

3 Inmates Slain by Slashing at Attica Are Identified

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ATTICA, N. Y., Sept. 20—All three inmates whose throats were slashed a day or two before the police retook the Attica Correctional Facility were officially identified today. According to various morticians and medical personnel who saw the bodies, all three were white.

The vast majority of the Attica inmates are black, as were the principal leaders of the uprising, in which 10 guards and prison employes and 30 prisoners died. But a number of observers, lawyers and legislators who have entered the prison have reported that there appeared to be little racial antagonism among the inmates.

Correction officials have said that the three slashed prisoners were probably killed by fellow prisoners since their times of death as established by medical examiners occurred after Sept. 9 and before Sept. 13, the period during which inmates held control of a section of the huge prison.

Queens Man Slain

The identities of the three slain prisoners, obtained from a funeral director and from a spokesman for Dr. John F. Edland, Monroe County Medical Examiner, were as follows:

¶Barry Jay Schwartz of Queens, serving 10 to 20 years for first-degree manslaughter and five to 10 years for third-degree attempted robbery.

¶Michael Privitera of Buffalo, serving 25 years to life for first-degree murder.

¶Kenneth Hess of Binghamton, N. Y., serving four years for third-degree grand larceny.

Schwartz and Privitera were identified by a spokesman for Dr. Edland as having died of slashed throats, but he declined to say whether they were white or black. The statement that Privitera was

white came from the Amigone Funeral Home in Buffalo, which is making funeral arrangements. Schwartz's race was confirmed by medical personnel who asked that their names not be used.

Hess's identity and race were made public by Herman Yarbrough, funeral director of the Weeks Funeral Home in Warsaw N. Y., which received the body from the morgue and sent it on to a funeral home in Endicott, N. Y., for burial.

Mutilation Is Reported

"I've never seen a body so mutilated," Mr. Yarbrough said. "It was all cut up."

Dr. Michael Baden, deputy chief medical examiner for New York City, had said yesterday that each of the three—whose names and races he refused to divulge—had died of a slashed throat and more than 20 stab wounds. He said they had not been castrated or dismembered. He placed the times of death at "a day or two" before the police assault.

The motives and precise circumstances surrounding the three slayings are unclear.

One prison official who said he knew Schwartz described him as a "prissy fellow" who was probably a homosexual. He was termed politically conservative and antiblack. He was said to have been meticulous about the condition of his cell and fond of flowers he was raising in a garden on the prison grounds.

A guard who recently retired said he remembered Privitera as "a tough egg" who ran a sort of underground gambling syndicate inside the prison. Inmates would bet on baseball and football games, the guard said, and play poker with dominoes.

Cigarettes were the form of payment, according to the guard. "I've seen Privitera with a footlocker with loads of ciga-

rettes," the guard recalled. "They'd be passing cigarettes back and forth, they'd be so damn dried out they were like dust."

The guard said that Hess was Privitera's lieutenant, and together they wielded great power within the prison walls.

27 Inmates Shot

Of the 40 men killed during the rebellion in the prison, 30 prisoners and 10 hostages died, 27 of the inmates and nine of the hostages of gunshot wounds suffered during the police assault on the prison a week ago. One guard died two days before

the assault of head injuries allegedly inflicted by inmates during the takeover.

According to information provided last week by the Department of Correction, Schwartz had a previous record of six convictions beginning in 1965 with a 60-day sentence for leaving the scene of an accident. Others included petit larceny, attempted burglary, disorderly conduct, violation of probation and unlawful entry.

Privitera had seven prior convictions, two assault convictions and a three-year sentence for resisting arrest and assault on a police officer.