

Prison Chief Wants 403 New Staffers

By Peter Weisser
Chronicle Correspondent

Sacramento

The man in charge of California's violence-troubled prisons, Raymond Procunier, yesterday asked the State Board of Corrections to add 403 more prison staffers at a cost of \$3.2 million by October 1, saying:

"The killing has got to stop".

But Procunier, a career correctional officer who rose through the ranks, said "Locking them up and throwing away the key is not the answer."

Rapport and trust between inmate and prisoner must be established or the system won't work, Procunier said, adding that "a lunatic fringe" of inmates who kill senselessly must be segregated from the main prison population.

Procunier dismissed a suggestion that "revolutionary" inmates be deported after renouncing American citizenship, a concept endorsed here yesterday by the 13 directors of the 3500-member California Correctional Officers Association.

Among Procunier's suggestions to beef up security at the state's 13 penal institutions were proposals to add about 55 staffers at Folsom, where a staff member was slain last week, about 54 staffers at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville and 42 more, mostly guards, at San Quentin.

The board took no action on Procunier's proposals, but will continue studying prison security pursuant to an exec-



AP Wirephoto

RAYMOND PROCUNIER
State prison director

utive order issued September 7 by Governor Reagan after violence at San Quentin last month ended in the deaths of three guards and three inmates.

Cost of the proposals was based on a projection they be implemented October 1 for the remaining 9 months of this fiscal year.

A meeting on September 24 was set to hear suggestions

from employee organizations, presumably including the "deportation" concept advocated by the correctional officers association.

Ken Brown, a spokesman for the guards' association, said "we're asking Congress to study the issue" of voluntary exile, adding it might be a way of enhancing security for most of the prison population as well as guards.

Brown added that the group feels "there is a threat of infiltration (among guards) of the revolutionary element."

Procunier said he never had been given the suggestion about deportation before.

During his lengthy appearance before the board, Procunier gave detailed, almost men-by-man justification for adding the 403 staff members, which include medical technicians and counselors as well as custody officers.