

13 Stories III
Story Options 2022

Option #2: 1952 Uprising in Maximum Security
April 18, 1962

A day after his release from 14 months in solitary confinement, inmate Paul MaHaffey used a piece of iron from his new #5 House bed to bust Assistant Captain Frank Zack on the head as he was being served breakfast. Mahaffey grabbed Zack's keys and unlocked the cells of the other confined men and crammed the locks so keys wouldn't work. The inmates held Zack and guard Howard Schraft hostage as MaHaffey used the #5 House intercom to ring Warden Clapp proclaiming that if they tried to free the hostage guards, "we'll kill them." The warden assembled 15 guards armed with rifles, shotguns, and a blow torch and melted the lock from the door. He told the agitators that if they were found outside their cells, they would be shot. In an oral history, a guard noted that it was the quickest he'd ever seen inmates move as they ran back to their cells. The disturbance was over – no shots fired.