



## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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### **Two Correctional Officers Hurt In Wednesday Incident May 4, 2000**

(Pierre) – Gov. Bill Janklow said two correctional officers were physically injured Wednesday night by a female juvenile inmate at the State Training School at Plankinton.

The 17-year-old girl recently was returned to the training school from the state Human Services Center at Yankton, where she had been under evaluation for potential mental health issues.

The 17-year-old and a 15-year-old girl ran out of their group house, known as Cottage A, and broke four windows on a nearby building. When a correctional officer tried to halt them, the 17-year-old punched the officer twice in the face. She severely bit the arm of a second correctional officer.

The girls were taken to Mitchell for a medical examination of the cuts they suffered while breaking the windows with their fists. On the return trip to Plankinton, the 17-year-old became disruptive again, kicking the second correctional officer in the face and bruising the officer.

During the incident at the training school, a third girl ran from Cottage A and climbed up the school's television antenna. That girl, also 17 years old, was talked down from the tower by staff members.

The windows were repaired and the tower was taken down Thursday morning. "The only damage that hasn't been repaired are to the officers who were assaulted," Janklow said.