peterhead which related to inter-personal skills training, and that is now a part of every initial recruit's training. They all get an experiential course in inter-personal skills rather than the chalk and talk bit which is essentially confrontational and is not about counselling roles. So that's one major success!

On the suicide front things are still fairly fraught in that we are getting through the mechanics but I would hope that in the next couple of months we would have resolved the business of the hardware end, that is the clothing, the ligature cutters and how we house people in cells, and then start to push on the real drive forward. That, in my view and I am sure it is shared by yourself, is about having a climate in which people can express feelings of being unable to cope and the consequences of which is not necessary to lock them away in a safe cage.

There is quite an interesting agenda for 1994. Hopefully, at some stage we will be able to persuade you to come and join the debate again and I think that there are issues next year in these whole areas of careers for prisoners and of therapeutic regimes for those who can't cope which will be very dear to your heart and the debate about which I am sure you have a considerable contribution to make.

Cheers just now. Best regards from all and sundry. Hope Ed is keeping you in touch generally.

  
JOHN PEARCE

Dear John:

I decided the better part of caution would be not to test your technological proficiency by loading you down with e-mail, so I am proposing to take this letter to the post office. I hope you will give me credit for not again relaying my mail through Northern Ireland (admittedly, not my smartest move).

Let me get the symptom inventory out of the way first: Lise (my ex-wife) has been having a rough time so far, cancer-wise. She has gone through a mastectomy, and several cycles of chemotherapy and radiation—and things appear to be only temporarily quiescent. The two of us happen to share the same oncologist, but he has been more positive on my account, assuring me that “something else is bound to get you.” However, as far as that is concerned, we may have weathered a rough patch, and my heart has been appropriately tamed with a pace maker. In the interim, I have to confess that I am pretty deaf, though everyone thinks this is just a cheap gambit.

I have been spending time pruning my files, and in the process have been reading through lots of accumulated debris. I have most recently looked through young Tony Simpson’s retrospect of events at Peterhead in July 1994. One paragraph struck me as interesting because it has to do with the implementation of progression schemes. Simpson writes,

Intended as a guide for prison management, [target dates were] allowed to become almost a contract with the prisoner. Any slippage was seen by the prisoner as a break of that contract and allowed him to focus solely on that issue as an example of injustice.

That sounded like a contingency to be avoided—though I am not sure how.

Tony Simpson also wrote:

E Hall was originally intended as a semi lockdown regime, acting as a halfway house between lockdown and mainstream.

However, after the visit of Professor Hans Toch in June 1993, it was felt that the facility would be better utilized dealing with those prisoners regarded as subversive or manipulative within a mainstream setting...it was envisaged that the staff of E-Hall would challenge the prisoner on his offending behavior whilst in prison, with a view to effecting changes in attitude prior to returning to the sending establishment...

E hall would also be available as a conduit for those existing prisoners on the cells, giving them a chance to prove that they could cope in association before moving on to a freshly negotiated exit location.

I have no problem with Tony’s characterization of the presumed E-hall goals, but I can’t help wondering about his succinct summary of what he says was the original objective—that of creating a “semi lockdown regime.” Without intending to be cute, for me the question would be, Is “semi lockdown” to be the contents of the enterprise? Does a “regime” consist in its entirety of staff semi-locking down and prisoners being semi-locked down? Is the locking down presumed to be a full time occupation for these two sets of people, and a description of their expected involvements?

The issue has partly to do with a question that would immediately occur to the likes of you and me: “Once you have decided how much time those prisoners get to be locked down, what do you propose to do with them?” This question happened to sound silly to some folks at Peterhead. It sounded especially

silly to the hard-core, old time officers and union activists. It even sounded silly to the prisoners released from the dungeons. Young Tony Simpson tells us, "upon arrival in E Hall, every prisoner....refused to suggest any form of constructive employment of time. They subsequently began to spend more and more of the day watching television, which resulted in boredom"

So I can't help asking again, Ought maybe any definition of "regime" include some consideration (and some predefinition and specification) of expected modalities of "constructive employment?" And should not such consideration extend to both prisoners and staff?

I suppose the younger version of Tony Simpson, and certainly some of the participants in our 1993 planning sessions would not agree, and they may have ended up winning the war. It is indeed possible that in a prison one ought to define regimes as the sum of restrictions and privileges, ranging from how much time you as a prisoner may take slopping out, to the availability of that pool table for two hours a day, depending on the appropriate level of architecture and custody—but I hope we don't end up there.

I am thinking aloud here, and though these are embarrassingly sophomoric ruminations, that is the sort of thing you can expect when you go around picking up stray academics as your disciples

Needless to say, Pearce, I think of you fondly, and I think of you often, and I very seriously miss you.

Hans



## THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

### Central Research Unit

Calton House  
5 Redheughs Rigg  
Edinburgh EH12 9HW

Telephone 031-244  
Fax 031-244 8774  
21 May 1993

Prof. Hans Toch  
University at Albany  
State University of New York  
135 Western Avenue  
Albany  
New York

Dear Hans,

Thanks for your fax.

