

notes, Steve, 3/20/93

In an effort to understand what is happening with the TF recommendations and Edgar's budget, I reviewed the Interim Report, the Final Report, and the budget. Here's some observations.

1. In the Interim Report, the TF named five work camps and Muddy Water, six sites that together would cage 1902 people, that should be opened, that were already constructed and that were scheduled to be opened. Note that since this was already happening, it was not a recommendation -- merely a notation of a fact that it was moving along.
2. Also in the interim report the TF recommended that the E. St Louis school be turned into a prison, a process that had already started pre-TF.
3. Note that item 1 contains 6 sites and these, when added to the E. St Louis school, produces the 7 sites that we would often speak about.
4. In the final report, the TF calls for 3 more cell-houses to be added on to existing prisons, for a total of 1,344 more cage-spaces. Note that this is the first time that the TF calls for the construction of new facilities. The projected cost of these spaces would be \$18 million.
5. Of course, also in the final report the TF also calls for the construction of a cu prison.
6. The budget is quite interesting. As far as I can see, the \$6 million to plan for the cu is not in the budget. But who knows.
7. Included in the budget is full funds to operate the five work camps and Muddy Waters discussed above. The budget says that these places will open between March and June of 1993. We should recall that although there is probably nothing that can be done here this is the addition 1902 more cages. Also in the budget is \$12.7 million to complete the E. St. Louis prison. The TF said that this would cost \$13 million.
8. Interestingly, the budget says that the requested budget "reflects a maintenance level budget and does not include any new beds in fiscal year 1994."
9. Then, however, on the next page \$18 million is in for the "construction of 672 additional beds." Note that 672 is exactly half of 1,344, noted in item 4 above -- and that the \$18 million is the same as noted in item 4 above.

10. Several things are rotten here. First, the budget is paying to open 1902 new cages and to start construction of 672 (or 1,344) more cages and yet that all somehow doesn't amount to "new beds in fiscal year 1994." Whatever one makes of such semantic bullshit, note the massive duplicity. In the budget is money for at least $1,902+672 = 2,574$ cages, but it's somehow reduced to nothing!

11. Note also that since the budget contains exactly the TF recommendation about these new cages and since these recs weren't issued until perhaps six months after the the preparation of the budget and certainly weren't released until after the budget was presented, this must mean that there was direct collusion between Valukas and Edgar. I see no other way in which this could have happeded. I would view this as the smoking gun to support the theory put forward by Joey and others that this has all been a set-up from te beginning.