

Addressed to PT  
R16/4

# Day to day life in Northern Ireland prisons

me

THIS booklet describes what has been achieved in providing modern penal regimes in Northern Ireland prisons, without neglecting society's first requirement that prisoners should be held in secure custody.

The picture is not a static one. Future developments already planned will further improve the quality of the regimes. New workshops are planned to open at Maze and Magilligan prisons this year. More significantly, new male and female prisons, now under construction at Maghaberry, Co. Antrim, will open in 1982. These are being built to the high standards associated with modern prisons and will contain extensive industrial, vocational training and educational facilities.

This maintenance and development of a progressive regime reflects the Government's commitment to run a humane and flexible prison system under the Prison Rules. Such a regime benefits prisoners, and also society – both directly in that prisoners are productively employed, and indirectly in giving prisoners an opportunity to develop skills and interests which will be of help when they return to society.

Notwithstanding the difficulties faced, every effort has been, and will continue to be, made to ensure that Northern Ireland prison regimes are both humane and progressive.

# CONTENTS

## NOTE:

In early March prisoners at the Maze and Armagh prisons stopped their "dirty protest" (see p. 11) by beginning to wash, use the toilets and keep their cells clean. The prisoners, however, continue to protest in support of their demand for political status by refusing to work. Prisoners at the Maze are also refusing to wear prison-issue civilian clothes.

	<i>Page</i>
The prison working week	4
Leisure and recreation	7
Clothing for male prisoners	8
Contacts with outside world	10
Armagh	11
Protesting prisoners	11
Vocational courses	12
Prison industries	13
Privileges of prisoners	14
A typical working day	16

*DESPITE* a concentration of interest in Northern Ireland prisons in recent years, too little is known about what actually goes on inside the prisons, in which 2,500 prisoners are currently held; what prisoners do from day to day, at the week-ends and in the evenings; and what there is by way of opportunity to improve themselves educationally, to prepare for a job on release, to keep fit and to develop hobbies and interests.

The object of this booklet is to fill some of the gaps in knowledge, with particular emphasis on the Maze Prison and also Armagh Prison.

## Aims and legal basis of prison regimes

THE AIM of prison regimes in Northern Ireland is as set out for the whole of the United Kingdom in the May Report,\* which commended the principle of 'positive custody' – 'That is, it (custody) has to be secure and it must carry out all the intentions of the courts and society, in that respect.

'On the other hand, penal establishments must also as far as possible be hopeful and purposive communities and not be allowed to degenerate into mere uncaring institutions dulled by their own unimaginative and unenterprising routines.' (Report, paragraph 4.46.)

Their legal basis is to be found in the Prison Act (NI) 1953, which in section 13 specifies that 'the Secretary of State may make rules to be styled "prison rules" for the administration, regulation and management of prisons' and lays down the broad categories of regime to be covered. The Prison Rules (NI) 1954 accordingly pro-

\*Report of a Committee of Inquiry into the United Kingdom Prison Services (Cmnd 7673, 1979). This major review of the UK prison system covered almost every aspect of prison life including regimes and has been accepted by the Government as the basis for future prison development.

vide the detailed legal framework for the regime described below.

The Rules, which have the force of law, cover prisoners rights, duties and privileges as well as the rights and duties of prison officers, chaplains, medical officers, governors and the Secretary of State. The making of Prison Rules is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who must lay them before Parliament.

One aspect of prison regimes which is not well understood is that which separates prisoners' 'rights' from their 'privileges'.

The rights are normally described as 'statutory' since they derive from the statutory Prison Rules. 'Privileges' are approved by the Secretary of State and controlled by governors.

They are normally given as a matter of course to all prisoners so long as they abide by the Rules; they include such matters as extra letters, visits and parcels, handicrafts, evening association, purchases from the prison tuck shop and special leave to prepare for release.

Privileges may be withdrawn as a punishment under the Rules, but only to such an extent as the Rules allow. Such punishments are given by the governor or, in more serious cases, by the Board of Visitors.\*

Confusion of the difference between the two facets of the regime has been fostered by the prisoners who have been carrying out protests. These prisoners have, for the most part, refused the privileges and even some of their statutory rights. The Board of Visitors has not been involved in dealing with the punishments arising from protest behaviour.

*\*Under the Prison Act (NI) 1952, section 10, the Secretary of State must appoint a Board of Visitors to every prison to oversee its working and carry out adjudications (i.e. punishment proceedings) as necessary. Boards are independent and their membership is drawn from all sections of the community. They can and do comment freely to the Governor and the Secretary of State on any aspect of the regime. The Secretary of State, on being asked by the Governor, normally asks the Board to adjudicate on the more serious offences against Prison Rules, for example attacks on other prisoners or staff.*

One particular feature of the prison regime to which attention needs to be drawn is provision for remission of part of the sentence. Under Section 13(7) of the Prison Act (NI) 1953, all prisoners in Northern Ireland, except those serving the shortest sentences (one month or less), are granted remission of sentence. The amount given, laid down by Prison Rule 25, is one half of the effective sentence – that is the court sentence less any time spent in custody before sentence.

