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[1601: Nikolaus Krell, Saxon chancellor and Crypto-Calvinist](#) [1946: Damian Kratzenberg, Luxembourg Nazi](#)

## [1989: Jimmy Chua and his Pudu Prison siege accomplices](#)

*October 10th, 2017 Headsman*

On this date in 1989, six men went to Malaysia's gallows for orchestrating a notorious prison revolt three years earlier.

The [Pudu Prison siege](#) began on October 17, 1986, when the inmates in question rushed a prison clinic, taking hostage a doctor and a laboratory technician using improvised shanks. For nearly six [tense days](#), the desperados held the medics to ransom in the [former British colonial gaol](#), demanding their own release along with getaway cars and cash.

The ringleader was one Jimmy Chua (pictured at right), a former policeman turned gangland figure who had been detained on a murder charge; accomplices Ng Lai Huat, Sin Ah Lau, Lam Hock Sung, Yap Chee Keong, and Phang Boon Ho were all in prison on various firearms violations. The intrinsic impossibility of their position was underscored over the course of the siege, as Kuala Lumpur gawkers began to join the armed soldiery surrounding the jail: the prisoners who had made themselves centers of attention did not dare trust food sent by the guards, eating only the dwindling provisions that were left on hand at the time of their clinic attack. So how exactly were they ever going to come to an endgame where they would trust assurances to walk out the gates to a mystery car?

This distant hypothetical never crested the horizon, because with the help of a signal from another inmate, [Malaysian special forces](#) were able to slip into the facility while the prisoners' guard was down and take the lot by storm, unharmed and without firing a shot. That meant everyone was around to face trial for kidnapping, which just so happened to carry a maximum sentence of death by hanging despite the absence of a fatality.

### **On this day..**

- [1614: Magdalena Weixler, "my innocence will come to light"](#) - 2020
- [1983: Waldemar Krakos, Dekalog inspiration](#) - 2019
- [1796: Claude Javogues](#) - 2018
- [1783: Jacques Francois Paschal, rapist monk](#) - 2016
- [1867: Not Santa Anna](#) - 2015
- [1932: Lee Bong-chang, would-be Hirohito assassin](#) - 2014
- [Corpses Strewn: The Streltsy](#) - 2013
- [1698: The Streltsy executions begin](#) - 2013
- [1987: Eshan Nayeck, the last executed in Mauritius](#) - 2012
- [1707: Johann Patkul, schemer](#) - 2011
- [1800: Prosser's Gabriel, slave rebel](#) - 2010
- [1923: Susan Newell, the last woman hanged in Scotland](#) - 2009

