

Prison Guards Assaulted

On Tuesday early in the morning an inmate here at ADX Florence the federal supermax used a homemade weapon to stab 3 correctional officers resulting in all 3 being briefly hospitalized. I don't know what motivated the inmate to do such a thing. I know it was wrong. And yet as I relayed the details from my radio in my cell to other prisoners on my tier a strange thing occurred, they clapped. Had anyone seen my face during the applause they'd have seen a grimace. Violence is never good or helpful even if it is directed at a group of fellow human beings responsible for at a minimum controlling your life or at most deliberately tormenting you. But this attitude of violence being justified is precisely what happens when there is no accountability administratively or otherwise for prison officials. Admittedly not all prison guards are bad, but when the bad ones enjoy the immunity of the good it is inevitable those they hold captive will resort to brutality justified or not. On all sides it's sad and I pray for peace and mutual understanding. I hope both sides can learn basic empathy.

- Jeremy Pinson

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