

Shotguns kill hostages, medical examiner finds

ATTICA, N.Y. - A medical examiner, contradicting the state's top penal officer, said Tuesday eight of the 10 hostages killed in the Attica state prison rebellion, died of gunshot wounds - not from slashed throats.

Edland said only one of the eight hostages showed any signs of neck wounds. He described one as a "small wound in back of the neck."

The gunshot wounds, he said, were caused by "various weapons, including rifles, pistols, and shotguns."

Edland said, "many were shot, I believe, from a fair distance. Some were shot five, 10 or 12 times."

Some 1,700 state troopers, National Guardsmen, and sheriff's deputies stormed the prison Monday with blazing guns to break up the five-day rebellion that claimed 41 lives - 10 hostages and 31 prisoners.

That same day, State Correction Commissioner Russell G. Oswald said eight hostages died "when their throats were slit."

Newsman asked Edland if any of the wounds on the hostages could have been inflicted by homemade zip guns. "None that I could find," he said.

Acknowledging he was not "totally familiar" with weapons, Edland said all fragments of bullets and buckshot were turned over to state police for identification and analysis.

Edland disclosed he received a telephone call Tuesday afternoon from Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller's office, but declined to give details of what was discussed.

The medical examiner's disclosures were in direct conflict with state correction officials who said they had witnesses who claimed they saw convicts slash throats of the hostages.

Edland identified the fragments as "buckshot and a large calibre missile."

"The hostages wore prison garb," Edland said. "The hands were bound and some appeared to have been beaten about the face."

Monday, Oswald stood on a ramp where some of the hostages died and put his hand to his throat and drew it across, showing the path a knife would take.

A ninth hostage died, Oswald said, when he was castrated and a tenth died of injuries after he was thrown out a window when the rioting broke out Thursday.

Oswald says he would storm prison again

NEW YORK - State Correction Commissioner Russell G. Oswald said Monday he was agonized over the decision to storm the Attica prison, but if it was necessary to do again, he would do it.

"If I had the choice, I would undoubtedly have to do the same thing again - regrettably," Oswald said. "It was a decision agonizingly made and now I have to live with it."

Police Monday stormed the prison which had been held by more than 1,000 prisoners since Thursday. At least 40 persons were killed and 29 hostages were released.

Oswald said he did everything in his power to reach a peaceful settlement at the prison, but realized it was to no avail when convicts paraded eight hostages into view with knives at their throats.

Oswald, in a statement released by Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller's office, said the decision to send in the troops was made "with extreme reluctance only after all peaceful solutions failed."

"To delay the action any longer would not only jeopardize innocent lives but would threaten the security of the entire correctional system in this state."

"Armed rebellion of this type we have faced threatened the destruction of our free society. We cannot permit that destruction to happen."

"It has been an agonizing decision."

Attica

Blacks say conditions cause riot

WASHINGTON - Three black house members said Tuesday the uprising at Attica prison in New York grew out of dehumanizing conditions which they said existed in prisons throughout the country.

Reps. Shirley Chisholm and Charles B. Rangel, both D-N.Y., and Ronald V. Dellums, D-Calif., said in a joint statement the need for prison reform "has been dramatically brought to our attention."

Noting they each had been involved in previous situations where hostages were held in prisons in New York City and at San Quentin in California, the three said there could be "no explanation or justification" given for taking of lives.

"When a system of penal institutions is created dehumanizes people to such an extent that life has no value within the prison, then surely this should shake the conscience of this nation to move towards the eradication of treatment that continues to perpetuate man's inhumanity to man."

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Farm leaders appeal for end of surcharge

WASHINGTON - Farm leaders appealed to President Nixon Tuesday for an early end to the import surcharge, and consumer advocate Ralph Nader urged Congress to junk Nixon's tax proposals in favor of a \$50 refund for each taxpayer.

Representatives of the five largest U.S. farmer organizations expressed concern over possible foreign retaliation against American food exports in a 9 minute meeting with the President at the White House.

Nixon told his visitors, the latest in a series of groups he is consulting about plans for the period after the wage-price freeze expires Nov. 13, the 10 percent surcharge on imports was only temporary and was designed for the long-term benefit of the farm-er.

Nader told the House Ways and Means Committee the President's program would "make 1971 the year of the greatest business tax cut in our history" featuring a 10 per cent investment tax credit.

Nixon's provision for \$2.2 billion in individual tax cuts, he said, would benefit those in higher income brackets than small wage earners and "are a poor mask for the administration's attempt to permanently cut corporate taxes by 20 percent."

