

# FBI

GUIDE TO

# CONCEALABLE WEAPONS



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## FOREWORD

In the wake of the September 11, 2001, airline hijackings, the Firearms and Toolmarks Unit of the FBI Laboratory started a collection of small and easily concealed knives.

This is the first installment of a continuing effort to collect and distribute information on knives that otherwise may be dismissed as nonthreatening items. Many of the knives in this collection were commercially purchased and typically can be bought for less than \$20. Some of these knives are common items found in most homes and offices.

You will notice also that some are made of a plastic material, making them less likely to be considered a weapon. Each of these tools was designed to cut and is fully functional in that respect. Whether used to cut paper, cardboard, or other material, these knives should be treated as potentially dangerous weapons. Each knife is shown with an accompanying scale for size reference, and many include an X-ray photograph to show how these weapons might appear if placed in luggage and passed through a scanning device.

Any information concerning these knives, or cutting tools not shown in this booklet, can be forwarded to:

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Laboratory Division  
Firearms/Toolmarks Unit  
2501 Investigation Parkway  
Quantico, VA 22135  
(703) 632-7225/6



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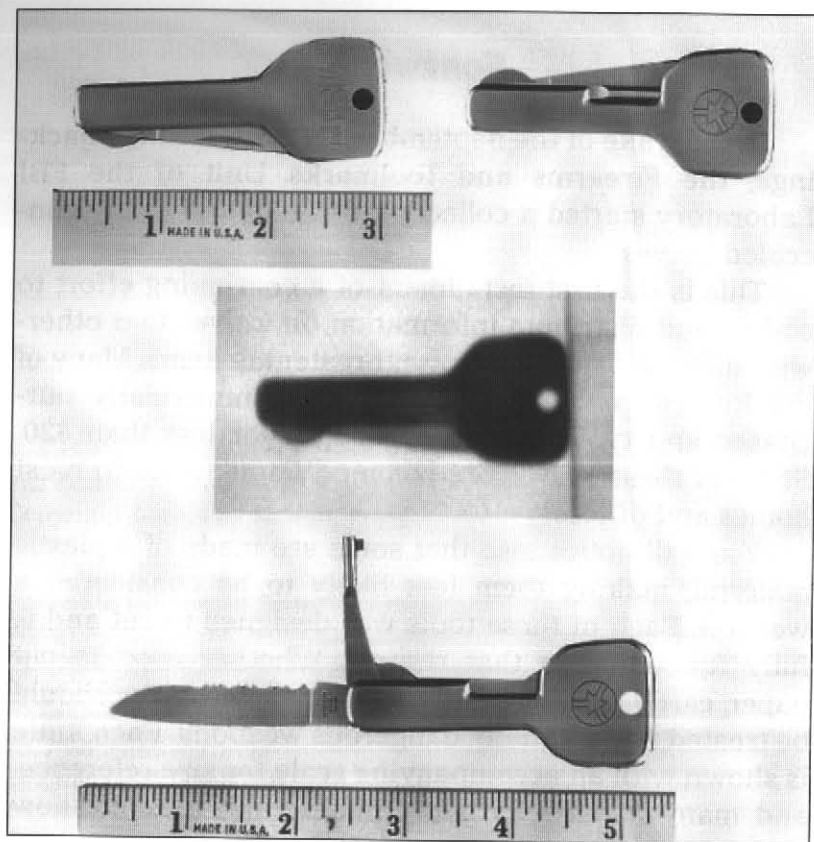
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### KEY KNIFE

Manufacturer: ASP

Made in Japan

Composition: Metal

Note: Looks like an oversized key. Stored inside are a blade and a handcuff key.



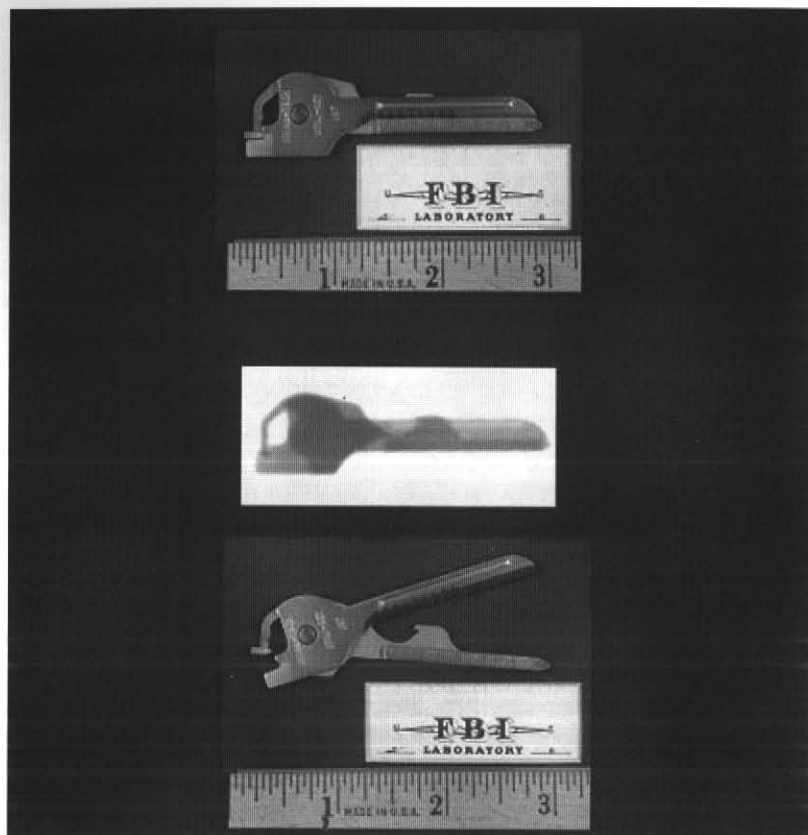
### KEY

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Italy

Composition: Metal

Note: Appears to be a key when placed on a ring with others. Blade folds out from end of key.



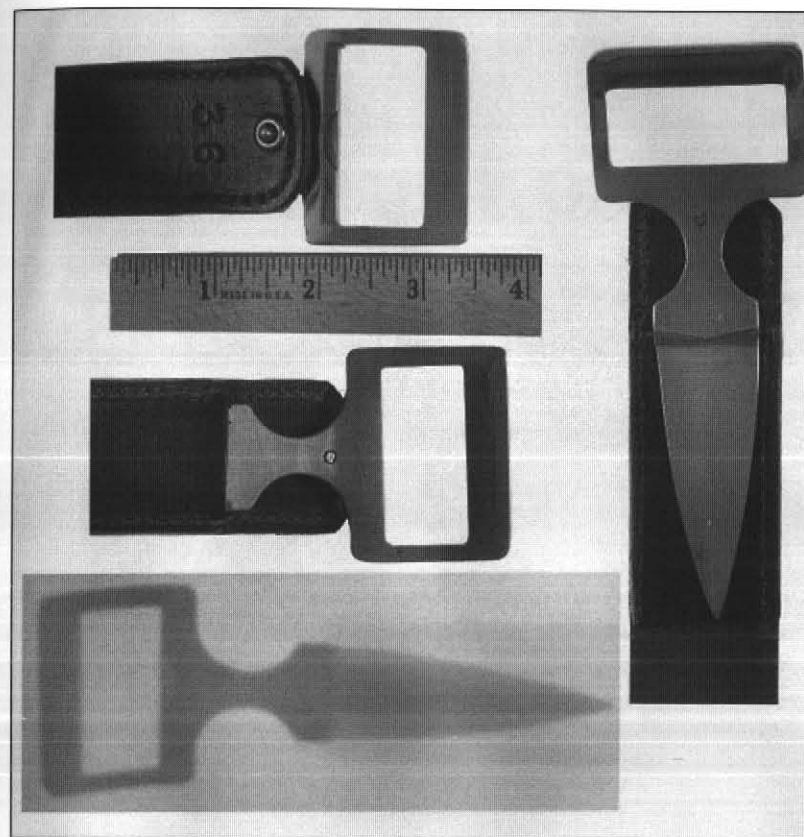
### KEY

Manufacturer: Swiss-Tech

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Appears to be a key when placed on a ring with others. Opens in a scissorlike fashion to expose knife blade, serrated blade, and flat- and Phillips-head screwdrivers.



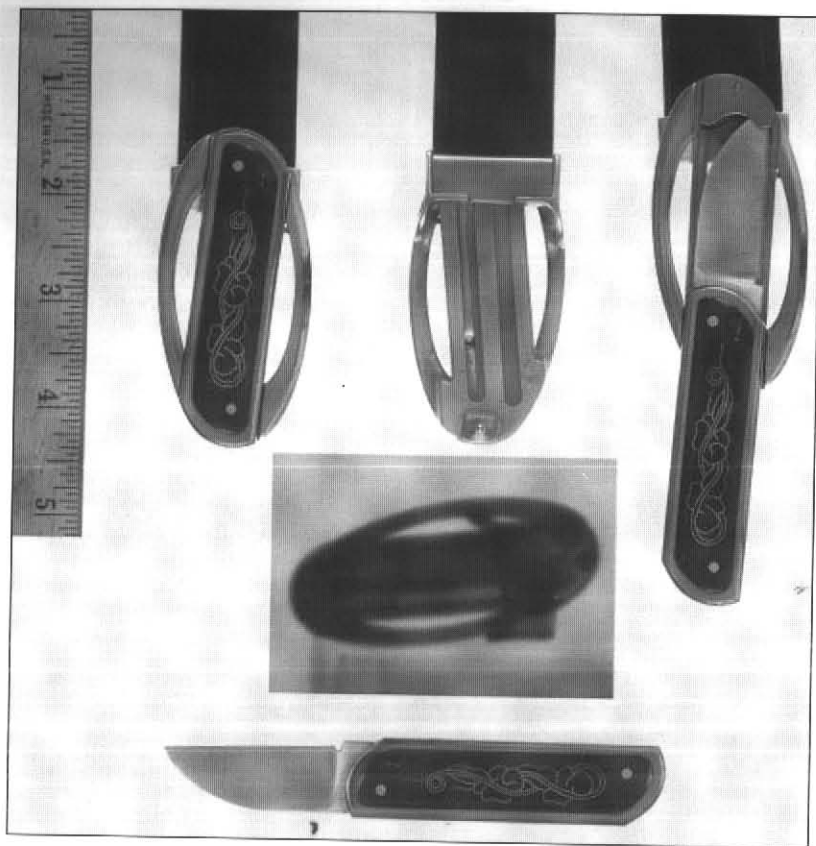
### BOWEN BELT KNIFE

Manufacturer: Bowen Knives

Made in USA

Composition: Metal blade with leather belt

Note: Blade is hidden inside of belt; only the buckle "handle" is seen.



