

Medical Examiner Quoted

ATTICA GUN DEATHS 'CONFIRMED'

ATTICA, N.Y. (AP) — New autopsies confirmed that all hostages killed at Attica state prison died of gunshot wounds, the New York Post said today.

In a dispatch from Attica the newspaper quoted Dr. Michael Baden, acting chief medical examiner of New York City, as saying, "The deaths had been properly diagnosed as shootings."

Baden, working with Dr. Henry Siegel of Westchester County, was called to the prison when disputes arose over causes of death.

An undertaker signed a sworn statement saying that he had been unable

to find a bullet wound in guard Richard Lewis.

According to the Post, Baden said, "I did a complete reautopsy on Mr. Lewis and we found it (the bullet hole) to the satisfaction of everyone."

The two men: 3rd graf

The two were called in by state officials hoping to help clear up confusion over how the inmates and hostages died in the four-day rebellion. It ended Monday when the prison was stormed by about 1,000 heavily armed state troopers, sheriff's deputies, prison guards and National Guard troops.

THE DEAD included 10 prison em-

ployes and 32 inmates. Scores more were injured.

Meanwhile, in Washington, Congress began a probe of the riot and bloody suppression of it amid calls for prison reform and criminal investigations.

The House Select Committee on Crime announced that Chairman Claude Pepper, D-Fla., and three other committee members would meet with Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller tomorrow morning in New York City and then travel to Attica.

As part of the widening inquiry into

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ports, rumors and facts" and passed along to the press by some "unauthorized" persons.

More confusion surfaced yesterday when funeral director James F. Smith examined the body of guard Richard Lewis and signed a sworn statement saying, "There are no visible bullet wounds."

Dr. John F. Edland, the Monroe County coroner, had said his autopsies on the bodies of Lewis and seven other hostages had shown that all eight died of gunshot wounds. He said none had died of a slashed throat, as reported earlier by prison officials.

A ninth hostage died in St. Jerome's Hospital in Batavia of what doctors said were gunshot wounds.

the carnage, Rockefeller planned to meet today with state legislative leaders in Albany. The governor has taken "full responsibility" for the way the insurrection was put down, and the White House has said President Nixon was "not going to second-guess him."

One guard's burial was postponed at the last moment yesterday after a funeral director disputed a coroner's report that the officer had been killed by gunfire. The burial today of a second guard, Carl Valone, also said to have died from gunshot wounds, was permitted to take place.

The coroner's report had said the guard and seven other hostages had been killed by gunshot wounds. The coroner's office stood firm on its findings today.

Earlier official reports, later acknowledged by the state correction commissioner as "mis-statements,"

had said some of the hostages had died of slit throats.

IN ANOTHER development, a physician who examined inmates yesterday said more than 160 prisoners claimed to have been beaten when led back to their cells Monday.

A copyright story in today's editions of the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle attributed the report to Dr. Lionel A. Sifontes, 36, of Buffalo, who served on a seven-man medical team that examined more than 500 inmates.

The pathologists examined the bodies of 19 convicts in Rochester last night and ordered them held at the Monroe County medical examiner's office. No findings were announced immediately.

Meanwhile, unrest grew yesterday among both inmates and guards at other state prisons. At Clinton State Prison, in northeastern New York, officials used tear gas on six inmates who resisted being transferred from one cell block to another.

AT GREEN Meadow prison near Glens Falls, a group of inmates threw bottles and burning rags in a four-hour disturbance.

Five guards resigned in two days at Auburn State Prison in central New York.

State Corrections Commissioner Russell G. Oswald had admitted that there had been some "erroneous reporting" by officials about what had taken place when the insurrection was put down.

HE SAID reports of mutilations and atrocities against hostages held by the inmates had been assembled from "re-