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# Army, Air Guard start riot training

Hawaii's National Guard has resumed riot control training.

Riot control had been a task of the 29th Brigade before it was activated by the Army last May.

And State officials may beef up the Guard's riot control role since the federal government has allocated \$16,008 to Hawaii for that purpose.

Riot control responsibility now has fallen to the 298th Artillery of the Army Guard and the Weapons Security Flight of the 154th Combat Support Squadron of the Air Guard.

Guard officials believe there is little chance Hawaii will suffer the race riots that have occurred in virtually every major city on the Mainland.

But officials believe in being prepared.

The 298th recently took extensive riot control training both in the classroom and in the field.

Classroom study included a look at the causes of riots and the psychology of individuals who riot.

Wearing green fatigues, helmets and gas masks, the Guardsmen took to the field and handled a simulated riot situation.

Techniques included football-like maneuvers of forming a wedge and blocking groups of rioters.

Guard instructions call for

rifles to be loaded but firing is allowed only when the command is given by an officer.

Instructions also include firing to injure and stop a rioter but no shoot-to-kill orders.

A month ago U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark announced that more than \$4 million was being made available to states for riot control training.

Hawaii's share was \$16,008 and State Atty. Gen. Bert Kobayashi recently sent one of his staff members to a national meeting of representatives from the 50 states to discuss the program.

A spokesman for Gov. John A. Burns said officials would discuss what to do with the money at a meeting to be called in the next few days.

He said there is a possibility the State may decide it does not need the \$16,008.

Members of the 29th, before they were activated, underwent riot control training last February at Bellows Air Force Station.

When rumors spread later that Guardsmen would be sent to the Mainland to combat racial disturbances a group of University of Hawaii students staged a protest march on Iolani Palace April 9.

Burns gave them reassurances and a month later the 29th went to Schofield instead of the Mainland.



**RIOT PRACTICE**—Guardsmen at Bellows Field stand firm as a man playing the role of a rioter seeks to irritate them with a tree branch.