

Bacon associate faces assault charge over pumpkin pie

By KIM BOLAN, VANCOUVER SUN October 15, 2010 7:46 AM

Bacon brothers' associate Albert Jackman of the Red Scorpion gang (right) is facing one count of assault in the incident, The Vancouver Sun has learned.

A Surrey pretrial prisoner who accused the Bacon brothers of hoarding Thanksgiving pumpkin pie received minor injuries in a beating Monday evening.

Bacon associate 2 of the Red Scorpion gang is facing one count of assault in the incident, The Vancouver Sun has learned.

Jackman, who is in jail awaiting trial for murder and aggravated assault, appeared in Surrey Provincial Court Wednesday on the new charge.

He is being held in the same unit as Jamie Bacon, who is awaiting trial in the Surrey Six case, and Jarrod Bacon, who is facing a conspiracy to import cocaine charge.

Surrey RCMP Const. Peter Neily confirmed Thursday that police were called to the pretrial jail about 7:30 p.m. Monday to investigate an assault.

“It had to do with a dispute over some issues between inmates there that resulted in an argument,” Neily said. “The accused then went back and it resulted in an assault against another prisoner.”

Neily said the RCMP gathered enough evidence at the scene to recommend that Crown lay an assault charge.

He wouldn't comment on what the evidence is, but the area where the dispute occurred has video surveillance, The Sun has confirmed.

Neily said the victim, identified on the indictment as Harjit Singh Gill, suffered “minor injuries.”

It was the second time in a month that Surrey pretrial staff had to call the RCMP in for assistance after an alleged fight involving gang members.

The Bacons and Jackman allegedly brawled with members of the United Nations gang, including de facto leader Barzan Tilli-Choli and his associate Karwan Saed, in a meeting room near the jail gymnasium Sept. 10.

Eight UN gangsters and associates are in jail awaiting trial for allegedly plotting to kill the Bacons and their Red Scorpion associates.

The September incident was also captured on video, but no charges were laid.

Neily said at the time that those involved in the fight told police it was “consensual.”

New Democratic Party public safety critic Mike Farnworth said Thursday that tensions are high in B.C. jails because of overcrowding and a prisoner population with an increasing number of gang members.

“There is overcrowding in all facilities and that has been a problem for quite some time and we will see more incidents of violence within our facilities,” Farnworth said.

“We need to make sure that we have the staffing levels that we require. We need to recognize that these are very tense situations and that has got to be addressed.”

He said BC Corrections should be releasing information about such incidents.

“They are being ignored and swept under the carpet,” Farnworth said.

“We are dealing with very violent gang members and when they engage in this conduct, they should be charged.”

BC Corrections spokeswoman Marnie Mayhew refused to confirm Thursday that a second fight in a month took place inside the pretrial centre.

“For privacy reasons, I cannot comment on specific incidents or allegations within our correctional centres. Anytime a complaint or allegation is made, it is fully investigated,” she said.

“I cannot speak about matters that are pending before the courts. I also cannot speak to specific security measures we have in place within our correctional centres.”