If a prisoner commits an offence against the Rules the governor or the Board of Visitors may take away remission to the extent permitted by Prison Rules (governor – up to 28 days maximum; Board of Visitors – up to six months maximum). A prisoner may ask the Governor or the Board of Visitors, as appropriate, for restoration of remission lost in this way, or may petition the Secretary of State.

It is clearly vital that prisoners should understand their rights and responsibilities in relation to prison regimes. Prison Rule 15 requires that 'Arrangements shall be made to ensure that every prisoner on reception is provided with an Abstract of the Rules governing the treatment of prisoners . . . including those relating to . . . privileges, to the proper methods of submitting petitions to the Secretary of State . . . and to the disciplinary requirements of the prison.'

*It is the governor's responsibility to ensure that this is done, and on entering the prison system after sentence all prisoners are given these details in the form of an information sheet and must sign to confirm that it has been received. Further information sheets, covering various aspects of the regime, are given on request by a prison officer specially deputed for this purpose in every prison wing or compound.*

Any prisoner may also ask this officer or a governor to explain any point which is not clear to him. In connection with punishment proceedings, Prison Rule 28 also requires that the prisoner *must* be told of his rights, and he will be given any help he needs to prepare his case, before taking part in the proceedings.

# The prison working week

ALTHOUGH for convenience the prison regime has been divided into two, between the working day and 'free time', it is not possible, or desirable, to draw a rigid line in practice. Thus there is, in fact, considerable overlap between these two main elements of the prison timetable.

The most popular day for visits, for example, is a Saturday, but visits may be received during normal week-day working hours if the prisoner wishes.

Orderly duties – which count as work and are essential to the running of the prison – must be carried out over weekends as well as during the week. Young prisoners (those under 21) are also given extra recreation – PT and games – during the working day as a matter of course.

It is an objective shared by prisons throughout the United Kingdom, and one which most people would accept, that prisoners should be fully employed either in orderly duties to help run the prison or in directly productive work.

It is important for prisoners that work experience and training inside prison will help them get and keep jobs on

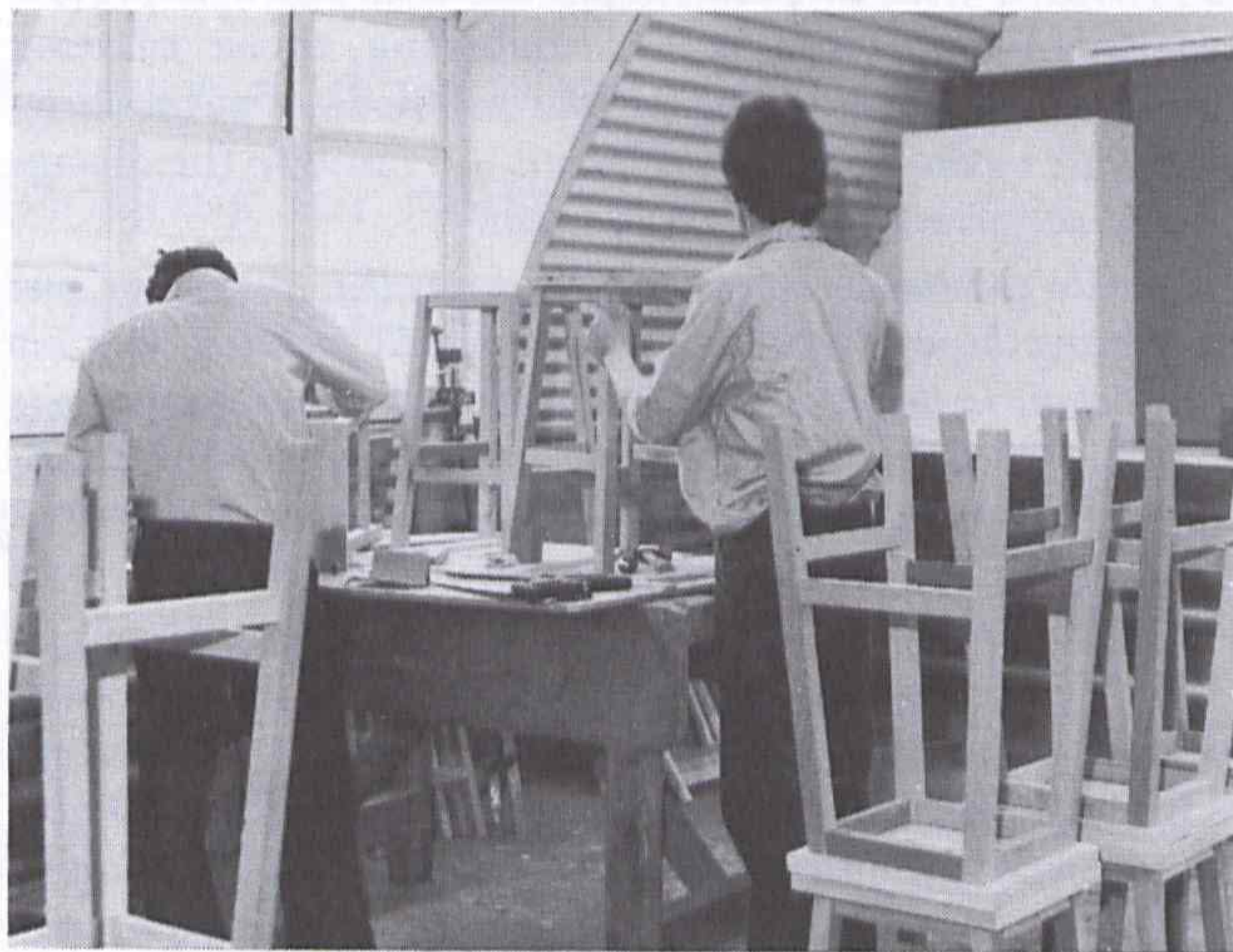
discharge. Work is also valuable in providing an outlet for their physical and mental energies and so aids the maintenance of good order and morale in the prisons.

