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PROTESTS MOUNT, PRAYERS OFFERED

Jersey Prisoners Get Time
to 'Respect the Dead'

By JOHN DARNTON

Inmates at Trenton and Rahway State Prisons in New Jersey were given time out from their work so they could show their "respect for the dead" at Attica. A group of 15 persons held an interfaith prayer service outside Governor Rockefeller's office on West 55th Street. One thousand persons gathered for a three-hour memorial service in Buffalo.

Thus, reverberations from the seizure and storming of the Attica Correctional Facility continued yesterday, four days after the recapture of the upstate prison.

There were more calls for more investigations, and more statements from public officials expressing sadness, support and anger.

"This nation has always acknowledged and acted upon the expendability of human life," said the Rev. William A. Jones, chairman of the New York chapter of Operation Breadbasket, addressing black businessmen at the Belmont Plaza Hotel. "Attica is nothing more than a logical extension of that damnable ethic," he said.

A 'Pearl Harbor'

"Let us make Attica our rallying cry; let us make Attica mean to us what Pearl Harbor means to this country," said William L. Gaiter of FBUILD, a coalition of black organizations in Buffalo.

Mr. Gaiter was addressing a eulogy service for those killed at Attica, held in a Buffalo playground adjoining War Memorial Stadium, in the heart of the Negro community. The service was ended at 2 P.M. to allow the participants, most of them blacks, to attend the funeral of Willie West Jr., one of the slain prisoners.

"We have expressed our willingness to shoot and to kill. For this we ask repentance," said Rabbi Balfour Brickner of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, during the quiet prayer service outside the Governor's office.

The New York State Coalition on Prison Reform, which was formed in reaction to the events at Attica, sent a telegram to the Governor and other persons, asking for implementation of the 28 demands made by the rebelling prisoners and for reinstatement of the Attica negotiating committee to oversee the reforms.

Dioceses Join in Appeal

A similar request, with an additional proposal to facilitate public expression of prisoners' grievances, was issued in a joint statement from the Catholic and Episcopal Dioceses of Rochester. It will be read from the pulpits of 220 upstate churches this weekend.

The Harlem office of the Congress of Racial Equality called upon Governor Rockefeller to dismiss Correction Commissioner Russell G. Oswald and take steps to bring him to trial for "multiple homicide."

The Governor's refusal to negotiate with the prisoners, and his sanctioning of the assault on the prison were condemned in statements from the faculty of the State University College at Old Westbury and the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Greater New York.