

Prison Chief Meets With Angry Guards

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California prisons boss Raymond Procunier said yesterday a new system of segregation and control is necessary for the state's most dangerous convicts.

"But we won't turn any institution into an Alcatraz," he said.

Procunier, director of the State Department of Corrections, spoke to newsmen at the gates of San Quentin after a two-hour meeting with angry leaders of the California Correctional Officers Association.

Attending the meeting was San Quentin Warden Louis Nelson, who said he would "welcome any investigation by legitimate groups" into the slaying of three guards and three prisoners on August 21.

Main demands of the guards was for tighter security, including doubling the 350 guards at San Quentin.

Arnold Thompson, a guard at San Quentin and vice president of the Association, said correctional officers are seeking a new maximum security prison to be built at Vacaville for the "small segment of inmates bent on self-destruction."

"The few troublemakers — about seven per cent of the inmate population — must be isolated from the main line minimum security institution.

Marin County supervisors voted 4-1 last night to urge the state to convert the 2600-inmate bastille to a minimum security institution.

The supervisors unanimously endorsed a recent resolution of the county's Human Rights Commission warning Governor Ronald Reagan that the "extreme psychological conditions under which prisoners exist tend to contribute heavily to the explosive conditions there."