

DAILY INCIDENT REPORT, SCI-CAMP HILL

To: [REDACTED]

Institution: SCIC - Camp Hill

From: [REDACTED]

Date: October 26, 1989

Title: 2-10 Shift Commander

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: December 4, 1989

Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature [REDACTED]

Occurrence: \_\_\_\_\_

Inmates Involved:  
Name, DOC No. & Block

Staff Involved:  
Name & Title

Witnesses:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Actions Taken:

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Description of Incident, in Detail: (Use other side if necessary)

At approximately 1300 hours on 10/26/89, this shift commander was in Supt. Freeman's office. Myself and others involved in the 10/25/89 disturbance went to the Commissioner's office. While there [REDACTED] addressed us via the conference phone. After entering SCIC at 1430 hours and reporting to the Captain's office, I learned there were no extra PSP Troopers inside and that the 6-2 shift had not been kept over. [REDACTED] said no shakedowns of the cell blocks had occurred. Deputy Smith had us report to his office. Deputy Smith stated he wanted to start cleaning up the cell blocks in Groups 2 and 3. A discussion of this nature took place for a short period of

time. I inquired why there weren't PSP still here. Deputy Smith then stated there were twenty-five (25) troopers at the Manor House if we needed them. Deputy Smith wanted a list gathered from Officers in Groups 2 and 3 of those inmates that could be trusted. They were to be used to clean up the tiers in cell blocks in Groups 2 and 3. I informed Deputy Smith I didn't think that was feasible at this point. I indicated just last night 10/25/89 that inmates had hostages and wanted to kill us. Deputy Smith still maintained we had to do it sometime, so we might as well start now. I left the office and toured through Group 1 areas then went to the Officers' Dining Room. Upon my return to the Captain's Office, I then went over to the Deputy's office again. At this point I informed Deputy Smith it was getting late and the daylight hours left wouldn't permit a cleanup of Groups 2 and 3 cell blocks. Deputy Smith and [REDACTED] left his office. Prior to leaving the Deputy said to watch the VCR tapes of 10/25/89. We started watching this tape and a radio transmission indicated there were inmates out in E Block, I believe. Several of us left the office and headed for Groups 2 and 3. I believe several officers came out of the Officers' Dining Room and they were running. I told them not to run, then about three-fourths of the way to the Education Building we stopped. [REDACTED] ran by us heading to Control followed by Deputy Smith. We waited there and then other Group 2 and 3 Officers ran towards us and past us. At this point, I saw inmates in the Groups 2 and 3 compound. I told everyone to get back to the Control Desk and we ran back. [REDACTED] then said get these vehicles out of here. [REDACTED] got into the dump truck, [REDACTED] got into the laundry truck and they headed for the rear gate, turned around and headed for the main gate. [REDACTED] took [REDACTED] unmarked PSP vehicle and drove it out the main gate. At this point, we waited outside of the Control Desk doors waiting for other officers that might be outside. After a short period of time and no officers in sight, we closed the steel double entrance doors. I then went into the Deputy's and Major's office complex to check if everybody was out. I then entered the Control Desk and asked Deputy Smith if he called for the State Police. Within a few minutes, I heard a radio transmission indicating inmates were outside of the Captain's, Major's and Deputy's offices and they were coming in. We in control got riot batons and several minutes later inmates were beating on the Control Desk door. We placed items in front of the door. At this point, there were numerous staff members in the Control Desk: Myself, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Deputy Smith, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. There were numerous officers outside of the Control Desk along with ten to fifteen inmates. All of us inside of the Control Desk were prepared to fight to oncoming inmates. Then black smoke began coming out of the overhead vents. [REDACTED] yelled if we don't get out of here the smoke will kill us. I believe he wanted to fight our way out with riot batons, etc. Most all of the staff members in the Control Desk moved towards the bubble in front of the Control Desk area. I got up on a chair to see if I could close the vent just inside of the Control Desk door.

