

Attica Inmates Describe

By FRED FERRETTI

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STORMVILLE, N.Y. — The inmates of Attica, transferred to the Green Haven Correctional Facility here, told today from their jail cells how it was in the yard of Attica's cellblock D before, during and after the police assault on the prison eight days ago.

They told of beatings and killings by invading state troopers; of rescues of guards by inmates; of being caught in the panic of the initial uprising; of becoming part of the loosely organized prisoners' government in the captured cellblock; of their five-day isolation since being transferred here last Wednesday and Thursday.

The men, confined to third-tier cells in the A cellblock here, spoke to State Sen. John R. Dunne, one of the observers at Attica and chairman of the Senate Committee on Crime and Correction; and to two reporters who were per-

mitted free access to the prisoners.

What Dunne turns up, such as today's allegations, he said, will be reported to his committee, scheduled to meet Friday. He has said that he will hold public hearings, and intends to use his subpoena power to have corrections officials, guards and inmates appear before the committee.

THOSE WHO spoke showed some effects of the Attica siege. Some had torn and dirty clothing. Others complained of not being treated for injuries sustained in the assault. Shoes, cracked with moisture and caked with mud lay about the cells. The men, in their cells since last Wednesday and Thursday when they were bussed in from Attica, are eating, but have not had exercise, access to radios or newspapers or any other reading matter.

Robert Nartowicz, 37, who

has been assigned number 17055, said he was in Attica's D cellblock in the aftermath of the police assault, when state troopers were rounding up the rebellious inmates.

"A guy I saw around the yard, he's walking toward the wall. There's a trooper on the wall. The guy's got his hands on his head like the helicopter said, and he walking at the trooper. He's surrendering. The trooper shoots him in the chest with a shotgun."

NARTOWICZ SAID the wall he referred to was the low wall separating the sections of the Attica yard. Troopers had climbed the wall with ladders in the initial assault. Asked how he knew the man doing the shooting was a trooper, he

said, "He had the orange raincoat on, and the helmet."

Had he seen anyone else shot?

"I sat next to one that was dying. He said he was shot in the back. The whole thing . . . you don't expect it, you know, lots of guns going off all over the place."

A black inmate said he was bewildered by the Attica takeover and its aftermath.

"I CAN'T TELL you much," he said. "I been locked in here since we moved away from that show. We're not allowed out. I was in a block about ready to go to my Dale Carnegie course. It was interrupted. I never got there."

The convicts were part of

STATES-ITEM

NEW ORLEANS

SEVEN

Horrors of Cellblock D

the 220 Attica inmates already sent in six buses to Green Haven. According to superintendent Zelker, another 120 are expected and "it will fill us up." Green Haven has a population of 2,132 inmates, and with the influx of Attica refugees has had to reopen an abandoned cellblock which had formerly housed a narcotics program.

Another inmate, a white man, who kept wringing his hands nervously, and who asked that he be spoken to off to the side of his cell away from his next door neighbor, said that he had been in the laundry when the Attica revolt began.

"THEY BUSTED in. I was

able to get four officers and a civilian out in the elevator. I think they seen me. I told the guards and they kept me in segregation. Then they brought me here. I'm staying in my cell until I get out in 14 days. They already measured me for my suit." He asked that his name not be used "because they'll get me."

A man on his cot leaned up on an elbow. His other arm, the right one, was heavily bandaged around the bicep. He had been struck with a rifle butt, he said, but "I'm okay." He asked if anyone knew about some of the main figures in the Attica revolt. He wanted to know "how Herbie was?" "Herbie" is believed to be Herbert Blyden,

one of the inmate leaders.

"How about Jerry the Jew? You haven't heard? Big Black Frank Smith? Don't you know nothing? How about Champ?" He was told that "Champ" is reportedly alive. "Beautiful!" he said. "L.D.? I know he's dead. How do we know? We just know. We know."

RESENTMENT against the

prisoners talking to Dunne and to reporters came from some guards. One of these, Wallace E. Oldham, said that "You guys are making super-heroes of the prisoners."

"We're the bad guys. We're not allowed to do a job, with the Supreme Court and all. They're the heroes and we're the murdering pigs."