

OPEN MONDAY AND FRIDAY 12:15 TO 9 P. M.—OTHER DAYS 9:30 A. M. TO 5:30 P. M.

# Bullets Splat Near Cons in Quarry Prison

By THOMAS CHASE

BUFORD, Ore., Sept. 15 (AP)—The guard in the tarpaper tower on the cliff overlooking the sweltering rock quarry lifts his rifle, sights carefully and fires into the quarry floor 100 yards below.

The bullet splatters the granite dust near the feet of a convict, abruptly halting his shuffling walk. The prisoner looks up, waves a weary arm at the tower, receives an answering wave and continues his way to a wooden latrine at the side of the quarry. The prisoner forgot to obtain permission. If he doesn't return promptly, another shot may whine across the broiling rock pit.

This is Rock Quarry prison, 40 miles east of Atlanta, where recently 41 convicts smashed their legs with sledge hammers.

Why? Two investigations were held to find the answers, one by a joint legislative committee, the other by top Georgia Board of Corrections officials acting under orders of Gov. Marvin Griffin.

**Protest Claimed**  
The prisoners claimed their leg-breaking was a protest against unbearably hard work in the hot sun and brutalities and indignities at the hands of guards.

Guards and prison officials termed the incidents a ploy for public sympathy in an effort to have the prison for incorrigibles abolished.

The prison itself is a modern white sprawling structure, neat and clean, with flowers planted by the entrance. Here the prisoners sleep and eat two of their daily meals, unless confined to solitary cells in "the hole," where they get bread and water and, for extra tough cases, a regular meal only once every three days.

**Clubs and Rifles**

Most of the complaints originate in the rock quarry half a mile away, a vast excavation ringed by an eight-foot barbed wire fence and patrolled by rifle-toting guards in the tower and guards carrying five-foot, inch-thick clubs on the quarry floor.

The prisoners are in the quarry from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., 5 1/2 days a week. They have two hours off for lunch, served in the quarry, and a half-hour rest period in the morning and another in the afternoon.

It was during one of these rest periods that the 20-pound sledge hammers were employed on the legs of 41 convicts. The men were taken to the Georgia State Prison Hospital at Reidsville, where doctors found that 34 had broken legs and the rest cuts and bruises. Two more shattered their legs when told they would be returned to the prison.

**Tighter Discipline**

The legislative committee held hearings at Buford and Reidsville and reported that "allegations of cruelty and brutality had not been substantiated." It recommended that discipline be tightened and the guards and supervisors stop swearing at convicts and desist from occasionally cuffing them.

Two days after the report was out, two of the convicts who got off with only bruises in the first sledge hammer episode joined their buddies by shattering their legs.

Gov. Griffin ordered the second probe, saying, "I will not stand for any inhumane treatment of prisoners. We don't want anything that smacks of the Dark Ages."

Six days later this committee issued similar recommendations for tightening discipline and proposed that Deputy Warren Doyle Smith be transferred. "Boss Doyle," as he was known to the men on the rock pile, is a 250-pound, cigar-smoking six footer, who admitted slapping and cuffing out convicts but denied kicking them. He was subsequently named warden at the Putnam prison.

**Visits Controlled**  
The governor's investigation also turned up the unique method of controlling latrine visits at the rock quarry.

"The tower guards," reported the Board of Corrections, "are instructed to shoot in front of prisoners who leave their work details without getting permission from the foreman of the tower by making a sign to the guard that they desire to go out of the work compound to the rest room."

"The only incident in which shooting was done, was done for either the protection of a prisoner or to stop a man from leaving his work detail without having signaled and before having received an answer from the tower guard that permission was granted. These incidents were very few."

Smith insisted it was a form of communication, not random target practice.

## Indian Control Hearing Planned In Klamath Falls

PORTLAND, Sept. 15 (AP)—Progress of a program to terminate federal control of the Klamath Indian Reservation will be reviewed Oct. 18 by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. Sen. Neuberger (D-Ore.) said Friday.

