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3 Guards, 3 Cons Slain In Quentin Break Try

By Larry D. Hatfield and Sam Blumenfeld

Three guards and three convicts, including George Jackson, one of the three Soledad Brothers, were shot and killed and three other officers were reported seriously wounded yesterday in one of the worst escape attempts in San Quentin Prison's history.

The break at 3:10 p.m. involved weapons smuggled into the prison aboard a tourist bus, according to initial and unconfirmed reports.

Prison officials would not immediately disclose details or identification of the fatal victims in the break, which started in the maximum security area and spilled over into the prison compound.

The three wounded correctional officers, all stabbed or slashed in the throat, were identified as Charles Breckenridge, 21; Sgt. Kenneth McCray, 39, and Urbano Rubiac, 24. All were at Marin General Hospital, where they had been rushed by some of

the many ambulances called to the scene.

There were still no details on how many others — guards or inmates — were wounded when the prison reported the situation was under control at about 5 p.m.



GEORGE JACKSON
Killed in outbreak

The break, initially described only as "serious trouble" by a prison spokesman, sent hundreds of California highway patrolmen, sheriff's deputies and San Rafael city police to the scene.

Roadblocks

Roadblocks were immediately set up on all major and side roads in the area when it was reported that some of the inmates had gotten outside the prison.

Jackson, brother of the young gun smuggler killed in last year's Marin County shootout, became notorious after a white prison guard was killed at Soledad Prison last year.

The first correctional officer killed at San Quentin in 19 years was Leo G. Davis, stabbed to death last month while on special duty in the

prison hospital guarding an inmate who was a key witness in the Soledad Brothers' trial.

Several convicts were knifed in isolated incidents in the past few weeks. Two weeks ago one inmate was killed while watching television.

Only last week prison officials warned of a return to "tough, old-fashioned correctional practices" after officer Robert Laurie, 24, was stabbed in the stomach in the east cell block.

The prison's warning of a "tough" policy followed a strike by some 500 prisoners in the difficult east and south cell blocks. The inmates demanded, among other things, permission to wear mustaches and hair longer, better meals and "an end to all

forms of custodial harassment and racial intimidation."

Three black convicts — two from San Francisco — were stabbed at the prison on March 13, bringing racial knifings for the week to 12 and causing the locking up of all 3250 inmates.

Jackson was referred to the California Youth Authority at age 15 for armed burglary. At 18, he was committed to Soledad for conviction on a Bakersfield robbery. His sentence was changed to a life term when he engaged in a prison fight with a guard.

Security at the Marin County Hall of Justice, where Angela Davis is held prisoner, was beefed up immediately when officials were alerted to the San Quentin uproar.