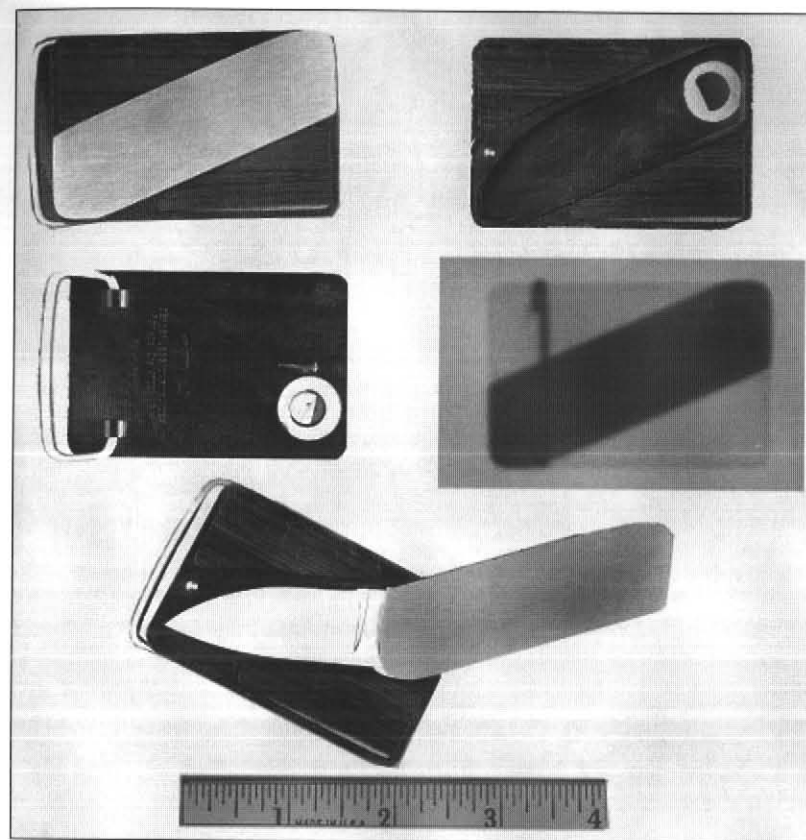
### BELT KNIFE

Manufacturer: C.A.S. Iberia, Inc.

Made in USA

Composition: Metal and leather

Note: Looks like an ordinary belt buckle. Buckle stores a knife, which can be pulled out to expose the blade.



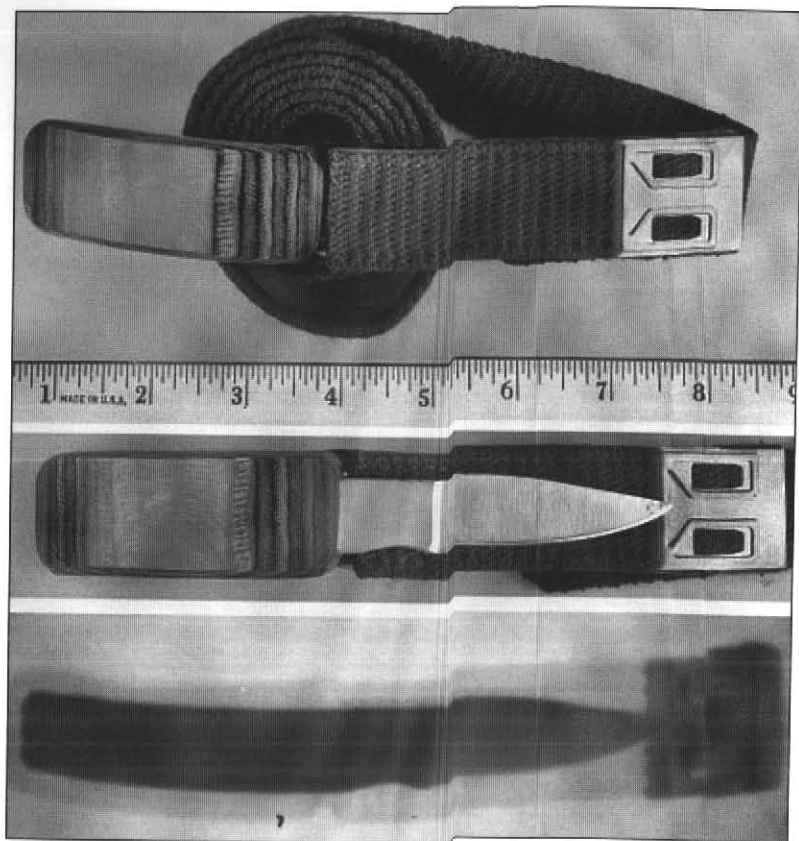
### TOUCHÉ BELT BUCKLE

Manufacturer: Gerber

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: The knife blade folds under the handle, which can be stored in the front of the belt buckle.



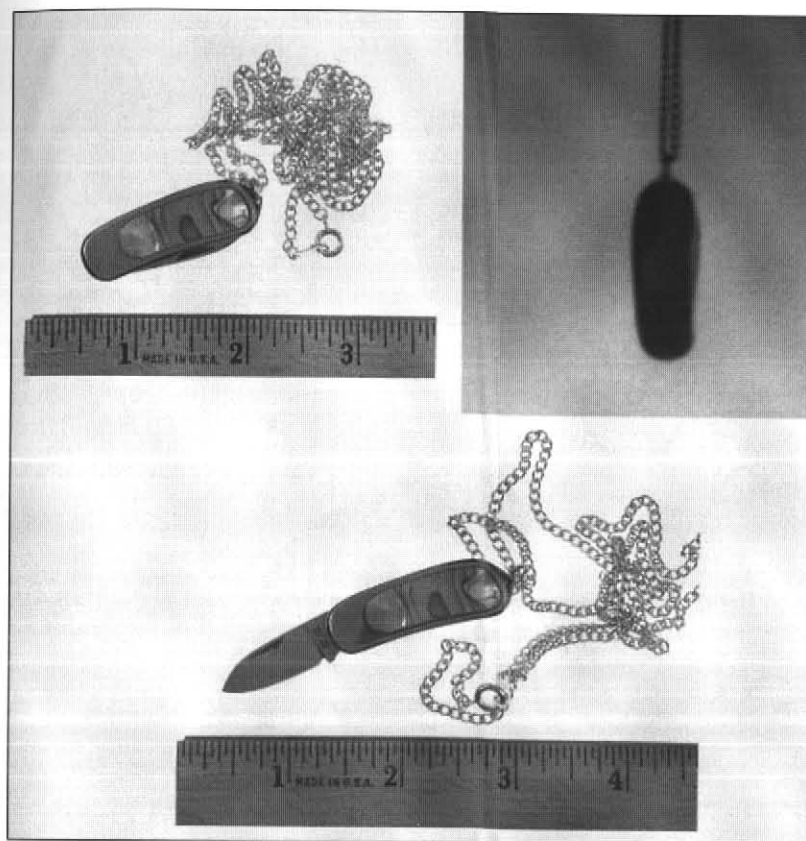
### BELT KNIFE

Manufacturer: Valois Knives

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Appears as a normal belt. The "buckle" pulls from the belt to expose the blade. Comes in various styles.



### NECKLACE KNIFE

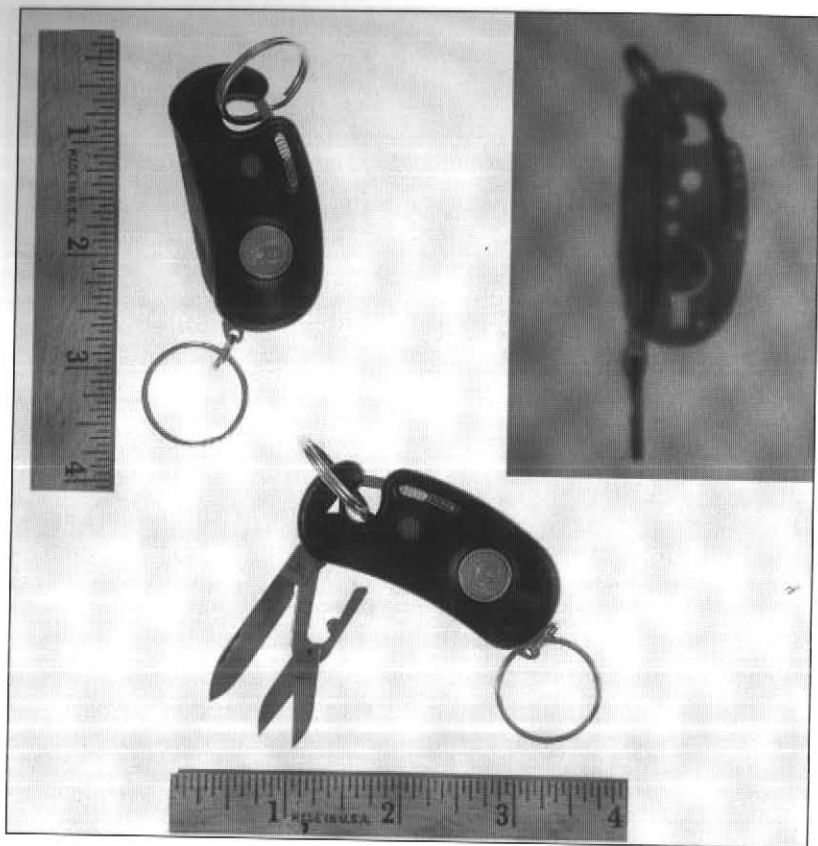
Manufacturer: Kaicut Knives (model name—Moki)

Made in Germany

Composition: Stainless steel with a decorative inlay

Note: May be worn as a necklace or carried as a key chain.





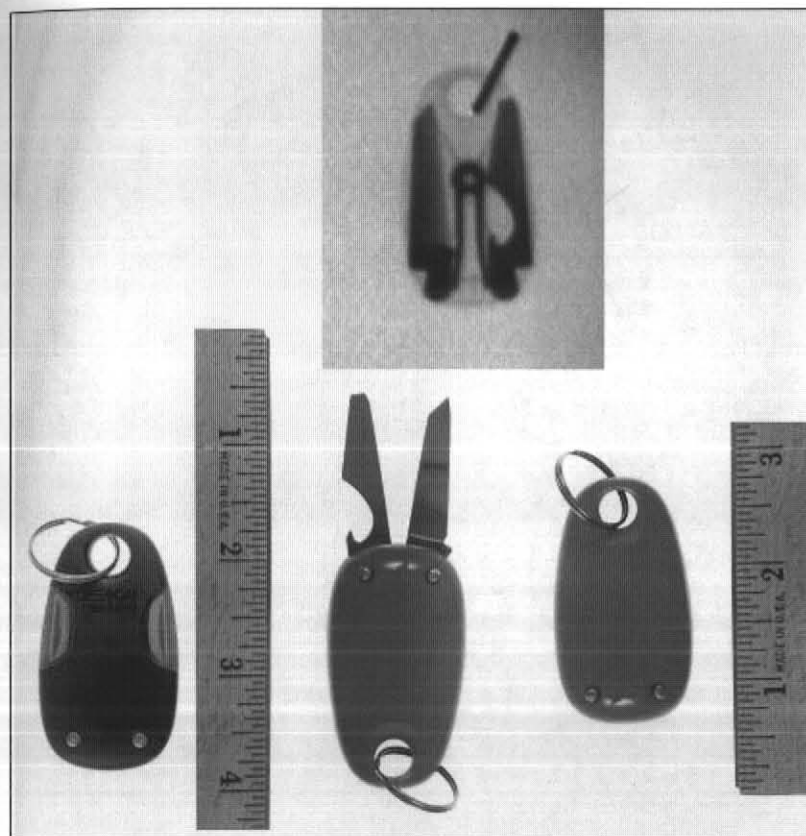
### KEY RING KNIFE

Manufacturer: Marex

Made in Korea

Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: Looks like a key ring but houses a blade, scissors, and flashlight.