I don't think you need fear about carrying credibility with security conscious staff - many, if not most, have read a number of your articles which I circulated to them prior to your proposed trip last year - and there is no doubt in my mind that they don't want someone from a security background like their own - they want someone who will raise a whole series of issues around the notion of a difficult prisoner which will present a challenge to them. Someone who can perhaps cast new interpretations on their behaviour and that of their 'captives'. Paradoxically, I feel they lack confidence - they aren't convinced that how they manage things at present is the correct way but they are afraid of doing things differently. They wonder if they have the skills and abilities to develop new approaches; they are, in fact, rather insecure in their present position. What perhaps wasn't clear in the brief notes which I sent you is the fact that the staff who will operate these three regimes (G and E halls and the separate unit for McCulloch - perhaps our one true life sentence prisoner) are largely volunteers who over recent months have been arguing for specific training to allow them to develop their role with difficult prisoners.

In particular, your paper to the Howard League 'Prison Violence in Perspective' is the type of analysis which we want to get over to staff and prisoners. I know the thrust of your argument and many of the examples in that paper rang true with senior staff in Peterhead. Talking around the ideas in that paper is what I see as the central crux of all our time with staff and prisoners in Peterhead.

In relation to how we actually use the three full days in Peterhead there is still considerable room for manoeuvre but the idea which you suggest of having Alec Spencer, the governor, start off by presenting a position paper of where he sees Peterhead developing in relation to the difficult prisoner population is precisely what I had in mind to get the ball rolling. This in itself will I am sure draw a

reaction from both staff and prisoners whether together or separately. This could be followed by you presenting some thoughts or ideas around the notion of the difficult prisoner drawing from your Howard League paper and as I said I can do something on special regimes and the problems they create. All this could be interspersed with some syndicate work so that staff have a chance to develop a response to what has been said. Alec is currently on leave as his wife is in hospital and so I haven't had the opportunity to discuss fully the sort of ideas which you raise but as I'm going to Peterhead again next week (Tuesday) I'll be able to discuss the programme in greater detail.

But, be assured my friend it's the challenge which many of your ideas will pose that we wish. For Peterhead to survive as a location for difficult prisoners it must abandon many of its current practices not have them reinforced by bringing over some person who supports the present position



Ed



## THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

## Central Research Unit

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Telephone 031-244  
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20 May 1993

Prof. Hans Toch  
University at Albany  
State University of New York  
135 Western Avenue  
Albany  
New York

Dear Hans,

I thought I'd better drop you a brief note to tell you how things are progressing.

On the Peterhead front I was up there on Tuesday discussing the content of the programme and so I now know a bit more of the background. the story reads like this. There are currently 11 prisoners on 'lockdown' in Peterhead. This means that they are effectively in solitary confinement and only get out of their cells in the company of 4 officers, in full body armour, for exercise and ablutions. All communication with other prisoners is by shouting from cell to cell. While some of these guys have a history of staff assaults probably the majority do not and even those who have assaulted staff haven't done so recently. All in all not a particularly homogeneous group but staff are intransigent: all prisoners are subject to the same treatment as the worst of the bunch. However, it is proposed to open a new unit (probably some time in July) to which these prisoners can progress. The regime plan for the unit is sketchy and I have enclosed that for you to have a look at. At this stage, what Peterhead staff want is to consider the issues which surround the whole problem of difficult prisoners and this is where I feel you come in. In consultation with staff and prisoners I shall try to put together a programme which considers a number of issues around the issue of difficult prisoners and this might give you a clearer idea of how you could tailor your input. Let me say first however that the sessions on Monday and Tuesday will involve only staff and will number no more than 15. Also, the sessions on the Monday will be repeated again on the Tuesday. The Wednesday session will involve prisoners and, if they can be convinced to participate, staff as well. I have already started to canvas views amongst the prisoners about their participation and the reaction I have so far received is that while they are curious about what I'm up to they'll participate. The sorts of issues which I feel need to be addressed are: types of difficult prisoner; understanding the behaviour of the issues about challenging prisoners about their behaviour (and for that matter challenging staff about their behaviour); possibilities of group work with difficult prisoners; the lessons of running small units (I can do a session on this with specific reference to Scotland - though many of the lessons are universal) etc.



On the issue of the annual lecture I've arranged for that to take place on Thursday 24 June at 5.30pm. It will be held in the Scottish Prison Service College at Polmont which is midway between Edinburgh and Glasgow. The lecture will be followed by a reception at the college. Those attending will be senior governors and SPS staff and a handful of researchers and academics.

Other than these two issues plans are proceeding nicely over your itinerary and the way it stands at present you be able to see a bit of Scotland as well; weather permitting.

One final point relates to that horrible issue of reimbursement. We've run into difficulty with the hotel which we want to book you into over billing us directly and therefore what I propose to do, subject to your agreement, is to arrange for a payment to be made to you on arrival of £250 (\$375) per day for the 12 days you are with us; this will cover your 'consultancy' fee and you 'keep' and it means that you will be able to pay for the rooms etc. yourself. The cost of the hotels is approximately £50 (\$75) per night. In addition, we shall of course cover the cost of your air fare. So, if you are content with this arrangement, you needn't bring too much cash with you as you will get a money order for some £3250 (\$5000).

I'll keep you posted on further developments.

