		GOVERNMENT FURDICATIONS	1828	
EXT	NEW YORK	STATE SPECIAL COMMISSION	ON ATTICA	
HV 9475 N716 N483 APR	26 34m	In the Matter of the Public Hearings	X : :	
/	-	at	:	
		NEW YORK, NEW YORK	:	
	الاست عند ومن محمد ومن محمد ومن و	na dala pina mala ang tang dala ang ang ting mala naka dala dala dala naka ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang -	X	
			Channel 13/WNDT-TV 433 West 53rd Street New York, New York	
			April 26, 1972 9:05 a.m.	
	Before:			
		ROBERT B. MCKAY,	Chairman,	
	MOST REV. EDWIN BRODERICK,		ODERICK,	
		ROBERT L. CARTER,		
	MRS. AMALIA GUERRERO,		RO,	
		AMOS HENIX,		
	BURKE MARSHALL,			
		WALTER N. ROTHSCHILD, JR.,		
	:	MRS. DOROTHY WADSWORTH,		
		WILLIAM WILBANKS,		
			Commission Members.	

PRESENT:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

ARTHUR LIMAN, General Counsel

MILTON WILLIAMS, Deputy General Counsel 1829

JUDGE CHARLES WILLIS, Deputy General Counsel

ROBERT POTTS, JR., Communications Consultant

DAVID ADDISON, Deputy General Counsel

ARTHUR MUNISTERI, Deputy General Counsel

000

MR. CARTER: This is the eleventh day of the public hearings of the New York State Special Commission on Attica.

Our initial presentation will be by Mr. Robert Sackett of the Commission staff.

Mr. Sackett.

MR. LIMAN: Mr. Sackett has been the head of a task force on the Commission that has been studying the assault, along with other members, including Mr. Liddle who spoke yesterday.

Mr. Sackett is going to make a presen-

____Retter,

tation of various statistics pertaining 1830 to the dead, wounded, the number of shots fired and other material.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2

3

4

5

This will be followed by a presentation by Mr. Harrison of our staff of the characteristics of the ammunition that was used, which in turn will be followed by readings from various depositions we took, giving the explanations by the troopers of why they fired when they did.

We will hear from Colonel Miller of the State Police.

We will also be hearing -- be seeing, a State Police assault film and other photographic material this afternoon.

We will be hearing from a citizen of Attica, as well as from an inmate who was injured in the assault, and the day will conclude with testimony and a presentation by the psychiatric consultant to the Commission, who interviewed the inmates, including many inmates in HBZ, with respect to his findings on the tensions, frustrations and problems at Attica.

Mr. Sackett.

MR. SACKETT: Thank you, Mr. Liman. I would like to begin by saying that I will be using this chart to portray -- 1831 both the wounded and dead persons that died as a result of the State Police assault on September 13, 1971. From that moment on.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

The -- I draw your attention to the dots with black circles around them, which indicate inmates wounded by gunshot fire in D-yard on September 13, 1971.

Now, the total number of inmates wounded by gunshot fire on that day was 85. However, not all of them are indicated on the map because there are approximately 51 wounded inmates, that is wounded by gunshot fire on this map, and the others that are not shown are -- either have not been interviewed because they are in segregation in HBZ at Attica, or because they were relieved before our being able to interview them, or the inmate himself, when we spoke to him, was not certain as to his location.

But essentially the locations that we have there are from what the individual inmate advised us or informed us during the interview with him.

MR. LIMAN: There was no photographic record kept of the injured, so that the only way

you can place the wounded in general 1832 is from their own statements as to where they were.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. SACKETT: I would like to indicate that in the -- with respect to the hostages, wounded by gunfire, that is wounded that are surviving, there are three hostages wounded by gunshot fire in the yard at the time of the assault.

Now, turning to those that died of gunshot fire as a result of the assault at Attica Correctional Facility on September 13, 1971.

I would like to start by outlining the general --beginning with the inmates. I would like to outline the general location of the inmate or where he was when he was shot, the general description of the wounds that he received and a summary of the ballistics that are available at this time.

I would like to start by indicating that -- the inmates will remain unnamed at this time. An inmate received at this location on A catwalk a gunshot wound to the chest and abdomen causing severe internal bleeding. There were other non-fatal wounds to the chin, ankle and left hand. The projectile or projectiles were at least one .270 rifle bullet and several 1833
stray double-0 buckshot.

Another inmate, also on A catwalk --

MR. LIMAN: By "stray" it means that it was not the full nine double-0 pellets? Therefore, they were pellets that had separated over the distance from the rest of the pellets in the cartridge?

MR. SACKETT: That is correct.

In other words, it was not a compact or a full load of a double-0 buck shell.

)

2

3

4

5

6

7

Ş

)

Another inmate, also on A catwalk at this location approximately, received a gunshot wound to the chest, causing massive internal bleeding, and there were other non-fatal wounds of the right ankle and thigh.

The projectile was a rifle bullet and other projectiles that hit him were not identified.

A third inmate, also on A catwalk at this location died of multiple bullet and buckshot tracks through the chest causing massive internal bleeding. There were also scattered buckshot wounds of the buttocks, the back, the left axilla and the right thigh. The projectiles were rifle bullets and double-0 buckshot.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

A fourth inmate, also on A catwalk at approximately this location --

1834

MR. LIMAN: I should interrupt to say that we will be summarizing when we conclude the total number of dead and the nature of the ammunition used.

MR. SACKETT: Right.

A fourth inmate, also on A catwalk, died of multiple and widely distributed gunshot wounds. There were perforations in the right shoulder, right axilla, the chest, the abdomen, the penis, the left and right thighs. The ballistics revealed that he had one .270 bullet that was recovered and two double-0 pellets that were recovered.

At this time, I would like to indicate that even though a particular inmate or hostage might have had more than one pellet not all of them were always removed. In other words, sometimes a person, a deceased, might have six, seven or eight pellets, and they might have removed only two and submitted them to ballistics, and the rest remained in the body, and they showed up by X-ray. So that -- MR. LIMAN: You can't, in 1000 general, determine from the shotgun pellets which gun they were ejected from; is that correct?

MR. SACKETT: That's correct, but they are always submitted to ballistics in any event.

So, if I mentioned that there were two double-0 recovered, it doesn't mean that there were no more left in the body.

Another inmate on A catwalk at approximately this location received a gunshot wound to the back that went through the lungs, causing immediate suffocation from blood flowing into the air passages.

There was also a large destructive gunshot wound to the right buttock. This inmate was hit by rifle bullets that were not identified.

Now, turning to C catwalk. There was an inmate at this location that died from a gunshot wound to the back, and that came out the chest, causing massive internal bleeding. It was determined by the pathologist that it was a rifle bullet, but it was not recovered.

Another inmate, in close proximity to the one I just mentioned, at that location on C

catwalk, received a gunshot wound to 1836 his head, which caused severe laceration of the brain tissue. The bullet was not recovered.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Now, focusing at the Times Square area where there were inmates that died from gunshot fire.

At this location there was an inmate who received gunshot wounds from three or more loads of shotgun shells. One was fatally injured in the back by a rifled slug that carried the wadding into the wounds. The wadding is the material which is used to pack the rifled slug or the pellets in double-0 buck, and if it is fired at close range and it hits the target, occasionally the wadding will go right into the person also and on occasion it is recovered.

MR. LIMAN: That would indicate a close-range shot?

MR. SACKETT: That's correct.

This inmate also received, in addition, one pattern of twelve perforations in the lower back and a third pattern of at least eight in and out tracks in the lower right thigh. The only pellets recovered were six double-0 buck.

Another inmate in the Times Square area

at this location received a gunshot 1837 wound to the back, causing massive internal bleeding. The projectile was a .270 rifle bullet.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Another inmate at Times Square area at this location received thirteen entrance wounds, five bullets into the face, head, neck and chest, and six bullets entered the back and two bullets entered the thigh. Many of these bullets came from a personal side arm and the bullets entering the back were the last to strike the deceased.

Another inmate, also in the Times Square area, died at this location, or was shot at that loation by three compact loads of Double-O buckshot in the left chest and the left neck, one in the left wrist, and also the shot wadding was recovered from the neck.

