

# Blue Line

February 1993

Volume 5 No. 2



Canada's National Law Enforcement Magazine



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# IN THIS ISSUE

## FEATURES

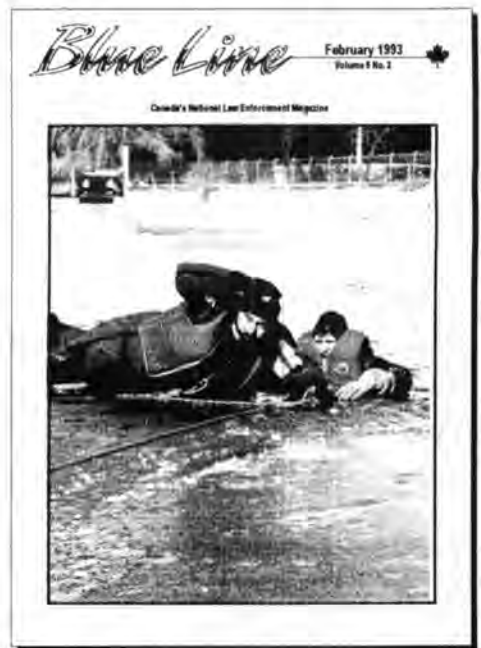
Cover Story	3
Letters To The Editor	4
Commentary: Morley Lymburner	5
Mobile Watch	6
Cellular Fraud	8
Clone Phones Make Big Money For Organized Crime	10
Reach, Throw or Go	12
Blue Line Classified	15
Pepper Sprays and The Uniformed Officer - Part 3	18
The Firing Line: Jim Dalweg	20
Product News and Views: Computer From Motorola	22
Telex Cassette Copier	

## NEWS

Yukon Crime Drops With Tribal Justice System	16
Cops To See Crooks In The Dark	16
Police Chief Cites Incompetence With Investigations	16
Regs on Cartridge Magazine Sizes Delayed	17
New Drug Patch Gives A Three Day High Police Warn	17
Firearms Amnesty Big Success	17
Police Tactical Training Conference Planned	17

## ADVERTISERS

Alcohol Countermeasure Systems	11
Aurora Technologies International	19
Carswell Publishing	2
Crisys Management Systems	12
Gordon Contract Sales	21
Procarry Systems International	24
RAM Communications	22
Second Chance Body Armour	7
Tactical Products	22



## Ice Rescue Theme Of Seminar

Hamilton Wentworth Region Police Constable Rick Rozoski gives the okay signal to rescuers on shore while his partner, Constable Cam Rumpel, awaits a simulated rescue as part of an Ice Rescue Program sponsored by the Hamilton Wentworth Region Police Association. The same group will be presenting "Ice Tech '93" on Friday March 12, 1993 and officers wishing to take part are welcome to call 1-800-248-3483 to reserve space. To give you a taste for this seminar we are presenting an article in this issue on last year's event

Rick Rososki, Cam Rumpel and Michael Wylie have been the driving force behind the International Diver Symposium held each year near Hamilton, Ontario. This seminar has gained international fame with divers attending from all over the United States and Great Britain. This year the Symposium will be held from September 24 to 26th.

Also this month we present an article on Cellular Fraud and an article about "Mobile Watch" an organization which sets up volunteer groups who use cellular phones to notify local police of criminal activity.

On a similar note we present news of a secure cellular security system which ensures the integrity of mobile phone conversations. We also explain the new law regarding cellular broadcast signals.

### Out Of The Blue

By David Bluestein and Morley Lymburner

FANTASY CITY - A new procedure introduced by the Police Commission will require prior authorization by radio before any officer draws his revolver. A press release from the Commission stated this was believed to be a better method than the previous policy of having to submit a request to draw a revolver in writing to the Chief.

"We have to remember this is the 1990's", the Commissioner said, "I mean we do have a good communications system and I certainly see no need for the old reporting system when we could give permission over the radio."

The Commissioner answered fears from the civil liberties group by stating the actual firing of the revolver will still have to be requested by filling out the report.

## Letters To The Editor

Blue Line Magazine

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### Blue Line Acting As Censor

I would like to first indicate that I am an avid reader of your magazine, and fully appreciate the informative, sometimes humorous, and up to date articles it contains. We all know as peace officers that we have a responsibility to the general public to protect, serve and to keep up to date with the numerous memos, policies and reports. The "Blue Line" is a pleasant break.

In November 1992 issue I was most disappointed with the "Book Review" by Morley Lymburner on "Drug Smuggling The Forbidden Book". I have no idea what previous police experience or case history review experience Mr. Lymburner has, but I seriously question his ability to make sound decisions about what information should and should not be made available to peace officers to enhance their ability to serve and protect the public.

On one hand Mr. Lymburner states that the book is "too real", well all peace officers I know live and work in the real world. The author, K. Hawkeye Gross, is portrayed by Mr. Lymburner as an accomplished drug smuggler who for some bizarre reason wishes to pass what he knows of the business to future generations and Mr. Lymburner cannot figure out why.

There are many reasons why Mr. Gross may wish to pass on his experience to others, but the first one that comes to mind is to make more money. The second is that most criminals have to tell someone about what they have done to feed their ego. That is why confidential sources are invaluable to the peace officer to solve crime. A review of some of the most famous career criminals would have revealed to Mr. Lymburner that after they had been caught and served their time, they have been contracted to countermand criminal activity against those they once preyed upon. (ie. the once criminal who was a world class counterfeit currency bureau.)

Mr. Lymburner goes on to state that

he is surprised that there are such books out there". Well welcome to the real world. I have done research on the growing and processing of marijuana, cocaine and crack. Several of these books are in my personal library and enhance my ability to recognize and deal with these new areas of the ever changing world peace officers face everyday.

I have a very hard time with the fact that Mr. Lymburner and the Blue Line would restrict access to this information to peace officers who are dedicated to law enforcement and protecting the public by stating they would not supply this information without permission from an NCO. I do not know what security clearance other forces have, but as a member of the RCMP we have top secret. With eleven plus years service I do not feel that I should need my supervisor's permission to spend my money in order to enhance my ability to perform my job. I have checked and this book is not restricted, meaning it is available to anyone.

Mr. Lymburner should know that one of the most successful ways as peace officers to stay ahead of the criminals is through inter-agency communication. Would you please supply me with the prices of both soft and hard cover copies. I would like to order this book for my library and fellow officers to read.

John Doe  
Alberta

#### Editor's Note:

I should point out that the security in the RCMP may appear to be tight... but welcome to the real world... it ain't. And if it weren't for my handy shredder I would be able to supply you with a great deal of "Top Secret" information that came via our FAX machines from anonymous sources.

Blue Line is a publication which supports a loyalty to the profession of law enforcement. As such we have a great sensitivity to who might be reading this magazine. It is not sold on the news stands but the public can get access to it. The necessity to have something in writing on departmental letterhead simply makes us feel a little better about who is reading this book. Again if anyone is

energetic enough they will find this book. We are just content knowing we did not help them.

I thought I would let you read the author's final words in the book;

*"I am not going to conclude this book by preaching that you should learn from my experience that drug smuggling will only lead to wasted years, jail time, and an unproductive life. On the contrary, all the major players in smuggling groups I have been associated with have made large amounts of money, enough to lessen the problem of the jail time they had to serve.*

*We've also lived our late twenties and thirties playing combat, but in a war that offers more than a pat on the back from a colonel who wears his hair in a crew cut.*

*I never felt good about the missions I flew in Vietnam when I was a warrior supposedly on the side of truth and the American way. However, my marijuana-smuggling trips were entirely different. I almost felt I was the Viet Cong, once again challenging the flawed thinking of the seventy-year-old, conservative, multi-millionaires who run the United States.*

*For me the decision to be involved in drug smuggling was one of diminishing options for an airline flying career after I left the airforce. If an airline career wasn't possible, then I took the skills I had acquired and applied them somewhere that they were in demand.*

*I've often been asked how I would solve the supposed drug problem in the United States. People seem to expect me to answer that I'd legalize all drugs, placing them in the same heavily taxed, over-twenty-one realm of tobacco and alcohol. This is not the case.*

*Legalization is the answer I would give if I were somehow elected president of the United States; however, my personal response is that I do not want to see anything done that would change the status of illegal drugs. It is a comforting thought to know that the opportunity exists for me to saddle up the ol' airplane and roll the dice for a million-dollar-plus payday if I so choose. That's the real American dream, and I would not like to see that possibility disappear."*

John... You want the book! Write me a letter, or Fax me one, on departmental letterhead. Have your immediate supervisor sign it as well. I want him to know you are reading it.