*Take care*  
*Ed*

Ed

## SEPARATE CELLS REGIME

All prisoners in Separate Cells will be held under the conditions of Prison (Scotland) Rule 36, under a limited regime.

**EXERCISE:** Prisoners will be allowed two periods of exercise daily, consisting of half hour period AM and another half hour period PM.

There is no association during exercise.

**HYGIENE:** Slop outs will be done on an individual basis; every prisoner will be offered a chance to slop out twice each day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon only. There will be no more additional slops outs. Prisoners will be allowed a maximum of 10 minutes for each slop out. Near the end of slop out time prisoners shall be informed verbally, 2 minute warning; at the end of this period they shall be ordered to return to their cell, failure to comply with this order shall result being placed in their cell by the approved control and restraint method.

**SHOWERS:** All showers must be booked at least 24 hours in advance. No prisoner shall have more than one shower booked at any one time. The time allocated for showering is 15 minutes. The same conditions that apply to slop out, apply at time up for showering. Only 2 showers per night.

**CLOTHING:** All prisoners shall wear standard prison clothing. No personal items of clothing allowed in use.

### VISITING TIMES:

Monday Afternoon:	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Friday Afternoon:	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Saturday Afternoon:	1.45pm - 3.45pm
Sunday Afternoon:	1.45pm - 3.45pm

This is the only time visits will be allowed - No other time or day will be allowed.

All visits will be closed and taken in the closed section only. Allocation of visits 2 per month, each visit duration one period. All prisoners will be searched and hand cuffed to and from visits.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** One weekly letter supplied by the State. No advance issue of letters allowed. Additional letters may be purchased through canteen facilities on the appropriate form. There is no limit to the number of letters purchased from canteen provided sufficient funds in wages.

**PHONE:** Prisoners will be allowed access to a phone during the evening only. This must be booked 24 hours in advance. A maximum of two phone calls per night. No prisoner can have two days booked at same time. New phone cards must be checked by staff before use.

**WAGES:** The weekly wage for E Hall is £1.90. Access to PPC shall be allowed for phone card purchase, maximum £2.00. This is the only access to PPC for purchasing phone card only. Purchase of phone card is through canteen facilities only

**BATTERIES:** May be purchased from wages only on the appropriate form. Batteries will be exchanged on a one for one basis. No old batteries shall be kept or issued. No rechargeable batteries allowed in use.

**EDUCATION:** There is no facilities for education and whilst unlimited regime this privilege is withdrawn.

**REQUESTS:** Will only be taken before 12 noon on the following days - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday. All requests will be seen the following day. Any prisoner who request outside these times will not be considered unless deemed emergency.

**ARTICLES IN USE:**

- One Radio
- Vacuum Flask
- Personal photographs as per S.O.
- 6 Books or Magazines
- Lighter (gas or petrol)
- One Calendar
- One ring within reason

No other items allowed in use. There will be no cell hobbies allowed while in the Separate Cells.

**LIBRARY:** Peterhead contains an extensive library list ordering and changing books - Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings only.

**SEARCHES:** All prisoners will be searched weekly and quarterly searched in accordance with Standing Orders.

**ASSESSMENT:** All prisoners entering the Separate Cells will be assessed for onward movement with the Scottish Prison Service.

## **E HALL REGIME**

All prisoners in E Hall will be held under a limited regime with the view for onward progression.

On entering E Hall all prisoners will be allowed a climatization period before being allowed association in Pairs.

**EXERCISE:** Prisoners will be allowed two periods of exercise daily, consisting of half hour period AM and another half hour period PM.

Association will be allowed during exercise maximum two persons. Staff will decide who is allowed association.

**HYGIENE:** All cells have internal sanitation therefore no requirement for slopping out.

Prisoners will be allowed to shower daily but if demand for showering due to numbers a rota system be introduced. Every prisoner is expected to maintain a personal standard of cleanliness including their own call area.

**CLOTHING:** All prisoners shall wear standard prison clothing. There will be no exceptions.

**MEALS:** All meals shall be collected from pantry and eaten in cell.

**VISITS:** Visits are open conditions whereby visitors may purchase beverages for both parties from visit canteen only. All drinks and food must be consumed at visit nothing is allowed down to hall.

### **VISITING TIMES:**

Monday Afternoon:	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Friday Afternoon:	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Saturday Afternoon:	1.45pm - 3.45pm
Sunday Afternoon:	1.45pm - 3.45pm

This is the only time visits will be allowed - No other time or day will be allowed.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** One weekly letter supplied by the State. No advance issue of letters allowed. Additional letters may be purchased through canteen facilities on the appropriate form. There is no limit to the number of letters purchased from canteen provided sufficient funds in wages.

**PHONE:** Access to phone as per main stream - evenings and weekends in the afternoon.

New phone cards must be checked by staff before use - no complaints can be entertained otherwise.

**WAGES:** The weekly wage for E Hall is £3.50. Access to PPC maximum £2.50 supplement wages, i.e. purchasing phone card.

**BATTERIES:** May be purchased from wages or PPC on the appropriate form. Batteries will be exchanged on a one for one basis. No old batteries shall be kept or issued. No rechargeable batteries allowed in use.