MR. LIMAN: By compact, again, you mean it was the full load?

MR. SACKETT: That's correct. And many double-0 buckshot pellets were recovered.

Another inmate at the Times Square area received two single bullet wounds, one in the back and one in the right axilla. The bullets were not recovered.

Now, in this location at Times Square,

but underneath, that is, inside Times 1838 Square, there is another inmate who received a gunshot wound to the back, causing injuries of the abdominal organ. It was at close range and seven double-0 pellets were recovered.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. CARTER: Would that be in the tunnel?

MR. SACKETT: This would be inside the tunnel, the Times Square area, instead of up on top. Actually, this particular inmate was found in the staircase leading from the top of Times Square down inside Times Square.

Now, turning to A yard.

An inmate received three loads of shotgun shells, one rifled slug in the back destroying the spinal cord and then non-fatal wounds of the elbow, forearm and other parts of the body.

The projectiles were double-0 pellets and rifled slug.

Now, turning to D-yard, in this location.

An inmate received, at this location here, a gunshot wound to the back, causing extensive laceration of the right lung. This was from a .270 rifle bullet. Another inmate at this location -- these dots here indicate the 1839 sidewalk inside the yard -- received two fatal gunshot wounds, one in the back, causing massive internal bleeding, and another gunshot wound to the groin. These wounds were caused by a .38 caliber revolver and many other double-0 buckshot pellets.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Another inmate received a gunshot wound to the back, passing through the heart and lungs, and this was a stray double-0 pellet. Just one pellet caused the death.

MR. LIMAN: That was all that was found, one entrance wound of one out of nine pellets in the cartridge?

MR. SACKETT: That's correct, Mr. Liman.

Still another inmate was shot in this location in D-yard. He received two shot wounds to the back of the head and there were five or six double-0 pellets recovered.

MR. LIMAN: Again, this was not a full load?

MR. SACKETT: Yes -- well, not a full load. In other words, there were only five or six. It is thought that they came from the same weapon. MR. LIMAN: Right. 1840

MR. SACKETT: Another inmate at this location received a gunshot wound to the back, causing fatal hemorrhage of the heart and lungs. There were five double-0 pellets recovered, and they were scattered about the body.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Another inmate received a gunshot wound to the right shoulder that went through the chest and perforated the heart, and it was at this location, and the projectile was from a .270 caliber rifle bullet.

Another inmate, at the following location, died from gunshot wounds to the abdomen, perforating the stomach and the intestine. There was one projectile removed, the nature of which was undetermined.

MR. LIMAN: For the record, because I would like the stenographic record to show where you are putting this now, the last person you described was wounded in the area near B tunnel, and the one before that was also shot in the area near B tunnel; am I correct?

> MR. SACKETT: Yes. MR. LIMAN: Both of those? MR. SACKETT: Another inmate, which

was found at -- in D-yard, approximately -- 1841 well, he was alongside D tunnel at the corner of Times Square. He received a gunshot wound to the front of the left shoulder, which went through the left lung, resulting in massive internal bleeding. The projectile that was removed was a rifled slug.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Another inmate received a gunshot -two gunshot wounds at this location -- I might indicate that this particular inmate was underneath the sidewalk, so that he was not on the level with the ground, but that he had secreted himself underneath the sidewalk in one of the many tunnels that had been dug by the inmates during the four days.

MR. LIMAN: This was the inmate who, when he was found, had advanced rigor mortis, and we have had testimony before about rumors that a hostage was found buried in the ground, and I mentioned at the time that there was no hostage found buried in the ground; that there was the inmate who had been shot and whose body was removed later in the morning of that day?

MR. SACKETT: Yes. And there is an indication that -- by the pathologist, that the

cause of death was due to exsanguina- 1842 tion, that is, he bled to death, and there was a possibility that with quick medical attention the exsanguination might have been averted.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Still another inmate in D-yard, alongside the tunnel -- the D tunnel in this location, that is, between the D tunnel door and D-block, an inmate that received a gunshot wound to the right chest passing through the heart. It was a single double-0 pellet and there was another pellet that was not identified which hit the inmate in the right knee.

Another inmate was found at the location approximately near the B-block tunnel in the northeastern quadrant of D-yard, who received a gunshot wound to the chest that passed through the heart.

This was caused by a .270 rifle bullet. Now, there are two inmates that died that day for whom we have no reports. There our investigation uncovered no witness who could tell us where these two particular inmates were when they were shot. The indications are that they were somewhere in D-yard and one of them received a gunshot wound to the right buttock, perforating the right interior vena 1843 cava. He died of a .270 rifle bullet.

Now, the inmate I just described had at least been seen after he was shot in A-yard. There was no indication that he was shot in A-yard, but that he was seen there. Apparently he had been transported from the yard into A-yard and was there for a period of time before he was taken to the hospital.

MR. LIMAN: He was transported after he was wounded and then later taken to the hospital?

MR. SACKETT: Correct.

So, then, I will indicate at this location where this last inmate was seen, but that was not -- or by all accounts -- was not the place where he actually received the gunshot wounds.

Another inmate was in a similar situation. We have no reports at this time of where he was in the yard, if in the yard, when he was shot.

MR. LIMAN: Why don't we put those, really, just instead of in the place we know they weren't shot, just so that we can keep track of them.

24

25

1

MR. SACKETT: I might put 1844 them outside.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

And this last inmate received a gunshot wound to the chest by one stray double-0 pellet.

Now, turning to the hostage, I would like to indicate, starting now on B catwalk. There was a hostage that died of gunshot wounds to the abdomen that severed the spinal cord and another gunshot wound that entered the back.

Two independent, two separate bullets. One was a .270 rifle bullet and the other one was unidentified, and he was at approximately this location when he was shot.

Oh, excuse me. I think I will use a different color to indicate the hostages.

MR. HENIX: Very good. Very good.

MR. SACKETT: He was on B catwalk, very close to the Times Square.

Another hostage that was found on A catwalk at this location indicated died of a gunshot wound to the chest which passed through the heart. He died of a rifle bullet.

MR. LIMAN: We have based our locations of the deceased on photographic evidence we have examined, on various reports of the inmates, State Police and other investigative tools 1845 available to us.

MR. SACKETT: Now, these were the only two hostages that died from gunshot wounds on the catwalks.

I direct your attention to the area of the hostage circle and there a hostage, one of the hostages, received a gunshot wound to the head and another to the right elbow. There were two separate double-0 pellets.

MR. LIMAN: You mean double single double-0 pellets, or was it a cluster?

MR. SACKETT: No, no. Not a cluster. There were two pellets, one in the head and one in the right elbow.

MR. LIMAN: I think -- are those yellow thumbtacks showing up; otherwise, you are better off just using red.

MR. SACKETT: I don't know. Can I have an answer on that? I can't see the moni-tor.

MR. LIMAN: I am looking at the monitor. They don't seem to show up. That's what I seem to be basing it on.

MR. CARTER: They show up.

25

1

2

3

MR. SACKETT: Okay. 1846

Another hostage died from a gunshot wound to the left shoulder that passed through the heart. It was an undetermined projectile.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Another hostage died from a gunshot wound to the back -- or rather, I'm sorry. There were two gunshot wounds to this hostage, both fatal. One to the head, and the other to the chest. There was one identified bullet and one double-0 pellet, each causing the two injuries.

MR. LIMAN: When you are saying pellet, we are talking about one pellet out of the nine that are ejected from a shotgun?

MR. SACKETT: From a shotgun shell, right.

Still another hostage died from a gunshot wound to the head from a .270 rifle bullet.

Another received three gunshot wounds, one to the head, one to the chest -- these last two being fatal wounds -- and one to the back, lodging in the spine. There were three separate double-0 buck pellets which were distributed, one in the head, one in the chest, and one in the back, so that it is very possible they were from at least two different guns. At this location, another nostage dying in the area or in the circle of hostages, died of -- again, from three gunshot wounds. One in the head, one to the right arm, and one to the right hip. Three double-0 pellets were recovered, one in each area of the wounds.

