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OTTAWA - CANADA

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Min. des Affaires extérieures
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No. 53
(February 1973)

CANADA'S PENITENTIARY SYSTEM

(Prepared in the Canadian Penitentiary Service, Ottawa.)

Jurisdiction over the Canadian Penitentiary Service, which operates under the Penitentiary Act, belongs to the Solicitor General of Canada. The Service is responsible for all federal penal institutions and for the care and training of persons sentenced or committed to such institutions.

The Commissioner of Penitentiaries, under the direction of the Solicitor General, has control and management of the Service and all matters connected therewith. In the year ended March 31, 1972, the federal penitentiary system consisted of seven maximum-security institutions, nine medium-security, 12 minimum-security and 20 specialized institutions.

The maximum-security institutions receive inmates sentenced by the courts to imprisonment for terms of from two years to life. These are located at Dorchester, New Brunswick; Ville de Laval and Ste. Anne des Plaines, Quebec; Kingston and Millhaven, Ontario; Prince Albert, Saskatchewan; and New Westminster, British Columbia. The maximum-security institutions at Ste. Anne des Plaines and Millhaven were constructed as part of a plan to gradually abandon the St. Vincent de Paul and Kingston penitentiaries.

Location of institutions

The medium- and minimum-security institutions and the correctional camps receive inmates transferred from the maximum-security institutions on the basis of their suitability for special forms of training, including vocational training. The medium-security institutions are located as follows:

- the Springhill Institution at Springhill, Nova Scotia;
- the Federal Training Centre and the Leclerc Institution at Ville de Laval, Que.;
- the Cowansville Institution at Cowansville, Que.;
- the Collins Bay and Joyceville Institutions within a few miles of Kingston, Ont.;

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