There wasn't a vent adjuster so I got down. I walked over by the key room door remember I got down on one knee in order to breathe. I looked up and couldn't fluorescent light because of the heavy black smoke. I then looked down at the thinking what to do. I then yelled "keyroom window" twice. Somebody then said the keyroom and keep the door closed. When I entered the keyroom and saw someone out the window, I remembered the security office had an air conditioner in the through which inmates would gain access. I reached down to check if I had my keys at this point I knew we, the staff in the Control Desk and those outside between the deck grills had to get upstairs to the treatment area. After getting out of the I immediately went to the door leading upstairs where the copier is located. [REDACTED] was about to open his door and I told him not to open it yet. I looked at the keyroom window, I noticed black smoke coming out of the hole in the Control plexiglass bubble. Someone yelled everyone was out. I was instructing officers to gather around this door with riot batons. I had thought that inmates were probably records office as I remembered that last radio transmission about inmates coming to offices. I then told [REDACTED] to open that door and there weren't any inmates. All of us then ran up the steps. Prior to everyone getting upstairs, [REDACTED] there are inmates on the roof as he was shooting mace out through the wall mounted exhaust fan. I dropped my keys down to [REDACTED] to lock the downstairs door us. [REDACTED] came up and returned my keys. After we were upstairs, we stacked heavy wooden benches in front of the two doors leading into the treatment area. I ended up with a metal baseball bat as did [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] shouted are coming in [REDACTED] office. [REDACTED] stationed himself outside of [REDACTED] office and I got up on one of the benches and other officers gathered around with riot batons. Momentarily an inmate appeared in his office window then exited office back out onto the roof. [REDACTED] and myself basically were directing controlling and giving orders. We stationed ourselves and other officers equipped riot batons on those offices that could be entered from the Group 1 roof areas. I could see inmates on the roofs but it was dark and I couldn't identify any of the I do remember that Modular Units 5 and 6 were on fire, the newly constructed CDC complex was on fire, below us the Captain's, Major's, and Deputy's offices were on The smoke in the treatment area was getting rather smokey. We told everyone to lay the floor in order to breathe. At one point while on the floor, I was watching the door and [REDACTED] was doing the same for the other door. We were watching space between the door and the floor for inmates feet. As we were lying on the floor we heard shots being fired so we thought PSP arrived and entered SCIC. Shortly after this Deputy Smith came out and told everyone to take their belts off, get extensions etc. I remember taking an extension cord into Deputy Smith and [REDACTED] were tying them together to get weapons up from the ground. One at a time, two pistols were brought up then two shotguns. I took possession of one of the shotguns and we

into the treatment area [redacted] then took possession of this shotgun to guard [redacted]. As I turned, [redacted] was coming towards me carrying a shotgun. [redacted] and [redacted] were behind him motioning with their hands "No." I looked at [redacted] and his facial expression suggested he was under an extreme amount of stress. I engaged [redacted] in a conversation placing my hands on the shotgun in an attempt to take it from him. [redacted] wouldn't let go and he was speaking so fast I couldn't understand him. I said to [redacted] your so tall and up in the smoke your eyes are watering. I asked him if he could actually see. [redacted] agreed and at this time I took possession of the shotgun. I then stationed myself at [redacted] office entrance as his office windows were adjacent to Group 1 roofs. It was a short time later that someone yelled "they have a ladder outside for us." Someone said that the inmates with us must be handcuffed in the front in order to get them down the ladder. This was accomplished quickly as I stood by with the shotgun along with other officers. I have no idea what the evacuation was, but I was in [redacted] office directing the inmates out the window feet first. After all the inmates were out, I gave the shotgun to somebody and I then exited down the ladder. After reaching the ground, I turned and saw a PSP squirmish line from the main gate down past the Officers' Dining Room. I remember trying to think what should I do as the shift commander. Then it became rather obvious that the PSP were in control. Then inmates were seen on the Group 1 roofs. Somebody moved the ladder to between the Officers' Dining Room and Records Office. PSP Troopers went onto the roof and inmates were brought down off the roof. I then started for the Main Gate and outside of the Hospital side door [redacted] was talking to [redacted]. We entered this area along with some Troopers and flex cuffed all Hospital Ward inmates, then Isolation inmates. They were escorted to the left side of the Main Gate area. Then the CDCC inmates were evacuated from Infirmary II. [redacted] and I hadn't any information if the Groups 1 cell clock officers had been evacuated. [redacted] myself, several SCTC officers and PSP Troopers went down the Group 1 hallway to check these areas. I could only look through the window of the RHU and didn't see any officers. We then went to B Block. I saw no inmates out of cells, I opened the door and checked the switch boxes and no officers were present. We then proceeded to C Block, a piece of paper was on the inside of the glass window. I ordered [redacted] to break the glass with his riot baton. After doing so I looked in and an inmate came down tier 4 steps and walked down tiers 1 and 2. After this inmate was about halfway down and no others in sight, I opened the door and checked the switch boxes and no officers were present. We then proceeded to A Block and checked the switch boxes and no officers were present. I thought somebody said someone is upstairs or something. [redacted] went up tier 3 steps to check. I then heard a radio transmission indicating inmates were on Group 1 roofs again. I yelled to get out and we proceeded back up the Group 1 hallway. Several PSP Troopers were stationed at the Hospital Grill.

