

## CHICAGO SHERIFF PLANS RIOT SQUAD

Seeks 1,000 Volunteers for  
Military-Style Force

14 FEB 68

Special to The New York Times

CHICAGO, Feb. 13 — The sheriff of Cook County, which includes Chicago, has announced plans to form a riot-control unit of 1,000 volunteers who would have the full powers of deputy sheriffs if mobilized during a civil disorder.

In announcing the plan Sunday night, the sheriff, Joseph I. Woods, said that each man chosen would have to supply his own khaki uniform, helmet and gun and provide \$20,000 of liability insurance. Despite these requirements, the sheriff said he expected to get applications from more than 1,000 men.

He amplified this prediction today by saying that his telephone lines had already been swamped by calls from at least 100. Some, he said, offered to help finance the volunteers. Still others, including lawyers and law enforcement officials, offered to teach in the 40-hour training program each volunteer must take, the sheriff said.

Mayor Richard J. Daley of Chicago, a Democrat, said there would be no need for such a volunteer unit in the city although it might be needed in suburban Cook County. He said he expected no disturbances in Chicago next August, when the Democratic National Convention will be held here. He said Chicago had fine police and fire departments and the National Guard could be mobilized if necessary.

### Ready by the Summer

Mr. Woods, a Republican, said that each member of the unit, expected to be in full readiness by early summer, would be carefully screened, fingerprinted, and watched during his training.

The volunteers will be organized in military style units that will supplement the sheriff's regular 250-member riot squad. Training is to begin within two weeks at night and weekend classes. The first meeting of volunteers is scheduled for next Monday night in the sheriff's Chicago office.

James B. Conlisk, Chicago

police superintendent, said he had not been informed in advance of the plan but would discuss it with Sheriff Woods.

The sheriff, who normally confines his police work to suburban Cook County, said he

had no plans to move his volunteers into Chicago except in cooperation with the city's police. But, he added:

"I am the chief law enforcement officer of the county, and I would not stand by and see homes and businesses burned."

He said he wanted his riot control volunteers to represent a cross-section of responsible people of the county, with about half of them Negroes.

He has begun mailing letters to more than 25 organizations asking their cooperation in forming the unit. The letters are going to civic, business, and war veterans' organizations, suburban law enforcement and civil defense groups, and to major organizations representing Negroes, he said.

When called into service, Sheriff Woods said, the volunteers will be transported in sheriff's vehicles, and a mobile canteen unit will be used to feed them. He said he hoped their employers would give them time off to serve without loss of pay.

Mr. Woods said that to his knowledge this would be the first time a major law enforcement agency had set up such a large volunteer unit. This one, he said, will be operated at little cost to taxpayers.