In Northern Ireland prisons work plays a central role in the regime – Prison Rule 44 requires prisoners to engage in useful work – and great strides have been made in recent years to provide a range of industries and training of high quality. Nor is 'work' interpreted narrowly – it may include education, for those whom the governor and education officer consider suitable or who need remedial teaching. If for any reason a prisoner or group of prisoners cannot be employed on a particular day, they may be given extra PT, games or handicraft/study time instead.

To give the reader the flavour of a typical day in prison, the table on page 16 sets out the regime for a prisoner at Maze. This pattern is broadly repeated in all the establishments housing *sentenced* prisoners (other than those in the 'special category';\* unsentenced prisoners are not required to work. It will be seen that the routine in many respects reflects life outside the prison walls.

Prisoners are paid earnings for their compulsory work. As in most European countries, the earnings are no more than a token payment. In Northern Ireland the amount, excluding overtime and special bonuses, does not exceed £2.05 a week, a figure in line with practice elsewhere in United Kingdom prisons. The amount earned depends on the nature of the job and the effort and standard of performance of the prisoner.

Four main types of work are provided in Northern Ireland prisons. Although the Secretary of State has overall responsibility for prison regimes, allocation of prisoners to the various kinds of work is best left to local



*Prisoners making seats in the woodwork prison industry at Maze prison.*

*\*Special category status was introduced in June 1972 for a number of sentenced prisoners who were not required to work and could wear their own clothes in addition to other privileges. New admissions to special category have been ended progressively since March 1976, although there are still a number of such prisoners. All male prisoners live in separate compound accommodation in Maze with women prisoners housed in Armagh.*

administration and is carried out by the governor of each prison.

In allocating prisoners the governors take account, so far as possible, not only of the needs of the prison administration but also of the recommendations by professional, technical and educational staff and, of course, the wishes and aptitudes of the prisoners. Prisoners are told by a member of staff or the governor which alternative employments are available.

Whether or not it is possible to give the prisoner his choice will depend on such factors as his previous employment, degree of motivation, behaviour in prison, security rating, and the existence of a vacancy in the workshop or course requested.

Each prison needs its own quota of prisoners to undertake domestic tasks in the kitchens, dining areas, ablutions and corridors. These tasks include cooking, cleaning, moving stores, washing, polishing and all the many jobs which must be done to ensure that prison life retains the order and cleanliness so necessary when prisoners live and work in such close proximity. In this way a significant contribution is also made to reducing the cost of running the institution.

At any given time some 500 prisoners – out of a sentenced population currently around 1,500 (excluding special category prisoners) – will be engaged in these duties. Those taking part are normally 'trusties' or low risk\* prisoners; a few may be serving long sentences but most are serving under four years. Some orderly duties are particularly suited to petty habitual offenders, who may be employed in this way for much of their sentences (which are often relatively short). Other orderly duties may suit a particular person – for example former cooks or butchers can usefully be employed in running the kitchens. Many prisoners do some orderly duties for a time before moving on to other work.

The extensive range of industrial employment provided at present and planned to come into operation in the near future, together with the type of goods produced is shown on page 13. New modern workshops are now

*\*'Low-risk' simply means that from the nature of a prisoner's offence and his behaviour in prison there is a low risk of his trying to escape or of becoming violent. It is a measure of his danger to the prison and to society outside.*

available at Maze and Magilligan. The workshop facilities at Belfast and Armagh have also been improved and fitted with up-to-date equipment. Clearly the work experience gained here is of help in promoting the work habit and in improving job prospects on release.

Before being allocated to an industrial workshop at Maze, all prisoners are given a thorough course of training in basic skills, machine use, and health and safety at work. This is similar to the training provided by Government training centres, modified to suit the work and machinery available in the workshop.

