

# Attorneys Charge Quentin Beatings

By Jim Brewer

Attorneys for three San Quentin convicts alleged to have been involved in Saturday's bloody breakout try came out of the prison yesterday charging that their clients are being brutalized by guards.

They were among about a dozen lawyers allowed into the maximum security section for the first time since the violent episode which

took the lives of three guards and three inmates.

Warden Louis S. Nelson said that other visitors, such as inmates' relatives or friends, will continue to be barred from the prison until further notice.

And he flatly denied allegations by the attorneys that any of San Quentin's 2700 inmates, and specifically the 26 convicts held in the adjustment center tier, where the attempted escape was launched, "are being brutalized or harassed in any way."

Attorney Phillip Ryan emerged from the prison's main gate in the early afternoon with the claim his client, Ruchell Magee, "is in a state of shock" and is suffering both physical and mental pain from treatment he is receiving from guards.

Magee is awaiting trial on

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charges of murder and kidnapping stemming from the Marin Civic Center shootout last year.

Ryan said he was shocked by Magee's appearance during their conference in a visiting room usually reserved for Death Row inmates in which the convict and his visitor are separated by a metal screen.

"Ruchell's spirit is broken. . . he's in a state of shock," Ryan said. "His body seems dehydrated. He has a cut lip, a three-inch-long knot on the back of his head, his ribs are bruised and there are multiple cuts on his body, particularly on his ribs and shoulders."

Ryan said Magee had told

him the adjustment center inmates are being "humiliated" by guards who force them to crawl in and out of their cells on their hands and knees.

He said Magee also claimed that convicts who had seen their lawyers in the morning were beaten by guards on their return to the adjustment center.

Ryan's description of Magee's condition differed considerably from reliable prison sources who said the convict's body shows no such injuries and that his spirits seem good.

The source went on to say that the official investigation has determined that "Magee took a back seat in the (escape) incident."

Attorney Michael Friedman, who represents rapist

Hugo Pinnell, who is facing trial for allegedly assaulting a prison guard, complained his client was shackled during their interview and that a guard hovered nearby, interfering with "our right to converse in complete confidentiality."

Attorney Douglas Vaughn said he was forced to converse with his client, Louis Talamantez, in Spanish because "a guard was so close he could hear everything we said."

Vaughn said Talamantez told him the adjustment center guards and "a lieutenant who heads them" have threatened "none of the 26 will ever leave here."

Both Friedman and Vaughn said their clients showed signs of having suffered physical abuse.