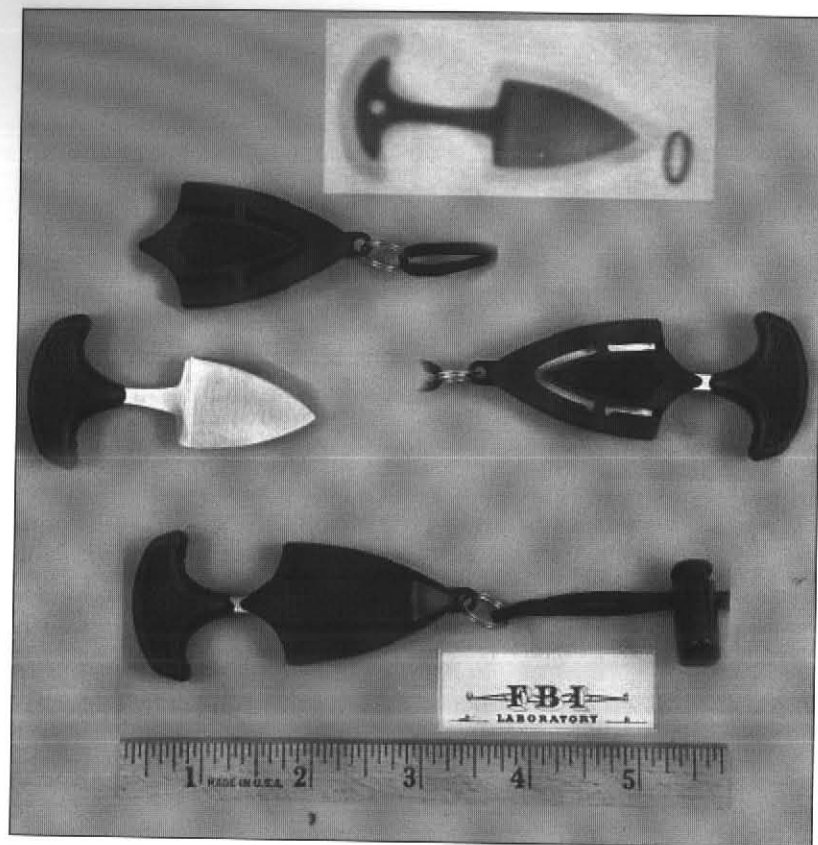
### KEY RING KNIFE

Manufacturer: EKA

Made in Sweden

Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: Looks like a key ring but houses a blade and bottle opener.



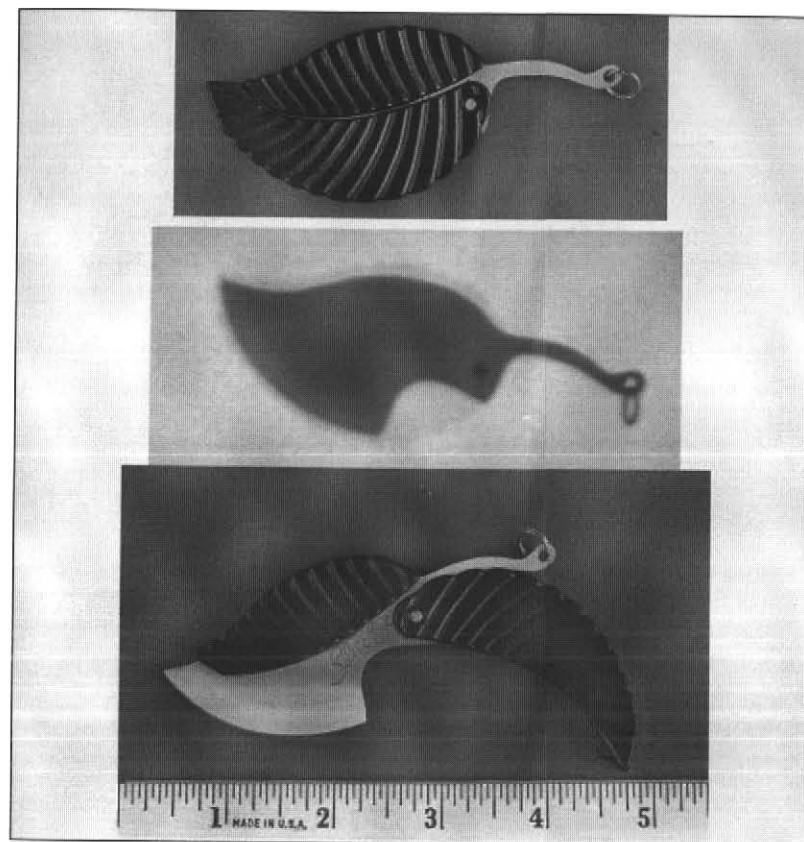
### PUSH DAGGER

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Plastic sheath and handle with metal blade

Note: Sheath has a clip allowing it to be worn on belt, boot, or pocket. Also comes with lanyard to wear around neck or possibly use as a key chain.



### LEAF KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: Plastic "leaf" opens to expose knife blade. Also comes in an all-stainless model. Can be worn on a neck chain or as a key ring.



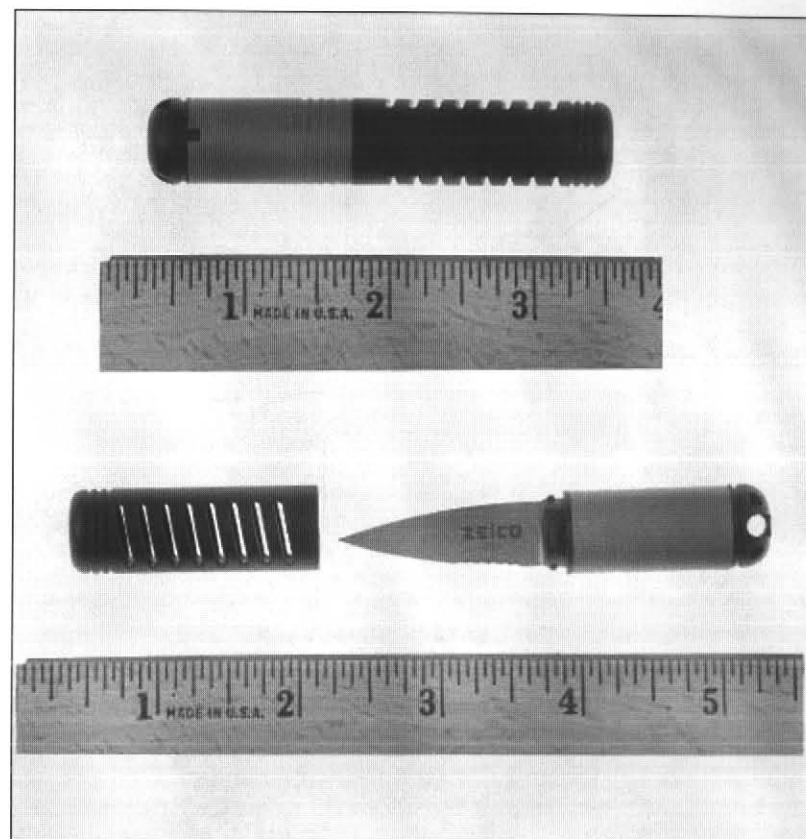
### KUBATON

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Metal

Note: Styles vary by manufacturer.



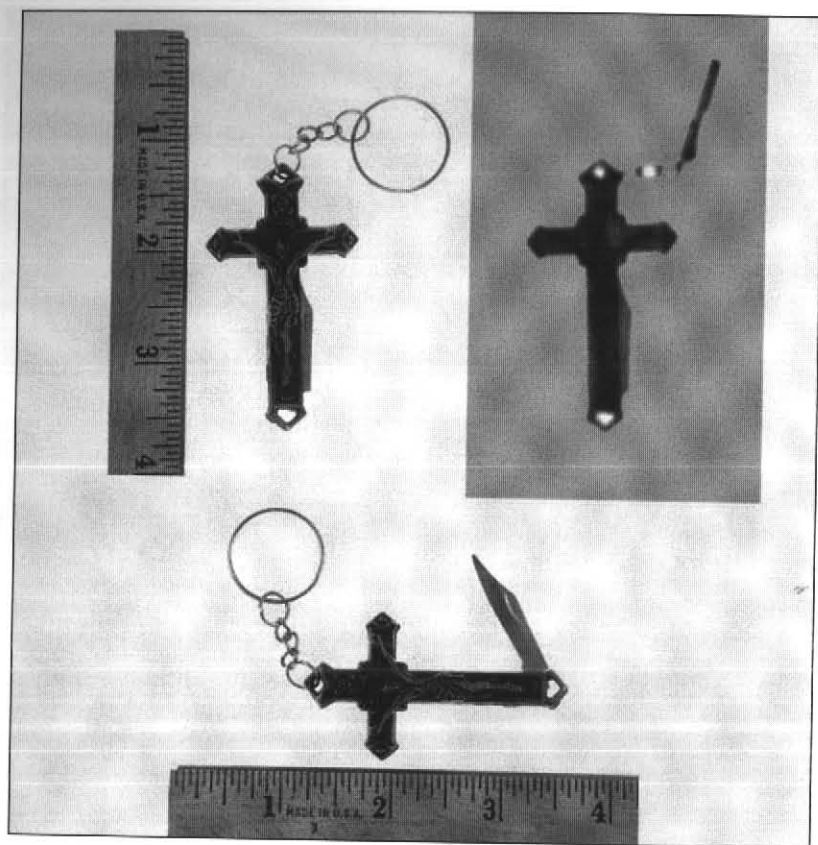
### KEY RING KNIFE

Manufacturer: Zelco

Made in USA

Composition: Metal blade with two-piece plastic handle

Note: Can be used as a key ring or worn on a neck chain.



### CRUCIFIX KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown

Composition: Nonmagnetic cross with metal blade and key chain

Note: Can be used as a key chain or necklace.