Vocational training is designed to give prisoners training in a wide range of skills which they may not have had time or opportunity to learn outside. The courses are run to a high standard and in the last few years have been developed to the requirements of the skills testing service of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

The first certificates were awarded in 1977 and since then over 300 vocational trainees have gained them. Promising trainees are either encouraged to proceed further inside the prison or given help and advice on how to continue outside.

There are now 382 places on these courses. The range of courses available to prisoners is explained to them by prison staff and is also displayed in central locations; prisoners are invited to make applications to enrol. Some courses, such as painting and decorating, are particularly popular and are fully booked: others may have vacancies at any given time.

Whether or not a prisoner can be enrolled on a course depends on a number of factors. First, his own wish to attend; secondly, he must have sufficient time to complete the course – this means he should not be near the end of his sentence (prisoners serving under six months are not normally considered as with allowance made for one-half remission of sentence they will in fact serve under three months). Acceptance also depends on the prisoner's suitability for the job based on assessment by prison staff and the education officer; 'Trainability' tests may be given to determine aptitude for training.

Courses are conducted in spacious workshops of modern design, under the supervision of full-time instructors who have the appropriate craft or professional qualifications. They provide a sound basis for a prisoner



*The domestic electrical appliance vocational training course at Maze prison.*

to return to society better qualified than on entering the prison; a number of former trainees have gone on to successful employment on release.

A remarkable performance was achieved by one young prisoner undergoing training in the painting and decorating course at Magilligan Prison during 1979. He gained three distinctions in the City and Guilds of London Institute craft examinations and subsequently was awarded 1st prize (bronze medal, vellum and a cash sum of £30) by the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers of London. His performance was achieved in competition with 1,518 other candidates throughout the United Kingdom.

Classes are provided during working hours to cover a wide range of prisoners' needs – from remedial education for those who require it to Open University courses. Periods of study range from 2–20 hours a week, depending on the subject. Classes in craft theory are given to complement the practical side of vocational training, and tuition is provided in a wide range of subjects enabling prisoners to study for RSA, City and Guilds

literary and numeracy certificates, and GCE 'O' and 'A' level certificates.

In addition, self-study courses – with tutorial support as necessary – are provided for such subjects as English language, English literature and Mathematics and also for the 21 prisoners currently following Open University Courses. Prisoners who have the benefit of study time during the day also frequently make use of their leisure time to continue their studies.

On release, prisoners who show academic promise and wish to pursue further study are put in touch with the educational guidance service for adults, with which close links have been established.

The total full-time education staff comprises seven education officers and 16 teachers. (There are also 80 part-time teachers employed almost exclusively for evening classes.)

The Prison Education Service is represented on the Council for Continuing Education in the Province and plays an active part in the work of its specialist group panels.

The education officer interviews all prisoners entering the establishment, explaining to them what educational facilities are available. If a prisoner shows an interest in a particular course or courses, the officer assesses his needs and may at this or subsequent interviews give him a series of recognised educational tests of the type formulated by the National Federation for Educational Research. Subject to this assessment the prisoner will then be enrolled on the course, whether for evening or daytime attendance.

Notices are displayed prominently within the prisons giving details of courses and new developments. During the period of his sentence a prisoner may readily ask the education officer for details of courses and apply to join them. Classes are regularly set up during the day on this basis for remedial education; the more advanced courses of the type already mentioned are also from time to time (according to demand) arranged during the day. In all cases attendance at courses is undertaken with the Governor's agreement.

# Leisure and Recreation

This part of the paper sets out the arrangements made for the occupation of prisoners at a time when they are not required to work: evenings, weekends and public holidays. Examples are drawn from Maze, though the other establishments are very similar in what they offer.

Between 5.30 pm and 8.30 pm each weekday prisoners have three hours 'association'. This simply means that they may associate with each other and occupy themselves as they wish, within their cell wing or in the adjacent education room or exercise yard, subject to the maintenance of prison security. Association is also allowed all day on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays; the mornings, however, include an exercise period\* and on Saturdays many prisoners receive their visits. On Sunday morning a high proportion of prisoners attend church services – these are entirely voluntary.

At Maze the following areas and activities are available for use during this time:

Dining Halls	TV, table tennis, snooker (small tables), darts, cards, table games (monopoly, draughts, etc.)
Education Rooms	classes most nights
Handicraft Rooms	hobbies
Exercise Yards	while daylight lasts prisoners may spend their association period, or part of it, in the exercise yard.