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Blue Line Magazine is published monthly, September to June, by Blue Line Magazine Incorporated with a mailing address of: 12A - 4881 Hwy. 7 East, Ste. 254, Markham, Ontario, L3R 9H1.

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Blue Line Magazine is an independent publication designed to entertain, educate and upgrade the skills of those involved in the law enforcement profession. It has no direct control from a law enforcement agency and its opinions and articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of any government or police agency. Blue Line Magazine is printed in Canada by ProArt Graphics Limited.

**- Member -**

International Association of Law Enforcement Planners  
Canadian Advertising Rates & Data  
Periodical Publishers Exchange



ISSN #0847-8538

Canada Post Canadian Publications Mail  
Sales Product Agreement No. 176796

**Commentary:** By Morley Lymburner

## No Place For Degrading Jokes

Last month a Metro Toronto Police officer was convicted of discreditable conduct under the Ontario Police Act. The officer was part of a team of drug squad officers assigned to a drug operation. While at a team meeting a female member of the team discovered she had to urinate. Washroom facilities not being convenient she decided to do what many other officers have done and utilised a private area away from the public view and between two parked cars.

Unknown to her a male officer had followed her and took a polaroid photograph of her while she was relieving herself. The photograph subsequently was found posted on the Squad's office wall.

The humiliated female officer eventually lodged an official complaint and, after much argument, charges were brought. Word of this event and subsequent investigations spread and the female officer ultimately resigned from the police force.

When the male officer was convicted the trials adjudicator said the officer's actions in taking the photograph was repugnant and disgusting. He added that he was only too familiar with police officer's tendency toward dark humour. He added that at times it is a release from the pressures of the job. However, he added, officers have to know when they have crossed the line of common decency and respect.

Practical jokes can be extremely destructive when they get out of control. The escalation of such humour has, in too many occasions, ended friendships and almost always interferes with a good working environment. In spite of what many may see as harmless humour it should be recognized that human respect must be considered paramount. It is one thing to play a prank which permits all involved to have a chuckle but quite another to invoke a prank which is fun for the perpetrator but humiliating and embarrassing to the victim. In particular when the prank eventually costs a

person his career.

On another level male officers have to come to terms with the fact they are working with female members in this day and age. These male members should remember that familiarity can breed an atmosphere which takes too much for granted. One small sexist remark may be ignored too often and a false sense of acceptance develops. A little common courtesy and a little common sense can go a long way to producing a better working environment.

Female members can not go away completely free on this issue. They have responsibilities as well. They have a duty to the working environment to be frank with members who display attitudes which are discriminatory or condescending. Nip it in the bud. Let them know the behaviour is not appreciated. It can be done in a lot more courteous fashion in the early stages. When the degrading actions of others go on in an ignored atmosphere it will only flourish and grow and the steps to curb it in later stages is quite radical and damaging but no less necessary.

I have probably been more fortunate than others but I have never liked harmful, escalating practical jokes and in my working environment I made it clear that I did not wish to participate. Although I have been the butt of many practical jokes I can not recall one in which I could not laugh along with the perpetrator. And I never got even. It wasn't necessary and only causes escalation.

Given the circumstances of this event if I were placed in the same position as this female officer I think I would want action as well. If it were the events surrounding this incident which caused her to resign it is indeed a shame. The perpetrator of this joke will have to live with that knowledge. I am glad I do not.

The perpetrator may be a good police officer in many other ways but it would appear he still lives with a major flaw which, I hope, has been corrected by this experience.



# "Mobile Watch"

*With the help of a new crime prevention program which cooperates with your local cellular phone company, help is only a (cellular) call away*

Windsor Auto Sales owner Chris Taylor was driving home last November 15th when he was shocked to see a man fire several shots killing a 28-year-old auto worker in front of his house.

Mr. Taylor saw the man get into a car and flee the scene. Mr. Taylor immediately followed the man and contacted Windsor City Police with his cellular telephone to advise where the man lay shot.

Mr. Taylor followed the suspect car for the next 10 minutes while giving the police dispatcher detailed information about location, direction of travel, licence plate and description of the car. He was relieved to see a police roadblock and the apprehension of the murderer.

When apprehended police discovered the suspect was not only heavily armed with several guns but was also wearing a bullet proof vest.

Chris Taylor was the Cantel "Ontario Cellular Samaritan" of the year and received an award for his assistance.

This event dramatizes the efforts of a national volunteer organization known as "Mobile Watch." The organization has its national headquarters in the offices of the Canada Safety Council in Ottawa.

Ethel Archard, Director of Marketing and Membership for Mobile Watch states organization is endorsed by national policing organizations as well as those representing other interest/user groups.

Archard says that every three minutes a 9-1-1 call is made from a cellular phone in Canada. She added that Canadians make an estimated 90,000 emergency calls to 9-1-1. About 40,000 of these are made on the road.

Archard added that "community involvement has proven effective to reduce crime and respond to emergencies. Police departments cannot carry the total burden of policing."

Mobile Watch is a national program to link users of mobile communications with local emergency services. Built on volunteers willing to act as sort of "Neigh-

bourhood Watch on wheels", it is a proactive way to enhance police resources, by helping the community take care of itself.

Cellular phones have assumed the role of a key emergency alert device, to make the roads safer for everyone by enabling motorists to quickly report crimes, collisions and other emergencies.

Calls such as were made by Andrea Baker and Bruce MacLennan of Calgary when they saw a jewellery store robbery in progress is one example. A cellular call to police resulted in a speedy arrest.

Other incidents underscore the versatility of cellular communications;

Ⓞ Romeo Dufour, of Charlesbourg, Quebec, found his boat in trouble in the St. Lawrence river. With waves reaching 3 meters high they found their boat sinking and the VHF radio out of service when it got wet. Fortunately they had their cellular phone and contacted the Coast Guard who came to their rescue.

Ⓞ Mr. William Rogers, Peterborough, Ontario used his cellular phone to report a major forest fire. There were no land lines in the area so he used his cellular phone to call the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ontario Provincial Police. The fire was extinguished within 24 hours, saving cottages, trees and wildlife in the area.

Ⓞ Bill Bojeczko, Guelph, Ontario, was nominated by the Guelph Chief of Police for reporting an impaired driver who caused an accident. Mr. Bojeczko followed the car and helped the police apprehend the driver.

## How Safe Is Your Community?

The Canada Safety Council's National Safe Driving Week was December 1 to 7 and Mobile Watch took this opportunity to point out to cellular owners and users that they can make their community a safer place by reporting road emergencies or criminal activity.

A discussion paper released by the Solicitor General of Canada entitled "A Vision of the Future of Policing in Canada" concludes that "partnership is the name of the game and the need to do more with fewer resources makes it imperative that all available resources in the community be marshalled and coordinated with those organizations and groups that provide complimentary services."

This paper documents the shrinkage of some major municipal police forces and predicts no overall growth in public policing over the next ten years due to budgetary constraints.

Because of the changing environment of policing by the year 2000, the conclusion is reached that "private industry and other less expensive alternatives to public policing will be in greater demand." Private policing services and volunteer community programs will play a very important role.

Mobile Watch is prepared to take this challenge as more and more police agencies will require the eyes, ears and talents of volunteers to back them up when real crime or emergencies occur. Mobile Watch is well positioned to take up this important challenge.

## Help Is Only a Call Away

This well known phrase is well known to these people;

Ⓞ John Klein, a firefighter from Oakville, Ontario. He and his family were driving home from a Florida vacation when they saw a car flip over three times on the highway. While John went to administer first aid to the accident victim, his wife immediately dialled 9-1-1 on their cellular phone. When the emergency crews arrived, John went back to his car to call the driver's husband.

Ⓞ St. Thomas resident Dianne Lesperance helped victims of a head-on collision which she witnessed. A paraplegic who operates her vehicle using hand controls, she used her recently acquired

cellular phone to contact OPP and ambulance services, while a young friend travelling with her provided help to the injured.

