



**WEAPONS HELD BY ATTICA REBELS IN RECENT UPRISING**  
Photo released by police shows clubs, knives amassed by inmates

—UPI Photo

Yesterday Rockefeller said he believed the "hostages who died of gun wounds were caught in crossfire" when authorities stormed the captive prison cell block Monday.

He said the crossfire resulted when attacking police forces converged from four sides on the prison yard. He added that the prisoners did not have guns.

As the controversy over Monday's violent end to the rebellion continued, this western New York village and surrounding communities prepared to hold funerals today for six more victims.

The interment of two other hostages for whom funerals have been conducted has been delayed pending a further examination of the bodies.

#### Services Held

Three prison chaplains conducted a candlelight service outside the institution's

## Congress Moves In

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# Attica Probe Starts

Examiner News Services

**ATTICA (N.Y.)** — A Congressional committee opened an investigation today into the Attica State Prison riot. Four doctors said inmates told them several convicts were shot as they lay on the ground or tried to flee as authorities retook the prison to end the five-day uprising.

Rep. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.), chairman of the House Select Committee on Crime, said, "We are here to find out facts, not to condemn anybody."

"Our primary concern," Pepper said, "is what lessons are to be learned from this tragedy that will help us prevent its recurrence . . ."

#### Beatings Charged

The doctors said inmates told them the assault troops "seemed to be selecting ring-leaders" as they regained control of the facility. The doctors said they spoke to about 1500 convicts Wednesday and yesterday.

They said many of the inmates complained of being clubbed with nightsticks and guns Monday immediately after the recapture of the prison. Many prisoners had bruises all over their bodies to support their claims, the doctors said.

Lawyers began initial interviewing of prisoners during the day in four rooms set aside for them within the prison. At one point, 11 attor-

neys were waiting outside the gates to be admitted.

They include members of ACLU, the Legal Aid Society, the National Lawyers Guild and the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

#### Another Story

A five-member panel of high-ranking judges picked by Rockefeller will meet tomorrow to select a committee of citizens to make another study.

main gates last night for the 10 employees.

Rockefeller declared that under the circumstances, it was "extraordinary" that another 28 hostages were saved.

He said the hostages all were dressed in inmate clothing and the 1000 attacking forces had difficulty distinguishing them from convicts due to clouds of tear gas.

Several reports of brutality against convicts after the riot also began to emerge.

In a copyright story the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle quoted four doctors who examined 1000 inmates as saying they were told that police shot some prisoners who were lying on the ground, unresisting, during Monday's assault.

Rockefeller told newsmen the deaths of the hostages by police gunfire was "justifiable homicide" in a moral sense.