

4 Bar Groups Give Legal Aid to Inmates at Attica

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By FRED FERRETTI

Four city and state bar associations have appointed a committee to assign lawyers to the inmates of the Attica Correctional Facility who want to press civil suits against the state.

The committee's formation was announced yesterday by Jacob D. Fuchsberg, former president of the American Trial Lawyers Association, who said the "unprecedented" joint action of the four bar associations had come as a result of a request for assistance from the Legal Aid Society.

Mr. Fuchsberg estimated that about 200 Attica inmates would require services from these appointed lawyers, who will, he said, take cases without agreements on fees, "though their tort claims may turn out to be fee-generating matters." By this he meant, he said, cases in which damages might be awarded.

Earlier yesterday, Bobby G. Seale, chairman of the Black Panther party, announced that President Nixon and Governor Rockefeller would be tried by a "people's court" for the "murder" of the 43 hostages and inmates who died as a result of the Attica uprising, which began Sept. 9.

4 Are Named

Standing in front of 30 Rockefeller Plaza, Mr. Seale delivered an "indictment" of the President, the Governor, Russell G. Oswald, State Correction Commissioner, and Vincent R. Mancusi, superintendent of Attica.

The "trial" will take place Sunday, he said, at the St. George Hotel in Brooklyn.

Mr. Seale was an original member of the civilian observer committee at Attica. After one visit to the rebellious inmates, however, he refused to return because, he said that to join the negotiations would be a betrayal of the prisoners. Yesterday Mr. Seale said that his

party's attorney, Charles Garry, would be the "people's prosecutor" at the trial.

The four bar associations that will participate in inmates' suits at Attica are the Association of the Bar of the City of New York; the New York County Lawyers Association, the New York State Trial Lawyers Association and the New York State Bar Association.

The request for their assist-

ance came from Edward Q. Carr Jr., chief attorney for the Legal Aid Society, who reported that statements taken from Attica inmates by society lawyers immediately after the law enforcement assault that retook Attica on Sept. 13 indicated that a "substantial" number of inmates said that they had been severely injured as a result of the actions of state troopers.