**REQUESTS:** Will only be taken before 12 noon on the following days - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday. All requests will be seen the following. Any prisoner who request outside these times will not be considered unless deemed emergency.

**KEEP FIT:** Room set aside keep fit - punch bag and skipping rope.

Availability           1 x hour Morning or exercise  
                          1 x hour Afternoon or exercise  
                          1 x hour Evening

Rota system in operation if demand outweighs; staff to decide.

**QUIET ROOMS:** There will be two rooms set aside for prisoners and staff to discuss various topics. Prisoners and staff should be encouraged to use these facilities.

**COUNSELLING:** All prisoners will be encouraged to engage in conversation with an officer regarding their prison behaviour with the view of returning to main stream prison in the near future or possibly other alternatives.

There is no fixed regime but afternoons and evenings of one hour periods with the view Monday, Wednesday and Friday being possible times.

**RECREATION:** Facilities shall be provided in one of the rooms with daily newspapers and various card games. Prisoners and staff should be encouraged to make use of facilities together.

Approximate period 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Maximum two prisoners out at any one time. Cell association - maximum two evening 7 to 8.30pm.

**WORK:** There is no work regime plan but prisoners should be encouraged in personal hygiene and possibly domestic duties.

**ARTICLES IN USE:** Radio or Cassette  
Recorded Tapes  
Vacuum Flask  
Personal photographs  
Posters  
Electronic Chess Set  
Book and Magazines  
Lighter  
Calendar

**CLOTHING FOR P.T. PURPOSES:** 1 pair of trainers; 1 pair of PT shorts; 2 vests, 2 pairs socks.

**LIBRARY:** Peterhead contains an extensive library list ordering and changing books - Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings only.

**SEARCHES:** All prisoners are subject to searching and will be quarterly searched.

**ASSESSMENT:** All prisoners will be subject to ongoing assessment with open dialogue encouraged at all times. Acts of aggression will not be tolerated or violence towards prisoners and staff. This will lead to immediate return to Separate Cells.

Before any prisoner enters E Hall, he must agree to regime and exit criteria arranged by management.

ARTICLES IN USE:

- One radio
- Vacuum flask
- Personal photographs
- Six books or magazines
- Lighter (gas or petrol)
- One calendar
- One ring within reason

No other items shall be allowed in use. There shall be no access to cell hobbies whilst in the separate cells.

## ECHO HALL REGIME:

All prisoners in Echo Hall shall be held under a limited regime, after having spent an assessment period in the Separate Cells. Echo Hall shall provide prisoners with an opportunity to prepare themselves for return to normal prison conditions, in a supportive but challenging environment. Staff and prisoners shall be expected to interact positively, helping prisoners to confront those areas of their behaviour whilst in prison which have resulted in their being sent to Peterhead.

## EXERCISE:

Prisoners shall be allowed 2 exercise periods daily, consisting of one half hour AM and one half hour PM.

Association shall be allowed at exercise - maximum 2 persons.

It is envisaged that exercise be allowed in the grounds unless pressure of numbers requires prisoners to be located in the pens. This shall be an operational decision at the discretion of hall management.

## HYGIENE:

All cells have internal sanitation.

Prisoners shall be allowed to shower daily, although if demand is too great a rota system shall be introduced. Every prisoner is expected to maintain a high standard of personal and cell cleanliness.

It is intended that prisoners shall take over responsibility for certain pass jobs, including maintaining the grounds.

## CLOTHING:

Prisoners shall wear standard prison clothing although personal PT kit shall be allowed.

## MEALS:

Meals shall be collected from the pantry and eaten in cell.

## VISITS:

Visits shall be in open conditions at the following times:

Monday afternoon: 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Friday afternoon: 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Saturday afternoon: 1.45pm - 3.45pm

Sunday afternoon: 1.45pm - 3.45pm

This shall be the only time that visits are allowed - no other time or day shall be allowed.



## small units discussion document1

### LETTERS:

One weekly letter supplied by the state. No advance issue of letters allowed. Unlimited additional letters may be purchased from the canteen, providing the prisoner has sufficient funds in his wages.

### PHONE:

Prisoners shall have access to the phone in the evenings and in the afternoons at weekends.

New phone cards should be checked by staff prior to use.

### WAGES AND PPC:

The weekly wage in Echo Hall is £3.50. Access to PPC shall be limited to £2.50 per week.

### BATTERIES:

May be purchased from wages or PPC, and shall be exchanged on a one for one basis.

### REQUESTS:

Shall only be taken before 12 noon every day except Friday and Saturday. All requests shall be seen the following day or as soon after as possible.

### RECREATION:

Facilities shall be provided in one of the rooms, with newspapers etc.

Prisoners shall be allowed association at recreation - maximum two persons. This may be either in the recreation room or in-cell.

There shall be no pool table or TV.

Approximate recreation period shall be from 7.00pm to first shout 8.30pm.

### KEEP FIT:

Programme for keep fit shall be devised with the PTI, although all keep fit shall take place within the boundaries of Echo Hall. This shall probably involve running, aerobics or suchlike.

### WORK:

There are no plans for structured work at present, although the prisoner shall be encouraged to make best use of his time. It is intended to introduce pass or grounds jobs in the future.