Kevin Smith used the fire extinguisher from his car to assist four members of a wedding party, stranded in a burning vehicle on the shoulder of Toronto's Highway 401. While he battled the fire the car's driver used Kevin's cellular phone to call the fire department and notify his friends they would be late for the wedding.

### How To Set Up A Local Program

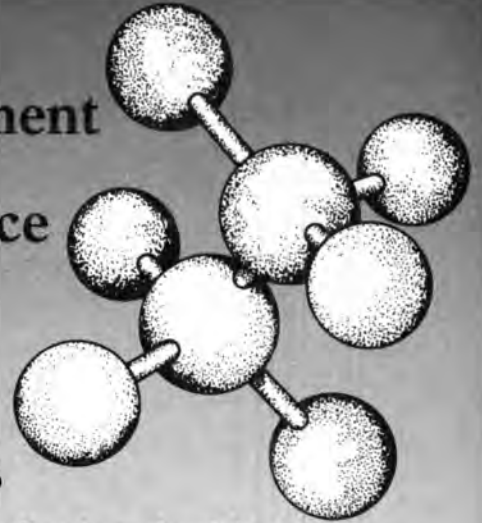
Mobile Watch materials are available in quantity on request for use by police and others to promote in their community. The "How To Report/What To Report" card provides procedures for effective reporting. It can be kept in the glove compartment for easy reference. The brochure provides details about the program. Also included is a sample Occurrence Report Form and a decal. As well as the enclosed items, Mobile Watch can provide a large banner which serves as a background for exhibits, presentations and photographs.

A good starting point for local implementation is to involve the local cellular service centres, as they have access to all cellular users. Following are some approaches now being used to promote Mobile Watch.

- \* Present Mobile Watch at meetings such as the Chamber of Commerce, Real Estate Board and others.
- \* Have cellular service centres provide Mobile Watch information to subscribers and confirm the local emergency number ( e.g. 9-1-1 or \* star numbers such as \*RCMP ).
- \* Work with media, cellular service centres and key user groups to publicize the use of cellular telephones to report emergencies.
- \* Include Mobile Watch as part of police exhibits in malls
- \* Sponsor Awards for "Cellular Samaritans."

For further advise and assistance contact Ethel Archard (Director) Mobile Watch at (613) 739-1535 or FAX (613) 739-1566.

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# Cellular Fraud

## Law Enforcement's Challenge To An Industry Nightmare

By A. Rodman Johnson

Vice President - The Guidry Group

No other American business experienced the extraordinary growth enjoyed by the cellular industry over the past five years. Also impressive, in a perverse way, has been the parallel growth in the "cellular fraud industry." Cellular mobile radio telephones provide millions of Americans with convenient, on-the-go communications resulting in greater efficiency and productivity in their businesses and personal lives. Unfortunately, mobile cellular telephones are at least as attractive to criminals, who primarily appreciate cellular's potential for anonymity, as well as "free calling" opportunities.

Using sophisticated computer hackers and highly paid software engineers, major criminal organizations have figured out how to gain illegal access to the cellular carriers' networks and from there to the international public switch toll network. The ability of drug or weapons cartel members to speak freely across state and international boundaries with little fear of detection, and without the existence of a paper trail, creates a serious challenge to law enforcement.

## History of Cellular Fraud

Cellular fraud doubtless began to develop as a criminal enterprise shortly after cellular networks in our largest cities began appearing in late 1984. Although individual carriers occasionally discovered fraudulent activities in their distribution networks or even with their own employees, the problem seemed relatively insignificant in an industry where carriers were doubling their customer bases every 12 months.

But by 1990, cellular fraud began to show up dramatically in larger markets including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Houston. Several carriers sustained losses during individual months exceeding one million dollars. The fraud was not confined to the top ten markets, but showed up in smaller cities, seem-



ingly unconnected to serious criminal activity. As fraud began appearing in more and more markets and total estimated annual losses climbed to the level of hundreds of millions, carriers began to organize their defenses and develop plans of counter-attack.

By the Spring of 1991, the Cellular Telephone Industry Association ("CTIA"), the industry trade association based in Washington, D.C., began planning a nationwide counter-offensive against cellular fraud. CTIA staff and representatives from a dozen key carriers developed a comprehensive plan consisting of three basic parts: (1) nationwide investigations followed by sting operations to be handled by local, state, and federal law enforcement, assisted by CTIA-hired investigators and cellular carrier personnel; (2) comprehensive fraud awareness training to be presented to member carriers; and (3) training programs for law enforcement agencies. The law enforcement training is to provide peace officers with a general familiarity with cellular network technology, an understanding of how cellular fraud is perpetrated. Additionally, the training will demonstrate what some officers intuitively know: how criminals use cellular communications in connections with serious crimes including drug trafficking, smuggling, arms trading, insider stock dealing, and espionage.

In the Fall of 1991, the CTIA Board of Directors authorized the Houston-

based security consultant firm, The Guidry Group, to spearhead the industry fight against cellular fraud. Michael Guidry, founder of The Guidry Group, had been investigating cellular fraud for the past five years. According to Guidry, whose previous efforts have led to the arrest of scores of individuals engaged in cellular fraud, the cellular industry is clearly taking the right steps at the right time. For several reasons, cellular communications are enormously attractive to "bad guys". First, fraudulently obtained or illegally altered cellular phones offer free calling anywhere in the world without leaving a paper trail; and, second, cellular calls are, compared to traditional hardwire calls, difficult to intercept or "tap." Nearly every drug dealer, arms trader, smuggler, inside stock tipster, and member of an organized crime ring conducts business over illegally altered or fraudulently obtained cellular phones. Cellular carriers are "ripped off" and the commission of crime is greatly facilitated, according to Guidry.

## Types of Cellular Fraud

Cellular fraud is generally categorized into two distinct types. First, there is "subscription" fraud, which resembles the standard fraud that has long plagued our credit-based economy. Perpetrators use phone I.D.'s and fictitious identities to persuade unsuspecting carriers to activate cellular phones.

With a phone activated to a fictitious subscriber, the criminal is free to use his or her cellular telephone until the account is terminated by the carrier for non-payment. As many carriers do not disconnect their customers for non-payment for sixty (60) to ninety (90) days, the perpetrator has up to three months of free, anonymous calling privileges for use in his primary criminal enterprise. With a "friendly" cellular customer representative working inside the carrier, the free calling period may extend up to six months. Corruption of cellular carriers' work force is an unfortunate adjunct to cellular fraud.

Cellular carriers are particularly susceptible to "fictitious subscriber" fraud because most cellular sales are handled by unaffiliated dealers who typically use their own network of "sub-dealers" to



sell cellular phones and service. With most of the sales activity handled by far-flung individuals and organizations that the carriers do not manage on a day-to-day basis or may not even know, the opportunity for fraudulent activity is significant. While honest distributors presumably would never countenance fraud, they lack cellular carriers' incentives to prevent it. Rarely, if ever, do cellular carriers attempt to have their dealers reimburse them for fraud loss.

The second type of cellular fraud is technical in nature and involves illegal alteration of the microchip contained in each cellular phone. Each cellular phone has a unique, manufacturer-assigned, electronic serial number ("ESN"). When a cellular subscriber signs up for service, the carrier, acting through its dealer or sub-dealer, assigns the cellular phone with a telephone number or mobile identification number ("MIN"). When a cellular subscriber attempts to make a call, the ESN and MIN must match inside the carrier's switch: if they do not match, the cellular telephone switch will not permit the call to go through.

With the help of software engineers and radio technicians, organized criminals have reverse-engineered cellular chip technology and have created their own chips which, when inserted into cellular phones, permit unauthorized cellular calling. Some of these chips cause the ESN-MIN combination to tumble until the host cellular switch mistakenly permits access to the cellular network and the public switch toll network. Cellular calls to anywhere in the world may be made by the bad guy without the existence of any bona fide subscriber: free, anonymous calling.

Even more pernicious is the "clone" phone, which results from an altered chip that appears to the cellular switch to be the ESN-MIN belonging to a bona fide customer. The bad guy makes a call with his clone-phone and the airtime usage and toll charges are billed to a bona fide subscriber up to 45 days later. Early clone phones dumped thousands of dollars of toll charges on surprised and irate subscribers. Later generation clone phones "clone" a different number on each call and thus often go undetected by bona fide subscribers.