This shift commander then went back outside through the Hospital side entrance. [REDACTED] approached me and reported that the inmates being placed by the Main gate had increased significantly. Myself and other SCIC Officers moved these inmates to the Guest House side of the fence perpendicular to the perimeter fence between the Guest House and Main Gate. I then saw [REDACTED] and he asked me who is [REDACTED]. I told him he worked for me on the 2-10 shift. [REDACTED] asked me where is his location. I knew he was rescued out of the treatment area earlier, but I told him I didn't know where he was at this time. [REDACTED] then told me to come with him to the Command Post located in the Administration Building second floor. On the way I was told that [REDACTED] had started talking to an inmate via radio, he was the first staff member to do so. At the Command Post I was introduced to someone that appeared to be in charge of the PSP. He asked me several questions about [REDACTED] being a competent supervisor. I told them that [REDACTED] is a good level-headed supervisor that understands corrections and this institution well. I was then asked to get him to the Command Post. I called [REDACTED] via radio and instructed him to report to the Command Post immediately. After his arrival he was taken to another room with PSP Negotiators. At this point, there was no doubt in my mind the PSP were in command/control of this second disturbance/riot.

As [REDACTED] and I left the Command Post he stated he wanted me with him again that night as we had worked together well on the preceding evening. After entering the institution, [REDACTED] went to his Troopers and gave them instructions. Sometime later I again went to the Command Post and entered into discussions how the Highway Tower was secure from possible inmate attack as the entrance door is located outside of the institution proper, that being outside of the perimeter fences. I also informed them that all the DOC Bus equipment was located, i.e., shotguns, pistols, ammunition, etc. Again [REDACTED] and myself went back into the institution. At some point, I was explaining and pointing to all the institutional buildings, cell blocks E, F, G and that H, J, K are located across a courtyard, the Education Building. We then went to the Command Post sometime later. This time I explained how we could rescue [REDACTED] out of the Kitchen #2 Tower as he was being assaulted by inmates on the Main Stockade Field. The inmates were attempting to get up to the Tower. I explained that this Tower was armed with a shotgun, etc. [REDACTED] and I entered SCIC again, this time [REDACTED] gathered his troopers on the walkway by the crossroads. I then led them down to the Laundry Road past the Laundry and burned out modular units I-4. I opened the stockade gate and PSP Troopers immediately entered and set up a squirmish line to the Kitchen #2 Tower. I ordered [REDACTED] to lower the keys. I opened the Tower door and yelled up to him to bring down the shotgun and ammunition. After he was down, I asked if he was ok and he said he was. [REDACTED] then told me this is a strategic location and stated he would put an officer up in the Tower if my officer agreed to go back up. [REDACTED] agreed to this and he went back up with the other police