**INDISCIPLINE:**

Any acts of indiscipline shall not be tolerated in Echo Hall and may result in the prisoner being returned to the separate cells for a cooling off period. The prisoner shall always be challenged on his actions and helped to work on areas for improvement.

**ARTICLES IN USE:**

- Radio or cassette player
- Recorded tapes
- Vacuum flask
- Personal photos
- Posters
- One game
- Books and magazines
- Lighter
- Calendar.

PR

FAO  
TONY SIMPSON

Fraser Stewart  
Custody Division  
SPS HQ

Approved  
WS  
2/7/94

## APPLICATION FOR RULE 36 CONDITIONS

34/93 WILLIAM CADDER B: 12/2/54 7 YEARS

Cadder has a long history of subversion and manipulation within prison, most notably during his last stay in Shotts, where his influence was felt to be such a negative factor that he was transferred to Peterhead cells.

Arriving on 20/4/93, he was held under Rule 36 conditions until 2nd November 1993, when he was transferred to our E Hall unit.

Closely monitored, he appeared to settle well into the environment, although he consistently stated that he wished to return to the central belt, in order to be closer to his family. Plans to relocate him to Perth after a stay in E Hall failed to materialise but, after lengthy negotiation, agreement was reached with Aberdeen that Cadder would transfer there in the summer of 1994.

These moves were not soon enough for Cadder and he embarked on a strategy of raising the tension within E hall and between staff and prisoners. This has been most notable over the last week or so, where Cadder withdrew from communicating with staff and inciting other prisoners to complain about every small detail of unit life.

On Monday 4th July, 1994, the 5 prisoners in E hall refused to leave the television room at lockup time. A potentially explosive situation was averted only by the resolve of the senior officer, who noted that the prisoners only moved off when Cadder gave the lead.

On Tuesday morning, Cadder stated that he wished to return to the cells that day if he did not achieve a move that same day. Immediately, all other prisoners voiced the same threat, voicing support for him.

It is also my opinion that Cadder had been exerting considerable influence over those prisoners in the Unit who were nearing time to move on. This resulted in both prisoners Thomas Easton and Malcolm Leggat withdrawing from agreed onward moves.

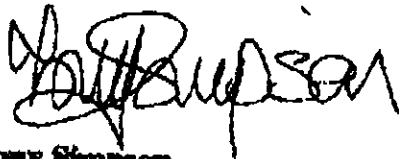
The situation became untenable on Thursday 7th July 1994. The atmosphere in the unit became such that both staff and management were of the opinion that a concerted disruption was inevitable, orchestrated by Cadder, in an attempt to force management's hand into achieving a move for him. All other four

prisoners in the unit either have or have demonstrated the capability to assault staff or take them hostage. Management took the decision to place the unit on a short term semi lock down regime to allow time for the situation to diffuse. We also took the decision to remove Cadder from the unit at that time and he is now located in our separate cells.

It is notable that since his removal, the tension in the unit is not so apparent.

It is our intention to continue with plans to relocate Cadder to Aberdeen as soon as possible, with the agreement of management there. The flexing of his muscles appears to have been borne in part from a measure of frustration, but the influence he exerted when he chose to do so must be regarded as considerable, especially when one considers that he exerted it over a group of prisoners also identified as powerful.

With the above in mind, I request that Rule 36 conditions are granted for a period of one month as from 7th July 1994, during which time we will endeavour to move Cadder on.



**Tony Simpson**  
**Governor 5**  
**HMP Peterhead**

**8 July, 1994**

Mr. Bannatyne  
Head Of Custody  
SPS HQ  
Calton House

## **PETERHEAD ECHO HALL**

As discussed, I have prepared an analysis of the circumstances surrounding the recent upheaval in Echo Hall, which I attach for your information and consideration.

I have tried to be as frank as possible and we have certainly found locally that a lot has been learned - lessons that we have taken into consideration when assessing how to progress. From an organisational development point of view, perhaps there are aspects that others may find useful or interesting.

I would like to bring my comments at paras 21 to 28 "Conclusion - A National Perspective" to your attention.

The problems encountered with Peterhead Cells are covered in my submission and I strongly feel that some changes are necessary to ensure that these are not perpetuated. This is not drawn from a parochial or selfish standpoint - I am fully aware of the difficulties presented when trying to re integrate these individuals into mainstream.

However, for E hall to function effectively and provide the best service, we need to maintain a steady throughput. Individuals who choose to stay in our cells merely clog up the system and block places for others who are more deserving.

It is my opinion that prisoners who wish to stagnate in our cells should be relocated to other similar regimes in other establishments as soon as possible. This would include any prisoners who are unable to cope with life in Echo Hall. It is important that we send a strong message to such prisoners that E hall is not a short cut to the top end of the prison system - rather it is a means of gaining or maintaining a place in the mainstream. Such an approach would require full support from establishments, in that they should have realistic expectations of what can and cannot be achieved in E hall. Similarly, this may involve the forced relocation of some prisoners who refuse to leave any niche they may have found.