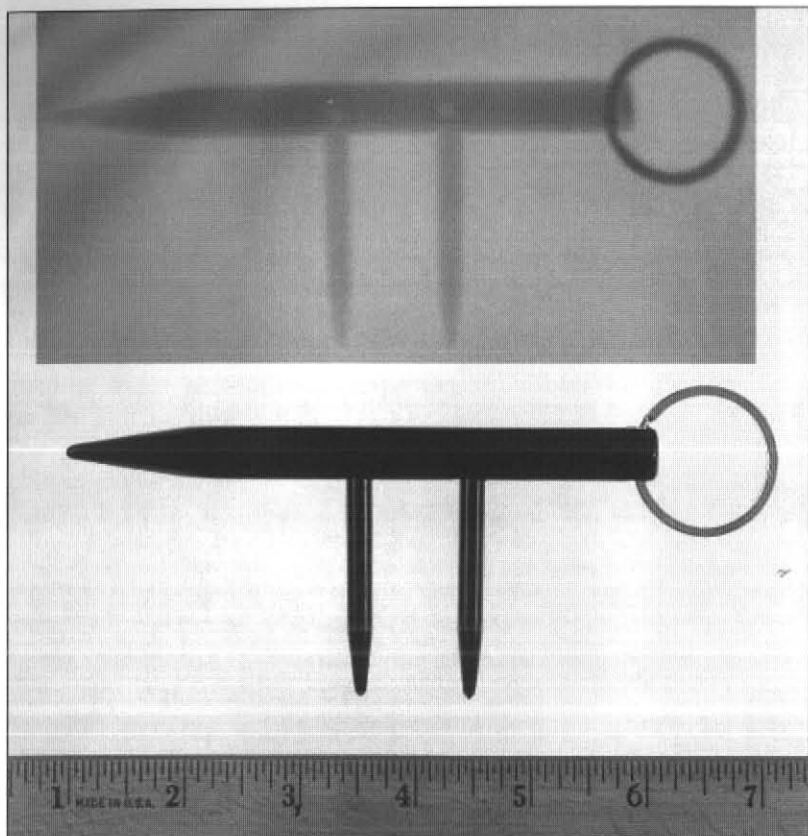
### NASCAR HELMET KNIFE

Manufacturer: Action Racing Collectibles

Made in China

Composition: Plastic case with metal knife blade

Note: Colors and styles vary depending on the NASCAR theme.



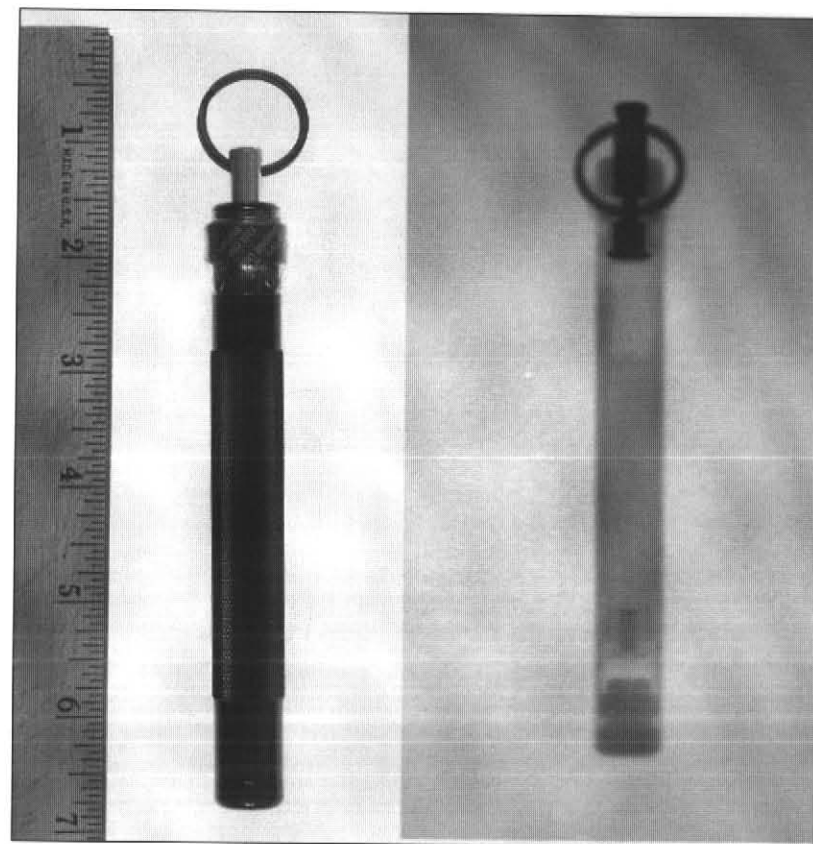
### NINJA KEY RING

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Impact tool.



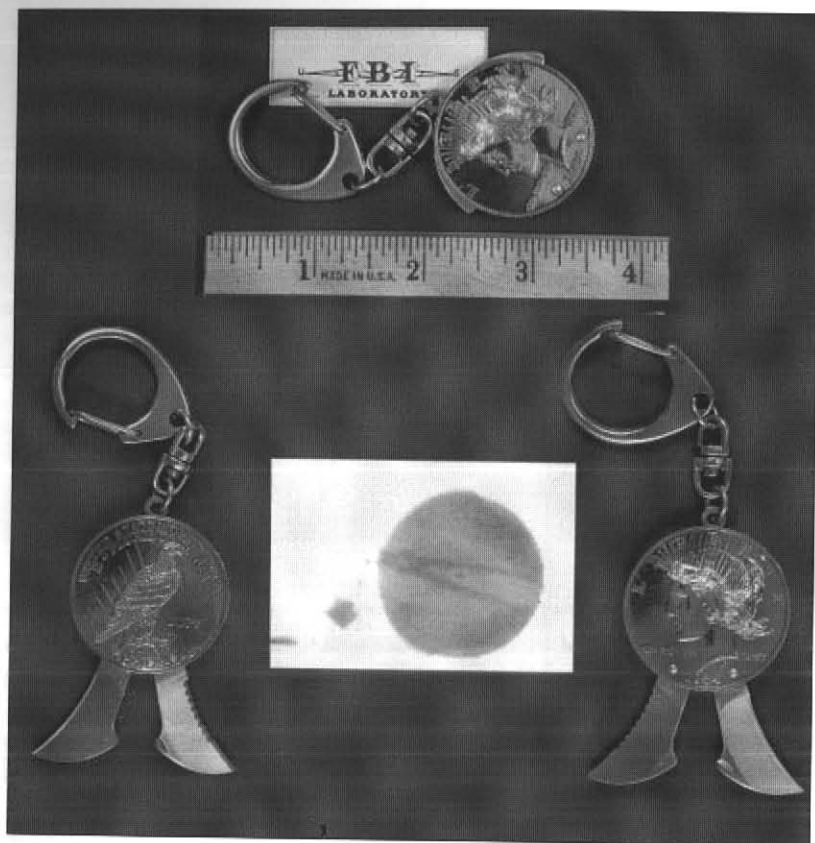
### PEPPER SPRAY KEY RING

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in Brazil

Composition: Tubular metal body with metal ring

Note: Ejects red pepper spray.



### COIN

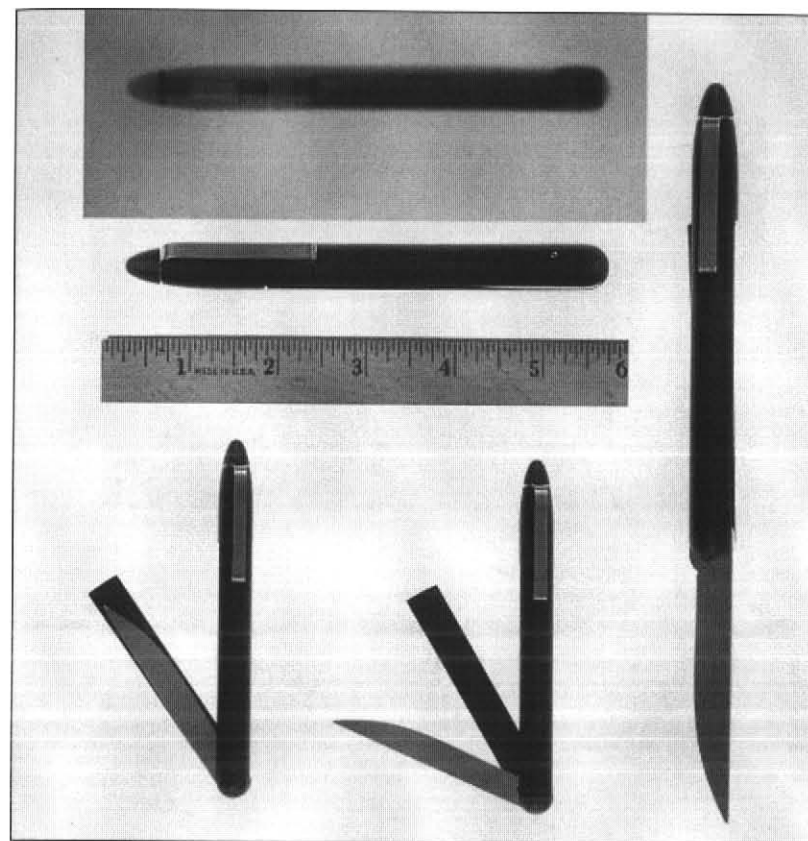
Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Metal

Note: Appears to be a normal silver dollar key chain.

This knife may vary in style and blade type.



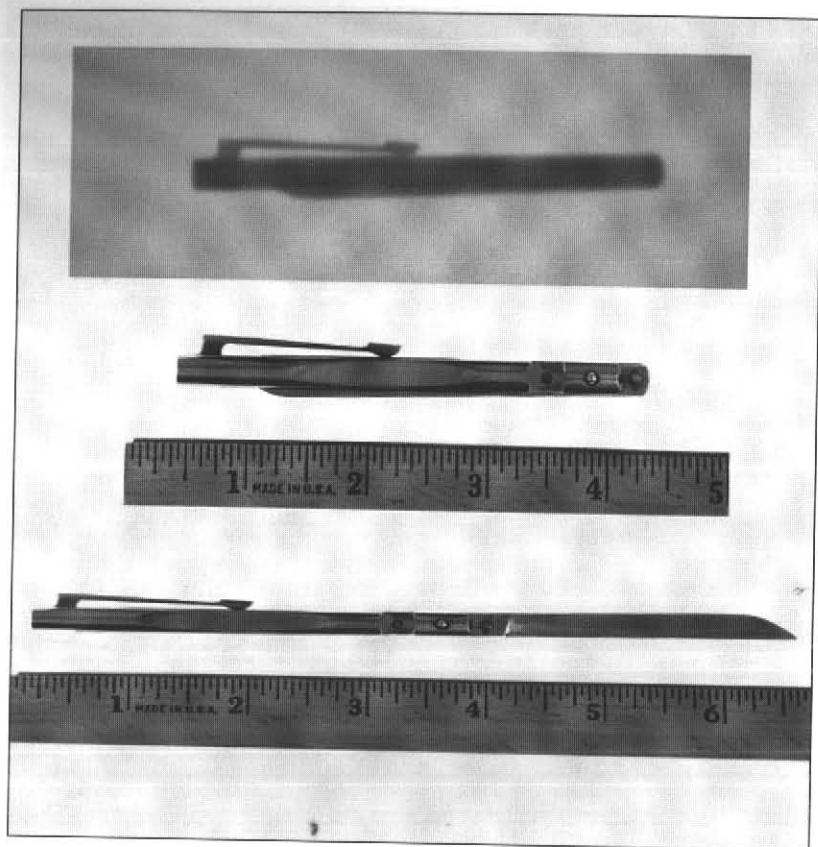
### DELTA PEN

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Metal

Note: Looks like an ink pen and can be opened to expose a knife blade.



