Staffer Slain At Folsom

Folsom, Sacramento county

A white civilian laundry supervisor was stabbed to death in the Folsom Prison laundry yesterday, and a black inmate was held as a suspect.

Ronald L. Turner, 30, a laundry supervisor at Folsom since 1969, was the seventh California prison employee to be killed this year, and the ninth to die in a grim series of incidents since January, 1970. During same period, 24 inmates have been killed — four of them by prison authorities.

A spokesman for the prison said Turner was discovered in the prison laundry about 12:30 p.m. yesterday with an inmate standing over him. Turner, authorities said, had been stabbed in the heart and died while he was being taken to the prison hospital.

An unidentified black inmate was held as a suspect, but authorities said they did not find a murder weapon.

The entire 1709-man inmate population was locked in cells while authorities started a prison-wide search for weapons.

Turner was the first employee to be slain at this



RONALD TURNER
The victim

maximum security prison 20 miles east of Sacramento since the 1930s.

Turner was married and the father of four children.

Even though there were no immediate direct links between his death and outbreaks of violence in the last two years at Soledad and San Quentin prisons, authorities at all 13 state prisons were alerted for possible trouble.

Our Correspondent