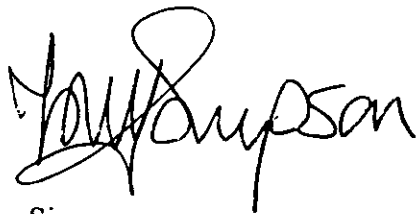
If a prisoner chooses to opt out, he can do so just as effectively in another establishment, without blocking a place to E hall. Establishments will reap the benefits as more prisoners will have the opportunity to go through E Hall.

We will also reap the benefits locally, as exposure to a greater variety of prisoners will help us gain a greater understanding of how to successfully intervene.

I would like to stress that, in the main, since the introduction of the new entry procedures to E hall, those establishments involved have been fairly supportive - the immediate problem centres around a number of prisoners in our cells, who by virtue of the time they have spent here are effectively classified as Peterhead prisoners. It is inevitable that we will require a great deal of initial support in moving some of these prisoners elsewhere.

I appreciate that there are a great many factors to be considered when considering the best way to manage difficult, disruptive, violent or subversive prisoners. However, I feel that this is a matter which could be implemented relatively easily and effectively with the co-operation and goodwill of all involved.

Do you consider that this is a viable avenue for exploration on a national, policy level?

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Simpson'. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the top and a long, sweeping underline.

Tony Simpson  
Governor 5

20th July 1994

18 July '99

The problems are multi faceted, ranging from the difficulty staff find in getting prisoners moved on to other establishments, to the frustrated obstreporousness of the inmates. A piece of research by a young psychologist into stress among staff in the Small Units Group showed that 80% of the staff found management to be the most significant factor in staff stress. There appears to be a great deal of incomprehension among factions as to the formative attitudinal factors in the experience of others, and so a widespread denial of one another's reality stoked subversion and confrontation. I hear that for a couple of weeks some of the prisoners had been going around making threats, creating a very 'unhealthy' climate. Things came to a head with men being put back to the punishment cells on lock-down, two remaining men, in the bind of peer solidarity, having to declare that they too wanted to go back to the Cells. The authorities were left confounded. The efforts of many on the 'gallery floor', efforts that had involved a great deal of good-will, appeared to have counted for nought, while the prophets of doom, who had never believed in the aims of the Unit, were 'gratified' to have their prophecies fulfilled, "It won't work, you can give these 'f----s' everything and they still won't be happy." True, but then why should they be? If someone in prison is happy then there is something far wrong with them and there will be alot of work needed to enable such a person to hack it in society on release. Constructive engagement should be the measure, not 'happiness'. Of course on that measure the staff were frustrated by the prisoners, but I do feel management and staff have a somewhat too 'traditional' view of 'constructive engagement'. WORK!..... Personally I think 'work', beyond that necessary for the maintenance of cleanlines and services, should be relegated to the back-burner of concerns. Once attitudes have been engaged, explored, challenged and modified the 'conventional' measures of inmate behaviour can be introduced.

23 July

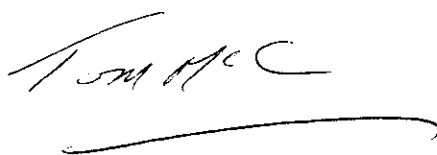
The 'quick note' has been delayed! I got some work that kept me typing to all hours and in between I've just been caught up in other stuff. A chap from the local museum is coming in to get material for their display on the history of this prison.

During the delay I found out that my last letter to you may have 'got lost'. When I hadn't been charged for the postage in the week following the handing in of the letter, I tried to find out what had happened. This last week I heard that there is no record of it having gone out, beyond the fact the censor recollected sending it up to the office. It's on disk if it turns out it hasn't been sent for some reason, so a copy can be run off. I had enclosed an article by Jimmy Boyle recounting his reaction to the murder of his son, also some cuttings on the 1993-4 SPS survey, so I hope they did go out and it was just some clerical oversight caused the confusion.

Till next time Hans I hope all goes well with you and yours.

