

TM-04-91
Plastic Handcuff Carrier

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Submitted by
Metropolitan Toronto Police Force
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

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NOTE: Further information
about this report can be
obtained by calling the
CPRC information number
(613) 998-6342

PLASTIC HANDCUFF CARRIER - SUMMARY

The plastic handcuff carrier "FLEXCUFF" was evaluated by two police forces, Metropolitan Toronto Police Public Order Unit and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police "A" Division.

It was found that the handcuffs had a tendency to work their way out of the carrier under operational working conditions. As well it was suggested that an officer can be pulled off balance by someone grabbing the carrier.

Both police departments would not buy this product as it is presently configured.

PLASTIC HANDCUFF CARRIER DESIGN

The following observations were made in regards to the plastic handcuff carrier:

- a) The sheath and tie mechanism were found to be very comfortable around the waist area. It was easy to put in place and the plastic handcuffs were easily accessible.
- b) During an exercise the plastic handcuffs had a tendency to work their way forward and out of the sheath. This was found to be of great concern to many members. If an officer had engaged in a fight, the plastic handcuffs could have fallen out or have been accessed by the other person and used against the officer as a weapon.

REMEDY: PLACE A VELCRO COVER ON TOP OF THE SHEATH TO STOP THEM FROM FALLING OUT.

- c) The belt placed around the waist is a very obvious item to grab and allows for someone you are fighting with to control you. Members are not wearing cross straps on their uniforms any more for this very reason. There are enough items already present that another secured item of this nature would simply add one more handle for a perpetrator to hold on to.
- d) Several members were shown this product and thought that the basic idea was very good however needed some work.

It was suggested that it may be more practical to sew the sheath inside a pair of coveralls and with the addition of a velcro top to make it more secure, yet serviceable to the members on an arrest team.

PLASTIC HANDCUFF CARRIER -- DESCRIPTION

A black nylon case open at one end, sewn the shape of a belt with a plastic buckle to secure it around the waist. Will accommodate up to 10 plastic handcuffs. Handcuffs easily extracted.

It should be noted that this was developed for Tactical Troop Teams in emergency situations.