

Judge Weighs Legal Rap on Willowbrook

By ROBERT KAPPSTATTER

Brooklyn Federal Court Judge Orrin G. Judd will consider a request at a hearing July 13 to



Judge Orrin G. Judd

hold state officials in contempt for allegedly failing to follow his orders to make improvements at the Willowbrook State School for retarded youngsters.

He ordered an appearance of the New York Civil Liberties Union on behalf of parents of children at the school and on behalf of the New York State Association for Retarded Children.

The liberties union charged that the state had failed to implement three directives that were contained in an order handed down on April 12.

The portions in the order cited were directions to the state to provide a ratio of one ward attendant for every nine patients, to hire sufficient recreation personnel and to repair inoperable and broken toilets at the 4,200-patient facility on Staten Island.

On the Show-Cause

In seeking the show-cause order to hold the state officials in contempt, civil liberties union lawyer Bruce Ennis said in court papers that it was "our honest belief that defendants still do not understand, and have not adequately responded to, the urgency of the situation."

"We believe this court's orders are indeed necessary to protect Willowbrook residents from injury, harm and deterioration."

Named in the petition for a contempt citation were Gov. Rockefeller, Dr. Alan D. Miller, state mental hygiene commissioner, and Dr. Miodrag Ristich, director of Willowbrook.