

# ECHOES OF THE GULAG

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 7

ATASCADERO, CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER, 2001

## Big Drug Bust!

# “Shoot Out On Tier 30!”

On November 14, inmate Ron Frizzle was accused of possessing narcotics. He was arrested by HPO, read his rights, locked up in (ha, ha, ho, ho) “Administrative Segregation.”

Anyway, Ron was denied a one-shot phone call, denied an attorney after asking for one, fed cold sack lunches for the first 72 hours, was never formally charged nor arraigned for over 144 hours. Finally, he was allowed back into G.P. Mad as hell and ready to sue. Should they be surprised?

While all this was going on with Ron, everyone else had to suffer a visual body cavity search. Even though there was no probable cause to suspect anyone else, and, naturally, staff had no warrants. Reich Marshall Program Director Mike “Tinkerbell” Hughes, an admitted homosexual, personally video taped the SS Stormtroopers as they forcibly removed the clothing of two inmates who refused to go along with their Nazi tactics.

Tinker Bell certainly could have ordered one of the cops to videotape the incident. Why did he feel compelled to do it himself?

During the shake-down, an inmate asked Tinker Bell “Where are our Constitutional rights?” To which Tinker Bell lisped “You have no rights. We can do whatever we want”.

On November 18, the whole process was repeated, including the visual body cavity searches. Seems HPO supposedly witnessed a crime being committed in the visiting room. Instead of stepping forth and stopping this criminal behavior, they called

the Shit Lead and told her to “isolate” the suspect inmates. Had she, at the time, said “I’m a care giver. You’re a cop. I’m not doing your job for you,” that would have been the end of it. Instead, it turned into another Keystone Kop Caper.

Afterwards, any inmate who was suspected of having contraband in his living area had his PAS level reduced to a Level One, bypassing the usual Level Two stage. This, too, was done on Mike “TB” Hughes’ orders. Guess he just had to show everyone he’s a real manly man.

## Editorial Position Paper!

It has become necessary to explain the position of **ECHOES**. This was done in the first issues, but people soon forget. **ECHOES** is not against treatment under two provisions: If a person truly has a mental disorder and really believes these people can help him, by all means, get into the phases. If you do not have a mental disorder, you will jeopardize your sanity and will become more likely to re-offend if you participate in a sham.

The other provision **ECHOES** would require is to support entering

into the phases would be for the hosprison to take such treatment seriously. Three hours of group therapy a week is not serious. Also the Phase Two manual is exactly the same material used for the SOTEI program of twenty years ago.

Staff do not even bother to correct the typos when they reprinted it. This is the same program that caused Dr. Karl Hansen to report that the untreated offenders re-offended less than those who received treatment!

**ECHOES** is not against all staff. Just those who consider themselves above the law and who lack basic human decency.

A special place in hell (and the pages of **ECHOES**) is reserved for staff who come to work convinced they are doing God’s work and HI has instructed them to further punish us. Unfortunately, **ECHOES** cannot say a few kind words about the few staff members who actually go out of their way to make life a little more comfortable for 6600’s. If their names were to appear in a column praising them, they would immediately be labeled “SVP friendly” by Mahogany Row and, at the very least, they would be moved off the unit. Sorry about that!

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In the past, **ECHOES** has been labeled "crybaby" and "whiner". To a degree, this has been true, but with a reason. This publication belongs to all 6600's. If one of them has taken the time to write an article; every attempt will be made to get it in the issue. But, space is limited. So, legal news gets left out to make room for the inmate's article.

This should be cured with the new 8 1/2 x 11 inch format which we hope to start in the near future. It is easier on the typographer and will allow an issue to expand or contract depending upon the amount of submitted articles.

Articles reflecting or affecting 6600's, the law, or this hosprison are not only welcome, they are encouraged.

