

Attica Jury Continues Its Deliberations

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BUFFALO, April 4—Even as the jury in the Attica murder trial continued its deliberation, lawyers for the defense and prosecution skirmished for the minutest advantage today.

At one point after the eight men and four women had debated the evidence for more than six hours, the foreman, Rosa Moore, asked Justice Gilbert H. King to have a portion of the transcript read.

Specifically, she said the jurors wanted that part of the testimony in which a former inmate said he had seen one of the defendants, Charles Joseph Parnasilice, strike Correction Officer William Quinn.

The jurors, who began their deliberation in State Supreme Court yesterday, left the court while Ramsey Clark, Mr. Parnasilice's lawyer, argued with Louis Aidala, the prosecutor, as to what sections should be read. Mr. Aidala wanted 16 lines. Mr. Clark wanted 12.

A Number of Questions

The four lines in question contained the witness's statement that after the blow landed the guard did not move. Mr. Clark argued that this was not information responsive to the jurors' question. Mr. Aidala insisted it was.

Finally, Justice King ruled he would have the court reporter read just the 12 lines and he would then ask the jury if that sufficed. It turned out that this was all the jurors wanted, and the point was won by Mr. Clark.

Altogether, the jury returned four times during the day asking a number of specific questions in the trial, in which 24 witnesses testified.

Except for the brief periods when the jury was in the courtroom, lawyers, newsmen and supporters of Mr. Parnasilice and his codefendant, John Hill, congregated in the third-floor corridor of the Erie County Courthouse. Discussion did not center on the case, but rather on the storm that dumped more than eight inches of snow on the city and closed its airport. Nervously the lawyers looked

everywhere for portents. They regarded the jury's questions as hints of their thinking and took optimistic hope from every sign.

Mr. Aidala noted that the jury seemed to be taking time and great care and said, "That's good." William M. Kunstler, Mr. Hill's lawyer, said he thought the questions showed the jurors were considering reasonable doubt and he said, "That's good."

But the refrain that periodically interrupted such speculations was, "Who can tell—you never know."