Tumbler phones and clone phones

are sold on the streets of every major city. These illegally altered devices have already caused millions of dollars in lost revenue and toll expense to cellular carriers. One carrier sustained losses exceeding \$2 million in a thirty (30) day period in one city alone.

### Defences From Cellular Fraud

Cellular carriers can take steps to significantly reduce subscription fraud. Certainly, prospective customers' identities can be verified, the process by which customers gain access can be tightened, and certain employees and distribution agents can be screened and backgrounded. Perhaps cellular carriers have been too lax in these matters due to their overriding objective to build significant customer bases. But, as fraud loss drops directly to the bottom line, carriers will at some point take steps necessary to reduce this type of cellular fraud.

Cellular carriers, only defence to technical fraud is, perforce, technical in nature. Cellular switch and cellular telephone manufacturers are seeking technical solutions which will block unauthorized access to cellular networks. Switch manufacturers have installed software programs designed to block altered phones.

Unfortunately, perpetrators of cellular fraud are highly motivated and well financed. Each defensive manoeuvre by the cellular industry leads to a new generation of fraudulent devices which permit unauthorized access to cellular networks. Whether a definitive, permanent solution exists which will eliminate this genus of cellular fraud is problematical.

### Role of Law Enforcement

Provincial and federal law enforcement each have a significant role to play in the war against those individuals who engage in cellular fraud. The fact that the drug dealers, terrorists, arms traders, and other organized criminal groups use altered or fraudulently obtained cellular phones should increase law enforcement's interest in cellular phone fraud.

As economic losses to North American businesses spiral toward the hundreds of millions of dollars, law enforcement is motivated to interdict this crimi-

nal activity. Both the U.S. Secret Service, F.B.I., and RCMP have effectively responded to complaints by cellular carriers against fraud. U.S. Federal law specifically prohibits the possession of cellular phones with altered ESNS. Additionally, federal mail fraud and RICO statutes may be available to federal law enforcement's efforts to attack this high growth telecommunications crime.

Part of The Guidry Group's cellular awareness training for law enforcement is designed to stimulate dialogue with prosecutors to determine whether additional statutory tools are needed in the fight against cellular fraud.

*A. Rodman Johnson is Vice President, General Counsel to the Guidry Group. Previously, Mr. Johnson was General Counsel to GTE Mobilnet, the nation's second largest cellular carrier. Mr. Johnson is a 1971 Graduate of Georgetown Law School*

### THE GUIDRY GROUP

*The Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA) sponsors law enforcement training seminars throughout the U.S. and Canada. Presented by The Guidry Group, this training teaches law enforcement personnel the latest techniques in the use of cellular telecommunications as a lawful tool for tracing, locating, and prosecuting offenders for many types of crimes. Any agency wishing to schedule a training workshop can contact:*

**Eric Hill**

*Director of Industry Security  
Cellular Telecommunications*

*Industry Association*

*(202) 785-0081*

*or.*

**Richard Sharman**

*President,*

*The Guidry Group*

*(713) 363-1300*

*FAX (713) 363-9378*

# Clone Phones Make Big Money For Organized Crime

Guns drawn, Secret Service agents and local police officers kicked down the door of an apartment in a Phoenix suburb in January and plunged straight into the biggest case of telephone fraud ever. Half a world away, Palestinians in the occupied territories of Israel were making long-distance calls to other Middle Eastern countries. And unsuspecting cellular phone subscribers in Arizona were footing the bill.

Law enforcement authorities said they had broken up an elaborate scheme to skirt an Arab boycott of calls from Israel. In the raid, and a related one in Phoenix, they seized 35 cellular phones, 10,000 microchips and notebooks filled with electronic codes that could allow high-tech bandits to pose as legitimate customers.

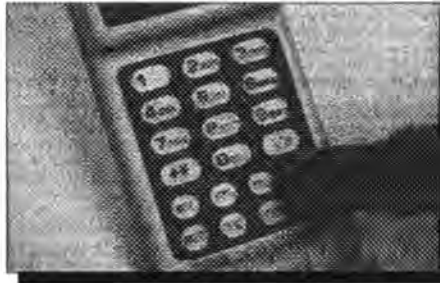
Handcuffed and sitting on a couch, one of the five men from the Middle East arrested that day said, "This looks bad, doesn't it?"

The Phoenix raid provided clear evidence that as telecommunications becomes more sophisticated, so does telecommunications fraud. Cellular telephones, which transmit phone calls with radio signals instead of by electric current over copper wires, are especially vulnerable.

No one knows exactly how much is lost to theft of cellular service, partly because the fraud, at least on a small scale, is hard to distinguish from unpaid cellular phone bills. Most estimates seem to be educated guesses.

Law enforcement officials say the Phoenix suspects were "cloning" phones. Using a device, about the size of a child's lunch box, that can be purchased by mail powered by an automobile's cigarette lighter, criminals can pluck cellular customers' electronic identities out of the air as they make calls. The well-equipped bandit can do so by driving up behind a car stopped at a red light, or simply aiming the device from a freeway overpass and harvesting the identification codes as cars rush underneath.

The codes are then programmed into cellular telephones, and the bills go



*Organized criminals across North America make millions of dollars each year by selling long distance cellular calls worth \$16 per minute for as little as 20 cents using electronically copied phones.*

to the ambushed customers.

Theft of services has risen sharply in the last year as drug dealers and other criminals have discovered cellular phones as one way of eluding court-sanctioned wiretaps of conventional phones. Although it is relatively easy for the police, the F.B.I. and anyone else with the right equipment to eavesdrop on cellular calls, the bandits can keep switching to another cloned phone and stay one step ahead of the sheriff.

"Cloning is the ultimate crime against the cellular telephone customer," said Eric W. Hill, director of industry security for the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association, a trade group in Washington.

"You have become that customer and can make any call you want any where in the world - until we catch you."

In the Phoenix case, the clients were Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, who were prevented by the Arab boycott from calling friends and relatives elsewhere in the Middle East.

For the time being, the Middle Eastern market for phone service within the region remains lucrative, even at charges 80 times those of normal American costs, or \$16 a minute for cellular air time that can cost as little as 20 cents.

The Phoenix suspects may have relayed at least 57,000 calls in 19 days through Arizona and elsewhere, said the Secret Service, which has jurisdiction over telecommunications fraud. Ameri-

can phone companies may have lost almost \$1 million in air time and long-distance charges fraudulently billed to American customers, for which the cellular companies later issued credits. And the Palestinians are thought to have paid nearly \$4 million for these calls, making the case the largest of its kind, the Secret Service said.

By cloning legitimate phones through stolen codes, bandits can establish three-way conference calls linking Israel, the United States and Arab countries. Using a bandit's phone, a Palestinian pays in advance for a cellular call. The high-tech bandit in America times the call, cutting off the conversation as the purchased time elapses.

The unique characteristics of cellular technology allowed investigators to quickly zero in on the callers. Cellular signals are carried by radio transmitters known as "cell sites," which have an effective radius of less than a half-mile. By tracking which cell sites the callers were using, the Guidry agents took 45 minutes to find the first location, a half-hour to find the second.

When a cellular customer begins a call, the handset broadcasts two electronic codes - a mobile identification number that identifies the subscriber and an electronic serial number that identifies the telephone.

New digital technology introduced in the largest cities late last year allow digital encryption type of coding that will make cloning more difficult. Unlike current analog transmission - the electronic signals used by traditional telephones in which sounds correspond proportionally to voltage - digital transmission converts sound into the ones and zeros in computer code. With the digital technology subscribers and operators are easily able to devise new codes.

But converting millions of telephones to digital use will require, years. Meanwhile, the industry is committed to making phones that can use both analog and digital signals. And as long as there is one phone the current technology will still be operating. There are more than seven million analog cellular phones today and cellular thieves can, at least in theory, clone that phone and make hundreds even thousands, of duplicates.

## How Cellular Bandits Steal Phone Services



A lunchbox-size electronic monitoring device can pick up radio waves and collect the private codes that identify cellular telephone customers.



After the machine has collected any number of codes from passing vehicles, the cellular bandit makes a record of them.