A very wide range of evening classes is provided for prisoners and there is some overlap with courses provided during the day. The subjects offered vary from one institution to another since they depend on demand. But the following range was covered in 1980 and has continued this year:

*English, Mathematics, Geography, History, Sociology, Irish*

*\*All prisoners must be given the daily hour's exercise required by Prison Rule 58. This is taken in the open air whenever possible.*

*Language, Art, Music, Technical Drawing, Typing, Handicrafts, Braille Translation, Foreign Languages, Current Affairs, Physical Education Theory, Remedial and Basic Education, Social and Life Skills classes (both independently and in support of pre-release courses).*

The level attained in these courses is shown by the fact that, during 1980, prisoners were entered for 31 'A' level subjects, 160 'O' level subjects, and 80 Royal Society of Arts subjects. The 13 Open University students (now increased to 21) qualified for the next stage of their studies; this included the first OU student in Northern Ireland to complete a course whilst in custody and graduate with a BA Degree.\*

Text-books are supplied by the prison. In addition the Education and Library Boards provide well-stocked libraries at all establishments and prisoners may draw books from them to read in their cells. Periodicals and newspapers are also provided. Book stocks are shown in round figures below:

	<i>Library Books</i>	<i>Text Books</i>
Belfast	4,000	1,500
Maze	18,500*	3,000
Armagh	3,000	1,500
Magilligan	11,000	1,000
YOC (Millisle)	3,000	3,800
YOC (Hydebank)	4,700	1,000

\*supplied by mobile library

Weekly film shows are a normal feature of association. At Maze, if prisoners express a wish to see programmes – for example football matches – screened after 8.30 pm, video recordings are now shown. Prisoners serving over two years may keep a personal radio set in their cells. Physical education and football are also available, chiefly at weekends but at times during the week as well.

*\*These figures refer to both day classes and evening classes: the two cannot be separated.*

# Clothing for male prisoners

MALE convicted prisoners are required to wear prison-issue clothing from 7.30 am to 5.00 pm; this requirement is based on Prison Rule 63 which states that 'Every convicted prisoner shall be provided with clothing sufficient for warmth and health in accordance with a scale approved by the Secretary of State, and shall, except as otherwise approved by him, be required to wear such clothing.'

This clothing originally comprised a two-piece denim suit and a blue and white striped shirt. However, following the Government's decision announced on 23 October 1980 this has been replaced by a range of patterns and colours of civilian-type clothing, comprising trousers, pullovers and shirts. Underwear and socks continue to be issued by the authorities as before.

The normal issue of clothing is supplemented for use in certain jobs. For example, heavy duty waterproof clothing is given to prisoners engaged in outdoor work; and overalls and protective clothing are supplied for work, for example in kitchens, prison industries or vocational training courses, which involves a greater element of dirty or noisy activities.

Only approximately a quarter of the week has to be spent wearing prison issue clothing. Prisoners other than those engaged in orderly duties may wear their own clothes during evening association, at weekends and when taking visits. (Orderlies are given time off in lieu for work done during leisure hours.) This clothing of their own which they are allowed to have comprises:

*1 pair of shoes*  
*1 pair of trousers* } *or a suit*  
*1 jacket or cardigan*  
*1 pullover*  
*2 shirts*

These are kept in a locker in the prisoner's cell, or beside his bed in hatted accommodation. Their colour and design are, for security reasons, subject to the discretion of the governor in charge. None of these arrangements for prisoners' own clothing has been affected by the Government's decision on prison-issued clothing to be worn during the working day.

The arrangements described here are more generous to prisoners than those not only in the rest of the United Kingdom but also in many other European countries where, in dealing with the more serious offender, the wearing of a prison uniform is normal throughout the week.



*The denim uniform previously worn by prisoners.*





*A model wearing the new prison issue clothing, with a display showing the range of clothing available to each prisoner.*

# Contacts with the outside world

To ASSIST prisoners in preparing for their eventual return to society, considerable efforts are made to ensure that they keep up contacts with friends and relatives.