**ECHOES** must have material to publish. If you are outside the hosprison and have something to say, send it to:

**Tim P. McClanahan 46875-1**  
**P.O. Box 7001 -- Ward 30**  
**Atascadero, CA. 94323-7001**  
**(805) 468-3157**

**ECHOES** always needs money. We like to send a copy to all the Legislators and various media. We have only been able to do this once because the cost is \$175.00. When we are able to mass-mail, we try to print 500 copies for the inmates and staff. That costs \$40.00 per page (front and back) plus postage. So you do the math. If this issue is two pages, it costs \$40.00; if it is four pages, \$80.00, six pages, \$120.00. So, please contribute what you can, when you can. Stamps accepted.

Also, **ECHOES** is now represented by an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU, who will fight the hosprison over its attempt to thwart our existence. But, that is a news story and will be covered later.

**Thank You All for your Support!**

## Unity!

By Gary Albertson

Third in a Series of Articles.

Now that we have set the foundation and have an understanding of what unity, brotherhood, honor dignity, respect, and self-respect is, it is time to put them all together into a working whole.

Remember, we have a form of unity in Brotherhood, how closely knit the brotherhood is depends upon how dedicated each of us really is to overcoming and how each of is willing to apply himself. This will be the deciding factor in whether or not we overcome the situation in which we find ourselves. You must be willing to take action. In doing so the unity of the brotherhood will become solidified in a way that most of you would not believe until you see it.

Action is always a very large factor in how closely knit any movement becomes and usually depicts whether the movement succeeds or fails. Those of you who were here when we stopped eating in the chow hall should remember how we (as a group) came together and the feeling of comradery that existed among us. That is a small example of what brotherhood is. It took action to bring this into being then, just as it is going to take action to bring it into being now.

The action I suggest is for all of us to refuse to participate in any type of treatment what so ever. Let them take your level, and do what you want to do any way! Why give them control? Take it back and let's see what happens. I promise you they will come wanting to compromise with us. (Remember, they have been unwilling to compromise in anything up to now). This is the first step in regaining some kind of control over our own lives since we have been here.

By refusing to participate in any treatment what so ever, I mean not only the phases, but also any of their little activities (T.C., ward government, gym, fit is it, anything that justifies their funds). Hit them in the pocketbook! Take away their money and watch how their attitude and behavior change. It will get worse before it gets better. We must persevere! Now, when I say "do what

you want", I mean if you don't go to the dining hall, do go; ward gym, don't go; if you want to go to another ward's yard, go, if you want to go to the gym when it is open, go. Use your imagination!

The key to this is when they come to get you, do not argue with them, just smile and go with them. If you were not done with what you were doing, (where ever you were), than as soon as they turn their backs, go back to where ever you were, or whatever you were doing. Also, remember to act with dignity and honor, be cool and calm. Smile and be polite at all times. Just do what you want!

I must now bring up a subject that is unpleasant; Those of you who refuse to help us help ourselves by continuing to participate, whether it is in the phases or just helping staff, must be looked at with a bit of a jaundiced eye. For now, our arms are open and you are welcome to come and be a part of our brotherhood at any time. But, you must stop participating. Until you do, we must treat you as a collaborator. Not because we want to, but because we must. You are the ones who have turned your back on us and sided with our captors. How can we trust you, unless you come and stand beside us?

## Spin Doctor!

Has anyone noticed Dr. Flavin spinning down the hall and bouncing off the walls? Although **ECHOES** has praised her past tenacity and her strength on the stand when facing hard-boiled prosecutors, she has obviously changed.

This is the lady who first advocated for the "do-right" shots. Then she said surgical castration was the only way to go. Whoops! Look out! She reversed herself and went back to pushing antiandrogens. Now, she is doing a half-gainer off the far wall and says Global Positioning Monitoring reduces recidivism to less than 5%. She has flipped again and now says she is totally against surgical castration. "You say you have already had them whacked off?" "Ho, Ho, sorry about that!" What happened Doctor? Did they finally get to you?