Nixon rejects request to direct talks with Ky

WASHINGTON - The White House has rejected an attempt by South Vietnamese Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky to establish a private, direct channel to President Nixon through his foreign policy adviser, Henry Kissinger.

Officials disclosed this Tuesday and said no reply of any kind was made to Ky to impress him the United States did not want to bypass the regular governmental channels of communication with Saigon.

According to the story U.S. officials tell, Dang Duc Khoi, who has served as Ky's agent for years, arrived at the White

House last week to deliver a message to Kissinger.

The message explained Ky's reasons for withdrawing from the Vietnamese presidential election Oct. 3 and urged the United States to keep close watch on developments in Saigon and the rest of the country during the campaign and the voting.

Ky asserted he pulled out of the contest with incumbent Nguyen Van Thieu because he felt the race was rigged in Thieu's favor.

Officer says Medina not at My Lai

FT. McPHERSON, Ga. - An army officer testified Tuesday that Lt. William L. Calley Jr. told him Capt. Ernest L. Medina was surprised to learn of the killing of villagers at My Lai.

Capt. Robert L. Hicks testified - with the jury in Medina's murder court-martial absent - Calley "mentioned My Lai" in a conversation in 1968.

Hicks said Calley, the only soldier so far convicted in the My Lai massacre, told him he led a platoon into the South Vietnamese village and "the people all

came out and started to cheer." Calley told him the cheers subsided, he said, when the American troops opened fire. Hicks said Calley related the experience "like a war story - like he was bragging, so to speak."

Calley told him Medina was with another platoon and was not in My Lai during the assault, Hicks said, and when the captain learned of the killings "he was certainly surprised."

Hicks, stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., testified with the jury absent after the prosecution objected his statements were hearsay, Medina's lawyer, F. Lee Bailey, countered that Hicks' testimony would be the best evidence available since Calley has refused to testify.

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Terrorists threaten McGovern

SAIGON - Terrorists fire bombed a church where U.S. Sen. George McGovern was meeting with religious leaders Tuesday night and sent rocks crashing through the windows when the group raced into hallways to avoid flames only a few feet from their foyer meeting place.

No one in the group of about 20, which included four McGovern aides and Buddhist leaders was hurt. The flames engulfed eight motor vehicles outside the church. McGovern said two fire bombs ignited. Two others that had not exploded were found later.

After tossing the Molotov cocktails - gasoline-filled bottles with wicks - and the rocks, the attackers made no attempt to enter the church, the South Dakota Democratic senator said. He is on a three-day fact-finding mission to Vietnam.

The incident climaxed five days of anti-American fire bombings. Four U.S. vehicles were hit Tuesday, three of them by fire-bombing terrorists on motorbikes after darkness fell. Military spokesmen said no injuries were reported in the night attacks.

Egypt must make move

A top Israeli Foreign Ministry source said Tuesday Israel has exhausted its options for settlement and, if there is to be peace in the Middle East, Egypt must make the next move.

The source in Tel Aviv was responding to reports from Jerusalem that Foreign Minister Abba Eban had submitted to the Israeli cabinet a new plan for a Middle East settlement that would be presented at the United Nations General Assembly session, opening later this month in New York.

The source said Israel would not present any new proposals and Eban will merely outline to the assembly Israel's previously stated position and plan for a Middle East settlement.

"What new options could we possibly produce?" he asked. "We have, in our view, produced everything that it is possible to produce. We have put forward our proposals, including a partial withdrawal from the Suez Canal. This is to us a major concession."

"Surely, it is up to the Egyptians now to reply to what we have put forward. The ball, as far as we are concerned, is right back in their court," he said.

In Cairo, the semi-official Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram also commented Tuesday on the reports of a possible new Israeli peace plan and said the Arab nations would reject it.

Health costs still spiraling

WASHINGTON - The chairman of President Nixon's new Committee on Health Education said Tuesday "the country could go bankrupt" if the fast-growing cost of health care was not halted.

The most effective way to stop the price spiral is to educate the public better to take care of themselves. Joseph Wilson, chairman of the Xerox Corp., told reporters after the committee met for about an hour with the President.

He asked the group to try to increase public awareness of the things people can do to keep themselves healthy.

Funds for the committee's operations will be raised by private contributions.

South Vietnamese hamlet - was a "fine commander."

"He was extremely professional and had the complete respect of his troops," Hicks said.

Bailey asked President Nixon in a letter to alter military rules governing trials to permit the use of a lie detector test as evidence in Medina's court-martial.

Bailey noted Nixon himself once spoke out in favor of the use of lie detector examinations and attested to their reliability in the Alger Hiss case.

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