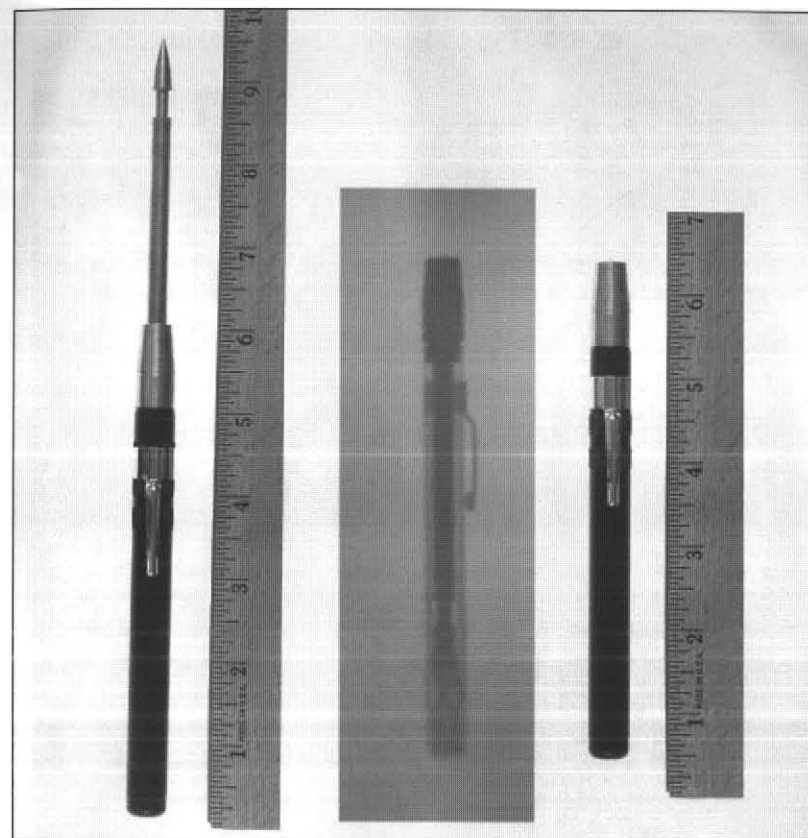
### EXECUTIVE PEN

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Looks like a pen and can be opened to expose a knife blade. Comes in various sizes.



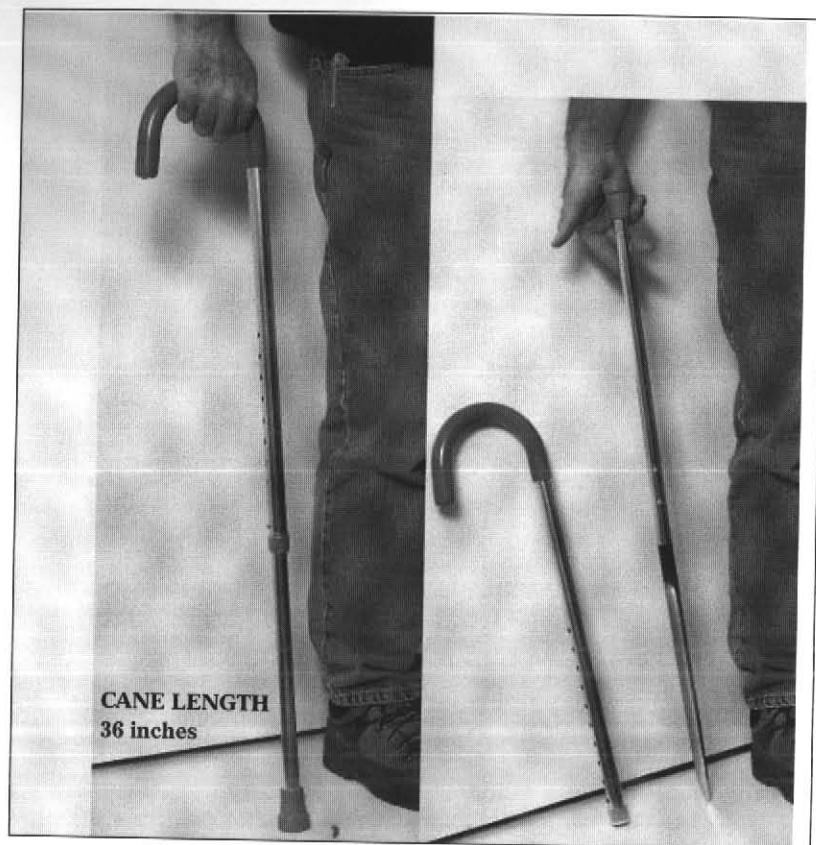
### AUTO SPIKE

Manufacturer: S.W.A.T.

Made in USA

Composition: Metal spike with metal handle

Note: Spring-loaded spike deployed by auto release.



CANE LENGTH  
36 inches

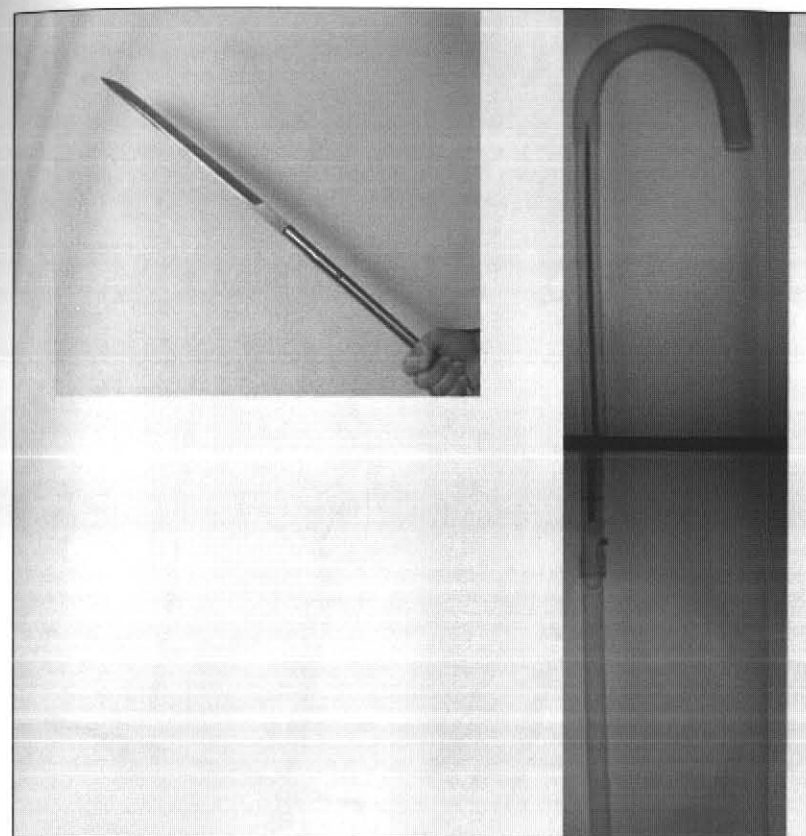
### WALKER SWORD

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Looks like an ordinary walking cane. Expandable shaft can be removed from handle portion to expose knife blade.



The shaft of this cane is removed to expose the knife blade. The blade could also be fitted in a walker/crutch.





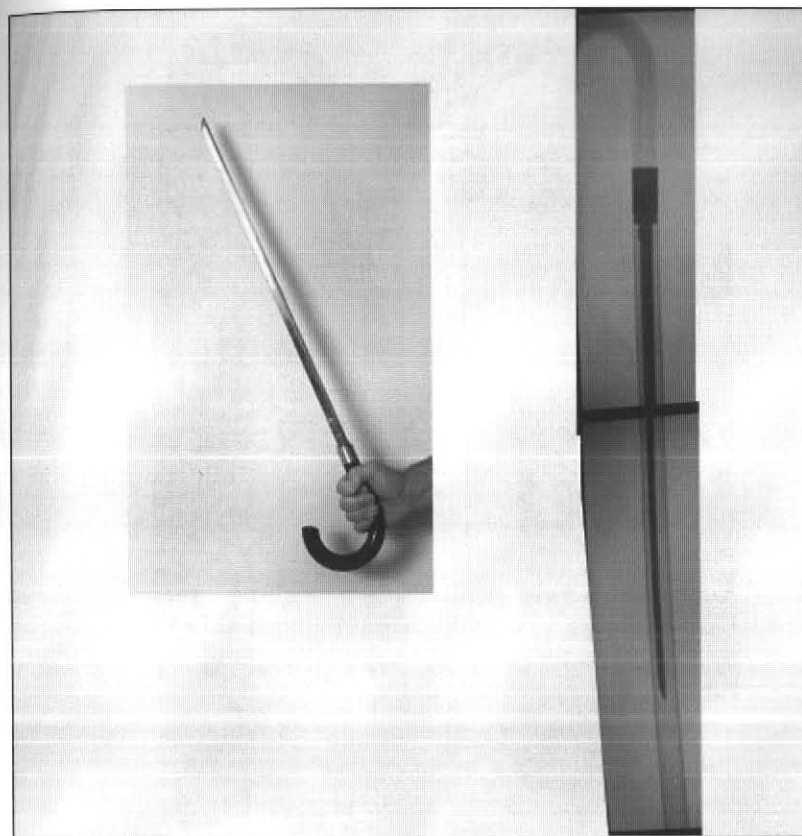
### CANE SWORD

Manufacturer: Unknown

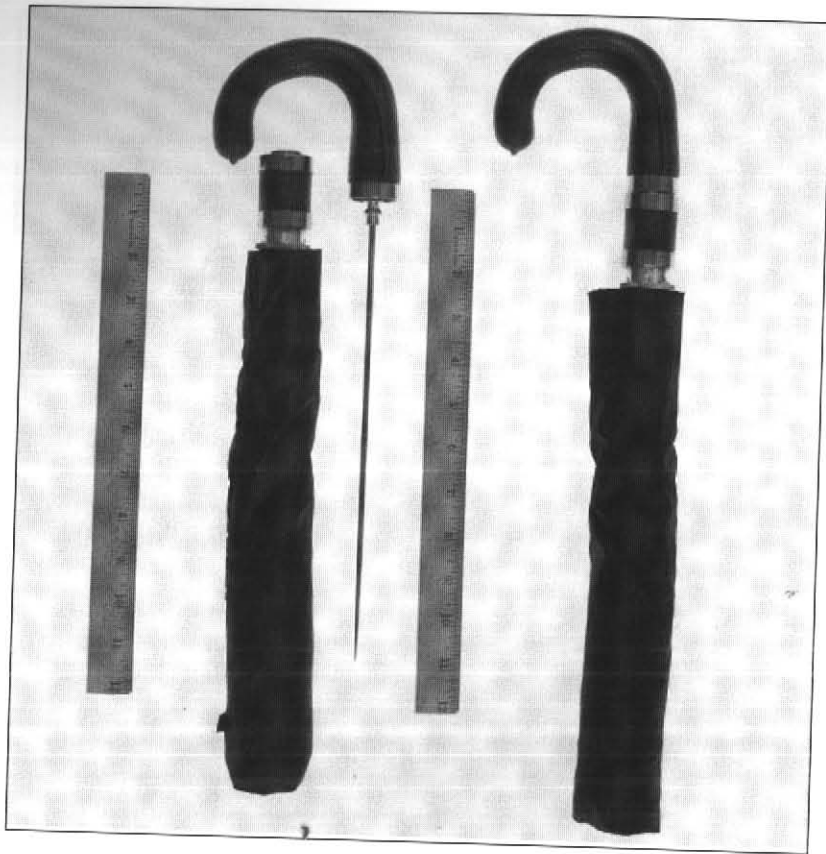
Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Looks like an ordinary cane. Handle unscrews to expose knife blade.