## Absent Comrades

### In Memoriam

ECHOES asks everyone everywhere to pause for a brief moment each day and remember, with kindness, each of these, our Absent Comrades:

Dean Danforth July 27, 2001

Larry Goddard June 2, 2001  
Edward Samrady May 3, 2001

Donald Lockett Jan. 23, 2001

Daniel Stansberry May 10, 2000

Charles Rogers May 29, 2000

Released from this oppressive prison by the Compassion and Grace of God.

(ECHOES is aware there is one name missing- Can someone supply the name to Tim McClanahan?)

**ECHOES OF THE GULAG** is published periodically at ASH, P.O. Box 7001, Ward 30. Articles and comments are not only welcomed but also needed! It is your voice! All articles and comments should be addressed to the Publisher without any reference to ECHOES. The Publisher does not attest to the veracity of any published article.

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## Attack the Circular

### Argument BY Bob Donelson

Much speculation-and some hope- is being placed on the upcoming *Crane* decision. Proving current volitional control should certainly be a requirement, yet a greater requirement should be met: is there a true and qualifying mental disorder?

A true disorder, meaning that it qualifies for commitment, must destroy one's ability to choose his behavior: having a "Tic" or "Stuttering" Disorder (both found in DSM-IV-TR) do not qualify as disorders capable of destroying volitional control. Commitment depends upon both the existence of past crimes, and a mental disorder that will likely cause future crimes. If a person has schizophrenia, it will exist whether or not there is a crime. Not so under the SVPA, where it is not possible to have the disorder without the crime!

What this means, is that both the past crimes and the mental disorder are based solely on past crimes, and no psychologist can diagnose an SVP disorder without them. To make a diagnosis based on past crimes, and then claim the disorder causes crime, is a circular argument, and is violative of Due Process.

The trick is to make the state prove the existence of a "separate" mental disorder, apart from the crime. This is a requirement of Stats 1981, which was controlling over our sentence, and which was fully in effect for the first two years of the SVPA, where the Legislature stated that sex offenses were "not the product of a mental disease," and then said that there were other treatable mental illnesses. With both laws in effect at the same time, the SVPA must match up to Stats 1981 in meaning, so that the SVPA must also require a "separate" mental illness/disorder.

The kicker is that a true disorder is biological in nature. If you have it, you were either born with it, or suffered some event that triggered the traumatizing of your brain. This fits with the "congenital or acquired" condition of the SVPA because "congenital"

is something you were born with, an "acquired" is triggered by an event.

If you had a "congenital" condition, you had it at sentencing and were ineligible for prison. Otherwise, you presumably "acquired" this condition in prison, say by being smacked on the head with a dumbbell or having a super high fever that fried your brain and that started your disorder.

Medical science may not be ready to come forward and show that true disorders are reliably diagnosable through medical tests (MRI's, blood, etc.), but they aren't far from it. Reliable medical testing would be sufficient to cause the courts to remove the evaluators, and require fact-producing tests. In the meantime, defense attorneys in all 11 SVPA states need to attack the circular argument and destroy it, demanding that separate mental disorder/illness be factually proved, and medically tested if possible!

## Is It Possible?

Do you think it is possible for the lazy, do nothing, kitchen staff to actually work just one day a year? Just one?

Is it beyond possibility they could actually cook/roast real turkeys once a year? It could be either Thanksgiving or Christmas. The actual holiday does not really matter.

Either of those days would be mad wondrous if we could be spared that same old watery processed turkey parts we serve week in and week out all year long. Yes, would require actual work. Yes, they would have to actually operate the oven and debone the cooked birds. But is one day a year asking too much?

They get to slide by all year simply by opening cans and ripping bags. Can't they earn their keep by actually working on blessed day?

This same argument goes to the "one day a year" policy regarding watermelons. We are served these dirt-cheap melons each and every Fourth of July. Period. Never again. When asked why this was so, the response was "We only serve melons when they are in season." What? A one day melon season????

# Warden Melvin's SVP Problem

On October 26, Warden Melvin sent each staff member a memo entitled "SVP Security and Management." Notice he didn't say "6600 Security..." as he would have if addressing any other commitment. Anyway, the dumb thing sought input on how to "...manage patient behavior and provide hospital security."

