

RE: DISTURBANCE AT LOWER MAINLAND REGIONAL CORRECTIONAL CENTRE  
(OAKALLA)

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Administrative & Community Services be adopted.

\* \* \* \* \*

1983 November 25

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER  
FROM: DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE & COMMUNITY SERVICES  
RE: DISTURBANCE AT LOWER MAINLAND REGIONAL  
CORRECTIONAL CENTRE (OAKALLA)

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

R E P O R T

I have reviewed with the Officer-In-Charge of the Burnaby Detachment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the Director Fire Services, the events surrounding the disturbance at the lower mainland Regional Correctional Centre (Oakalla) which occurred on 1983 November 22.

The Superintendent of the RCMP advises as follows:

"At approximately 1936 hours on 83/11/22, Burnaby Detachment received a call from L.M.R.C.C. (Oakalla) that a riot situation was under way in the West Wing of the Main Building. At this time, there were 164 inmates involved. Fires were set and prisoners were smashing up the wing. Prisoners were contained on 3 tiers of the West Wing. No hostages were taken, but inmates had barricaded themselves into the area. Initial response made by the on-duty watch members, which involved 15 members securing the perimeter of this wing, to keep inmates contained in the building.

After attendance, it was felt that the Tactical Troop and Emergency Response Team should be activated and this was done immediately. At 2130 hours, these teams arrived on scene and relieved the watch members, so that normal policing could be maintained. Routine calls were backed up for 2 hours, but after that routine calls were attended on a priority basis.

Burnaby Fire Department were in attendance as well as 2 Provincial Ambulances.

At 2330 hours, under the threat of gas use, inmates slowly began giving themselves up, until the last inmate was processed at 0200 hours. There were a few very minor injuries to inmates. No injuries to prison staff or police. Damage to L.M.R.C.C. estimated at \$250,000.00."

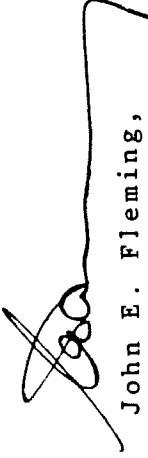
(2)

ITEM SUPPLEMENTARY  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 16  
72  
COUNCIL MEETING 1983 11 28

174

I am also advised by the Superintendent that the cost of off-duty personnel called in to attend at this disturbance will not be charged to the municipality.

The Director Fire Services advises that the normal Burnaby Fire Department response, i.e., two pumpers and one aerial vehicle, with the appropriate level of manpower, responded to the incident as well. Burnaby firefighting personnel were involved only in the suppression of the fires which resulted from the disturbance, and played no role in quelling the disturbance itself.



John E. Fleming,  
Director

JEF:gmc

cc: Officer-In-Charge - RCMP  
Director Fire Services