

## Protesters confront federal prison chief

A speech by the director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons was interrupted Friday by a group seeking to end the 5-year "lockdown" of federal inmates at the Downstate federal penitentiary in Marion, said a spokesman for the protesters.

Michael Quinlan, head of the federal prison system, walked out of a convention workshop in Chicago when the group tried to present petitions calling for the bureau's end of the round-the-clock jailing of inmates at the prison, said a spokesman for the Committee to End the Marion Lockdown.

Federal prison officials imposed the lockdown in October, 1983, to curb frequently fatal attacks on guards and inmates at Marion, the highest security prison in the federal system. The committee contends the lockdown violates the prisoners' constitutional rights, but in April a federal judge ruled in favor of the bureau's policy. Some members of the American Society of Criminology, whose convention Quinlan was attending, also had signed a separate petition seeking an end of the lockdown.