Another hostage died from three gunshot wounds, one to the right flank, one to the back of the neck and one to the right buttock. Again, three double-0 pellets caused the injuries.

MR. LIMAN: So, again, in the case of the last two, each was hit with three double-0 pellets out of the shotgun shell?

MR. SACKETT: Actually, the last three hostages that I have described, died from three pellets distributed about the body.

MR. LIMAN: I have been really asking questions about double-0, but according to the list I am keeping, there were at least six persons, inmates and hostages, who died in the yard as a result of the .270 fire.

MR. SACKETT: That's correct.

Now, to give you some gross statistics of persons receiving gunshot wounds in the inmate

25

1

2

3

4

category. There were 29 inmates killed 1848 from gunshot wounds and 85 were wounded.

Of the hostages, ten were killed from gunshot fire and three were wounded from gunshot fire.

There was one State Policeman who was wounded by gunshot fire.

Now, there were also injuries sustained by persons on September 13 that were other than gunshot wound.

MR. LIMAN: Before you get to that, am I correct that there were 115 inmates who were either killed or wounded by gun fire on September 13, which means approximately ten percent of the --a little less than ten percent of the inmates in the yard, and that were 13 hostages who were killed or wounded by gun fire on September 13, which would amount to approximately 34 percent of all of the hostages?

MR. SACKETT: That's right. There was a grand total of 128 persons receiving gunshot wounds on September 13, which is -- if you include hostages and inmates in a total figure in the yard or on the catwalks, it is about one out of every eleven persons that were in the D-yard

1

2

3

or catwalk area.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LIMAN: I want to say something about what we base the wounded figure on. We base it in part on reported wounds, in part on wounds that were reported to us, and we could verify by looking at it in person. There were, in some cases I believe, wounds which were not reported either to us or to the doctors, because of the fear which one witness testified to, that if you identified yourself as having a wound, it might be said that you were near the hostage circle.

At least, that was the state of mind of many inmates, and so if an inmate was simply grazed, there was a possibility of his not reporting that wound and not being picked up. But we are satisfied, both from the medical reports and from our investigation, that the figures which Mr. Sackett read which mean a total of 128, were either wounded or killed from gun fire on September 13, included hostages and inmates --

MR. SACKETT: And a State trooper. MR. LIMAN: And one State trooper, is an accurate figure.

MR. CARTER: The figure that Mr.

Sackett had of 29 inmates killed and 85 1850 wounded comes to 114 and you gave a figure of 115.

MR. LIMAN: The discrepancy was that we, in making my notes, I simply deducted from the total the number of hostages, and I omitted Lieutenant Christian and so it really was 117 --I mean 114 inmates, one State trooper, and the rest were hostages.

MR. SACKETT: Correct.

Now, one of the difficulties also of determining the kind of projectile that inflicted the wound -- and I am talking now only about the inmates, -- was that when they went to the hospital on many occasions, the projectiles were removed and given out to either correctional service personnel or inmate nurses as souvenirs, so that the projectiles were never recovered, and no ballistics was ever able to be made with respect to the -- to a lot of the injured inmates.

MR. LIMAN: Before you get to the total number of shots fired, I want to read the other statistics on neck lacerations also, so you tell me when you are ready and we can go into that.

MR. SACKET: You can proceed on that,

Mr. Liman.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

MR. LIMAN: Mr. Sackett mentioned that there were other injuries inflicted on September 13, and we are going to, tomorrow, in some detail, describe injuries that were inflicted to inmates in the aftermath of the police action on September 13. We also are going to be describing other injuries, but in the light of the fact that we had one hostage testify yesterday with respect to this neck laceration, we think it pertinent to report that five hostages received throat lacerations inflicted by inmates on September 13.

Out of this total of five, two died of gunshot wounds inflicted in the assault on September 13th. One of these had -- one of the deceased had a shallow incise wound, the second had a wound on the back of his neck -- I'm talking about lacerations, not gunshot wounds.

The second had a laceration on the back of his neck two and a half inches long and a half inch deep. These wounds were not fatal and, as I said before, these two hostages died -- they died on the catwalk of gunshot wounds inflicted upon them.

25

hostages who had neck lacerations, I have the following to report:

Mr. Kozlowski, who testified yesterday, about his neck wound, had a slash that required thirty stitches to close and had it been a little deeper could have been fatal and, of course, it wasn't a fatal wound.

Another hostage had two slashes on the side of his throat which required fifty-two stitches to close and a third had a --- I said this was a neck wound, but I don't believe I am correct. A third had a stab wound on his side which was inflicted moments before the gas drop, but his attacked was subdued by other inmates who were providing protection in the hostages' circle, and that wound was inflicted, as I said before, before the gas drop and his attacker was chased away by the inmates.

There was finally -- in addition to the five I have mentioned, there was a hostage who had a cut in his back, not his neck, and that was the total of what we have been able to determine of inmate-inflicted knife wounds or wounds with sharp instruments on hostages on the

morning of September 13.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. SACKETT: Now, there have been -the deaths of three inmates on September 13 -three of the inmates were the subject of particular controversy in the days following September 13, in that there had been reports that these three inmates, by the names of Elliott Barkley, known better as L.D. Barkley, and Thomas Hicks, or Tommy Hicks, and Samuel Melville had been seen alive by inmates in A or C-yards.

1000

In the case of Tommy Hicks and L.D. Barkley, there were some reports that came out that he had been seen alive in A-yard following -immediately following the State Police assault, when they were assembling the inmates into A-yard and Sam Melville reportedly was seen alive in C-yard following -- immediately following the State Police assault with the speculation that they had died, post -- in the post assault phase of the assault, which would indicate that it was not proper action taken by whoever, you know, might have shot them.

However, during the course of intensive extensive investigation into these and, of course, other inmates we have spoken to -- we have spoken

to numerous inmates with respect to the 1854 case of L.D. Barkley and one of the -- I think what sparked off the controversy surrounding L.D. Barkley's death was the statement by Assemblyman Eve that he had seen L.D. Barkley alive in A-yard. He reported that he saw an inmate who he believed to be L.D. on -- he saw his back, that his back was turned to him and he thought that was L.D., and he reported that and we -- during the course of our interviews with inmates, some of whom were very closely friends of L.D.'s from Rochester and others who even grew up with L.D. in Rochester, have told us that of those that actually saw him get shot, have told us that he was in D-yard and was shot in the initial barrage while running in this location.

I have indicated this red thumbtack here as being the approximate location from all reports that we have had of L.D. Barkley. He was running and then he was hit and then he fell, and that's where he was shot.

As to Tommy Hicks --

MR. LIMAN: Wait a minute. His wound was a mortal wound and we are satisfied, as a result of that, both as a result of our patholo-

21222324

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

gist's examination of the records and 1855 as a result of the interviews with inmates which Mr. Sackett has described -- we are satisfied that the person whose back Assemblyman Eve saw could not have been L.D. Barkley, and we have mentioned that when Assemblyman Eve testified.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. SACKETT: Right. And the projectile was a .270 rifle bullet.

With respect to Tommy Hicks. Again, inmates that knew Tommy Hicks, that were friends, that lived in the same block and others who were acquaintances or had seen him during the four days, report to us that, again, he was in the area of D-yard at approximately this location that I indicated here, when he was shot, and he received five pellets from a double-0 shell.

MR. LIMAN: And the nature of the wounds, including wounds that caused a hemorrhage of the heart and lungs, was such that he could not have been seen walking in A-yard?

MR. SACKETT: That's right.

Now, with respect to Samuel Melville. We have interviewed, although in this occasion the witnesses are not exactly friends of Sam Melville, we did interview and it was reported to us by witnesses, inmate witnesses, that L.D. -- 1856 that, rather, Samuel Melville was not in C-yard, as was -- had been reported, but he was in D-yard in this location here when he was shot, and the projectile being a rifled slug from a shotgun, and again, the nature of the wound that he received was such that it would have been impossible for him to have survived.

He died almost immediately, and he could not have been other than in D-yard at this location here by Times Square.

MR. LIMAN: We will be showing a rifled slug and, as Mr. Sackett said, it would have been impossible for him to have moved with the wound that was inflicted on him in that location.

