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Captors 'Perfect Gentlemen' Warden Says

By RICHARD J. H. JOHNSON Special to The New York Times

RAHWAY, N. J., Nov. 26-U. Samuel Vukcevich, the 43year-old superintendent of the New Jersey state prison at Woodbridge Township near here, which was shaken by a 24-hour prisoner revolt that ended last night, said today that the three inmates who guarded him in a cell after he was injured "were, if anything, nothing but perfect gentlemen."

In an interview here this morning in the hospital where he is being treated for stab wounds of the back and pelvis, Mr. Mr. Vukcevich remarked that his resolve broke only once as he lay on the floor of the cell guarded by the prisoners awaiting the outcome of the confrontation between the inmates and the authorities.

"They made sure I had food," he said. "I ate with them and they shared their cigarettes with me. I quit smoking eight years ago, but I sure started again then," he said.

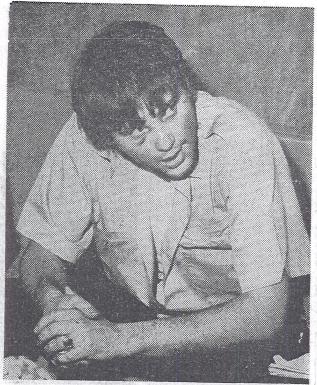
As a number of guards who had not been made hostage had noted in conversations outside the 1,143-inmate maximum-security facility, the warden said he was convinced throughout his ordeal that "there was no real leadership" in the rebellion.

Revolt Followed Movie

It began Wednesday night near the closing of the showing of a film attended by an estimated 500 inmates in the auditorium of the prison. A prisoner reportedly leaped to the stage and invited others to scopic blur of shouts and move- they were held and brought to the ordeal began for the warden and five of his guards who ware spized as hostages

"Sometime after 9 o'clock," the superintendent recalled this morning, he was "advised of a removed his sutures."

morning, he was "advised of a removed his sutures." "I went into the auditorium." "I went into the auditorium." The warden was unable to and was grabbed around the appeared with the equipment and was grabbed around the appeared with the equipment and knocked to the ground," he remembered. "I was kicked in the side and punched in the back," but he said, he was not aware as to when he suffered the stab wounds. Several prisoners were said to have charged today in a morning. The warden was unable to into the equipment the equipment than against inmates in the re-the and the skill to apply surgical counting of personal experi-ground, the side and punched in the back," but he said, he was not aware as to when he suffered the stab wounds. Several prisoners were said to have charged today in a morning. The warden was unable to in the cell"—he was held for nearly 12 hours—"were gentle-men. The extremists were kept when we charged to the stab



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Kenneth Koetsier of Toms River, N. J., 23, one of guards held hostage, in Rahway Hospital after release Thursday.

communication to the authori-it was the biggest group that stabbed by an excited guard it," he declared. who seized a sharp instrument from an inmate.

ties that the warden had been didn't want anything to do with

When a truce was reached He was dragged off to a cell, rom an inmate. Following the initial assault, and Anthony Piscatelli, Benja-one inmate he had "ticketed" Mr. Vukevich said, "the pris- min Henderson, John Motey- for rules infraction earlier oners took special care that we unas, Alfonz Iorio and Kenneth threw punches at him but he were not in any way injured." Koetsier, all guards, were re-was given protection by his her then described a kaleido-they were held and brought to "The prisoners did not want

wound in the back. It bled quite and Mr. Moteyunas were dis-types of them. Some wanted to profusely. He did a nice job on charged last night and Mr. kill the hostages, some wanted it. In fact, the hospital has not Koetsier left the hospital this to spare them and the others morning.

Several prisoners were said men. The extremists were kept while awaiting examination for Mr. Koetsier is a graduate to have charged today in a pretty well under control and possible head injuries, last mid-of Hawthorne, N. J., high school. Mr. Koetsier is a graduate

night, Mr. Koetsier charged that a number of his fellow guards fled the auditorium when the disturbance began, leaving him and a handful of others to face

the angry prisoners. He said he sought to place himself beside the warden when he entered the room but he was pummeled to the ground.

What struck hi mmost forcefully, he said, was the conviction that developed in the cell where he was held that the prisoners were prepared to kill all hostages if attempts were made to storm the prison from the outside.

"If the state troopers came in, the prisoners would have killed the hostages," he de-clared emphatically. "When they heard a report that the state troopers were about to enter the prison, the prisoners got out the shivs."

He said prisoners outside the cell in which he was held with hands and feet bound began shouting as the rumor about the troopers circulated: "This is going to be another Attica. We are going to do it up right."

Mr. Koetsier said he was in the auditorium with about 20 other guards when the commotion suddenly began.

A number of his fellow guards, he said, fled from the auditorium. He saw the warden enter. and tried to give him assistance. But the guard said he was beaten to the floor.