

# State Trooper Indicted For Attica Role

Warsaw, N.Y.

A special grand jury investigating the 1971 Attica prison rebellion indicted a state trooper yesterday for his role in quelling the inmate revolt that claimed 43 lives.

Trooper Gregory Wildridge is the first law enforcement officer to be indicted in the four-year-old investigation of the uprising.

Wildridge was indicted for, first-class reckless endangerment, a felony which carries a prison term of up to seven years.

New York's penal code describes "reckless endangerment" as "evincing a depraved indifference to human life."

A special county grand jury indicted 62 inmates accused of various crimes during the five-day revolt.

Wildridge acknowledged his identity but otherwise remained silent when arraigned before Judge Carman Ball.

Following the brief arraignment, Patrick Carroll, the State Police Benevolent Association's president, said in a statement:

"This is a class A example of politically oriented prosecutors wearing down a grand jury to get an unwarranted indictment.

"It is clean from the facts that the prosecutors have hounded the grand jury for 2½ years simply to obtain an indictment against a New York state trooper. I believe this is a travesty of justice to indict a trooper who was risking his life to quell a prison riot."

*Associated Press*