

ALCATRAZ GUN BATTLE

Alcatraz, The Rock, the mighty escape-proof gaol in San Francisco Bay - dreaded by every American law breaker. It is dusk and within the prison a mutiny of hardened, life-term killers has become war to the death. Coast guards planes and boats patrol the swift waters of the Golden Gate. Armed with weapons from the prison armory, the prisoners boast they will shoot their way out. At dawn next day, press reporters and newscam men try to land for close-up action. But Alcatraz guards and wardens wave them back - the inland battle is on.

Pathe newsmen Frank Vail covers the battle from off shore as American Marine-Commandos (rushed to the prison's defence) fire grenades into the convict stronghold.

Return fire sets brush ablaze along the cliffs but by the following morning, Alcatraz Warden "Johnson" and Prison Chief "Bennett" announce that the revolt is over. The end of a 44 hour battle. Deputy Warden Miller wears a bullet gash on his face. Two guards are dead, thirteen others badly wounded. Alcatraz itself bears witness to the furious struggle, now ended.

Three convicts were killed in the fighting - now they come back to the mainland. This was Bernard Paul Coy, Kentucky bank robber, who touched off the revolt. Tennessee kidnapper Marvin Franklin Hubbard is also taken to the city morgue, along with Joseph Paul Greizer, California killer, reportedly the brains behind the attempted gaol-break. Well armed and desperate - they tried and failed. Three others probably face the electric chair. Nobody has yet escaped from Alcatraz - alive.