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officer. [REDACTED] asked where would be a good location to put the inmates presently on the Main Stockade Field. I pointed to the area of the field commonly called "Shiremanstown Corner." [REDACTED] had the PSP Troopers sweep across the Field and these inmates pushed to the perimeter fence and thendown to this corner. [REDACTED] then detailed several troopers to guard these inmates. We then returned to the Laundry Road. At this point, I stayed with [REDACTED] and about one hundred troopers. We basically stood at the Laundry Road/Gym Road juncture with troopers spread out in both directions. Inmates started throwing rocks and various other items at us, occasionally chanting "we die, you die" basically taunting us. At various intervals a chain saw was heard running. At one point the inmate touched the Gym Road fence with the chain saw throwing sparks, and an acetyline torch was ignited and waved around. After standing around in this location for several hours, [REDACTED] asked if I could open the building behind us (Laundry NCI Complex) so his troopers could take turns setting down in a warn location. I sent someone to get the Laundry Keys and this area was used for that purpose plus toilet facilities. At some point, I was told an inmate came to the area behind Kitchen #2. I entered the Main Stockade Field and we talked through the fence. This inmate identified himself as [REDACTED]. This being the same inmate that stated on Wednesday, 10/25/89, he had given medical attention to officer hostages. [REDACTED] told me that a rookie officer [REDACTED] was either in the barber shop or E Block as he had been moved to and from these areas. [REDACTED] was in K Block. I asked him if he was sure it was [REDACTED]. I questioned him on the Officer's identity. I knew that it was rumored [REDACTED] may have been in the Mods tied up when it was set on fire. Inmate [REDACTED] insisted [REDACTED] was in K Block and he went on to say that [REDACTED] was hurt, maybe even had a broken neck and heat up badly. [REDACTED] was in I Block heat up. [REDACTED] stated he thought that there was another officer in H Block, A Black Officer but he didn't know his name. [REDACTED] stated that the only officer hostages he knew of were those he had given medical attention. I told [REDACTED] I certainly appreciated what he was doing for the injured hostage officers. I then instructed him to come to the Kitchen #2 Gate. [REDACTED] stated he was going back to try to comfort these officers and render medical attention as much as possible. I then informed [REDACTED] if the other inmates knew he was giving us information they may harm him even kill him. [REDACTED] got up and said to me, "You just think I am just another inmate, but I feel a responsibility to those Officers and that is to help them." So I asked him if he could go back, make another round visiting these hostages, render assistance, and return again. [REDACTED] agreed to do this. I reported all of this information to [REDACTED]. He in turn informed the Command Post. At one point, smoke was coming out of the Gym and a fire truck was moved closer and water was sprayed through the windows. The inmates had barricaded the Gym Road Gate and fence. They had sheets of plywood and long boards up against the fence and gate areas. Using a water cannon, these were knocked away from these areas. The inmates

continued to throw items at us and started the chain saw, igniting that around. The inmates continued these type of actions through morning hours of Friday, 10/27/89, including chanting "We die, we again took me to the Command Post. During this occasion as to the feasibility of going through the rear of Kitchen #2 in to the Groups 2 and 3 compound area. I told him that was certain as long as there wasn't a sustained inmate resistance inside of Kitchen #2 that the inmates had compromised Kitchen #2 on Wednesday ever going in and out of Kitchen #2 carrying food out, etc. I informed he needed was Kitchen keys and a 10 1/2 key for the front doors to get out into the compound. We returned to the Laundry Road area a Officer to get the Kitchen #2 keys.

Just before daybreak Friday morning, [redacted] and I went to the Upon my arrival I saw one of the PSP SWAT/SERT team members along outside of the Officers' Dining Room. [redacted] had an overview location map. Again I explained how the PSP SWAT/SERT could enter and move forward clearing the way for the other uniformed troopers had the Kitchen #2 keys and I was then told I would be directing the Kitchen #2. The other PSP SWAT/SERT members were already on the street. [redacted] was the driver. I informed him we were Kitchen #2 gate behind the Kitchen. I led the PSP SWAT/SERT to the We were followed by numerous uniformed PSP Troopers. While on the I explained how Kitchen #2 was designed. I informed this PSP SWAT/SERT missing door in Kitchen #2. This was located in the auditorium side was told when we got to that point detail several uniformed troopers so inmates couldn't get in behind us. We entered the hallway of Kitchen loading dock. There were no lights on. I was up front in the middle with PSP SWAT/SERT members on both sides. As I pointed out the various cleared them. We were about ten (10) to fifteen (15) feet from entrance area and an inmate appeared. I immediately recognized him as inmate "don't shoot." I instructed inmate [redacted] to sit down. I then tried on which I wrote down the hostage officer locations. Unable to locate used what was available. I used a felt tip pen and wrote down their sleeve of my white shirt. [redacted] was then allowed to pass by of the Kitchen #2 door. Someone gave instructions to take [redacted] Post. We then moved through the cooking area and to the serving counter several of the numerous uniformed PSP troopers to that missing side door returned to the serving counter. I again explained the design/layout location of the entrance doors. The PSP SWAT/SERT members then turned mounted mini mag lights to search the inside of the inmate dining room

