Attica Prison Retaken, 37 Slain: Convicts Kill Nine Hostages

By Stephen Isaacs; Washington Post Staff Writer

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## Kill Nine Hostages

## 29 Safe; Rocky Hits Militants, Orders Inquiry

By Stephen Isaacs Washington Post Staff Writer

ATTICA, N.Y., Sept. 13—Police and National Guard troops stormed Attica state prison today, regaining control after a bloody clash. The bodies of nine hostages slain by inmates and those of 28 convicts were found after the uprising was quelled.

Twenty-nine other hostages were freed as the four-day rebellion ended under the combined force of about 1,700 state police, sheriff's deputies, and National Guardsmen.

Several of the hostages had their throats slashed, according to a state spokesman. A spokesman for Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller claimed that some of the hostage guards had been killed hours before the all-out assault on a cell block. Rockefeller called them "cold-blooded killings" by revolutionary militants.

One surviving guard, Lynn Johnson, said each hostage was assigned an executioner. "My executioner was shot just be fore he could get to me," Johnson said.

Another hostage, Elmer Huehen, said his life was spared by a convict who, although assigned to kill him, whispered to him: "I don't have the heart to do it. I'm only going to prick you." Huehen said the prisoner nicked him enough to draw blood, then lay down on top of him so other convicts would not notice he was still alive.

Rockefeller and President Nixon twice talked on the telephone about the rebellion yesterday and the President expressed approval of Rockefeller's refusal to give in to the prisoners' demands for amnesty, the White House said.

The governor asserted in a statement:

"The tragedy was brought on by the highly organized revolutionary tactics of militants who rejected all efforts at a peaceful settlement . . . I have ordered a full investigation of all factors leading to this uprising, including the role that outside forces would appear to have played."

It was with Rockefeller's approval that State Corrections Commissioner Russell G. Oswald abandoned efforts to negotiate the hostages' release after nearly four days of trying and ordered the assault.

See ATTICA, A4, Col. 5

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## Erie County deputy sheriffs enter prison to relieve policemen and National Guard troops who quelled uprising

## Herman

V.Y.), a member of a group hat tried to negotiate a settlenent, said that he wished lockefeller had met with the committee before time ran ut. "Our position had been hat we wanted to meet with he governor . . . As far as I'm oncerned, there's always time o die but time to negotiate is ery precious." Badillo, Tom Vicker, associate editor of The New York Times, and two ther citizens committee repesentatives had tried to call lockefeller, but to no avail.

By last night, prison offi-ials had counted the living nd concluded that eight conicts were still missing. Waler Dunbar, executive deputy ommissioner of corrections, aid at first that the eight robably were hidden in a unnel. Later he said they vere either hidden or buried, perhaps done in by their felow inmates." Of the hostages ound dead, two had been lain before today and one of hem had been castrated, acording to officials.

There was no estimate to-ight as to how many prisonrs actually had been hurt, ut a medical aide guessed hat at least 100 were hurt ome so seriously they might ot survive. Nine prisoners taken hospitals ere o area

or surgery. Oswald had given the in-

iates a one-hour ultimatum surrender, but they re-ised. About 9 a.m., four or we hostages were taken to ne most visible point in the rison, a section called Times quare. Knives were placed t the hostages' throats in all view of the correctional uthorities, apparently prompt ng them to move up their

me table for the assault.
Oswald said that when the rst National Guard helicoper came into view, an innate started to cut the throat

f a hostage.

nat in the initial firing from the prison superintendent. he prison catwalk about eight r ten convicts were killed.

A state police sergeant said hat after officers rushed in he action was over in about

en minutes.

"When the helicopters came ver the prisoners just slit he throats of the hostages ave some of them by knock- "They will be fed a sandwich the

ents were arming themselves itd have made. As a matwith zipguns and knives made of fact some of the manded, was a "monstrosity."

in a prisoner-created work shald insisted that no filling underground tunnets were fired before the with electrically triggered test throat was cut.

plosives; power was shut of the invading troop to prevent them from setting were injured. One was off the charges.

A beliconter was sent deck when he was jumped catwalk are cell blocks A and

A helicopter was sent of when he was jumped one corner of the prison torang behind. Another was vert the prisoners' attention ded in the leg by a tearand then two larger ones flast canister and Dunbar did them three to a cell. The state over pouring several hundred know how the other two intends to move 160 prisoners canisters of tear gas onto the liniured. cell block held by the prisons reporters left the prison and to move several hundred

st right a guard at one door others on subsequent days.

Simultaneously, state police to put in your paper what and deputies stormed the put in your paper what some hours and deputies stormed the put in your paper what so newsmen touring the prison building and 20 minutes later you told for the put told for the put of the put told for the put t National Guardsmen moved in. you told 'em the truth." tear gas.

"Surrender peacefully, you will not be harmed." a loudspeaker blared as the tear gas was being pumped into the cell block. "Surrender the hostages. Surrender the hostages. Lie down on the ground and put your hands on your head."

It took several hours to regain complete control of the y prison. Within a few minutes. the first of the freed hostages stumbled drawn and tired li through the prison gates. All r looked haggard, but they had been given clean prison clothes W and a chance to wash and re shave.

Earlier, before the wave of the police rushed in, Oswald had had urged the inmates to reach a ir "peaceful resolution" of the conflict, to release all hostages and to "join with me in restoring order . . . I hope and pray of your answer will be affir W mative."

The riot originally stemmed from an altercation between a guard and an inmate and the A f a hostage.

A state trooper on a nearby grievance list to include a m series of wide-ranging deplayments and soving the inmate and their materials. illing the inmate and saving to all but two demands—com-th he guard's life. Dunbar said plete amnesty and removal of b

After the action, reporters be allowed to tour the prison were shown handmade w weapons collected by state u troopers. They included molotov cocktails, baseball bats, M homemade spears, swords and assorted clubs. Prisoners h hooted at the touring reporters p hey were holding," he said, ed water and said that they p Sharpshooters were able to had had none in 48 hours. it

When the first gunfire wasked later in the day if heard, state troopers at the dught he had made the ing to negotiate a settlement, front entrance to the prismall, Oswald said he did—the prism when the fighting began. When the first helishouted, "This is white powerd" previously killed hostages. Oswald said the decision of ptwo previously killed up and yelled, "murderers." storm the prism was made opers. "At that point, after he learned the insurerel was no other decision fusion as convicts had denoted the prism of the prism as convicts had denoted the prism of the prism of

catwalk are cell blocks A and C, which now house the pristo other institutions Tuesday