

San Quentin Officers Want Probe of Prison

A long simmering revolt among the ranks of California correctional officers over "unsafe" conditions in state prisons came out in the open yesterday when San Quentin officers asked for an investigation of the prison administra-

an attempt would be made on Johnson's life, but brushed the warning aside with the comment that "He (officer Davis) has a whistle, doesn't he?"

WHISTLES

Correctional officers use their whistles to summon help in an emergency, but Davis apparently did not have time to reach his.

San Quentin prison administrators have denied that such a statement about the whistle was ever made, although Warden Louis Nelson admitted that authorities knew Johnson was a "hot inmate" and that there were likely to be attempts made to kill him.

The Board of Directors of

the California Correctional Officers Association met in Sacramento over the weekend and gave Thompson a unanimous go-ahead to "explore avenues of possible criminal prosecution" of prison administrators.

In addition, Thompson was expected to file a complaint this week with the state Department of Industrial Relations seeking new safety rules not only at San Quentin but at other state prisons.

Observers close to California prisons have noted growing discontent among officers in the past year amid barrages of criticism of the prison and a grim series of murders of both inmates and correctional officers.

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