

# Violence in Prison Is Cited by Seale

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By Stan Simon

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BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 23—A judge was told today that jailed Black Panther leader Bobby G. Seale set fire to a TV stand and broke furniture in his cell last month.

State Corrections Commissioner Ellis MacDougall said Seale was following an example outlined in his recently published book "Seize the Time." The book tells how to cause trouble in jails.

Charles R. Garry, representing the 34-year-old Panther national chairman, said Seale was misbehaving because of mistreatment by jail officials.

"Isn't it true that you are trying to see that he breaks down emotionally," Garry asked.

MacDougall was testifying in a suit brought by Seale and state Panther leader Ericka Huggins, who are awaiting trial on murder, kidnaping and conspiracy charges.

The two Panthers, appearing before U.S. District Judge Robert C. Zampano, claim their rights as persons presumed innocent are being violated. Major complaints focus on mail, reading matter, isolation and lawyer-client relationships.

MacDougall conceded that officials make no distinction in treatment between convicted persons and defendants awaiting trial.

Seale has been denied permission to see his own psychiatrist from San Francisco. MacDougall said, because of department regulations against

allowing prisoners to see their own physicians. "Suppose he prescribes medication and then goes back to San Francisco. We're totally responsible and liable for continuing medical treatment," MacDougall said.

The commissioner said he had decided against allowing the Black Panther Party newspaper into the jails because of "inflammatory" articles which would foment strife, strikes and revolt in the institutions. He cited a half dozen quotes from the Panther newspaper, including "The only good pig is a dead pig."

Although he indicated he tried to treat all prisoners alike, MacDougall said Seale and Mrs. Huggins were involved in "a major case" and

presented "an extreme danger" and therefore required stricter security measures. He said State's Attorney Arnold Markle, the prosecutor, had recommended isolation for Mrs. Huggins at the time of her arrest in May, 1969.

MacDougall said Markle played no role in running the jails. "We handle 32,000 prisoners a year. It's incumbent on me to consult with the arresting officials to determine the safety of the institutions and other inmates," he said.

Mrs. Huggins was released from administrative segregation and allowed to mingle with other prisoners for the first time last month, but Seale is still being segregated because of nine separate violations of regulations, MacDougall said.