

24 Sep 71

from Jack Anderson column:

### **PRISON CONDITIONS**

The Attica prison tragedy has led to a flood of stories about prison conditions, which Jack Anderson began citing almost a year ago. As early as October 1970, Anderson sent his associate Les Whitten into Raiford Prison in Florida.

Whitten reported that prisoners lived in a "chamber of horrors." In February 1971, Anderson reported that Raiford prisoners were fired on by guards as they sat passively on the athletic field.

Raiford Director Louie Wainwright denied Anderson's charges, but the FBI and state officials began an investigation.

On Sept. 20, as a result of the investigation, former Raiford warden Don R. Hassfurther was demoted and Capt. Kenneth Johns was fired. A third official, Assistant Superintendent Robert Turner, resigned under fire. Anderson has also reported on shocking conditions at Chillicothe, Ohio, and other prisons. Anderson's stories, incidentally, brought in hundreds of letters from inmates.