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Learning control

National Guard soldiers are trained to respond to civil unrest or terrorists.

By SCOTT MARTINDALE

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LOS ALAMITOS - National Guard soldiers practiced searching suspicious individuals and vehicles Sunday as part of a police training exercise on the Joint Forces Training Base.

About 60 Reserve soldiers from the 40th Infantry Division Military Police Company prepared for a military-style response to civil unrest or a terrorism crisis.

The soldiers learned how to identify weapons, explosive devices and other potentially dangerous objects. They also practiced patrolling on foot and setting up road blocks.

“If the Guard were mobilized in a riot situation or a threat of terrorism, they would be able to support law enforcement,” said 1st Lt. Jim Acquarelli of the California State Military Reserve’s 40th Infantry Division Support Brigade, the all-volunteer military unit that conducted the drill.

(Photo right) LESSONS: Guardsmen listen to Warrant Officer Joe Hall, in the mirror, who gave special “Approach & Search” training Sunday at Los Alamitos’ Joint Forces Training Base.

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ON GUARD: Spc. Kevin Grannis of the California State Military Reserve’s 40th Infantry Division Support Brigade, covers an actor playing a suspect Sunday.

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