We have also seen photographic evidence of where he died, and we are satisfied that these rumors which circulated in the days after the police action that Melville was alive and was shot afterward in C-yard, or A-yard, are unfounded; that he died in D-yard at the location that Mr. Sackett has pointed to.

MR. SACKETT: I would like to give special thanks to a volunteer student that has

helped us in gathering and pulling 1857 together the facts on the wounded, Mr. John Bayers (phonetic). That's my presentation.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LIMAN: We are now going to turn to a description of the type of ammunition that was used and something about the characteristics of the rifles.

David Harrison, who is a permanent member of our staff, who was a student at the Albany School for Criminal Justice, which is a part of the State University at Albany, will make this presentation.

David left school to continue his work with the Commission. He started on a part-time basis and was recruited for us by Commissioner Wilbanks, and Mr. Harrison has seen combat in Viet-Nam and worked with a ballistics expert whom we engaged and is particularly well qualified to talk about the subject he is going to be describing, weapons and ammunition.

MR. HARRISON: Thank you, Mr. Liman.

I would like to start this with a few words on the chemical agent, riot control agent, that was used to initiate this assault. There has been a great deal of talk about the pepper gas that was used.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

There are two very common chemical riot control agents in use now. One of them is called CN and it can be dispensed either in a solution or as an aerosol.

CN has a pleasant, sweet odor and it is immediately effective, affecting the upper respiratory passages and the eyes. It causes intense flow of tears and it is especially irritating to the skin.

Some individuals experience nausea following exposure. High concentrations of CN can also cause blisters much as those caused by sunburn, and CN is also hydrolicized. In other words, when it is used in conjunction with water, a chemical reaction occurs giving off as one of the by-products, hydrogen chloride, which in water is hydrochloric acid.

I think you have heard testimony already from one of the hostages that following his being subjected to gas by the inmates, his skin peeled and blistered for the days that he was in the yard. That is because the correctional department, the Department of Correction in New York still uses CN, at least at Attica.

The military very seldom use 1859 CN anymore and, in fact, the State's militia explicitly prohibits the use of CN, except for stricly controlled training exercises, and then only when CS is not available.

CS is the other common riot control agent and it also is immediately effective, even in very low concentrations. It also is highly irritating to the skin and the eyes, but it is not toxic. The immediate physiological effects of exposure to CS include an extreme burning of the eyes, accompanied by a copious flow of tears, coughing, difficulty in breathing, chest tightness, involuntary closing of the eyes and a runny nose and a stinging sensation of the skin. Also, heavy concentration can cause nausea in some persons.

CS gives off a peculiarly pepper-like odor and is therefore often referred to as pepper gas.

So, the pepper gas spoken of is in fact a very common chemical agent.

Now, I would like to turn to a brief description of the variety and numbers of the weapons that were introduced into Attica on Septem-

1

2

ber 13th.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

In addition to the individual side arm that every member of the State Police carries with him, the New York State Police deployed to Attica thirty high-powered rifles, a Winchester model .70, .270 caliber, mounted with a scope, and two three two riot guns, and the State Police model gun is a model .37, Ithaca model .37, twelve-gauge shotgun with a twenty inch barrel, and a full choke.

Now, in addition to the State Police's weapons present, there were also weapons from the arsenals of the Attica prison itself, and weapons brought from Auburn by correction officers who came from Auburn. These weapons included twentytwo high-powered Winchester rifles of .351 caliber; at least a dozen .32 caliber pistols, and two weapons that are capable of automatic fire. One is the Colt model AR-15, which is the commercial version of the military M-16, and the Thompson submachine gun. We know that at least two of the Thompsons were fired in the assault.

In addition to these weapons, there were also members of the State Park Police present, as well as members from eleven sheriff's

departments. The weapons introduced 1861 by these men counted to at least fifty additional .30 caliber pistols, eight .45 caliber pistols and fourteen additional .12-gauge shotguns.

Now, I have mentioned so far 400 firearms that were introduced by the peace officers of the State, and in addition to these weapons, many of the men brought their personal weapons into the prison and the personal weapons, privately owned weapons that were brought into the prison included two .16 gauge shotguns, three .12gauge shotguns, two .357 caliber pistols, three .22 caliber pistols, one .45 caliber pistol, one .9 millimeter pistol, three .22 caliber rifles, one .22/.250 caliber rifle, one .222 caliber rifle, one .2506 caliber rifle, another privately owned .270 rifle, at least three .30/30 rifles, one .44 caliber magnum rifle and this list also includes one 1934 model Russian made military weapon, a 7.62 millimeter.

Now, this list of private weapons, as I say, is only a partial list. Each one of these weapons we have identified by serial number and can locate. We cannot so locate at least one additional small caliber pistol that we have been told

in private interview was fired during 1862 the assault at moving inmates 200 yards away.

In addition, we have information that there were rounds fired from a .3006 caliber rifle, but we have not identified or located that rifle.

The primary weapons used in the assault however -- excuse me -- were a Winchester model 70 .270 caliber rifle, a bolt-action rifle mounted with a Weaver 4 X scope, and when you hear of the sniper details, this is the weapon that had been talked about.

MR. LIMAN: When you talk about the .270 details, that's what we are talking about being used?

MR. HARRISON: This weapon is made in several models by Winchester. This is the one that the New York State Police uses.

Ballistically and technically it is highly suitable for a sniper rifle. It is characterized by a high velocity, between 21 and 31 hundred feet per second, depending upon the ammunition used and it is a relatively flat trajectory weapon, bolt operated, magazine fed, light weight; a highly effective, highly suitable rifle.

25

24

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

Now, Winchester, or the Win- 1863 chester Western Division of the Olin Corporation, also manufacture the ammunition for this weapon.

MR. LIMAN: Before you get to that, when you say it is bolt operated, in order to fire, what must you do for each round?

Show us.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LIDDLE: Well, you would throw the bolt forward. You load the round in the weapon.

MR. LIMAN: How many can you load at once?

MR. LIDDLE: Five in the magazine and one in the chamber, which would be six.

The bolt would be forward, which would be arming the weapon, so to speak, one round in the chamber.

To fire the weapon, it would be brought up, sighted through, squeeze off a round. In that manner.

MR. LIMAN: Would that be approximately the speed at which a qualified .270 man can fire, Mr. Liddle?

> Were you qualified as a .270 man? MR. LIDDLE: Yes, I was. Depending

on what you would be shooting at, stationary 1864
or moving targets, or whether you were resting
or firing off hand, but that's the speed I would
probably fire the weapon from if I were hunting.
MR. LIMAN: What was the position at
which people were shooting, were they kneeling?
MR. LIDDLE: Yes, they were kneel-
ing down over a parapet.
MR. LIMAN: Were they using gasmasks?
MR. LIDDLE: One roof-top team used
a gas mask and one did not.
MR. LIMAN: Which one did use gas-
masks?
MR. LIDDLE: The A-block group.
MR. LIMAN: So, they would have
been looking through the scope and through a
gas mask?
MR. LIDDLE: Yes.
MR. HARRISON: The Winchester Divi-
sion cites the maximum effective range of this
weapon as 1,000 meters, and it defines that ef-
fective range as a distance at which a man should
be expected to hit a target five inches in dia-
meter.
According to the representatives of the

manufacturing company, the effective 1865 range is limited to 1,000 yards, because at distances greater than that it is not realistic to expect a man to see a target five inches in diameter.

So, the limitation on the effective range is a human limitation and not the weapon's, according to the manufacturer.

Now, as I say, ballistically and technically the rifle is highly suitable for the purpose it was made. It was manufactured primarily as a big-game rifle.

This is the commercially made ammunition. This is what the bullet looks like. These --I don't know how well they show up -- are the actual projectiles that come from the weapon.

MR. LIMAN: Would you take your time and point them out?