The handle of the cane is removed to expose the knife blade.



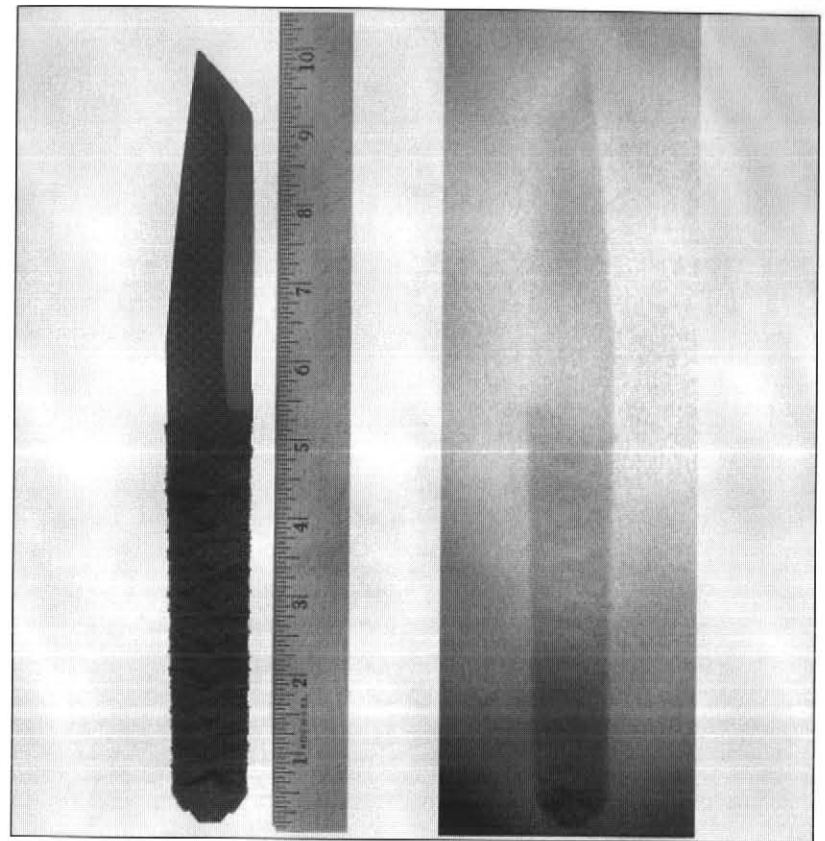
### **WORD UMBRELLA**

Manufacturer: Atlanta Cutlery

Made in USA

Composition: Metal and plastic

Note: Appears as a normal folding umbrella. Handle pulls free to expose a 10-inch steel spike.



### **CARBON FIBER KNIFE**

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Plastic

Note: All-plastic construction makes this invisible to a magnetometer.

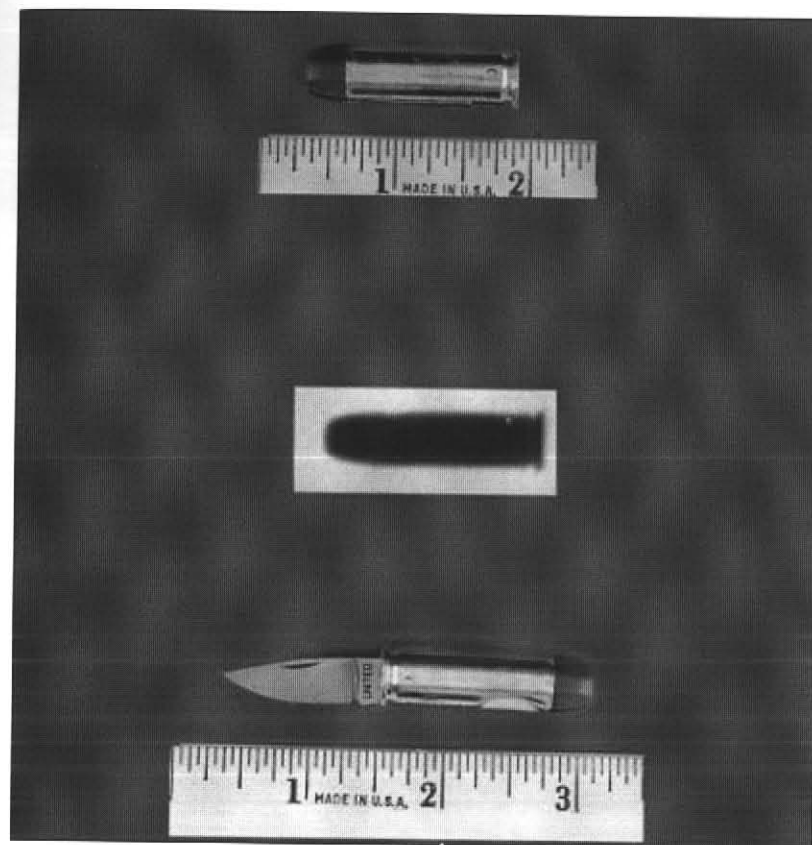


**TOOL CARD**

Manufacturer: Unknown

Composition: Plastic with metal knife blade

Note: Designed to be the approximate size of a credit card so it can be carried in a pocket. Includes a magnifying glass, two screwdrivers, and a flashlight.



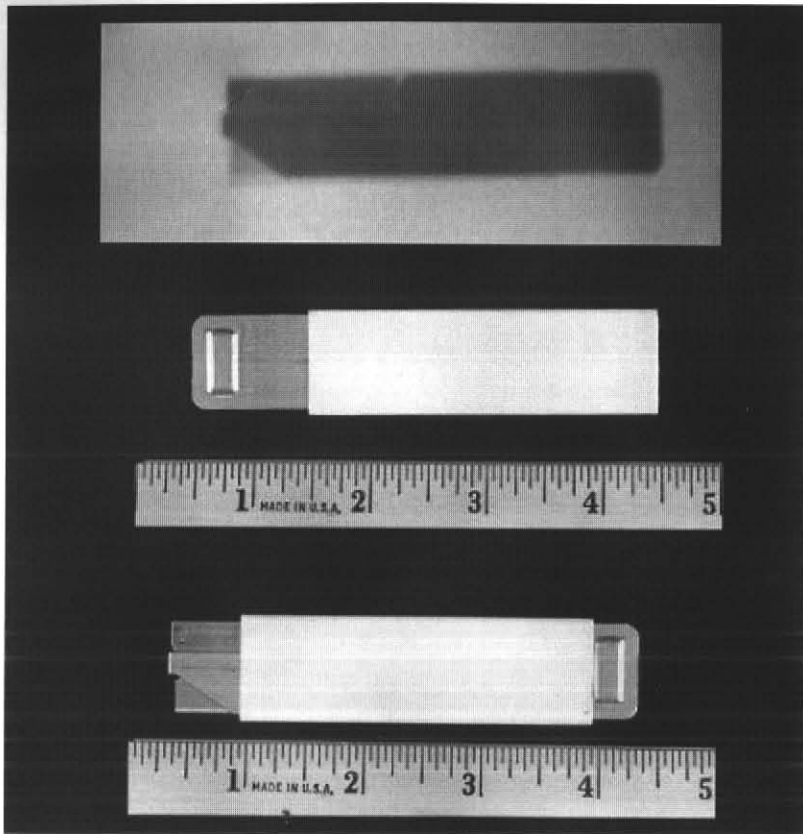
**BULLET (CARTRIDGE) KNIFE**

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Italy

Composition: Metal blade inside of cartridge

Note: Looks like a cartridge for a handgun. Headstamp reads "30-06 SPRG."

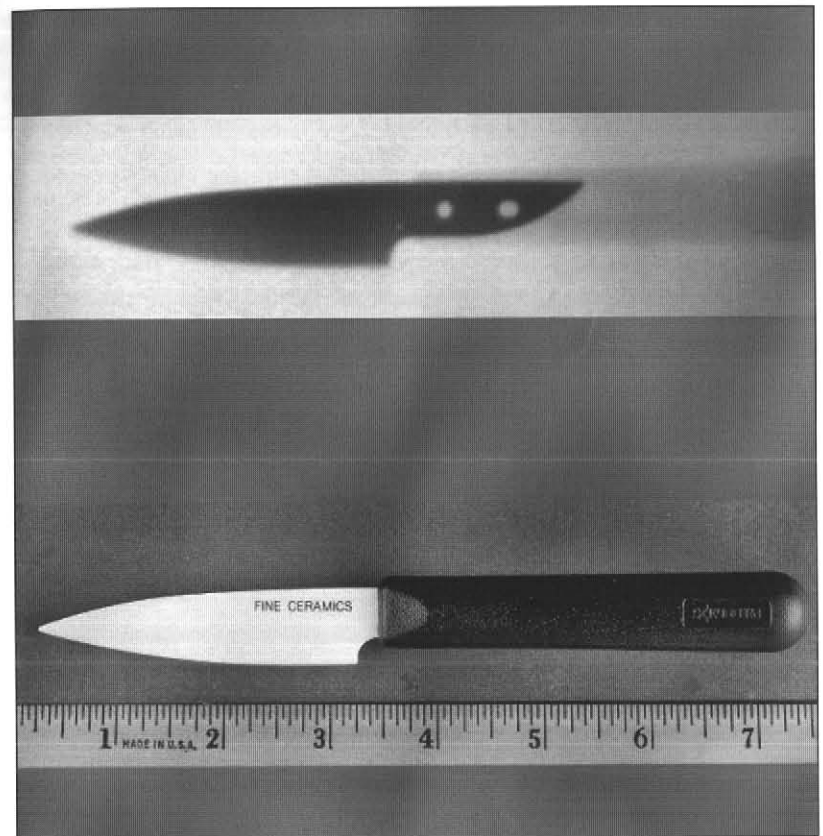


### BOX CUTTER

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Metal razor blade with metal handle