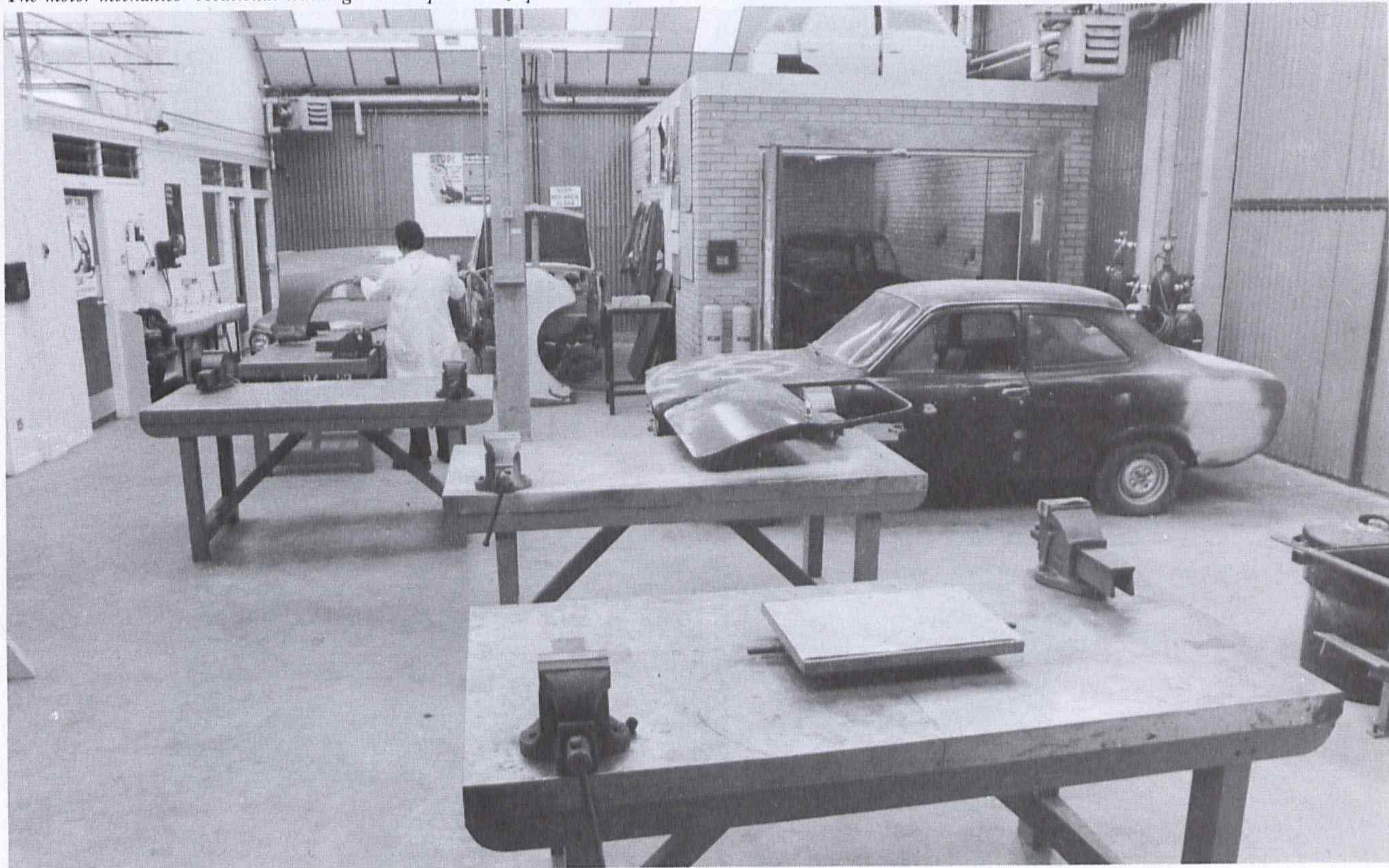
A prisoner may have a total of four 30 minute visits with relatives, friends or others nominated by the prisoner each month. The visits normally take place in open-plan visiting rooms, with the prisoner and his visitors seated together at a separate table. The visits are supervised by prison staff, but the supervision is intended to give the prisoner and his visitors the maximum privacy compatible with security.

Eight letters, paid for by the prison, may be sent out

each month by a prisoner. A prisoner may also send out three letters a week at his own expense. A similar number of letters may be received. Cards (birthday, Christmas, wedding anniversary) are not normally counted as part of the letter entitlement.

Prisoners are allowed a weekly parcel which may contain up to four lbs. of fruit and such items as toilet requisites and reading material. (Other items including tobacco and cigarettes may be purchased from the prison tuck shop out of earnings from prison work and private cash subject to a total weekly limit of expenditure of £3.00.) Special parcels are allowed at Christmas, Easter and Hallowe'en.

*The motor mechanics' vocational training workshop at Maze prison.*



# Armagh

Much of the description already given applies on a broad basis to Armagh prison, which, apart from 12 male orderlies who carry out heavy duties, is entirely devoted to housing female prisoners, whose numbers are small. Although the range of facilities which it is possible to provide is constrained by the very limited numbers, the high standards found in the male prisons are repeated.

The regime for sentenced female prisoners, though based on the regime for males, has traditionally been more relaxed in view of the small numbers and the lesser threat to security.

For example, association is freer, and each wing has a mini-kitchen in which prisoners can prepare snacks, including tea and coffee. Weekly parcels may contain

more than the usual amount of foodstuffs and a wider range of personal belongings may be kept. Many cells are decorated through the use of curtains, posters and ornaments.

The main difference between the male and female regimes is that since 1972 female prisoners have been allowed to wear their own clothing at all times. This change was introduced following a similar move in Great Britain several years earlier. As no significant problems had emerged there, it was extended to Northern Ireland. The rationale for this move was the view that it was much more likely to have a positive effect on the rehabilitation of female offenders.

## Protesting prisoners

So far this booklet has described the regime for the majority of sentenced prisoners, who abide by the normal requirements of prison life as laid down by Prison Rules. This part briefly describes the situation of those who do not.

The prisoners engaged in what is described as the 'dirty protest' refuse to work, to wear prison clothing and to co-operate with the prison authorities – whether the governor or any of the welfare, medical or other prison services. To these actions they have added the destruction of all cell contents and the smearing of excrement around the cells.