A personal computer equipped with a chip etcher can then reprogram cellular microchips, using the stolen codes.



Once a reprogrammed chip is inserted into a phone, the bandit can enable others to charge their calls to the original cellular customer.

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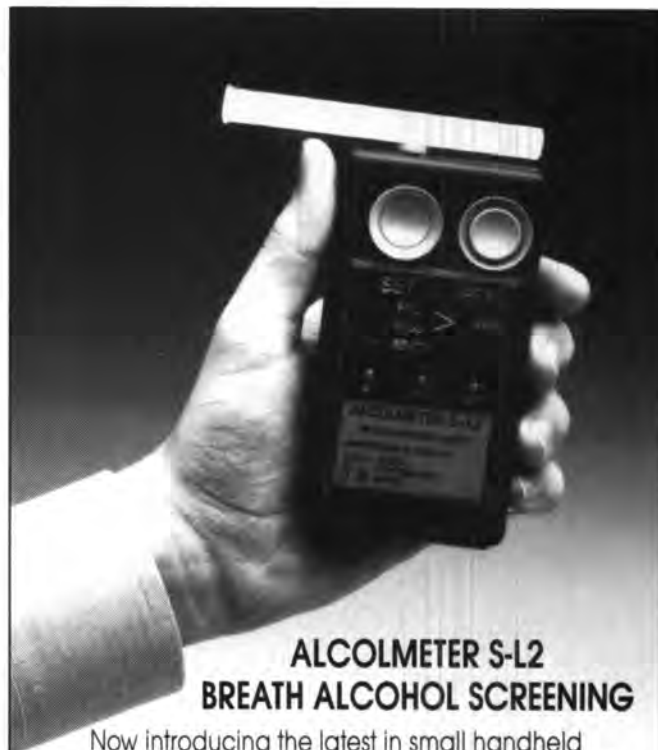
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# Reach, Throw or Go

By Rick Rozoski

*It was early in February. The weather was cold and crisp. Members of the Hamilton Wentworth Regional Police Marine Unit were preparing for a training exercise on the frozen Hamilton Harbour. The weather had been cold for a few weeks prior and the ice on the harbour was generally thick and clear although there were still a few spots where the dark water posed an ominous hazard to anyone venturing out on the bay.*

The day started routinely with the necessary equipment checks. Everything was in order according to the manual. My partner and I were detailed to take the eight wheel all-terrain vehicle with a trailer attached along the shore line to a pre-determined location near the Desjardins Canal where the maneuvers were to take place. Two other marine officers would be meeting us there as they were responding with the hovercraft.

While we were proceeding to our rendezvous site we suddenly found ourselves afloat in the icy water. Although we were not injured when our vehicle broke through an air pocket in the ice, our vehicle did sustain a bent axle upon impact with the ice. Not to worry! This was a training exercise and we should be prepared to deal with most emergencies.

We disconnected the trailer and with the aid of a rope pulley we managed to pull the swamped all-terrain vehicle out of the water with relative ease. We were mobile again with the trailer in tow. We had just successfully completed our first self-rescue. We proceeded to our original destination and following a short debriefing about the incident with the rest of the unit members, we set out to purposely swamp the vehicle again. Once again we had to utilize the pulley to pull ourselves out. This time the ice was in

deeper water and it seemed to be weaker for some reason. Each time we managed to pull six wheels free of the water, the ice would give way and we had to start over again. On each successive maneuver we had to cut new holes in the ice in which we could anchor the rope for the pulley system. We also had to chop new footholds in a staggered pattern away from the hole as our boots provided little traction on the wet ice. The surface of the ice was covered with water which was coming up from cracks in the ice. It was obvious that the ice was becoming weaker. Each time we started over again we became more determined to complete the task.

During this exercise while I was standing on a large section of flow ice, I reached out toward the front of the vehicle to attach the pulley rope more securely and suddenly the ice gave way beneath me and I plunged into the icy water. My foul weather flotation suit proved to be inadequate protection for an in-water experience of this nature. Although it is buoyant, it provided no protection against the cold water from actually flooding the suit. The waist and leg tabs serve only to restrict the flow of water but unfortunately do not seal the suit to keep me warm and dry.

I quickly pulled myself out of the frigid water with the rope pulley tether

which we had been working with to free the vehicle. I was cold and wet for the duration of the exercise. We finally managed to secure the vehicle but once we re-attached the trailer to return to the marine station we again encountered unstable ice conditions and the trailer broke through another air pocket and became partially sub-merged. The whole scenario had to be completed for the third time. We had no options. If the trailer was left in the ice hole over-night it would have either frozen solid or it could have possibly broken through entirely and plunged to the bottom of the harbour. Neither consequence seemed too appealing. As the sun was beginning to set we struggled to pull the vehicle to safety with a pulley system, that until today saw limited action. The pulley helped to increase our exhausting muscular capabilities.

When we finally thought that we had encountered as much as anyone could for one day, we realized that we were not finished yet. While returning to the marine station after a hard day of work, a piece of rag was sucked through the wire housing of the hovercraft and it totally destroyed the blades. We were called upon to perform yet another self-rescue. This time we had to call upon the assistance of our department Air Cat swamp boat. Although it is fifteen years old it is still a very reliable piece of equipment. If we did not have this machine at our disposal, chances are that we would have had to enlist the services of someone else to save the day.

All things considered, it was a good, but difficult, day of training. It was said that we experienced more in one day on the ice than the entire marine unit had experienced in six years of patrolling the ice and water of Hamilton Harbour.

We learned a considerable amount about ice conditions, strengths and weak-



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nesses as well as the limitations of our equipment. This included the lack of insulation capability of the standard foul weather survival suits, which would be excellent for land-based cold weather work, but are not designed to be immersed in water as cold as I had encountered. We also confirmed the thought that once the all-terrain vehicle is swamped in unstable or broken ice conditions, the only way to effectively deal with the rescue is by means of a pulley system. Although the vehicle comes equipped with a winch, unless there is something to winch it to, the only way to get freed is to be pulled out manually. If we were responding to an emergency when these events occurred the rescue would have been aborted and our efforts would have shifted to a self-rescue operation.

The foregoing scenario was mentioned to provide some insight to other marine officers under the possible misconception that their equipment will, at all times, perform satisfactorily when required. We must be prepared and properly trained to enhance the chances of accomplishing successful rescue operations -- not to mention one's own personal survival.

## Ice Rescue Trainer Program

With the memory of this exercise still fresh in my mind, a few weeks later my partner, Cam Rumpel, and I had the opportunity to host an Ice Rescue Trainer Program which was conducted by my friend, Michael Wylie on behalf of Dive Rescue Inc. International.

Dive Rescue International, based in Fort Collins, Colorado, was formed in 1977 and is composed of law enforcement and fire service personnel who have travelled around the world bringing their expertise in water-related rescues to several police and fire department rescue personnel. No doubt their training has saved lives and contributed to the prevention of injuries and the loss of rescue personnel in the line of duty.

Preparations to host this unique training seminar included obtaining permission from the Hamilton Harbour Commissioners to cut some holes in the inner basin ice adjacent to the Hamilton-Wentworth Police Marine Station. Per-

mission was granted with the understanding that the holes be suitably marked and secured before and after the event until such time that the holes have refrozen. The ice chunks were to be replaced in the hole following the training exercise.

Cam Rumpel was assisted by Jim Swick, a Metropolitan Toronto Police Marine Unit officer, who brought his 110



### *How thick is "safe" ice?*

*Instructor Michael Wylie holds a piece of "candled ice" to demonstrate how brittle it becomes after it was exposed to the sun and air. Although the ice was about eight inches thick it was not very strong and it shattered when it was dropped on the ice surface.*

year old Ottawa River ice saw, auger and tongs to accomplish the unenviable feat of cutting three holes eight feet by four feet in the ice which was eight to ten inches thick. It took over three hours to cut and remove the block ice from the holes and to rope the area off in accordance with the Hamilton Harbour by-laws.

The two day seminar, which included twelve hours of classroom instructions using several slides and videos, and four hours of field training where all the students had to take part in each rescue simulation as a victim and as a rescuer, was attended by representatives from

thirteen agencies in Ontario and New York. They included rescue personnel from fire departments in Burlington, Brampton, Cambridge, Grand Valley, London, Mississauga, Pittsburgh and Uxbridge Ontario and from the Vigilant Fire Company in New York.