MR. HARRISON: This is a 130 grain expanding bullet, partially jacketed bullet. You can see -- it doesn't show up too well on the screen. The tip of the bullet is a different color than the remainder of the projectile and that is the lead bore of the bullet protruding from the jacket. The other bullet which shows a white tip --

•

L

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 24

MR. LIMAN: Keep your pencil 1866 there, because the cameras are on it.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. HARRISON: Which shows a white tip, is called a silver tip bullet. That is the lead nose which protrudes from the jacket encased in a thin silver layer, which gives a greater rigidity to the nose of the bullet and increases its penetrating capability.

Now, I have here a 1972 catalog put out by the Winchester Western Sporting Arms and Ammunition Company, and I shall read a reference to the silver tipped bullet.

"Whether you are on the trail of bear, moose or African game, silver tip and power point won't let you down. These advanced scientific loads deliver the necessary accuracy and energy, plus full expansion and minimal lead loss. For many years, our silver tip and power point bullets have been putting a stop to unwanted hit and run problems. For big, tough-skinned game, pick silver tip. Its special alloy jacket prevents premature expansion while the bullet penetrates through thick hide and tissue, then deep in vital areas, silver tip mushrooms perfectly and releases tremendous energy that stops them cold." Now, if I can have a camera 1867 on that first picture over there, we have reproduced, again, a picture by the manufacturers which shows the progression of the expansion of this bullet, of this type of bullet.

MR. LIMAN: I think that it may be easier for the Commission if, because of his trying to photograph back and forth, to look at the monitors on the side or really to move off to the side.

MR. HARRISON: As you can see, the projectile, as it leaves the weapon upon impact, begins to and it is designed to expand inside the body of the game animal, the target animal.

MR. LIMAN: Neither of these bullets are full jacketed?

MR. HARRISON: That is correct. The full jacketed bullet is a term commonly given to a military-type ammunition in which the lead tip of the projectile does not protrude through the jacket.

In other words, the jacket completely encases the nose of the bullet to prevent this type of expansion.

Pursuant to the Geneva Convention's and

24

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

respective of the sentiments expressed 1868 therein, to prevent insofar as is possible in war useless human suffering, the United States Military personnel are prohibited from the use of this kind of ammunition in this kind of combat.

MR. LIMAN: When you say this kind of ammunition, so our record is clear, because we also have a stenographic record, you are also talking about the .270 bullets that have been described, the silver tipped and the other one are prohibited by the U.S. Army?

MR. HARRISON: That is correct. The expansion bullet is not used by our military servicemen.

Now, one other point worth mentioning regarding this rifle is this scope.

A Weaver 4-power scope, manufactured by the W.R. Weaver Company, El Paso, Texas. It is a very popular sporting and hunting scope and is much used and much appreciated by sportsmen and by hunters throughout the country.

I also have here a publication from the W.R. Weaver Company of El Paso, Texas, and the thing is entitled "No one else can sight in a rifle for you."

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

This is published by the manufacturers of the scope and it concerns the proper method and the importance of a proper method of sighting in a telescopic rifle.

MR. LIMAN: Mr. Harrison, before you continue, a question from the Press which is covering this has come to me, and the question was--I think it ought to be posed -- are the so-called dum-dum bullets?

MR. HARRISON: The dum-dum bullet, or the so-called dum-dum bullet, is the name given to bullets which are designed to expand dramatically or, in fact, almost explode upon impact. A good many of the small caliber high velocity weapons are designed -- these are commonly called varmint weapons, rifles used to shoot prairie gods and ground hogs, that type of thing. This is not designed or manufactured to explode on impact. It is, however, designed to expand tremendously, as the picture indicated. It is designed too much room, to increase in its size, to deform itself as it penetrates, and in that respect it is what is often meant when the term dum-dum bullet is used. It is designed for maxi-

mum expansion and maximum tissue destruc- 1870 tion inside the target.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LIMAN: And if you used a full jacketed bullet, the effect of that is to keep expansion from taking place; am I correct?

MR. HARRISON: That is correct.

MR. LIMAN: Are full jacketed bullets made for the .270?

MR. HARRISON: Not that I know of. They would have to be capped separately. They are not manufactured. The reason for that is most States prohibit by statute the use of military or full jacketed bullets for hunting. Game animals are supposed to die or not be able to get away and full jacketed bullets increase the possibility of simply a wounding shot, and they are not use for hunting, and conversely the expanding bullets are prohibited for the military, but are required for hunting purposes.

Now, as I was saying about the scope, this is a very popular scope and the manufacturer has produced an article emphasizing the importance and the proper method for sighting in a rifle. It recommends a procedure called bore sighting, which I will demonstrate here. Bore sighting a rifle -- a bolt 1871 action rifle, is quite simply. You remove the bolt entirely, sight through the scope, fix the cross-hairs on the target and then sight through the barrel of the weapon itself, and if it is bore sighted, the same point of the target that is in view through the scope will be in view through the barrel. That is a recommended procedure at short range of twenty-five to one hundred yards.

It is for the purpose of ensuring that the first few shots fired will indeed strike the target.

This article emphasizes, among other things, two points. One is that no man can really adequately sight in a rifle for another man, and the second point is that no rifle can really be considered zeroed in until it has been fired.

There is just no way to tell where a bullet is going to impact until you send one down range and see where it hits, and we know from our investigation that the method used to zero in these rifes at Attica was bore sighting. Now, there were no rounds expended to test the validity of the sight adjustment, and in fact one of the sniper details -- one man bore sighted all of the weapons for all of the men in the 1872 detail, so none of the men who bore sighted them were any of the men who actually used them.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Now, the other weapon that was used -and the principal weapon actually of the assault in terms of number of men armed with itrand probably in rounds expended, was the shotgun.

This is the New York State Police riot control gun. It is an Ithaca model 37 pump action 12-gauge shotgun with a twenty inch bore and a full choke.

Now, we have had a series of test evaluations made on this rifle with --

MR. LIMAN: Before you get to that, I would like Mr. Liddle to demonstrate, as he did with the .270, what a person has to do in order to fire this. How many rounds can you load in this?

> MR. HARRISON: Five rounds. MR. LIMAN: Five rounds.

MR. LIDDLE: The five rounds are loaded in a magazine like so, and to get -- to get a round into the chamber you can rack it one rime. That will put a round into the chamber and then, of course, you can slide another one in here, and that will be six, and the 1873 weapon can be fired -- is fired by the State Police in two positions, either from the shoulder in this manner -- every one of those being a shot, or it can be fired from the hip, in this manner, every one representing a shot.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

And, of course, after the fifth shot it would have to reloaded.

MR. HARRISON: Now, there were two types of ammunition, two basic types of ammunition used by the State forces in retaking Attica.

One was the rifled slug, which is a one-ounce lead cap with small riflings in it to give it greater stability and flight. There were t wo types of this rifle slug used.

Now, as part of our test, when we had the weapons tested by the H.P. White Laboratory, a research and development ballistics laboratory in Belle Air, Maryland, we had a test made for the penetrating power of a rifled slug.

This small projectile edges the muzzle of a shotgun slightly at a speed of 1400 feet per second.

MR. LIMAN: That is the actual projectile that is ejected and which will hit the

i67

object; is that correct?

1874

MR. HARRISON: That is correct. MR. LIMAN: Can you hold it up so it can be seen?

I can see why it is called a slug.

I think they are giving you signals as to what will get it on the camera.

MR. HARRISON: We had one of these slugs --

MR. LIMAN: Can you point to it now, because now it is in view.

MR. HARRISON: All right.

We had one of these slugs fired into a gelatin compound, which is designed by a formula constructed by the Edgewood Arsenal as the closest thing that we can use to simulate flesh. And that slug was fired into a gelatin compound at a distance of thirty yards, and it penetrated into the gelatin, one of them about ten inches, and the other slightly less and this, after penetrating through the gelatin, which is 80 percent water and 20 percent gelatin, is the projectile that was retrieved.

MR. LIMAN: Point to the one -- it is obvious, but again, the T.V. --

1

2

3

4

5

MR. HARRISON: It is about 1875 half the size of the projectile -- of the size of the projectile that existed in the weapon.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Now, the rifled slug is also a sporting ammunition, and the State Police used the rifled slug manufactured by both the Winchester Western Division of the Olin Corporation and by Remington Arms. This is the slug fired from the Remington -the Remington fired into the gelatin and as you can see, there is no appreciable difference in the ultimate configuration.