For these gross breaches of Prison Rules the prisoners have been punished by the governor under the Prison Rules. These punishments first included the loss of privileges but a significant number of these have been restored in the last year. It should be borne in mind that the 'statutory' element has never been denied though prisoners have refused to take up a considerable part of it. The extra privileges have by and large also not been

taken up as part of the same campaign.

Since February 1980 female prisoners at Armagh have also been carrying out a 'dirty protest', after a prolonged period in which their protest had been 'clean' – that is, had merely involved the refusal to work and had been carried out with much less overt confrontation than at Maze.

The punishments awarded were correspondingly less – letters were not restricted and association was not lost to the same extent. Despite the protest and the deliberate attempt to bring about a deterioration in the regime, there has been no increase in the punishments given (this was also true after the male 'dirty protest' began in March 1978).

With the exception of association, which could no longer be free, owing to the prisoners' aggressive behaviour, there has been no change in the regime other than that self-imposed by the prisoners.

See pages 14 and 15.

# Range of vocational courses available

Prison	Courses	Training Places	Duration of Courses (Weeks)
Belfast	Catering	6	48
	Industrial Cleaning	12	12
Maze	Bricklaying	12	20
	Painting and Decorating	12	20
	General Construction Operatives	12	16
	Motor Vehicle Maintenance	12	26
	Horticulture (I)	12	48
	Horticulture (II)	10	20
	Electric Appliance Repair	12	26
	Motor Body Repair and Painting	12	26
	Welding	12	26
	Plastering	12	26
	Furniture Craft Practice	12	48
	Building Operatives	16	16
Magilligan	Bricklaying	12	20
	Plastering	12	20
	General Construction Operatives	12	16
	Motor Vehicle Maintenance	12	26
	Painting and Decorating	12	20
	Joinery	12	20
	Building Operatives	12	20
YOC Hydebank	Catering	6	10
	Industrial Cleaning	6	10
	Sheetmetal Work and Welding	10	20
	Motor Vehicle Maintenance	12	26
	General Construction Operatives	12	16
	Bricklaying (1)	12	20
	Joinery	12	20
	Bricklaying (2)	12	20
	Mechanical Engineering (1)	12	12
	Painting and Decorating	12	20
	Mechanical Engineering (2)	12	12
	Youthways	8	12
	Youthways	8	12
	<b>382</b>		

# Prison industries and typical products

Location	Industry	Typical Products
<b>Armagh</b>	Laundry Tailoring	Prisoners' clothing, bedclothes, limited work for local welfare bodies Prisoners' clothing and boiler suits, seat covers (outside contract).
<b>Belfast</b>	Joinery Tailoring Horticulture Laundry Firewood Matmaking	Prison furniture, dog-kennels, wooden toys (contract work). Prisoners' clothing (incl. overalls). Vegetables, pot plants, flowers. Prisoners' clothing and bedding, local welfare work. Sticks, blocks. Coir mats.
<b>Maze</b>	Joinery and Woodworking  Tailoring Metalwork Laundry *Cement products *Metal Fabrication	<i>Prison Service supplies:</i> Furniture, storage racks etc.  <i>Outside contracts:</i> Desks, stools, wooden toys, art boxes, sub-contract work on domestic furniture. Prisoners' clothing (incl. overalls), instructors' coats, towels etc. Storage bins, bench seats, tubular furniture, handling trucks, storage racking Prisoners' clothing, bed linen, laundering for Training Schools. Concrete blocks, kerbing, paving slabs etc. for prison contract. Beds, metal cupboards, tubular furniture, pressings.
<b>YOC Hydebank Wood</b>	Horticulture	Vegetables and flowers.
<b>Magilligan</b>	Horticulture *Knitting  *Tailoring *Metalwork *Leather industry	Vegetables. Interlock material for making-up into prisoners' underwear, pullovers and socks. Prisoners' shirts. Repair of metal furniture. Shoes for inmates, leather goods.

*Note:* \* Industries planned to open March 1981 onwards.

# PRIVILEGES

## Rules for conforming prisoners

One statutory and seven additional letters out per month paid for by the prison: further letters at prisoners' own expense. The receipt of letters in reasonable proportion to those sent.

One statutory and three additional visits a month.

A weekly parcel of reading material, fruit and toilet articles. Special parcels at Christmas, Easter and Halloween.

A variety of civilian-type clothing supplied by the prison authorities. In addition non-prison clothing of an approved type may be worn for visits, and evening and weekend association.

The use of the gymnasium and/or playing pitch for about three hours a week at exercise periods, in addition to normal exercise; statutory exercise period of one hour a day.

Three hours association every evening (to watch television, play indoor games, etc); there is also association during the day on Saturdays and Sundays.

Prisoners serving over two years may keep a personal radio set in their cells.

## Rules for 'dirty' protesting prisoners at Maze

### Letters

One letter in and out a month (the letter out paid for by the prison). One additional letter in and out in lieu of the monthly statutory visit if this is not taken. Three additional privilege letters in and out a month permitted since March 1980.

