

TERMINATION OF PAROLE

There are various ways in which parole may be terminated. We propose changes in the termination procedures to conform with the basic principles which we believe should govern in matters of parole. They affect termination by:

- expiry of sentence
- parole reduced and discharge from parole
- suspension
- revocation
- forfeiture

1) *Expiry of sentence.* In our opinion, this should be the most common form of parole termination. We consider the others, that is, suspension, revocation and forfeiture, as merely temporary stops in the process of completing sentences because, under the system which we propose, an offender who is returned to detention after spending some time on parole would become eligible again for both discretionary and minimum parole. Many such offenders may not be granted discretionary parole but most of them will eventually choose to take their minimum parole entitlement. This process would continue until the full sentence has been completed. Under the proposed system, there would be no parole termination for life sentences, indeterminate sentences of preventive detention, or for sufficiently long definite sentences. These sentences would only be terminated by the death of the offender.

2) *Parole reduced and discharge from parole.* The present parole authority now has the power to change parole conditions at any time, even to the extent of relieving the paroled inmate of all the terms and conditions of his parole agreement. Gradual reduction of the number of conditions usually takes place as the parolee progresses in social reintegration. After several months on parole, there is generally sufficient indication whether he can function on his own and no longer requires either frequent contacts with his parole supervisor or control by reporting to the police. The latter obligation can be lifted and visits to the parole officer can be spaced out. Other restrictions on his mobility, and those relating to employment, income, expenditures, ownership and operation of a motor vehicle, debts, etc., can be removed as the parolee demonstrates his readiness to meet his obligations without being specifically required to do so by parole conditions. This process of lifting parole restrictions is called "parole reduced" by the parole administration. Nevertheless, the parole authority retains and should continue to retain the power to suspend and revoke parole.

The National Parole Board is further authorized to grant discharge from parole under Section 10 (1) (d) of the *Parole Act*, which reads as follows:

grant discharge from parole to any paroled inmate, except an inmate on day parole or a paroled inmate who was sentenced to death or to imprisonment for life as a minimum punishment.