Now, I have here some material published and distributed by the Remington Arms Corporation regarding their shotgun ammunition, namely their rifled slug. They suggest a size double-0 buckshot and the rifled slug for deer, black bear and wolf. For deer and black bear, the rifled slugs are best and the double-0 buckshot is their most popular size for hunters, who prefer buckshot.

Now, the rifled slug has seen use before in law enforcement work, and in fact law enforcement agencies are getting increased attention now from firearms manufacturers because of the constantly developing field. It is quite a fluid thing and weapon and ammunition models change almost yearly. This is a law enforcement 1876 bulletin produced by the Remington Arms Corporation and it says, "There is also a 12-gauge rifled slug which is loaded with a single oneounce slug instead of pellets. It is used in anti-vehicle duty or whenever tremendous shocking power is required, such as reducing a cement block wall to rubble."

That is the description of the capability and suggested use of the rifled slug by the manufacturer, and we know that it was used --

MR. LIMAN: Mr. Rothschild said that that was for 12-gauge and you are talking about 20 gauge.

MR. HARRISON: I'm sorry. If I said twenty gauge, I shouldn't have.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: You did.

Just to be clear, so I am clear, the weapon lying across the table in front of you is a twenty gauge or a twelve gauge shotgun?

MR. HARRISON: I am sorry. This is a twelve gauge shotgun; if I said twenty, I was mistaken. Excuse me.

Now, we also had some tests conducted with the other basic type of 12 gauge shotgun

24 25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

1	ammunition that was used in the assault, 1877
2	and that is a double-0 buckshot.
3	We tested it for
4	MR. LIMAN: Could you remove the
5	others from the table for a moment so that we can
6	focus on double-0?
7	
8	(Continued on page 1878.)
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
11	

MR. HARRISON: We

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

tested the weapon both for the pattern spread and for penetrating power. This is a dissembled one model of the double-0 shot and this particular round has 12 pellets. Some have 9 and some have 12 and these are the shot sizes.

Again, as I believe has been pointed out in earlier testimony, the size of one of these shots is about the same as that of a .32 caliber round going down range with the major difference that there are either 9 or 12 of these released from a single shot.

Now, I will go through some actual targets here very shortly, but this is the basic pattern spread of the weapon and again I am about to forget another picture that I have got winded up over here. I have a picture over here--if they can show the second picture--okay.

The picture on the screen now shows-now, that particular picture shows the tracks made by these--the two rifled slugs and they went through the gelatin. They passed through the gelatin from left to right on the screen and as you can see left a quite visible track behind them. 1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

to the other picture, those are pictures of the entrance wounds of the rifled slug as they entered the gelatin. It leaves a big gaping hole and a sizeable permanent cavity which is much smaller than the actual temporary casualty created as the round passes through.

Okay. Thank you.

Now, we took a total of four weapons and several hundred rounds of ammunition to the laboratory for testing. These figures represent averages. At a distance of 10 yards, the average spread for a round of double-0 buckshot is about 6 inches; at a distance of 20 yards the pattern spreads to about 12 inches; and a distance of 30 yards pattern has opened to a 20 inch diameter.

We continued to fire at 40 yards and we found that the average spread of the pattern was 28 inches. Now, that figure is somewhat misleading because at the distance of 40 yards we began to regularly find that not all the pellets showed up on our 48 inch screen, but of the ones that showed up on the screen they covered a spread of 28 inches.

At 50 yards the spread had increased to

34 inches and this little dia-

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

gram is to indicate the pattern spread. This is not drawn to scale but at a distance of 10 yards the pattern is relatively small, at 20 yards about twice as big and it increases progressively.

I will run through this rather hurriedly just to give you an indication.

This is a distance of 10 yards, of the shot pellets the group is very tight. This is an oddity that happened more than once and that's why I show it.

At 10 yards from a 9 pellet round only 8 hits were found on the target. There are many possible explanations, the most likely of which according to our balistics expert, is that the missing pellets simply came off out of the barrel and in some way attached to or caught up in the wadding itself, which is this little cardboard filler and just went off at a ridiculous angle.

MR. LIMAN: Would it have lethal force? MR. HARRISON: It would have lethal force, but it would be a totally uncontrolable direction.

MR. LIMAN: This apparently was close

enough so that the wadding itself 1881 hit the target?

MR. HARRISON: That's correct. At the distance of 10 yards some of the wadding itself remained in the shot column.

MR. LIMAN: This oddity, which you say, was one which was reconstil even at that distance only 8 of the 9 hit and the 9th would have had lethal force in a stray direction?

MR. HARRISON: That is correct. Wherever it was it would have had lethal force.

At 10 yards firing at this circle the group is very small and they are all on the target. This silhouette, by the way, is a reproduction of a standard NRA pistol range target designed to simulate the human silhouette.

At a distance of 20 yards, with this particular shot, all 9 pellets still remain on the target but as you can see the pattern is increasing.

MR. LIMAN: Mr. Harrison, the target is actually the center line of the body; is that correct?

MR. HARRISON: That is correct. The target is the silhouette itself and this is the aiming

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

point.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Now, it is also worth pointing out at this point that these targets and these tests represent a test of the weapon and the ammunition and not in any sense a test of the shooter. All of the shots were conducted from a sand bag bench rest position to reduce the human error as much as possible. This is simply a test of the capability of the weapon and it is not necessarily in any way consistent with the weapon fired.

At 20 yards, again all 9 hit. The pattern is about the same size.

I show two of these just to indicate that they are quite consistent.

At a distance of 30 yards we begin to see pellets missing the target.

With this round, again, out of 9 pellets shot at a distance of 30 yards, 7 of the pellets hit the target, but two missed.

MR. LIMAN: To put this in the context of the area in which activity was concentrated, D yard, as well as the other yards, are 100 yards by 100 yards and the hostage circle it has been pointed out was essentially in the middle of the yard, maybe a little further from the center away

from the catwalks.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. HARRISON: So, to just extend slightly what you are saying, the hostages were actually farther than 30 yards from the catwalk.

Again, at 30 yards we see 6 hits on the target and 3 misses.

At a distance of 30 yards these pellets were travelling at about slightly in excess of 200 feet per second and are still very lethal projectiles.

At a distance of 40 yards we see the pattern even larger. From all the shots fired, several hundred, the average spread was about 28 inches and insofar as it could be measured on this 4 fcot paper.

In this particular instance one pellet hit the target, 8 of the pellets missed the target, but did show up on the screen.

MR. LIMAN: If this is done under laboratory conditions and the gun actually pointing at that center line and with that kind of perfect aim, you still only get one of the shots on the target and the other 8 are going to be not in that body?

MR. HARRISON: That is correct. Not in

that body.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

At 40 yards again, this time just to show that the patterns are not in any way one shot does not tell you what the next shot is going to look like. This is a reverse extreme. In this particular instance, at a distance of 40 yards, 7 of the 9 pellets struck the target and there were 2 which missed the target and, again, this indicates at a distance of 40 yards a shot under laboratory conditions at the full broadside silhouette of a human and it cannot be thought to simulate or resemble the conditions under which the weapons were fired on September 13th.

Now, at 50 yards this was the quite common occurrence. There was one hit from this shot, 8 of the pellets missed the target--missed the silhouette entirely and of those 8, 2 of them completely missed the 4 foot screen.

Now, at a distance of 50 yards one of the pellets did hit the target, the other two were completely off. They would not hit anything even within the 4 feet.

Now, again--again at 50 yards, of this particular shot, 6 of the pellets hit the target

and 3 of the pellets missed the ltarget, but did appear on the screen.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Now, we also fired groups of rifled slugs at a distance of 50 yards. Again firing from a sandbag bench rest position, and as you can see, this is the Remington rifled slug and it holds a group of about 8 inches across and you will also notice that it holds a group consistently between 3 and 10 inches above the point of aim.

MR. LIMAN: I want to be perfectly clear on this. These each represent separate shots. We are now talking about a rifle slug as opposed to pellets and so that what this is showing is that firing--how many shots are there?