Police officers from Niagara Regional Police, Ontario Provincial Police, Metropolitan Toronto Police and the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police also participated in the program. This was the first trainer course conducted by Dive Rescue International in Canada. Some of the attendees had extensive rescue skills to their credit while others were relatively novice rescue team personnel.

This cross-section of police and fire department professionals contributed equally to the learning process. Each individual had his own concerns and ideas peculiar to his respective locale. This sharing of informal information proved to be an invaluable asset to many of the students. One example of this sharing of knowledge was the rope harness which one fire fighter taught a police officer to rig with just one carabiner and rope.

Everyone had to demonstrate a reasonable degree of proficiency in rope work. Ice rescue requires several variations of the figure eight knot which include the figure eight stopper; the figure eight on the bight; the figure eight bend; and the figure eight follow through. Each variation has its own application during ice rescue and although there were many variations to this simple knot, the sequence of tying the knot was not as important as the end result. All the students were present and sharing in this educational experience for one reason -- to improve their ice rescue capabilities in their own communities.

The slide presentation depicted several instances in which the rescuers themselves became victims due to the lack of training or equipment. When this occurs there is a possibility of having a double fatality where there should have been a rescue.

It was pointed out that every operation must be assigned a risk/benefit factor. In the rescue mode a life can be saved while in the recovery mode all hope is lost.

Consequently the benefit of a rescue

is high while there is comparatively low benefit to a recovery operation.

Instructor Wylie spoke at length of how ice is formed and described the many types of ice such as frazil ice, clear or columnar ice, snow ice, layer ice, anchor ice and pack ice. He pointed out that the strongest ice was generally clear ice and that although candled ice could be thick, it may not be able to support much weight. Quite simply stated, "The safest place to be during an ice rescue is off it!"

Countless times we hear of snowmobilers and ice boaters who find themselves breaking through the ice and drowning due to their ignorance of the ice conditions. Another reason might be that they did not have their ice awls with them when they crashed through the ice. These people not only jeopardize their own lives but they could also jeopardize the lives of the

people who are summoned to render assistance. To demonstrate how invaluable the ice awls are, students had to perform self-rescues with and without these tools, which are nothing more than hand-grips with nails embedded in the ends. These inexpensive gadgets could make the difference between a rescue and a tragedy.

## Hypothermia

Once a victim is immersed in cold water (below 70°F), hypothermia begins to occur. Within a short period of time, depending on the victim's gender and age, shivering, memory lapse, unconsciousness and eventually death will occur if not dealt with immediately. Children are the most at risk when it comes to hypothermia. Considering most victims are not dressed in dry suits, the chances of their survival are severely limited without quick action by the rescuers.

The H.E.L.P. (Heat Escape Lessening Posture) can assist the victim retain body heat while submerged in cold water. This position is simply attained bringing the elbows and knees into the chest area and sealing off the neck collar with the hands. Many times the air trapped in the clothing will help to keep the victim afloat.

With proper scene evaluation the ice and victim's conditions and the manpower and equipment availability are assessed and a suitable plan of action



*Instructor Cam Rumpel demonstrates how easy a self-rescue can be when ice awls are used properly. Rescue personnel would be advised to keep a pair handy for just such an eventuality.*

can be enacted. It is suggested that alternate plans be considered in the event that unexpected problems arise.

After determining the risk/benefit factor, the rescue may be successfully accomplished by one of the REACH, THROW or GO techniques. Most rescues require a GO response and consequently the rescuers must be equipped with the proper dry suits, PFD, harnesses, throwline bags, ropes, carabiners, rescue collars and fins to effectively and safely deal with the majority of ice emergencies.

Weight distribution on ice is a prime concern when approaching a victim. This should be effected by crawling or rolling towards the victim in the ice hole. It should always be assumed that the rescuer may also risk falling through the ice. Be prepared for the worst case scenario and act accordingly. There should be options available in the event that the first plan proves to be unsuccessful.

## Dive Team Response

It was recommended that the rescuers notify and have a dive team respond at the time of the original ice rescue call, thus eliminating any delayed response in the event that divers are required later. Great care should be taken not to destroy the victim's last seen point as this is the fastest way for a dive team to find a lost victim.

In areas of large spaces of open water an inflatable raft may be the best option for a choice of equipment. In these cases two rescuers would paddle out to the victim but only one would actually enter the water to assist the victim. This person will assist the victim into the raft and also clear away any flow ice near the raft which might obstruct a safe operation.

Once the practical exercises were completed the participants had a new appreciation for their ice rescue capabilities. With this particular class everyone received a passing grade and were certified as "Ice Rescue Trainers", capable of supplying other members of their departments with this important information.

The Ice Rescuer Trainer Program served to enlighten every participant. It provided new opportunities to learn more about ice rescues. The course need not be taught exclusively to marine unit personnel. Any officer who patrols a beat with streams, ponds, creeks, rivers and lakes would benefit for this training. Although they may never be equipped sufficient enough to perform a "GO" rescue, the chances of saving someone with the "REACH" and "THROW" procedures are greatly increased if the officer reacts positively with some of the preceding information. Education is the key. Know your limits and act accordingly.

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## Up-Coming Events

**March 6 - 13, 1993**

### North American Police Ski Championships Snowmass - Colorado

This has become the largest police ski event in North America. It is expected to draw over 700 officers from Canada and the United States. For further info call NAPSC at (303) 792-7315

**March 12, 1993**

### Ice Tech '93 Hamilton - Ontario

This is an innovative, on-day seminar that give rescue personnel hands-on experience with the latest in ice rescue equipment and techniques. This program is ideal for all rescue team members, first responders, dive teams. For more details call 1-800 248-3483 or Rick Rozoski (416) 575-1434

**March 28 - April 2, 1993**

### 15th Annual International Asian Organized Crime Conference Las Vegas - Nevada

The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police and the FBI will host this event. Over 1,000 delegates from 25 countries are expected to attend this conference. This year's theme is entitled "Asian Organized Crime: A Global Impact". For more information contact Edward Bazar at (702) 795-3111.

**June 7 - 11, 1993**

### Advanced Homicide Seminar Toronto - Ontario

The Metropolitan Toronto Police Homicide Squad will be hosting this seminar at the Toronto Skydome Hotel. This will be the 11th year for this seminar. For further information call (416) 324-6150 or Fax (416) 324-6151.

**July 8 - 10, 1993**

### Canadian Police Officers Motorcycle Championships Shannonville - Ontario

This annual event will be held at the Shannonville Race Track with the assistance of the FAST Racing School. This year will be a

Canadians only race and members of Canadian Forces are encouraged to compete as the winners will go on to the international series. Contact Dave Stewart (416) 831-2013.

**September 24 - 26, 1993**

### 5th International Police Diver Symposium

#### Hamilton - Ontario

Once again the Hamilton Wentworth Region Police will host the International Police Diver Symposium. This has become the largest symposium of its kind in the world and guest speakers are scheduled from New Zealand, Ireland, Great Britain and the U.S. For further details contact Rick Rozoski (416) 575-1434 (Fax line is same number)

**October 31 - November 5 1993**

### International Association of Women Police Conference Vancouver- British Columbia

The Canadian Branch of the I.A.W.P. will be hosting the 31st Annual Training Conference to be held in the Hotel Vancouver. The theme of the session will be "Global Policing: A spirit of unity". For further details call (604) 681-5226 or FAX (604) 681-2503.

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## Yukon Crime Rate Drops With Tribal Justice System

*Courtesy Correctional Services Canada*



The crime rate in the community of Telsin in the Yukon has plummeted since the introduction of a tribal justice system by the Telsin Tlingit First Nation. The system features direct participation of First Nation members in the sentencing process. First Nation members say the new system promotes a sense of community responsibility in dealing with crime and increased respect for the justice system.

Dr. James Waldram, professor of native Studies at the University of Saskatchewan, is conducting research into the cultural aspects of treatment for Native offenders at the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Prairies region. Waldram has conducted interviews with 30 offenders that focused on the offender's life history, cultural experience, in prisons and awareness of Native issues.

