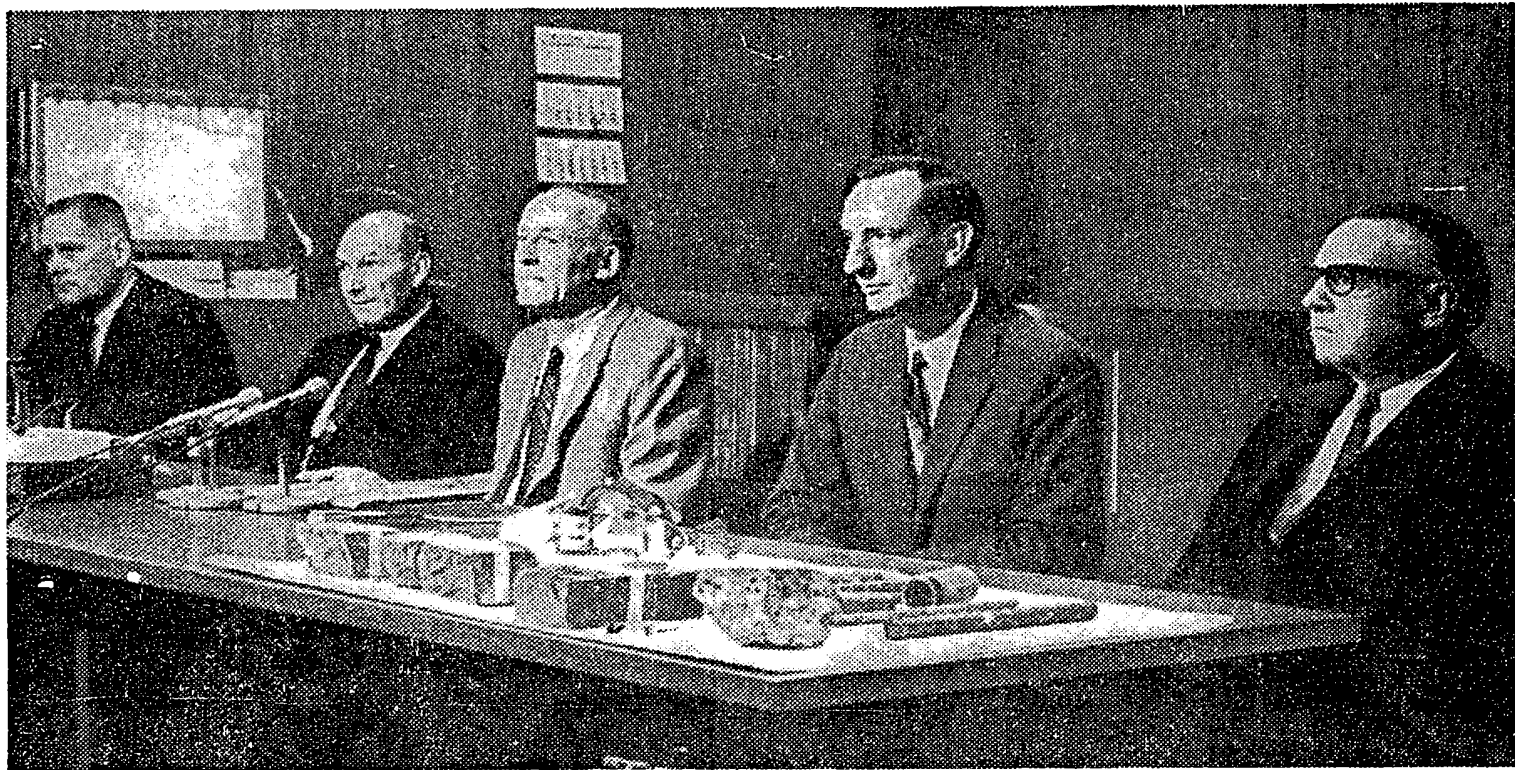


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By WALLACE TURNER Special to The New York Times

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Associated Press

WARN OF 'DEADLY FORCE': Law enforcement officials at a news conference yesterday on disorders over "people's park" in Berkeley, Calif. Sheriff Frank I. Madigan said that buckshot would be used today if his deputies

are faced by demonstrators with "deadly force." From left: Capt. Glen Dyer, Capt. Thomas Houchins, Mr. Madigan, Police Chief Bruce Baker and Inspector Ralph Waller. On table are objects thrown at police during disorders.

Berkeley Deputies to Be Armed With Buckshot at Protest Today

By WALLACE TURNER
Special to The New York Times

OAKLAND, Calif., May 29— Sheriff Frank I. Madigan announced to a news conference today that he would arm his deputies with shotguns loaded with buckshot for use if needed against demonstrators in Berkeley tomorrow.

The .00 buckshot consists of about .33-caliber slugs loaded into a shotgun shell and expelled in a pattern that can be lethal.

James Rector, 25, years old, was killed by buckshot fired by a sheriff's deputy standing on the street by the building where Mr. Rector stood watching the police struggle with demonstrators at the "people's park" in Berkeley on May 15.

"If deadly force is being used against us, we have the right to retaliate," Sheriff Madigan said in countering criticism that he should not have armed his deputies with shotguns.

One of his captains, Thomas Houchins, explained why buckshot was used on May 15. He said:

"When the riot got to such proportions that we felt that firearms were necessary, our group retreated back up to the command post area. I issued the order to Capt. Glen Dyer to equip his men with the shotguns.

"We took what supply of birdshot was available, which was a very limited supply, as it is not a standard police load. The standard load for police is the .00 buck.

"We took the supply of birdshot that was available, and I instructed the field commander, Captain Dyer, to have the first few rounds that were available to be birdshot. This is the way the weapons were loaded."

When the birdshot was exhausted, the deputies began to fire buckshot, Captain Houchins said.

Sheriff Madigan said it was "my feeling, and based on the reports, that it was either use the shotguns or retreat and give the city of Berkeley to the mob."

He said, "This kind of talk and the kind of intelligence we've been hearing for months, printed and otherwise, were 'Bring your gun and we'll take the park by force.'"

The area involved is part of

a 2.3-acre tract that the University of California bought in 1967. Rundown dwellings, which had been cut up into apartments, were pulled down and the property left unimproved until this spring.

Land Was Improved

In April, hippies, political activists and others in Berkeley moved into a corner of the tract to improve it with sod, flowers, shrubs and playground equipment. The university announced that the land would become an intramural sports area for volleyball and basketball temporarily.

Just before dawn on May 15, about 75 squatters were evicted from their sleeping places in the grass. About 250 Berkeley policemen and California highway patrolmen kept them out while a fence was erected. After a rally at Sproul Hall on the campus, a crowd moved toward the fenced tract.

In the ensuing struggle, the police broke up the march by use of shotguns and tear gas. Gov. Ronald Reagan ordered the National Guard into Berkeley.

Today Chancellor Roger W. Heyns of the Berkeley campus of the university said he was willing to lease a portion of the contested tract to the city, whose responsibility it would then be to establish a park. But he said he would not take down a portion of the fence, as is demanded by the organizers of tomorrow's march.