MR. HARRISON: 10 rounds.

MR. LIMAN: 10 rounds. Firing 10 separate rounds under these conditions where the gun is stationary and the target is stationary you will have 10 separate spots that the rifle slug has penetrated.

MR. HARRISON: That is correct. And the spread is about 8-1/2 inches across. In other words, any one of these shots can be as likely to be as far as or up to 8-1/2 inches from where the last one impacted.

MR. LIMAN: This is

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

as a result of imperfections in the ammunition itself?

MR. HARRISON: Not as the result of imperfections in the ammunition. Ballistics is a very complicated business and there are literally dozens of possibilities. It could result from imperfections in the weapon. It could result from atmospheric conditions, which shouldn't change that much from shot to shot, but--this is the Winchester rifled slug fired at a distance of 50 yards and as you can see this particular slug does not hold quite as close a group as does the other one.

The extreme spread on this is slightly in excess of 10 inches and again the weapon at 50 yards shoots consistently high.

MR. LIMAN: That's it.

MR. HARRISON: That's all.

MR. LIMAN: We will now have a presentation by Mr. Liddle, I believe--wait, we have some--

MR. CARTER: Not questions, a change of tape.

MR. LIMAN: We have Mr. Liddle back now to make a presentation of our analysis of the shots

1887 that were actually fired during the police action on September 13th.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LIDDLE: I believe we ought to make it perfectly clear at this time that the initial assault plans called for state police participation only and you will see now at this time that there were other departments that did actually fire weapons within the facility at the time of the retaking of the prison.

Our statistics are based upon official records and I wish to state at this time that this--these number of shots and this summary that I am going to give is a minimum number of shots. These are shots that were admitted to have been fired by the state police officers and other officers within the facility. And I do want to say at this time we have reports, unconfirmed, that there were other shots fired, but up to this time we have not been able to confirm that this is so.

So, these are the minimum shots, a minimum number of shots that we have determined that were definitely fired.

Initially you will see that there are three departments that fired rounds within the

facility: the state police,

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1888

the correctional officers and the Genessee County park police. The state police fired--the total number of rounds fired was 450. The state police fired 364 rounds, admittedly, the correction officers within the facility fired 74 rounds and the Genessee County park police admittedly fired 12 rounds at the time of the retaking of the prison.

The state police breakdown is in three categories. Of the 364 rounds total--that is broken down into shotgun rounds, .270 caliber high powered rifle rounds and the .38 and .357 caliber, which are the hand guns.

Of the 261 rounds of shotgun fire, we have been able to determine that approximately 31 of these rounds were rifled slugs. So, the remaining number would be the either 12 component buckshot rounds or the 9 component buckshot rounds.

So, theoretically, take the 261, subtract 30 and you come--31, and you come up with 239 and multiply it be 9 or 12 and you have got the number of pieces of lead flying around within that compound.

The .270 caliber rifle rounds were 68 and these were fired from three locations, either the rooftops of the B and C

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

cell blocks--the C and A cell blocks or the third floor tier of C cell block and the .35 caliber-the .35/.38 caliber rounds were fired from various other areas within the prison itself. I'm going to break down later the areas that these particular rounds were fired into and this will be a total of all of the three departments.

1889

The correctional officers and the Genessee County park police were lumped together. They admittedly fired 6 rounds of shotgun ammunition. The only thing that I can say at this time is that they were equipped with both double-0 buckshot and slug. They admittedly fired 14 rounds of automatic weapons fire. These were the Thompson submachine guns that were posted by the Correction Department itself. Other issue and personal rifles and hand guns totaled 66 and these are the various hand guns and rifles personally owned that Mr. Harrison described previously to this.

We have determined that--as I said before, correctional officers and park police did participate in this firing. We know that they fired into various areas and they fired from various areas. The state police fired 89 rounds on the catwalks--I would like to put this chart up here again so we will all know what areas we are talking about.

The 89 rounds that the state police fired would be onto these four catwalks. They fired 62 rounds into the Times Square area. We determined the Times Square area, determined it to be this small area in the center. 87 rounds were fired into D yard. This is the compound where the hostages and major portion of the inmates were. Four rounds were fired into A yard, which is on the right side, 116 rounds were fired into the interior of the tunnels. In other words, under the catwalks down the confines of the tunnels themselves, which terminate in Times Square.

The other 6 rounds were fired either from the towers around the perimeter of the catwalk or from various other areas within the cell block itself.

Correctional officers admitted to firing 40 rounds onto the various 4 catwalks, 5 rounds in the Times Square area, 9 rounds into D yard, 18 rounds into A yard and 2 other rounds into areas not in the confines of the walls themselves.

67

I think they ought

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

to reiterate at this time that we have determined and it will show up in other testimony, but we have determined that correctional officers mainly fired from the rooftop of A block. They were admitted to the rooftop of A block as a part of the .270 sniper team that was up on the roof itself. The majority of the remainder of these shots were fired from the third floor of A block. We have determined that a majority of the correction officers were on the third floor of A block itself.

1891

The Genessee County park police were faced, we have determined, in the tiers of C block. A little breakdown on the numbers of correctional officers before we go any further.

We have determined a minimum of 17 correctional officers fired these 74 rounds. We also determined that a minimum of 3 Genessee County park police fired these 11 rounds. The Genessee County park police--I can break this down precisely for you because only 3 of them fired--had one shotgun and two high powered .30/.30 caliber carbines, high powered ibg game rifles with scopes. Now, they were placed in the third floor

of C block. They fired 11 1892 1 rounds to the catwalks and one round into Times 2 Square. 3 MR. LIMAN: On the bottom we have an 4 inaccuracy because where it says there is a total 5 of 11 it should be 12. 6 MR. LIDDLE: It should be 12. 7 You see that the National Guard fired 8 no rounds to our knowledge; the Sheriff's Depart-9 ments fired no rounds that we can substantiate 10 at this time. 11 I would like to break down the number 12 of rounds fired by the state police by the dif-13 ferent assault or teams that retook the prison. 14 On A roof, which was the sniper team 15 up here on A roof, and this is going to a per-16 centage, every 1/3, with the exception of the 17 lieutenant. So, of those equipped with .270 18 rifles, which also included correctional offi-19 cers, a hundred percent of these people fired. 20 The assault group that came out on the top of 21 A tunnel turned right and went down to D cell 22 block. 34% of these members discharged their 23 weapons. 24 The group--of the group that went in 25

A tunnel below the catwalk, one 1893 man fired his weapon, which is a percentage of 4%.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

C block roof, the .270 team, 6 men, all of the discharged their weapons.

The third floor of C block, there were 17 rounds fired from here.

All of the men in that particular area fired their weapons. The group that went out on C--the top of C block, C tunnel, turned left. 34% again, which is the same figure as those that went out on A block, 34% of these men fired their weapons.

Down C tunnel, and here there is a definite figure here that should come out that you should be aware of, down C tunnel 84% of the men that went down the tunnel fired their weapons as opposed to one man who fired his weapon down this tunnel.

The rescue group that came down the top of the tunnel and down the ladders into the yard, 44% of the men that were with that group fired their weapons and we have determined that there were 30 shots, approximately 30 rounds fired from the rescue group itself within the yard itself. One man fired from A tower, that 1894 would be the perimeter tower on the outside near the block, near the school or the auditorium area. One man fired from A tower. That's about the breakdown.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

I know statistics get boring and sometimes they have no meaning, so we kept that relatively simple and that's a breakdown of the shots fired and that's all I have for this particular part.

MR. LIMAN: We should say that at least two of the shots fired by personnel other than state police caused lethal injury and I would like to, at this time, acknowledge the assistance of our expert pathologist, Dr. Alan Moritz (phonetic), whose reports were summarized in the presentation that was made earlier as to the cause of death of various hostages and inmates.

I would also like to--

A VOICE: Mr. Liman, Mr. McKay, my name is Louis Canamack (phonetic). I was released from Attica February 2. I have also been informed that BCI--through my attorney that I am the talk of some criminal action as a result of the rebellion at Attica. That's not the business at hand. The business at hand is I would like to talk to the Commission about the transfer of those inmates to other institutions.