Travel safely

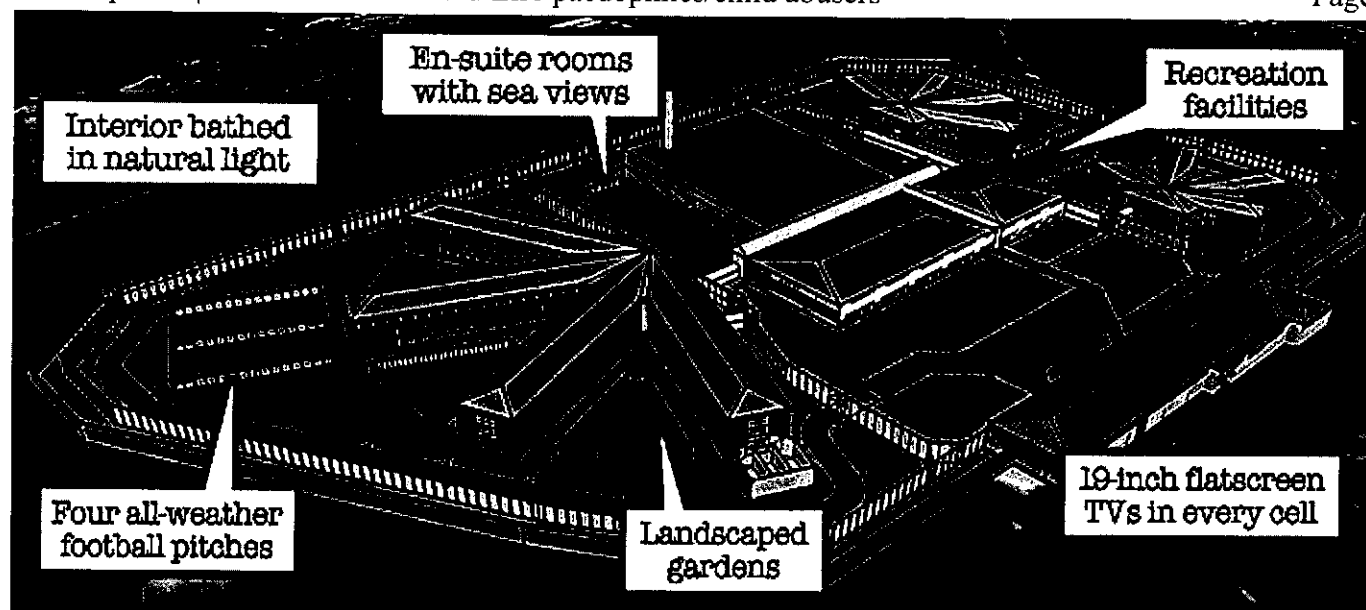
All the best,



## Peterhead prison

**A £140MILLION super-jail to replace two of Scotland's oldest prisons has been likened to "a five-star hotel". HMP Grampian will replace the grim Victorian jails at Peterhead and HMP Craiginches in Aberdeen. It will be built on the current site of Peterhead prison. There will be a community reintegration unit, landscaped gardens, four all weather football pitches, prisoner allotments, en suite rooms with sea views, no bars on the windows, pool tables, 19 inch flat screen tv's in every cell and a gym that boasts the very best sports equipment. The new Peterhead Prison is expected to receive its first inmates as early as 2014.**





**HMP Peterhead has an ignominious reputation. But what was life inside the prison that holds some of Scotland's most reviled and dangerous sex offenders really like?**

**It is disarmingly childlike, the small single bed with its Manchester United duvet cover and Playstation controller on the pillow. A television sits in the corner surrounded by bottles of soft drink. But this is no young child's room.**

**Prisoners are given blinds for cell windows because early morning sunshine is disturbing their sleep.**

**On the desk there's an exercise book containing small neat rows and columns of figures with occasional annotations. It's a record of income and expenditure. The sums are pathetically small, the few pounds spent on the juice and chocolate visible, toothpaste, other sundries. And the tables stretch back not just weeks and months, but years. Into the previous century.**

**This is the cell of a sex offender at HMP Peterhead prison. The man who lives inside it has committed a terrible offence, been tried and convicted and is now serving a very long sentence.**

**Yet as the cell shows, he eats and washes and sleeps, just like the rest of us. He follows a football team. He likes to relax by playing video games. He's careful with his money.**

**On the surface, he's just like you and me.**

**And one day he will be released back into society. That is what makes him so complex and dangerous.**

**The prison itself has a similar quality, an imposing 19th century facility set on a headland that juts out in to the swelling grey North Sea.**

**Peterhead convict prison was built around August 1888, and was designed to hold 208 prisoners. It was to be Scotland's only convict prison Occupancy averaged at around 350 however, until peaking at 455 in 1911. Additional buildings were completed in 1909, 1960 and 1962, bringing capacity up to 362. The first convicts were received at the prison in August 1888.**

**HMP Peterhead was a specialist centre for sex offenders**

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# News

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## We had a riot on the roof then Maggie called in the SAS

EXCLUSIVE By IRINA NELSON  
Published: 08th February 2010

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**HARDMAN** Sammy 'The Bear' Ralston has broken his silence on Scotland's most infamous prison riot — to tell the real story of how it was smashed when Margaret Thatcher sent in the SAS.

Notorious con Ralston and two pals took a guard hostage and staged a six-day rooftop protest over conditions at grim Peterhead nick in 1987.

It only ended when then Prime Minister Thatcher ordered a crack SAS unit armed with 'flash-bang' grenades and gas grenades to storm the building.



Infamous ... freed Ralston recalled rooftop protest at Peterhead

### Robber caged for half his life

**SAMMY Ralston has spent 27 YEARS behind bars — more than half his life.**

Ralston, 46, spent his early years in Shettleston, Glasgow, and joined a gang after moving to tough Cranhill aged 10.

Ralston said: "When I was 12 the police would dump me in Ruchazie, which was a rival turf.

"They did that to teach me a lesson because I was hanging around in a gang and drinking. They didn't know I had relatives staying there — so it didn't work."

Here's his prison record...

1980: Sentenced to **three months** for mobbing and rioting

1981: **18 months** for mobbing and rioting

1983: **Two years** for stealing a cash

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1986: **Six years** for attempted robbery  
 1987: **Seven years** for the Peterhead riot  
 1995: Free for a year  
 1997: **Twelve years** for attempted armed robbery  
 2009: Sentenced to **six months** for assaulting a prison warden  
 2009: Settles £2.100 human rights compensation claim with SPS out of court  
 2010: Released



Angry ... inmates on roof

Ralston, 46 — who has just been freed from jail — said: "We wanted to negotiate over conditions. "But Maggie Thatcher decided to send in some elite Army unit to take us down — and we didn't stand a chance."

