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Riot Control Demonstration



St. George Meyers and Sheriff Arthur Tyrrell of the McHenry County Sheriff's department examine the riot control weapons.

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program with the exception of the city of Chicago, which because of its size has its own riot control program. However, Chicago, Ill., is participating to the extent of offering one of the city's top technicians to give assistance.

Sheriff Tyrrell who was selected to represent the Illinois Sheriff's association, told reporters that Illinois is the first state to conduct such a program. "The main purpose of law enforcement," he said, "is prevention and that's why this project is so important."

Cpl. William Ritter and Sgt. William O'Connell of the Illinois State Police are in charge of Field Day operations. They stated that the main purpose of the program is to teach officers the danger involved in using this modern riot control equipment with insufficient training in its use. The men are taught the proper way to conduct themselves to prevent panic.

Cpl. Ritter and Sgt. O'Connell, along with other state policemen, are instructors for this program. They teach officers the proper handling and use of the latest modern riot control equipment on the market, along with actual training on formations. There are three schools in operation at the same time in Chicago, Joliet and Elgin.

The week of Oct. 25, McHenry county police officers will participate in a week long training program. Class room instruction will be held Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at St. Monica's, Carpentersville, with field training scheduled for Thursday. Class room instruction consists of Formation, Caution Factors, Baton, Detention and Mass Arrest, Mob Behavior, Intelligence, Explosive Identification, Chemical Agents, Human Relations, Super Search, Film, Operational Procedure, National Guard and Principles of Control in Civil Demonstrations.

Equipment such as gas masks, grenades, pepper fogger, tear-gas, shot gun launchers, gas guns, flares and wooden baton shells used at these training sessions have been pur-

chased with I.L.E.C. funds. All types of modern equipment from shot guns to foggers are used in this project.

The training program is designed especially to help the smaller police departments of three and four men. If they need help or are needed by another department for riot control, the officers are well prepared because all the men have received the same training state-wide and will know exactly what is taking place.

Demonstrated at the Field Day program were:

Gas Gun: Smoke was used instead of gas. Long range shells are used to shoot into buildings in true snipers, etc. Short range shells are used for close riot control.

Flares: Parachute flares are shot with a gun and used to illuminate an area such as for a night field search. They light a 1/2 mile area. A hand-held flare shoots up to light a 4-to-6 square-mile area for night operations.

Shot Gun: Shoots a 1 1/2 in. lead shot filled cloth bag marked with a dye. The bag can be propelled at short, medium or long ranges, depending on the type of shell and the amount of powder used. The gun is capable of knocking a person down. If a person or vehicle is hit by this dyed bag, identification can be made at a later time since the dye is very hard to remove.

Pepper Fogger: This has done much to deter trouble because it is a frightening looking piece of equipment. Shoots tear gas. Can be carried with a shoulder strap. One quart of tear gas solution used in the fogger is equivalent to 300 grenades. There is much more concentration and more mobility. Distance and effectiveness depends on the wind. Ideal wind conditions are at least 1 to 4 miles per hour.

Wooden Baton Shells: Shot from a gas gun. Shell has 3 wooden blocks about 1 inch high that fit into a shell and when shot on the pavement, the blocks jump along the ground and strike the rioters in the shin and leg.



Cpl. William Ritter and Sheriff Tyrrell load the Gas Gun.

PLAINDEALER PHOTOS

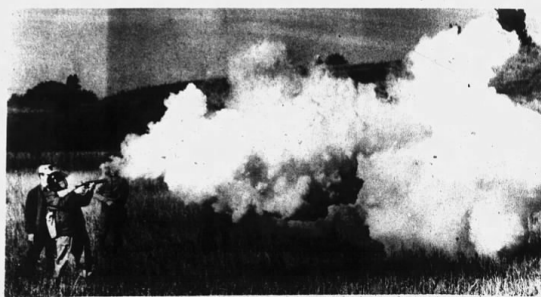
by Wayne Gaylord



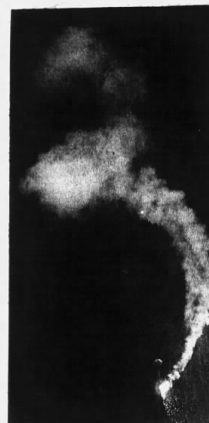
The Pepper Fogger with one quart of tear gas solution does the job of 300 grenades.



Cpl. Ritter of the Illinois State Police prepares to demonstrate the Gas Gun. The gun shoots a 1 1/2 in. lead shot filled bag. The bag is capable of knocking a person down and contains a dye to also mark the person.



An officer fires the Gas Gun with a short range shell that would be used for close riot control. The same gun will also shoot the long range shells that could be used to



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A parachute with a flare slowly descends to earth after being shot high into the air by the officer above. At night this flare would light up a 1/2 mile area.