### Visits

One statutory and since March 1980 one privilege visit a month.

### Parcels

None.

### Clothing

A variety of civilian-type clothing supplied by the prison authorities. The alternative for certain purposes is to wear the underwear or part of the clothing provided. Towels may be worn inside the wings.

### Exercise

Not less than one hour's exercise per day in the open air, weather permitting. Protesting prisoners refuse to take this, although they may now use sportswear provided for the purpose. An hour's additional recreation (PT) per week has been on offer since September 1980; again sportswear is available.

### Association

Evening association has been offered on a limited basis since September 1980; each prisoner may expect to have one period of such association a week. (There are of course other occasions when association takes place – during work, dining and exercise periods, for example – but the protesters refuse these opportunities.)

### Radio

None.

# OF PRISONERS

---

## Rules for conforming prisoners

*(continued)*

## Rules for 'dirty' protesting prisoners at Maze

*(As regards 'clean' protesters and Armagh see below)*

### Newspapers and reading material

Access to newspapers supplied by the prison, also use of the prison library and books received in parcels.

A selection of books and newspapers are available in each Wing during weekdays and in the room where the prisoners attend Mass on Sundays. The protesting prisoners can collect a book or paper without putting on prison uniform.

### Use of Earnings

Prisoners may use their earnings from prison work and an equivalent amount of their own funds to make purchases in the prison tuck shop and elsewhere, up to £3.00 per week.

May not make purchases.

### Leave

For certain classes of prisoners short periods of home leave are available at Christmas, in the summer, and towards the end of sentence. Short periods of compassionate leave may also be given in certain circumstances.

Home leave is not available but compassionate leave has been offered since August 1980, subject to the same conditions as apply to conforming prisoners.

### Remission

A prisoner serving a term of more than one month may be granted remission, on the ground of his good conduct, up to one-half of his sentence. Remission may be lost as a disciplinary award, but it is possible for this to be restored after subsequent good behaviour.

Protesting prisoners lose one day's remission for each day they are in breach of Prison Rules. Some protesting prisoners who have subsequently abandoned the protest have had lost remission restored.

---

## Rules for protesting women prisoners at Armagh

AT ARMAGH, protest behaviour initially involved only refusal to work (clothing was not an issue as the prisoners already wear their own clothes); and there was little overt confrontation. In consequence the level of punishments imposed – in the form of loss of privileges – has been somewhat less than at Maze. The main differences from the protesting prisoners at the Maze have related to letters, which were not restricted, and association, which has been lost only during the evenings at weekends. The protesters also receive monthly clothing parcels, and since June 1980 have been offered a special monthly parcel but have refused to take advantage of














this. Until February 1980, the women took their statutory rights (which are the same as for men) and the privileges given; since then however they, like the male prisoners, have engaged in self deprivation.

### 'Clean' protesting prisoners

IN JANUARY 1981 some privileges were restored for those prisoners protesting by refusing to work or wear prison clothing, but who were not fouling their cells.

This means that such prisoners can have a monthly parcel containing reading material, fruit and toilet articles. Also available is an extra hour's exercise daily. Loss of remission has also been effectively halved i.e. one day is lost for each two on protest.

## TYPICAL WORKING DAY (MON.-FRI.) IN 'CONFORMING' MAZE H-BLOCK

- 7.30 am  Unlock, prisoners requests (e.g. welfare and medical matters) are taken by prison staff. Ablutions, bed making and cell cleaning.
- 8.15 am  Breakfast in dining room.
- 8.40 am  Movement to industrial and vocational training workshops commences (because of distances involved, and consequential security implications, most prisoners have to be bussed to and from work). A number of prisoners will take their visits during this, or the afternoon work period. Others may be attending education classes during the same periods.
- 12.15 pm  Prisoners return to H-blocks from workshops. They are locked briefly in their cells.
- 12.25 pm  Lunch in dining room.
- 1.00 p.m.  Exercise in open if weather permits, otherwise prisoners are allowed association in the dining room.
- 2.00 p.m.  Prisoners return to cells for numbers check.
- 2.05 pm  Return to workshops.
- 4.15 pm  Prisoners return to H-blocks from workshops. They are locked briefly in their cells.
- 4.30 pm  Tea in dining room.
- 5.00 p.m.  Prisoners return to their cells.
- 5.30 pm  Association in dining room, or handicraft room, or education room, or, if a prisoner prefers, in his own cell. In the summer months evening association may also be spent in the exercise yard.
- 8.30 p.m.  Prisoners locked up.

During Saturday and Sunday, and many public holidays, prison workshops are closed, although domestic duties in the prison continue. During the weekends sporting facilities – including two full sized games pitches and a fully equipped modern gym – are used by adult prisoners. During weekdays prisoners under 21 years are given priority in the use of these facilities, in accordance with Prison Rules. However, adult prisoners also have some use of the facilities during the week.