Through these interviews, Waldram attempted to determine the cultural characteristics of Native offenders: document the effects of spirituality on offenders who had no awareness of the Native culture before becoming involved in Native programs, and explore the effects of spirituality on inmates who believed that they already embraced Native traditions in their everyday lives.

Preliminary indications from the limited sample were that Native spirituality programs appear to have a therapeutic healing and calming effect. Subjects tended to open up more with the Elder because as they said, they felt more cultural empathy between themselves and the Elder. Many of the Native offenders said they had only learned about traditional spirituality while incarcerated and were uncertain about how they would continue these traditions upon release. It was felt that since the spirituality program is not directly linked to the

therapeutic program that it would be difficult to maintain the healing continuum after release.

Native spirituality is a holistic program that relates to all aspects of daily living. Subjects, although appreciative of the program, found that program availability was inconsistent. In addition, those programs offered tended to be based on Plains Indians' culture. Although some Plains traditions are common to all groups, others are not, and occasionally the differing traditions of certain offenders created minor conflicts.

Offenders' comments regarding staff interactions indicated that subjects wanted to see greater cultural sensitivity from the staff. As well, it was found that therapeutic techniques accepted among Euro-Canadians were not necessarily effective with Aboriginal Canadians. More specifically, offenders identified cultural empathy as being fundamental in therapeutic exchanges.

Waldram has suggested that Native spirituality programs should become an integral part of the therapeutic program, and that Elders and liaison officers become permanent members of the treatment team. Waldram plans to undertake further analysis of his findings.

## Cops To See Crooks In The Dark

New York City police will find it easier to get the drop on Subway vandals. In the past, as police came down into the subway, their flashlights served as a warning of their presence, allowing criminals to escape. Now, the New York Police have purchased six pairs of night vision goggles at a cost of \$3,645 apiece. The goggles allow the viewer to see distinctly objects that are in total darkness.

## Police Chief Cites Incompetence With Investigations



London Police Chief Julian Fantino has called for a public inquiry into the province's Special Investigations Unit, saying its probes are marked by incompetence, discourtesy and delays.

"Very often we are dealing with incompetency at its highest level and an absolute lack of professional courtesy," Fantino said in an interview with a Toronto Star reporter. "The bottom line with me is that I don't trust the unit, and I don't believe they have the capacity or the good will with which to do the job handed them."

In late December, the unit announced it had cleared London Constable Bruce Charteris of any wrong doing eight months after a shooting incident.

According to reports, Charteris shot a suspect in the leg after the man fired several shots in the officer's direction using a .357 magnum.

Charteris gave the SIU full co-operation and answered all questions, as did other witness officers, Fantino said. "Its such a straight forward thing. I mean this guy is a hero. They had all kinds of witnesses. There was no reason for the delay."

In response SIU Director Howard Morton announced new policies which would see investigators cautioning officers and advising them of their Charter Rights if they have reason to believe criminal charges would result from any statements they take. He advised the full weight and responsibility of the admission of the statement would fall upon the SIU investigator if a proper caution was not given. "In such incidents it is clear an officer would have the right to remain silent," Morton concluded.



## Regs On Cartridge Magazine Sizes Delayed

Regulations limiting the capacity of cartridge magazines for certain firearms will come into effect on **July 1, 1993** instead of the previously announced enforcement date of January 1, 1993.

The new Canadian firearms control law includes regulations that limit the firepower of certain weapons by controlling the size of their cartridge magazines. Firearms such as centre-fire semi-automatic rifles and shotguns, UZI and Ingram assault pistols will be limited to five shot magazines while semi-automatic handguns will be limited to ten cartridges.

Cartridge magazines that exceed the legal limits will be classified as prohibited weapons and will have to be surrendered, destroyed or permanently converted to reduce their capacity.

Competitive shooters can be exempt from these regulations if they obtain written authorization from a firearms registrar to allow them to use large capacity magazines in shooting competitions designated by provincial or territorial governments. The six-month extension will give these governments more time to carefully consider applications for official designation of certain competitions.

The new magazine restrictions do not affect law enforcement agencies.

## New Drug Patch Gives A Three Day High Police Warn

A powerful and potentially deadly new street drug, worn as a patch on the skin and giving users a three-day high, has alarmed authorities in New York State.

State Police indicated that fentanyl patches, legally manufactured for cancer patients, turned up in a drug bust. Authorities state that 50mg patches are selling for around \$25 on the street.

## Firearms Amnesty Big Success

The first Canada wide firearms amnesty since 1978 has concluded with excellent results. It ran from November 1 until December 15, 1992.

The amnesty saw 19,561 firearms surrendered to police across the country and 8,553 registered. This was almost three times the number of firearms turned in during the 1978 amnesty.

Besides firearms, there were also 7,160 other devices such as explosives, grenades and artillery shells turned in together with 683,732 rounds of ammunition.

Ontario accounted for 57 per cent of the firearms surrendered and registered, followed by Quebec with 12 per cent, British Columbia with 10 per cent and Alberta with 9 per cent.

"I wish to thank all Canadians who turned in guns during the amnesty," Attorney General Kim Campbell stated in a recent news release. "The amnesty combined with the new safe storage regulations and the new firearms acquisition certificates which came into effect January 1, will make Canada a safer place in 1993."

## Police Tactical Training Conference Planned

*Blue Line Magazine* is currently planning its first annual Canadian Police Tactical Training Conference. Preliminary plans indicate a date in late September and it will be held at a military facility yet to be announced.

Jim Dalueg, *Blue Line's* Weapons and Tactics Editor, stated the event is intended to bring together officers from across Canada who have an interest in tactical weapons and response training. Key note speakers and hands-on training will be included.

Al Stiver, *Blue Line's* director of advertising, states a two day trade fair showing the latest in weaponry and associated products is also planned. The trade show will be open to all police officers while the conference will be limited to 120 officers.

Jim Dalueg states that since numbers are limited for the conference members wishing to attend the training seminar should indicate their interest by notifying *Blue Line Magazine* as soon as possible.

More information will be forthcoming as plans are finalized. Those interested are welcome to write to *Blue Line* at 12A-4981 Hwy. 7 East, Ste. 254, Markham, Ont., L3R 1N1 or Fax (416) 7547. An information package will be sent out when plans are finalized.

*Blue Line Magazine*

### FLASHES

By Tony MacKinnon

"For crying out loud, I give up, just what is ten feet tall, all white and covered in hair?"





# Pepper Sprays And The Uniformed Officer

Part 3

By John Propper

## Evaluation Criteria For OC

This article will examine some of the factors a user should consider before choosing its OC supplier. There can in fact be significant differences among the various brands of OC products.

Obviously some criteria will be more important than others. Following are some of the more important or controversial criteria:

### Operational Flammability:

Some of the products have alcohol carriers and are flammable under extreme conditions, eg. an open flame.

Concern stems from an incident where a subject suffered burns. Briefly, officers sprayed a subject and then zapped him with a Taser. This ignited the alcohol soaked clothing of the subject.

Training was deemed to be an issue.

On the other hand, alcohol based OC will put out a cigarette and the FBI continues to use it. Alcohol is the most common carrier in household products, eg. hair spray. Alcohol based OC has been used without incident thousands of times. Most agencies agree this is a non-issue

### Accidental Discharge:

Most ASR's have a safety mechanism to protect against accidental discharge on the belt. The most dangerous situation would be an accident while driving. Some products have the safety integrated with the ASR can itself and other products use a safety holster.

Safety mechanisms on the can itself

provide an extra measure of safety if the can is grabbed by an assailant. The drawbacks are the extra motor control needed under stress and possible difficulty to operate with gloves.

### Decontamination or Recovery Time:

The ideal ASR quickly incapacitates your subject and then wears off within a few minutes. By now he is hand-cuffed, searched and in your car. The fear of repeated application of the ASR would control aggressive behaviour on the way to the station.

In fact, OC ASR's vary significantly in recovery time. Products with ten percent concentrations of OC may require up to 45 minutes of constant flushing with water to return the subject to a reasonable level of comfort. The five percent solutions may need 20 minutes of flushing with water. The problem is worse if you are operating in rural areas and far from running water.

Greater recovery times mean the subject suffers needlessly without necessarily increasing the control aspects. Apart



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from the serious humanitarian considerations this may expose the agency to legal liability since alternatives with shorter recovery times are known to be available.