*Ralston told how the end of the protest came suddenly when negotiations with the prison authorities broke down.*

Six hooded soldiers entered the jail through a skylight hurling the 'flash-bangs' and gas grenades. He said: "It was 6am and I saw this helicopter flying towards the prison.

"A short time later, we heard 'boom, boom, boom'. They fired something towards us from what I can only describe as a rocket launcher.

"They were armed with 3ft batons and handguns.



Hardline ... Thatcher

"They were small with English accents, but they were fast.

"We didn't know it at the time but they were deadly."

Ralston — who has spent a total of 27 years behind bars — revealed how the riot erupted after tension grew inside the Aberdeenshire prison, dubbed the Hate Factory by hardened cons.

It finally exploded on 28 September, 1987.

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Ralston, of Cranhill, Glasgow, said: "The pressure just blew. The guys started smashing the place up and eventually took control of the hall.

"We covered our faces with balaclavas made out of bandages. I needed to get all my anger out so I smashed a few windows. That made me feel a bit better."

Ralston decided to make a daring bid for the roof, via a stock room. He was joined by convicted murderer Malcolm Leggat, then 24, and John 'Jake' Devine, then 25 and serving a sentence for serious assault.

Ralston said: "We managed to get into a room using a key we had taken from one of the prison guards. It was full of paint and stuff.

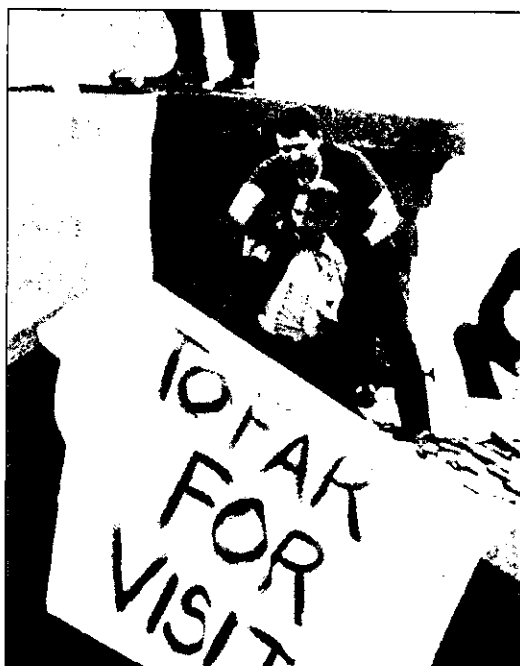
"Me, Jake and Malcolm then headed for the roof and made it up there through a broken skylight. It was great to smell the fresh air. It felt like we were the ones finally in control."

The cons grabbed prison officer Jackie Stuart on their way to the roof.

Stuart was beaten, stripped, chained and led like a dog across the 90ft-high rooftop of the jail's D block.

Ralston said: "Stuart was pointed out to me as soon as I arrived at the prison.

"It might sound stupid, but we treated him well during those days.



Hostage ... prisoners held guard

"We let him send a letter to his wife, which was something we were not allowed. I told him that things had to change in the prison system because men were going to end up dead."

Ralston made huge banners made of bed sheets and paint which were displayed on the roof.

One claimed he had been "fitted up" by two policemen over the attempted bank robbery in Easterhouse, Glasgow.

And the second claimed he had been beaten up by prison guards at Barlinnie in Glasgow, where he had earlier served time.

It read: "Why are the screws not being imprisoned for torturing Sammy Ralston?" Ralston also remembered how Arthur 'Fat Boy' Thompson — son of Glasgow Godfather Arthur Thompson — tried to get in on the action.

Thompson was serving time over a drugs rap. Ralston said: "Arty was shouting up and telling me to write something about the drug squad.

"I mean old Arthur, his dad, used to give my family a run up the road in his car and stuff.

"But I said no. To be honest, I felt like telling Arty to get up on the roof himself if he wanted to get a message out there."

Prison authorities tried to persuade the trio to come down off the roof. But the rioters were too scared.

mpu

Ralston — who was serving six years for attempted robbery — revealed: "We got radios off the guards and that meant the prison negotiators were able to communicate with us.

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"They kept telling us that we should come down because we were only making things worse for ourselves. But that made us scared so we just waited it out."

When negotiations broke down, the Government's crisis management group headed by Douglas Hurd, then Home Secretary, dispatched the SAS to bring the riot to an end on October 3

Ralston was found guilty of malicious damage, assault to severe injury, breach of the peace, mobbing and rioting. He admitted: "I got seven years added to my six-year sentence so it was not a proud moment. But it did prove one thing — if people mess me about, I will fight back."

Ralston was just 22 when he was first sent to the tough nick.

He rubbed shoulders with the likes of gangster Walter Norvall and convicted robber Ronnie Neeson.

He said: "The conditions were really tough. There were 300 prisoners crammed into that one prison.

"No one was getting to see their families and we didn't have enough money to buy even basic things like toothpaste.

"It was fair to say that the pressure in there had been building for some time."

irinanelson@the-sun.co.uk

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