

Reagan Told 200 Faults Of Prisons

By David Jensen

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Oct. 22 (UPI) — A report prepared for the Reagan administration Thursday recommended abandoning San Quentin and Folsom prisons, conjugal visits at all penitentiaries and sweeping improvements in California penal conditions.

The report was prepared for the State Board of Corrections by a 62-member staff directed by Oakland criminologist Robert E. Keldgard. It suggested that prison terms be shortened, the 20,000 state prisoners be allowed to wear civilian clothes, background music be provided at mealtimes and two-man cells be eliminated to decrease homosexuality.

It also recommended installation of "modesty" toilet panels, brighter colors in cells as well as elsewhere, termination of virtually all regular mail censorship and a reduction of from 30 to 10 days in the maximum time allowable for pris-

oners sentenced to isolation.

Conjugal visits have been permitted at San Quentin and Folsom.

The report, which contained more than 200 recommendations, said the 116-year-old San Quentin and 60-year-old Folsom prisons were "not secure or safe."

"Prison living conditions are almost unattainable in China and they are ugly and depressing."

The western section of the California men's colony at San Luis Obispo, the report said, is old and a fire hazard.

James M. Hall, chairman of the board, said the panel "has not determined at this time which recommendations will ultimately be adopted. I am sure that not all of the recommendations will be accepted" and submitted to Gov. Ronald Reagan.

The report's recommendations in the area of security and violence included modernization of prison arsenals, closed-circuit television surveillance, destruction of unneeded facilities which impair armed surveillance, increased contact between guards and inmates, removal of inmates from security-sensitive posts and rehearsal of all riot control plans.