

Black Group Meets Prison Officials

Dellums at San Quentin

More than 200 demonstrators marched to the gates of San Quentin Prison yesterday in support of efforts by Congressman Ronald Dellums and Assemblyman Willie Brown to inspect the prison adjustment center.

The two Democratic lawmakers were not immediately allowed to visit the adjustment center.

But prison authorities did permit Dellums, Brown, publisher Carlton Goodlett, San Francisco minister Rev. Cecil Williams and Henry Ramsey of the Charles Houston Law Club — all blacks — through the gates to meet with Director of Corrections Raymond Procnier and Quentin officials in Warden Louis Nelson's office.

The crowd composed largely of young black and white radicals seemed resigned to going along with any arrangements that could be made to get Dellums and Brown into the prison. They want to check on reports of beatings and brutality inflicted on inmates after the bloody alleged escape attempt a week ago in which three correctional officers and three inmates were killed.

DELEGATION

The delegation of black leaders arrived at the gates of the institution more than

two hours after demonstrators began marching and chanting on the narrow road leading to the gate.

Their mood seemed generally peaceful, if wary of the armed and helmeted correc-

tional officers who stood just inside the gates and on the surrounding hillsides.

To the accompaniment of a rather accomplished trombone player, the demonstrators kept up melodic chants

such as, "Free all the prisoners, free all the prisoners, fascist dogs."

Officers with shotguns blocked the road leading from State Highway 17 to the institution and forced the demonstrators to park a distance from the prison and walk to the gate.

When the Dellums delegation arrived, the crowd jammed up against the main gate until prison officials informed the leaders that there would be no possibility of going into the prison unless demonstrators kept their distance. They retreated about 10 yards.

PRISON

Dellums said he came at the "request of the people to determine "what is going on in there," and to see to it that prisons may be changed "so that tragedies such as that that occurred over the weekend can be stopped."

The group request to prison officials included permission to talk with adjustment center inmates about their treatment before and since last Saturday.

By the time they were allowed into the warden's office, most of the demonstrators had left. Dellums objected to being searched on entering because "it is an insult to my dignity." He was not immediately searched and allowed to enter.



AP Photo

RON DELLUMS AND THE REV. CECIL WILLIAMS
The demonstrators supported them