Neuberger, a member of the committee, said it will hold a hearing in Klamath Falls to review the program and to consider testimony on possible amendment of the existing law. He said a summer conference in Washington, D.C., brought out "the belief that terms of the present law threaten the existence of the vast stand of Ponderosa pine belonging to the Indians, and that amendment of the law is needed if this timber is kept on a sustained yield basis under government supervision."

This view, he said, was expressed by experts hired to work out the termination program on the reservation.

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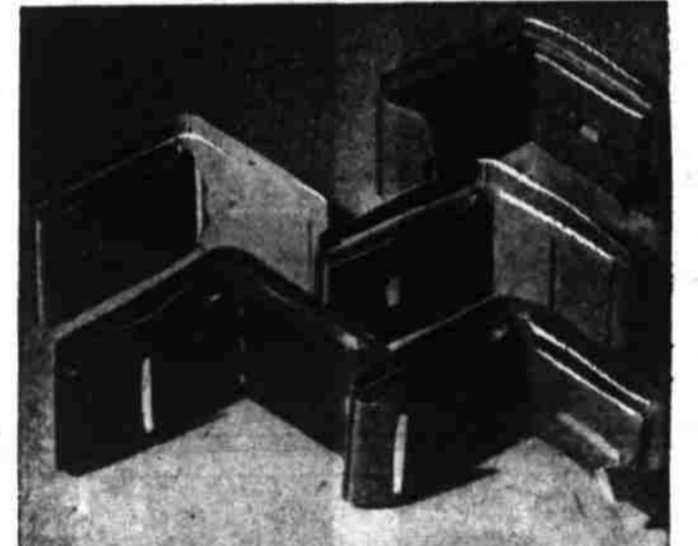
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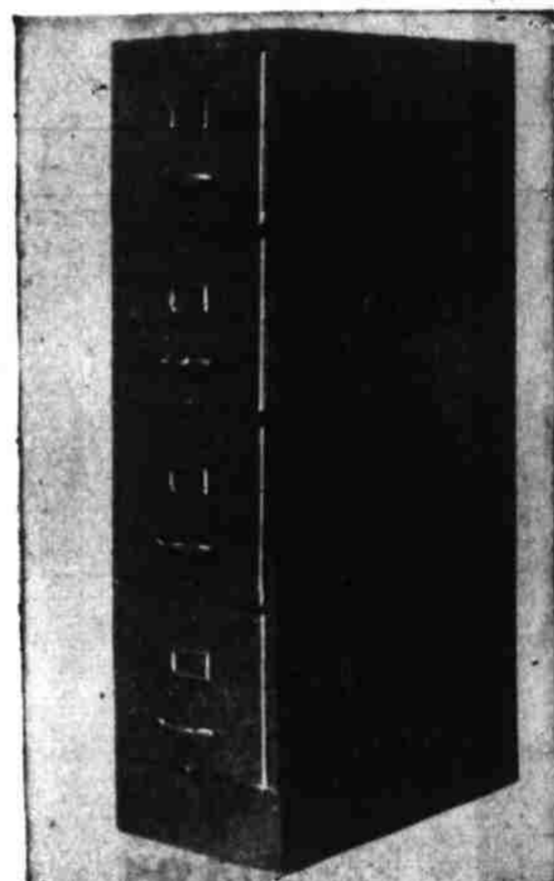
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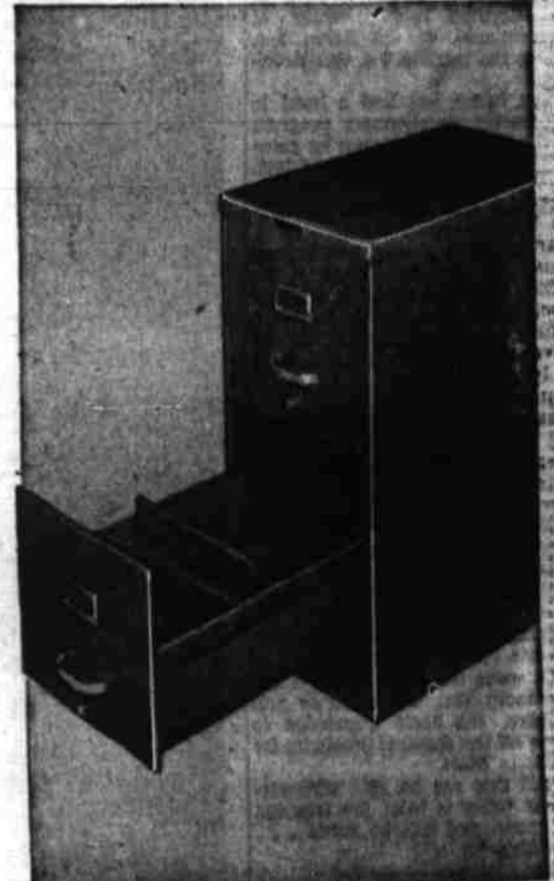
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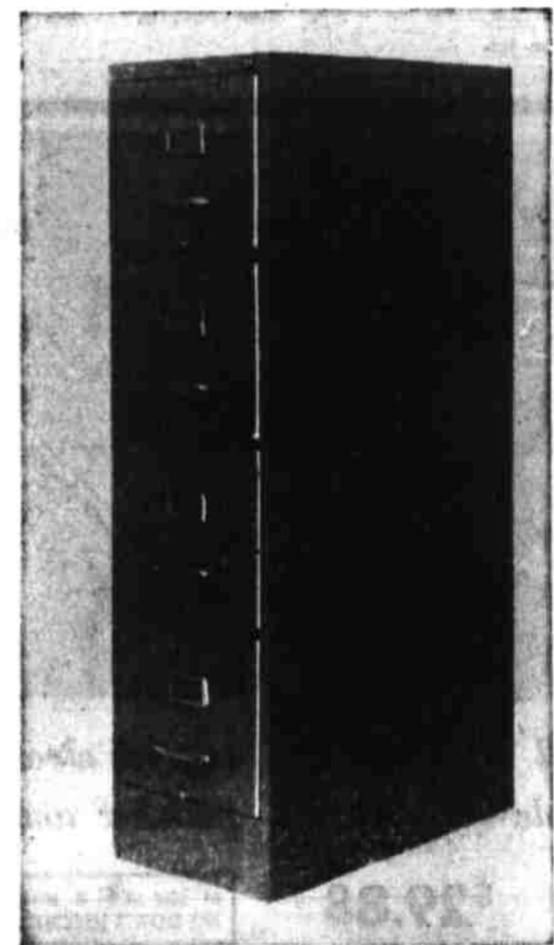
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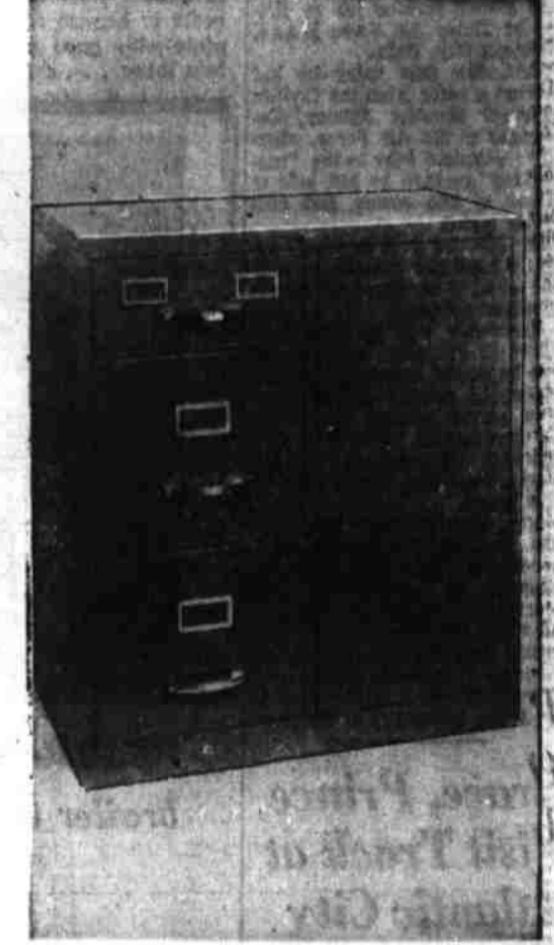
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