

is strike the \$3,506,000 and insert \$2,506,000. I have a following amendment which would halve that amount and call for one Quonset hut, but this is one just to cut the money because I need some time to talk about this. Before I start on my amendment, I want to make a comment about what Senator Wehrbein said about having one of the best run prisons in the country. The reason he has one of the best run prisons is because Nebraska has a higher caliber of prisoners. When you got good people in prison, you have a well-run prison, but the reason I want to cut this money that's going for these Quonset huts is because of what I see as underlying inequities in the system. There is racism, and I want to talk about crack and powder cocaine just for a second. I have said, and others have said, and it is true that the majority of defendants involved with crack cocaine are black. In Nebraska, 90 percent of the defendants charged with a crack cocaine violation, 90 percent are black, but here's what is not also told. The majority of crack users and sellers are white. The majority of crack users and sellers are white, yet 90 percent of those charged with a crack offense are black, and that's because of the disparity in the sentencing for crack cocaine and powder cocaine. So when you hear these white people running around here talking about more black people are in prison because they commit more of the crime, that's not true. More white people commit crack offenses than black people, but 90 percent of the crack defendants are black. I'm going to read something from an article, November 21st, 1995, from the Lincoln Journal Star, and the headline is "Judge Apologizes for Cocaine Sentences" and this is what it says, it's an AP article, a judge, who criticized federal sentencing guidelines in crack cocaine cases as unfair, apologized Monday to four men for having to resentence them to longer prison terms. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in 1994 that United States District Judge Strom could not give the men more lenient sentences as he did in July, 1993. Sentencing guidelines require tougher sentences for crack offenders than other types of cocaine offenders. Crack is a form of cocaine that is boiled and made into rocks, which are cheaper and generally easier for people to purchase than powder cocaine. Strom has said that the guidelines are discriminatory because more crack defendants are black. Statistics show that nine of ten crack defendants in Nebraska are black. All four men in court Monday were black. I am departing from the...or digressing from the article for a minute. Nine of the ten crack defendants in Nebraska are black, but a majority of the crack