outside apparently saw this as they began breaking windows out. I remember these sounds as I could distinctly recognize metal hitting metal as the window glass was broken. Inmates had opened both sides of the entrance doors slightly, apparently looking inside. Again, I distinctly remember the inmates didn't completely close these doors, they were left ajar as a ray of light was coming through. I informed this PSP SWAT/SERT member that keys wouldn't be needed to open these doors. He told me to stay at the serving line until after troopers exited and established a squirmish line outside. At that time this sounded good, as I was not armed, nor was I wearing any riot equipment. The PSP SWAT/SERT members moved forward in two groups one on each side along the walk. The inmates continued to break windows, yelling "come out pussies," "We die, you die." The inmates then began throwing fire balls through the broken windows and in through the doors. When I saw these fireballs coming in for some reason I remembered the chain saw running previously. I knew the floors were wet. I fully expected these fire balls would ignite gasoline on the floor. Someone fired one (1) round. At this point, the inmates began moving back away from the windows. At this point numerous PSP troopers were moving forward and they were outside quickly. I walked out the Kitchen, stayed behind the PSP squirmish line. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] were then directing and controlling the squirmish line. Inmates were running up and into the cell blocks. [REDACTED] along with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] started asking me questions concerning cell blocks and the inmates ability to go from one to the other. I remembered from Wednesday's lock down all the day room doors had been removed. The PSP squirmish line was moved several times finally was just below the cell blocks of E and H. The PSP helicopter was overhead ordering the inmates to surrender. Numerous inmates were waving white "T" shirts out through the front cell block doors. A couple of inmates started coming out of the cell blocks. PSP troopers ordered them to get down and crawl to them. At this point, I moved in front of the squirmish line with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I informed them of where the hostages were last seen. One of them told me to keep watching the cell block doors, as it would be my responsibility to identify them if they came out. I then suggested I should start talking to inmates lying on the ground to get updated information on this. [REDACTED] replied "good suggestion." I got on my hands and knees and questioned several inmates about the officer's location. Most of them responded they didn't know, however, several said E, K, J and H Blocks. During this time the PSP troopers along with some SCIC Officers were placing flex cuffs on the inmates and they were being escorted out of this area. I finally stood up and started moving back and forth along the squirmish line watching cell block doors. Finally a person ran out of E Block. The PSP troopers took hold of him as I ran towards him they pushed him down. Upon my arrival, I picked him up identifying him as [REDACTED]. Shortly thereafter, [REDACTED] ran out of J Block. I ran over and picked him up and identified him. Along with help of some troopers, we got him behind the squirmish line where there was an ambulance. I returned



to the area of H Block and [redacted] came running out. Again I ran over and identified him; he was assisted to the ambulance. At this point the courtyard was full of inmates. A Trooper told me someone was waving from the J Block dayroom. I kept watching that area but didn't see anyone. I told [redacted] and [redacted] my concerns of getting [redacted] as he was the one reported to be seriously injured. The inmates continued to be flex cuffed. It appeared that the inmates were being moved in order to get to K Block. [redacted] then informed me they had an unconfirmed report of a dead officer in a cell in G Block. He wanted to know the design or layout so he could have Troopers check this out. He further stated I was not going along to search the cells. Shortly after this discussion either [redacted] or [redacted] told me that troopers were moving on the walkway from G to K Block and I was to go straight to get [redacted]. I looked at K Block and saw that someone had their arm extended waving an inmate brown shirt. The Troopers were getting close to K Block so I ran to the K Block door. Upon my opening of the door, [redacted] leaped at me. I got hold of him and he had his left arm around my neck and shoulder. I began carrying him down the walkway. [redacted] kept repeating to me, "Don't put me down, don't let my feet touch the ground. Cap, they beat my legs." Someone then assisted me and we carried him to the grassy area and laid him down. He continued to cry that he was in pain and "I can't lay here, sit me up." Two troopers sat down behind him. We leaned his upper back on them. The ambulance crew arrived and started giving medical attention. As I walked away, [redacted] informed me G Block was searched and no officers were found. I left SCIC at approximately 1200 hours on Friday morning, 10/27/89. [redacted] instructed me not to return to work until Sunday for my normal 2-10 shift.