

SFExamine APR 6 1975

Attica Killing:  
Ex-con Guilty

UPI

ATTICA

BUFFALO -- an eight-man, four-woman jury found John Hill, 23, guilty of murder last night in the death of

an inmate last night in the death of a corrections officer during the 1971 Attica prison riot.

Charles Pemasilice, 22, of Camillus, N.Y., was found guilty of attempted second-degree assault.

"I have utter revulsion to have been a part of this," defense attorney William Kunstler said. "I know that if John Hill is in jail for having killed a corrections officer he will be killed and molested himself."

Several persons broke out in tears after the verdict was announced.

The State Supreme Court jury deliberated more than 24 hours before finding Hill guilty of killing guard William Quinn.

Quinn was the first of 43 persons to die in the uprising, the bloodiest prison rebellion in the nation's history.

Quinn was stationed inside the prison at "Times Square," where four tunnels in the maximum security facility converge. There, he was beaten in the first moments of the rebellion on Sept. 9, 1971. He died two days later, and his death hardened the stance of state officials in negotiations with the rebelling inmates, who held a number of prison employees hostage.

On Sept. 13, state troopers and corrections officers stormed the inmates' stronghold in D-yard, killing 39 inmates and hostages. Three other inmates were slain allegedly by other prisoners.

State Supreme Court Justice Gilbert King refused to listen to any arguments from either Kunstler or defense attorney Ramsey Clark that the two men be

remanded into their custody pending sentencing.

King ordered bail for the two men revoked and set

April 30 for sentencing.

"John Mitchell was not remanded," Kunstler said. "Mr. Hill will not live in jail."

Clark, arguing for Pemasilice to be remanded in his custody, said, "This is just a Class-E felony."

Defense attorney Margaret Ratner was crying.

"Judge, you know there's a contract out on them," she said.

Guards had to pry Hill away from his wife, whom he embraced in the courtroom after the verdict was returned.

Crying as he was being taken away, Hill said, "I'm not ready yet. I'm not ready yet."

As deputies led him out of the courtroom he turned back and said, "Be strong. Be strong."