

Mentally Retarded Patient, 12, Raped

By EMANUEL PERLMUTTER

A 35-year-old clothing clerk at the state institution for the mentally retarded at 75 Morton Street in Greenwich Village has been charged with raping a 12-year-old girl patient at the recently opened facility.

This was disclosed yesterday by William J. vanden Heuvel, former chairman of the City Board of Correction, who said that the incident had occurred last Thursday. He called for a grand jury investigation of the institution.

Mr. vanden Heuvel made the disclosure at a news conference in front of the mental retardation facility, which is known as the Sheridan Unit of the Manhattan Development Services. He is seeking the Democratic nomination for Manhattan District Attorney.

Doctor Confirms Charge

The alleged rape was confirmed by Dr. Merrill E. Calvin, director of the institution, which was opened last month and has 60 patients who were transferred from the Willowbrook State School on Staten Island. The facility is designed to serve as a half-way residential house for the patients until they can be placed back with their families.

Dr. Calvin said that the rape suspect, Robert O'Malley, had followed the young girl into a bathroom at breakfast

time and was sexually assaulting her when he was discovered by another employee.

The suspect was arrested and charged with first-degree rape and sexual abuse. He was arraigned Friday in Criminal Court and is free on bail pending a hearing on the charges. He has been discharged from his job.

Second Incident Cited

In calling for a grand jury investigation to ascertain whether there was any "misconduct, nonfeasance and neglect" in the administration of the school, Mr. vanden Heuvel said that another incident in-

volving an attempt to molest three female patients had taken place there about two weeks ago.

Dr. Calvin said that the other incident involved a community worker who was assigned to relocate the institution's patients in the community. He said that the suspect, a 25-year-old man, had gained access to the institution one night, had lured three young women patients to a doctor's office and was disrobing when apprehended by a nurse. He was arrested and charged with illegal entry into the building.