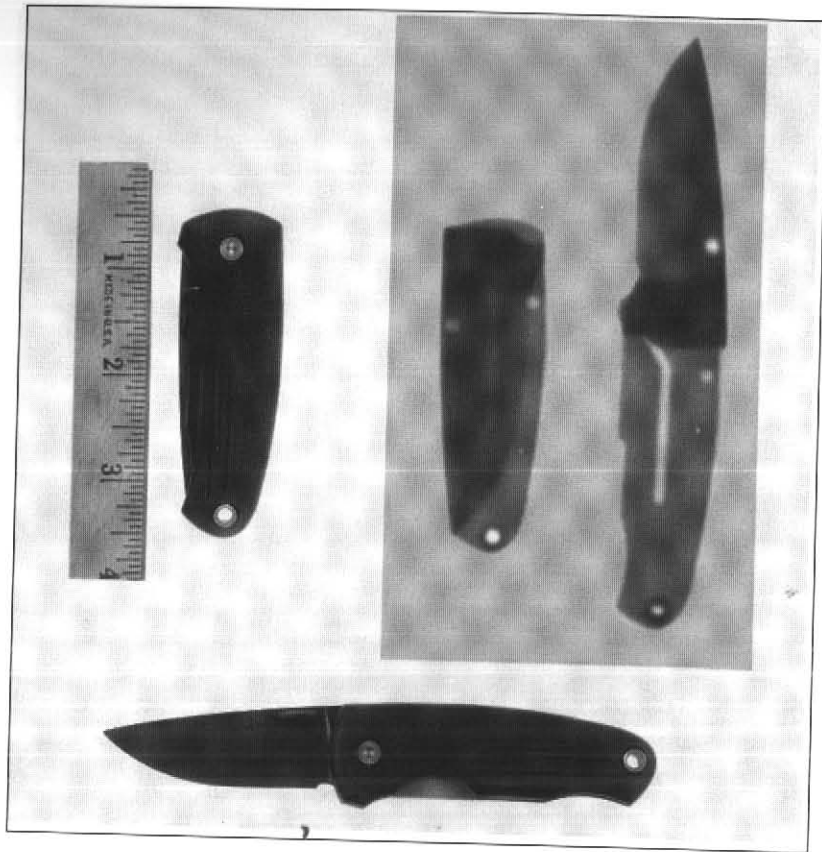
### CERAMIC KNIFE

Manufacturer: Kyocera

Made in Japan

Composition: Ceramic blade with plastic handle

Note: Ceramic and plastic construction makes it invisible to a magnetometer.



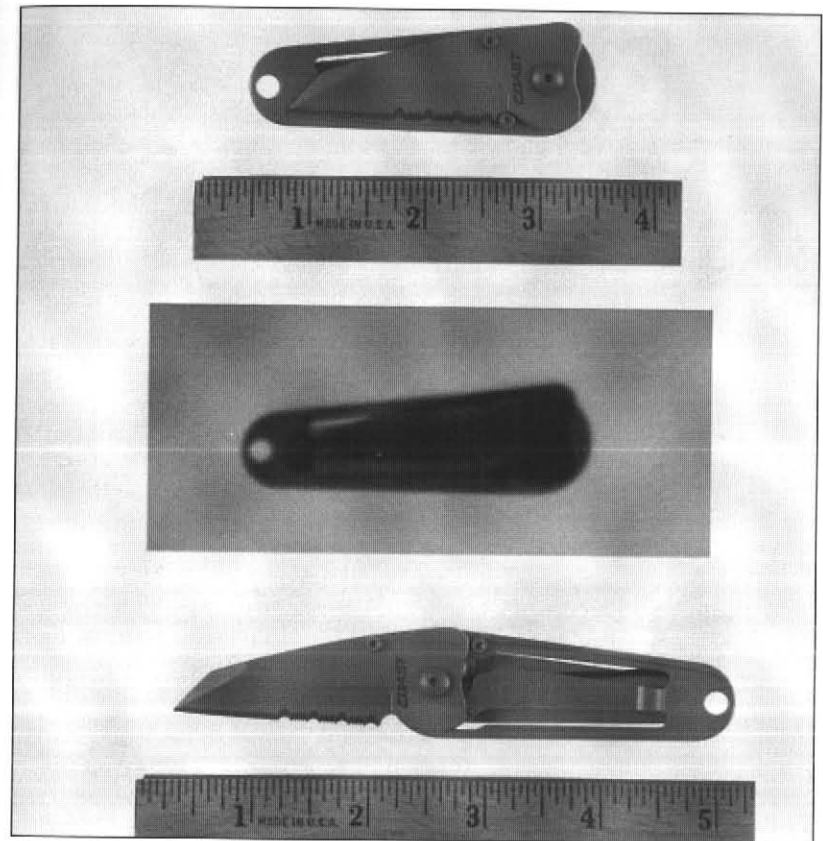
### CERAMIC FOLDING KNIFE

Manufacturer: Boker Knives (model name—Gamma)

Made in Germany

Composition: Plastic case with ceramic blade and metal rivets and liner lock

Note: Minimal amount of metal makes this knife invisible to a magnetometer.



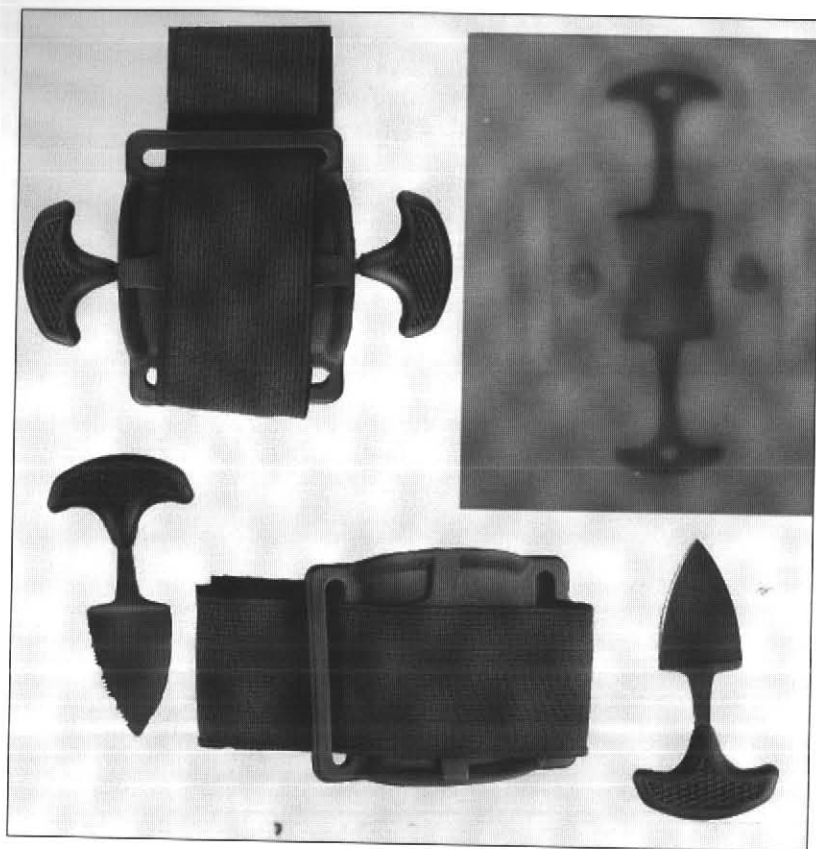
### FOLDING KNIFE

Manufacturer: Coast Knives

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Metal blade and handle

Note: Small folding knife with pocket/money clip.



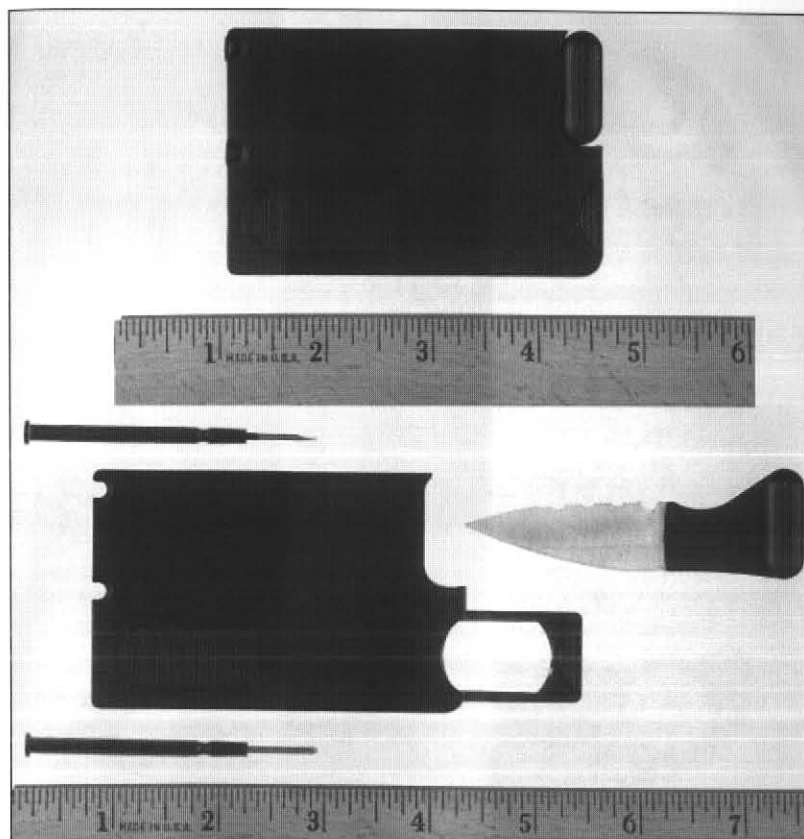
### DOUBLE-HANDED DAGGER

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Metal blade with plastic handle

Note: Can be worn on belt or with wrist/ankle strap.

