ALMP MEMBER FACES JURY TRIAL (continued from first page)

The hearing on August 13 further confirmed that there is no resemblance or connection between the idea of justice and the Delaware County court system. This time the hearing took place in Newtown Square before District Justice David Videon. At the start of the hearing, David Ferleger, Lenny's attorney, made a motion that the case be dismissed because it was clearly a case of double jeopardy--trying Lenny twice on the same charge. Videon refused Ferleger's motion.

The prosecutor's case was nearly identical to what it had been at the first hearing. Pennsylvania State Trooper Murphy and HSH Security cop Gillespie testified that Lenny was peacefully visiting with "patients", was not creating a disturbance and refused their orders to leave while stating he had a right to be there as an invited friend and advocate for the inmates he was speaking with.

For the defense, Geoffrey Shafer, an inmate at Haverford State Hospital, testified that Lenny was welcome as his guest and was quietly talking about inmates' rights with him and several other inmates. Lenny also testified in his own defense. He recounted the events surrounding his arrest and described some of the oppressive conditions at HSH that he felt necessitated his continuing to work with inmates as a member of the Alliance and as an advocate.

Despite this testimony, Videon decided that there was "probable cause" and that Lenny must stand trial in the Court of Common Pleas in Media, Pa. on Nov. 14, 1979. Lenny will be requesting a jury trial, to which he has a legal right since the charge of Defiant Criminal Trespass is a misdemeanor and carries a maximum sentence of one year in prison and a fine of up to $2500. He does not believe that any judge in Delaware County would give him a fair trial due to the politics and blatant conflict of interest surrounding his case.

Lenny will be defending himself at his trial in Media because of its political nature. He feels that the issues involved can best be expressed and exposed by himself, an ex-inmate and former legal worker at HSH. He is also planning to continue to retain David Ferleger to act as his co-counsel.

We feel that it is important to have a lot of people present at the trial on November 14 in order to fight against the further railroading of Lenny into prison by political forces of the state of Pennsylvania. We urge you to come to his trial, to continue to support our work as members of ALMP and to help us to put Haverford State Hospital on trial for their continued crimes against psychiatric inmates!

AN OFFICIAL CONSPIRACY? (continued from page 1)

You may draw your own conclusions from this set of circumstances. Ours are unavoidable, because although we have no desire at all to be made into martyrs, we also know that political strings are being pulled to our disadvantage. Halligan, who originally agitated to have Lenny fired from his advocacy job at Haverford for questioning Halligan's legal competence, is now certainly in a position to potentially influence a judicial decision which could land Lenny in jail. (Ah, sweet revenge!)

We ask for your active support in resisting this apparent collaboration at the highest levels of the Delaware County political establishment in attempting to silence us. Write letters to the news media, call Fong, Catania, and Halligan to let them know your thoughts on the situation, and most importantly of all, come to support us in the courtroom.

In other Haverford State Hospital-related news, the appeals hearing for three ALMP members who were fined $300 each for attempting to distribute literature to HSH inmates last spring has been postponed. We will let our readers know when a new date has been set. A fourth defendant, Lynn Sereda, has moved out of state and is no longer part of the case.

Also, the lawsuit filed against Haverford State by ALMP to prevent further harassment of Alliance members is still pending. We'll keep you informed of further developments as they occur.

'I want you blokes to look happy – the dungeon reform people are on their way here.'