Greater recovery times also mean officers have to spend more time decontaminating the subject.

**Cost:**

This is a very important criteria.

For you a low cost yet effective solution means your agency is more likely to adopt it. It also means that your agency is more likely to afford other things that a more expensive solution might crowd out. The key figure here is the cost per application.

Think of an ASR as a can full of "ammunition" - or spray applications. A good approximation of the number of applications in a can is the number of seconds of continuous spray. The cost per application is then the cost of the ASR divided by the seconds of continuous spray capacity. It is impossible to consistently spray one second bursts manually and this is not a good way to compare different products.

For example a \$5.00 can with 5 seconds of continuous spray costs about \$1.00 per application while a \$10.00 can with 20 seconds of spray costs \$0.50 per application. The \$10.00 product is cheaper.

Finally, the cost of training has to be factored in as well.

There are other important differences in cold-weather performance among products and, especially with our climate, this should be tested. Try putting competing products in a freezer and spraying them to empty. Count seconds and watch for pressure fall-off.

Also the trade-offs discussed earlier between cone and streamer sprays will be important factors.

*John Propper is the owner of Toronto based Canadian Law Enforcement Products. As well as marketing this product John has taken an intense interest in its use. For further information on these products you may contact John at (416) 487-8894 or FAX (416) 484-9345.*

*Moving On!*



If you are moving don't forget to take *Blue Line* along. It doesn't matter where you go it still gives you the same good information.

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# The Firing Line

By Jim Dalueg



## TR870 Shotgun Rugged, Reliable and Flawless

The mystical allure of the shotgun has been with law enforcement officer's ever since it was first pressed into service. Along the way it has gathered a reputation for terminal efficiency and power that few other weapons in law enforcement folklore can match.

While attending the Canadian Shot Show in Ottawa this year I stumbled upon Mr. Steven PROKOS of Districorp Enterprises Inc.

He and they being the Canadian distributors of the Scattergun Technologies line of shotguns. After examining the different demonstrator models, arrangements were made to have the TR870 sent out for an in-depth run through.

### WHAT IT IS.

The TR870 starts out life as a standard Remington 870 Police 12 gauge shotgun. That is about all the two guns have in common with each other. The wood stock and fore-end is replaced by a polymer buttstock with rubber butt pad and a Laser Products Sure-Fire 6 fore-end light source.

The 18" barrel is fitted with a hi ramp post front sight with a tritium luminous insert. A ghost ring rear sight is fitted atop the receiver.

Further performance enhancing modifications include an all steel magazine extension with a magazine/barrel clamp fitted with sling swivels. The standard magazine follower is replaced by a hi

visibility coloured follower. A large jumbo head safety is also fitted. The exterior metal parts are covered in a durable non glare parkerized finish.

Mounted on the left side of the receiver is the Side Saddle ammunition carrier. The feature holds a further six rounds of ammunition in a very convenient location without being awkward or upsetting the balance of the gun.

Overall the workmanship on the gun was exceptional. The action was crisp and smooth, lock up was positive. There was no sign of fore-end slop or play.

### HOW IT SHOOTS.

During our shooting sessions, both indoor and outdoor, I enlisted the aid of officers from numerous police forces.

These included the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force, Ontario Provincial Police, RCMP., York Regional Police Force, and Ontario Conservation officers. Also participating were members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Brinks Canada and Loomis.

I also used the shotgun in the Smith & Wesson Academy's Shotgun Skills Course. It was interesting to note that the S&W Instructor's shotguns were done up in similar fashion.

All the ammunition we fed into the TR870 was digested without a problem. Throughout the program not one malfunction occurred. Even after being rather unceremoniously buried in dust like sand by Blue Line's Firearms and Ammunition Editor. (He's worse than nails on a chalkboard when he function tests a weapon. But if it survives you wouldn't think twice about taking it out on the road with you.)

Functioning was flawless and it soon became apparent that the TR870 would easily outlast our ammunition budget.

So we decided to end the test after 960 rounds were fired. I did manage to find some crazy IPSC shooters who fired a further 325 rounds through the TR870. We didn't prove anything other than you could have a lot of fun with pepper poppers and knockdown targets.

In terms of accuracy, the TR870 was very partial to the Canadian made Challenger Slug. I was able to repeatedly hit an 8" target well in excess of 100 meters with this combination of shotgun, sights and ammunition.

It must be remembered that shotguns like any other weapon are very individualistic. Each officer assigned a particular shotgun should try and keep using the same gun. It would be a good idea to pattern your gun with your duty ammunition to learn it's quirks and peculiarities.

### THE PRO'S

To date the TR870 is the best of it's breed. I have not seen a production gun of the same quality and attention to detail as this one. The tactical fore-end with the lithium powered light is one of the strongest features found on this shotgun. It repeatedly proved it's worth during the low/poor light shooting sessions and during the S&W Academy course. There is nothing on the TR870 that can be dismissed as gimmicks or faddish. As good as I felt the gun was, I did have some complaints.

### THE CON'S

Personally speaking, about the only thing about the TR870 I didn't care for was the Buttstock. For me and others my size or with longer arms, it was too short. It doesn't take more than one shot to the nose with your thumb to alter your grip accordingly!

As great as the Sure-Fire 6 light source is, it only has an operational lifetime of approximately one hour. Lithium batteries are not exactly cheap. (Any one with a decent source send me a fax!)

The issue of weight was brought up on more than one occasion.

Fully loaded, Side Saddle topped up it did feel like you were holding something significant. When we had the officers who complained about the weight pick up a fully loaded standard police shotgun it really didn't seem so excessive.

Further investigation of this matter revealed an interesting phenomena. The officers with previous hunting or military backgrounds did not notice the weight at all. The other officers were simply not used to carrying anything of this weight in their hands. Rumour has it that the heaviest devices which require the use of both arms and most often used by law enforcement officers are a hockey stick and a golf club!

### CONCLUSION

The TR870 is a very reliable firearm. It was cleaned just twice while it was in our possession.

Departments or individual officers looking for an 'Out of the box' shotgun should take a serious look at what Scattergun Technologies has to offer. I doubt you could find a gunsmith who could duplicate the quality and workmanship and still remain in the same price range.

Whether or not you utilize the 'Long Gun' on a daily basis or it stays locked away in a vault until a Blue Moon rolls over, you owe it to yourself to give these shotguns a look over.

*For further information including model variations, price and availability contact:*

**Steven PROKOS**  
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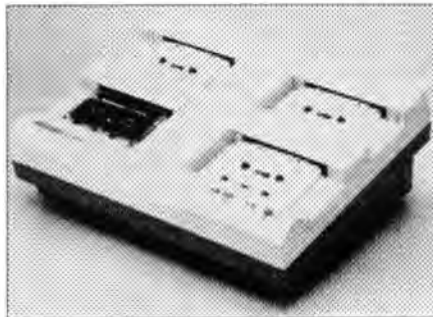
Motorola's Mobile Data Division has announced the 9100-386 Mobile Workstation, the latest member of their family of mobile data terminals. This unit adds the capability of computing in a vehicle with applications written for MS-DOS and Windows.

Local processing allows for completion of time consuming paperwork while in the car and while still at or near the scenes of incidents.

The 9100-386 Mobile Workstation preserves the investment in dispatching software while providing the local processing capability of a laptop computer.

For further details contact Rob Marks at (416)499-1441 ext.3401

## High Speed Cassette Copier Also Economical



Telex Communications has introduced a new line of economy cassette duplicators. Stereo and mono versions of the Copyette Model 1-2-3 series are available and they retail from just under \$500.

A single start button controls the copying of up to three cassettes at once. The tapes are copied at a speed up to 16 times faster than the normal running speed of the tape. After copying has

taken place all tapes are rewound.

The Units have a cycle button that allows users to interrupt the cycle at any time and there are LEDs which tell the user in which function the Copyette is functioning.

The control panel has side select buttons which permit the tape to copy one side at a time or both sides at once. The units have an open face concept which makes head cleaning easier but has a plastic dust cover to protect the unit for storage or handling. It also come with a carrying handle.

This unit appears to be ideal for communications operations sections when radio transmissions and receptions have to be copied for evidentiary purposes.

For further details contact Ronald Taylor (612) 884-4051.



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