MR. McKAY: We don't have an opportunity to discuss that at this time. We have responded to the statement that was made on behalf of these inmates. That is a matter between the state and those inmates and we have neither power nor authority nor opportunity to intervene in that.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

A VOICE: You have --

MR. McKAY: As our statement indicated, we will investigate that as well as all other events that bear on the work of the Commission, but it is not anything which we can comment on today and it should not be allowed to interrupt these hearings.

A VOICE: Due to the fact that you were appointed by Rockefeller to make recommendations--

MR. McKAY: I'm sorry, this is not an appropriate forum. I would like to discuss it with you at the lunch recess.

MR. LIMAN: I would like to conclude

with our final report of our pathologist.

A VOICE: I will give a statement to the press.

1896

MR. LIMAN: I would like to conclude with the death of Officer Quinn and in the case of Officer Quinn, for reasons that the Commission has stated before, it, the Commission, has chosen not to go into the circumstances of his death other than to deal with the rumors which were prevalent at the time and which we previously required discussion and at this time our pathologist has reported to us that Officer Quinn died of extensive injuries to his head and brain resulting from blows sustained on September 13. He was not, as was rumored at the time, thrown from his windown, nor did he die of a heart attack as was rumored by other rumors that were circulating during that period.

MR. McKAY: Mr. Liman, didn't say injuries sustained on September 13?

MR. LIMAN: I meant--not September 13, September 9.

MR. McKAY: Thank you.

MR. LIMAN: September 9. Thank you.

1

2

3

MR. CARTER: I would like 1897 to ask some questions.

MR. McKAY: Mr. Liman, I think there are questions from members of the Commission.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LIMAN: The staff, at the moment, is assembling to--

MR. McKAY: Mr. Harrison is here.

MR. LIMAN: Mr. Harrison, why don't you come forward and in the next presentation we are going to displace the Commission because we are going to have explanations read from the depositions of various members of the state police as to why they fired and the only place that we can assemble all of these depositions is at the Commission table.

MR. McKAY: And you will tell us where we should go, I assume?

MR. Any questions?

MR. CARTER: Yes. I don't understand --these pellets that missed targets that you demonstrated before, is that an indication that they didn't hit the body of the particular person at which you were aiming, that if one of the pellets went astray they would likely wound or kill somebody in the vicinity; is that correct?

MR. HARRISON: Well,

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

that's correct if it hits somebody in the vicinity and in a yard 100 by 100 populated by over 1,200 people, that also is very, very likely, but you right, those shots were fired in laboratory conditions at the full broadside silhouette of a human size figure and even under those conditions at distances of 30 yards the pellets began to miss that target and that means that they would be going beyond the target and striking whatever was in their path.

MR. CARTER: The second question I wanted to find out is I should have asked you to look at those bullets. When you had the bullets then you had the pellets, the small ones, what was the difference between them?

MR. HARRISON: All right. In fact-let me--

MR. LIMAN: Mr. Harrison, bring with you the full cartridge of the shotgun ammunition so that you can show how the double-0 pellets are loaded in the cartridge which when it is ejected the pellets come out.

He will be bringing it over here because he doesn't have a live mike over there.

MR. HARRISON: All

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

right. The major difference is in terms of wounding, wounding power capability. I should say first that the field of wound balistics is relatively new and equally relatively devoid of broadly accepted criteria. Although in actual size, in diameter, this projectile is smaller than one of the pellets, the capability for producing injuries is tremendous. The actual damage done by one of these things is--

MR. LIMAN: When you say one of these things, point out what you are talking about.

MR. HARRISON: Excuse me. Although this is actually smaller in diameter than the pellet, the injury produced by this projectile is tremendously greater than that produced by the lead ball.

MR. LIMAN: The first you are talking about is what?

MR. HARRISON: A .270 caliber bullet.

MR. LIMAN: That's what will strike the object?

MR. HARRISON: That's correct. There are two reasons for this. One, this bullet is designed to deform, to expand and it itself will

destroy and rupture more tissue than this lead pellet, which is not significantly deformed with impact on flesh. Of course, with impact with bone it would be, but the primary difference in the wound capability is the relative energy, this plain old simple kinetic energy of these two pellets. The destruction is quite simply a function of kinetic energy imparted to the tissue by the projectile. This thing is traveling at 3,000 feet per second;

1900

this one at only slightly over 1,000 feet per This projectile will produce a tremensecond. dous temporary cavity as it passes through the body and this one will not. It will produce a slightly larger cavity, but with no--where the injury producing nature as that produced by a high velocity bullet. I don't know whether that really answers your question or not, Mr. Carter, but wound balistics is --

MR. CARTER: I should know more about weapons than I do. I was a little confused by which was which.

MR. McKAY: Mr. Rothschild has a question.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: It may have come out

24

25

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

yesterday when I had to be

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

absent part of it, but on the Andy Liddle report as to the shots fired, am I correct that the state police issued X number of shots fired and they received X number back, so there is a positive fact?

MR. LIMAN: No. As I mentioned yesterday there was no procedure for accounting for ammunition. No record was kept for the ammunition that was issued by the state police and conversely no record was kept of the ammunition which was returned, nor was a record kept of the persons to whom rifles were issued or shotguns were issued, so that there is no way of determining objectively how many rounds were expended by the state police. The only way we could make the determination with respect to the correction officers, state police and other personnel whom we interviewed was by their own admissions as to how many shots they expended and, therefore, as Mr. Liddle explained, we regard the figure that we have presented as being the minimum figure. I would note, as I noted yesterday, that in contrast, the National Guard regulations require that there be an accounting of ammunition; that the National Guard, which did not expend any rounds of ammunition

here did issue an receive back ¹⁹¹ ammunition and accounted for all rounds, but as Major Monahan explained yesterday, the conditions at Attica were so chaotic, to use a word, to paraphrase, that no such procedures could be attempted or enforced at Attica. He said he didn't even, as I recall, know whether there were records kept or not.

MR. McKAY: Mr. Henix.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. HENIX: What I want is a clarification. I am not quite sure of the distances, you know, like we were talking about firing concentrated on D yard and when we add up the number of people killed in that--the distance--how wide is one yard wall to wall? We have four yards there.

MR. LIMAN: Well, it is 100 yards by 100 yards, so that--you know, where do you want to measure from?

MR. HENIX: I'm thinking from A block, from the top of A block, concentrated fire into D yard--

MR. LIMAN: It would cross 100 yards to go from A yard and it would then travel whatever distance it went into D yard. Each yard is 100 by 100.

MR. HENIX: What weapons --you said we had the high powered rifles up there, but there were also other shots being discharged from, say, the inside of the building of --

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. LIMAN: We are going to be reading a deposition which we took of a member of the state police yesterday afternoon when Mr. Henix was present in which he describes some of them. We are also going to be reading some other material. The reason that we have not brought this officer of the state police here to testify is that he is a member of the detective force of the state police and for reasons essentially of cover, the Commission thought it was appropriate to respect the confidentiality and to take his testimony under oath and to have that testimony read here today so that we will have a description from his mouth as well as some other material as to what weapons were being fired out of that window.

> MR. HENIX: Okay.

Well, the second part of my question is that if a man fired from any one of those areas, the top of C block or cell block A or inside of those windows into D yard with buckshot or a pellet, it would be in fact impossible to hit

what you are aiming at in any 1904 way; is this true?

MR. HARRISON: It is not impossible to hit what you are aiming at, but a man would have no right to expect to hit it at that distance.

MR. HENIX: It would just be unreasonable?

MR. HARRISON: He might hit it one time and miss it 39 times.

MR. HENIX: But if he did hit it and if he shot one of those projectiles that had 8 pellets in it--

MR. LIMAN: 9.

MR. HENIX: 9 pellets, he would hit what he was aiming at even if one hit?

MR. HARRISON: If he hit it at that distance it would be a miracle.

MR. LIMAN: If we can proceed now because we are running behind. I would like to now proceed with the staff reading of testimony which we took in private from various members of the state police force who fired. These are their explanations.

Mr. Munisteri, who is going to orchestrate this, will illustrate the changes we made

1

2