While some staff submitted good ideas (more educational opportunities, more leisure activities, REAL treatment with a REAL timetable of completion, etc. etc.), some of the suggestions were outrageous. A lot of people who obviously don't work 6600 tiers, suggest putting cops on each unit 24 hours a day. Guess they don't remember back in the good old days when staff ran the hospital and the Nazis were not allowed inside. They didn't have any problem then... why would they not?

One of the questions was "What are your thoughts on using video cameras?" and, to lump most of the answers together, it was more or less "What!?" Are you effing crazy? "They can use those videos against us!" So, maybe some staff aren't as dumb as they look.

Warden Melvin also asks what staff thought about the formation of a "Special Shake Down" force; and you can see where he is going with that one. Right away, staff is thinking, "Well, if he forms a special shake down force, I won't have to do any shaking and downing..." Wonder what the answers will be to that question. Hmmm?

The best answer to the "SVP problem" came from a staff who is obviously not long for this world: The suggestion was: "Be honest with them." Ho Ho, ha ha, and hee-hee!



## Whom Can You Trust?

By Richard Bishop

Atascadero State Hospital psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers want us to trust them. Unit supervisors, psychiatric technicians and nurses want us to trust them. Even the Trust Officer wants us to trust him.

Are these people trustworthy? Some of them...perhaps all...have been accused by inmates of various forms of untrustworthiness: lying, falsification of official records, stealing, incompetence, physical and emotional abuse, overmedication, improper and illegal use of medication and restraints, inciting aggressive and violent behavior to cause inmates to be charged with "Three Strikes" felonies; denial of statutory rights and privileges...and the list goes on.

No doubt some accusations are unfounded, but there is a abundant evidence pointing to the large-scale occurrence of what can only be called the criminal abuse of inmates; not merely unethical but, I repeat, criminal abuse.

These abuses, and more, have been occurring continuously since Atascadero State Hospital first opened its revolving doors nearly fifty years ago, and no doubt will continue forever, so long as an indifferent public, Judges wearing blinders, mean-spirited politicians, and kiss-ass journalists remain ignorant, by choice, of what goes on behind these dismal walls.

The sterile curtain of secrecy and indifference descends to stifle our anguished cries for someone "out there" to listen and to care. Is it because we are all mentally ill, and we have all been convicted felons, therefore we are unworthy? Is it because we are subhuman, as alleged in an editorial published recently in the San Luis Obispo Tribune? (A newspaper we are not allowed to read).

But, we have already paid for our crimes, and now we are **over** paying; technically not prisoners but treated worse than prisoners, during this ongoing mean season of politics. Many of us would never have reoffended, but we are being treated as is there is absolutely

no doubt that we will, based on the opinions of two people who are deemed by the courts to have prescient faculties simply by virtue of their academic credentials.

It is cruel in the extreme to be subjected to the whims and prejudices of these petty necromancers. They really put one over on our system of justice when they convinced Judges that they can foresee the future. How come none of them predicted the September 11 terrorist attacks on New York City and the Pentagon?

## Who Am I?

**You know me very well! I may be your co-worker and work beside you every day.**

**You could even place your life in my hands if we do certain types of work together.**

**I could be the person sitting next to you in church who gets up and says a blessing for the congregation, and never misses a service.**

**I could be the person coming to your door to raise money for a worthy cause because I believe in improving the world that we live in.**

**Maybe I am the person that you come to for help when you are hurting inside. I am generally a very understanding individual who cares deeply for others...**

**Perhaps I am the teacher that made you strive to be more than you thought you could be...**

**I could be the doctor that saved your life or the policeman who would give his life in the line of duty, or the soldier who could lose his life in protecting your freedoms...**

**Who am I? I am an individual, a human being, often a father and husband, and I may also be called a "Sexually violent Predator".**

## Sincere Apologies...ECHOES

staff apologizes to persons submitting ECHOES articles, and who have not yet had their articles printed. We have some long articles waiting. We try to get as much as possible in each issue. We do all possible to get articles in timely.