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Ananova :

Paedophile 'raped inmate at top-security jail'

A notorious paedophile is under investigation accused of raping a prisoner in the jail where he is serving two life sentences.

Sidney Cooke, 73, is alleged to have sexually assaulted a "very vulnerable" young prisoner at Whitemoor prison in Cambridgeshire.

The attack is said to have taken place last autumn and police say an allegation was reported to them by prison staff in December.

Nearly three years ago, Cooke was taken into custody for his own safety after being freed from jail where he was serving a sentence for the manslaughter of a 14-year-old boy.

A year later he was accused of abusing two young brothers he befriended while working on fairgrounds more than 30 years ago.

He admitted 10 offences against the youngsters during a hearing at Manchester Crown Court and was given two life sentences.

During the 1980s, Cooke led a gang which was suspected of being responsible for the killing of nine young boys during sex orgies.

The former farm worker and his fellow paedophiles were based in a flat in Hackney, east London.

They were suspected of hiring rent boys or snatching children off the streets before subjecting them to horrifying sexual torture.

Cooke was convicted of killing 14-year-old Jason Swift, from Hackney.

Story filed: 00:03 Sunday 6th January 2002

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