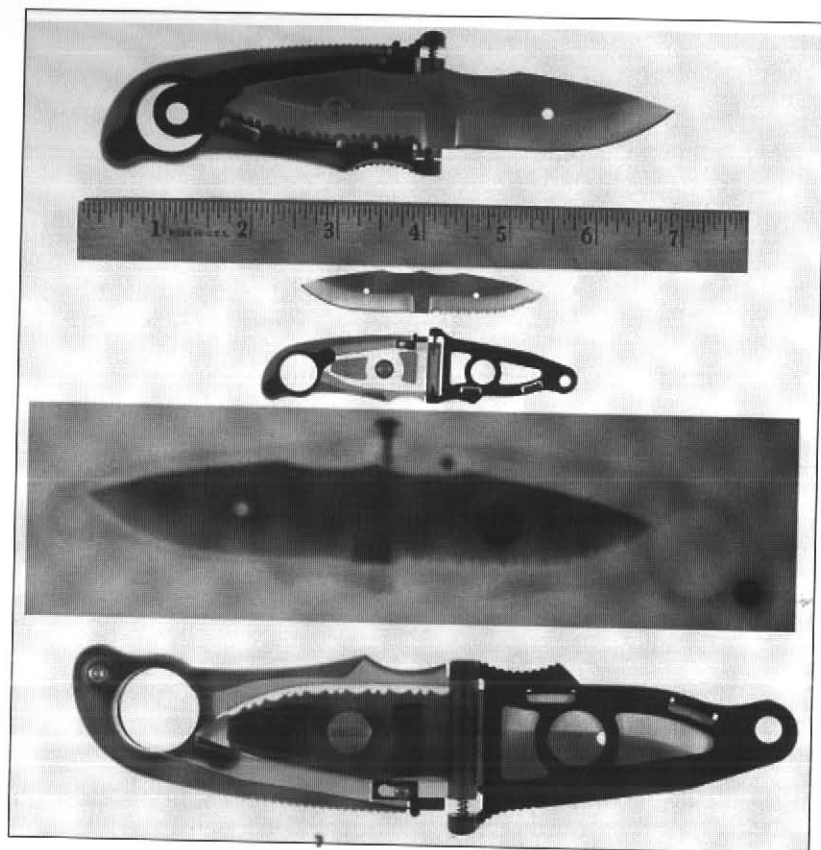


### TOOL CARD

Manufacturer: Unknown

Composition: Plastic case with metal knife blade

Note: Designed to be the approximate size of a credit card so it can be carried in a pocket. Also includes magnifying glass, two screwdrivers, and a flashlight.



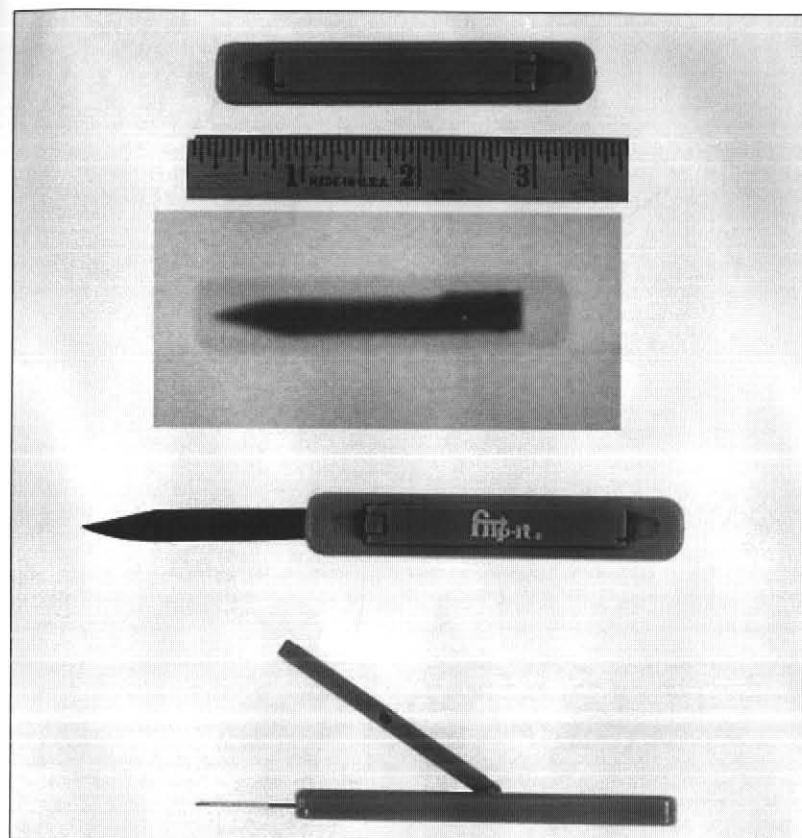
### DUO KNIFE

Manufacturer: SOG

Made in Japan

Composition: Reversible metal blade with plastic handle

Note: Plastic handle folds to expose either plain or serrated edge of removable knife blade.



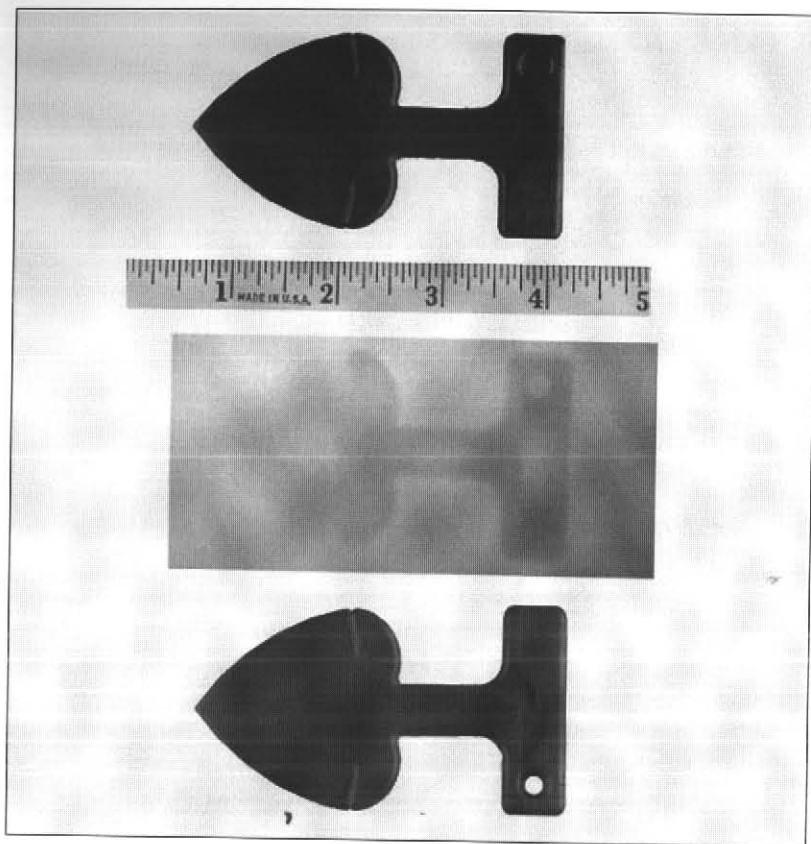
### FLIP KNIFE

Manufacturer: Flip-It

Made in USA

Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: Knife blade is deployed by lifting the handle insert, sliding it forward, and flipping it over to lock the blade in place.



### **PUSH DAGGER**

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Plastic

Note: All-plastic construction makes this invisible to a magnetometer.



### **LETTUCE KNIVES**

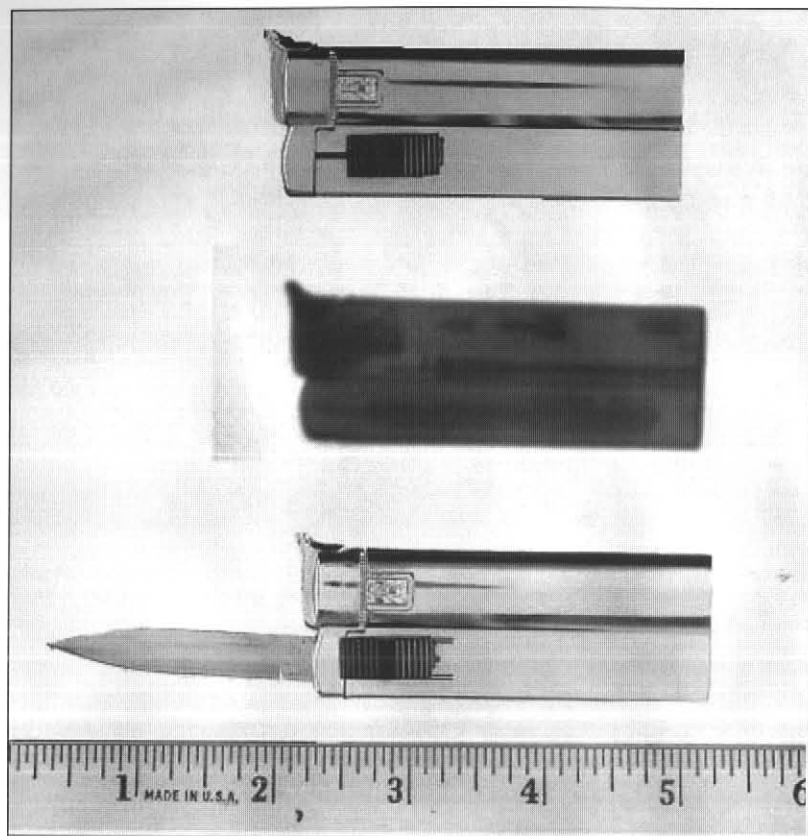
Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Plastic

Note: Inexpensive set of three various-sized knives that are invisible to a magnetometer.





### LIGHTER KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Metal

Note: Working lighter that deploys a knife blade by activation of a button on the side.



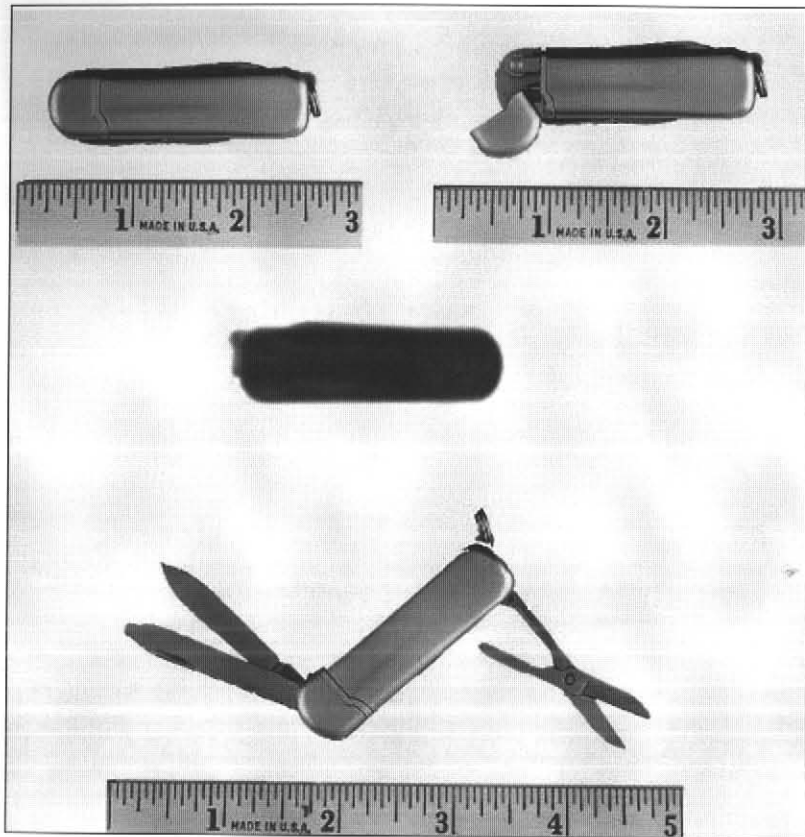
### LIGHTER KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Metal

Note: Working lighter that deploys a knife blade by activation of a button on the side.



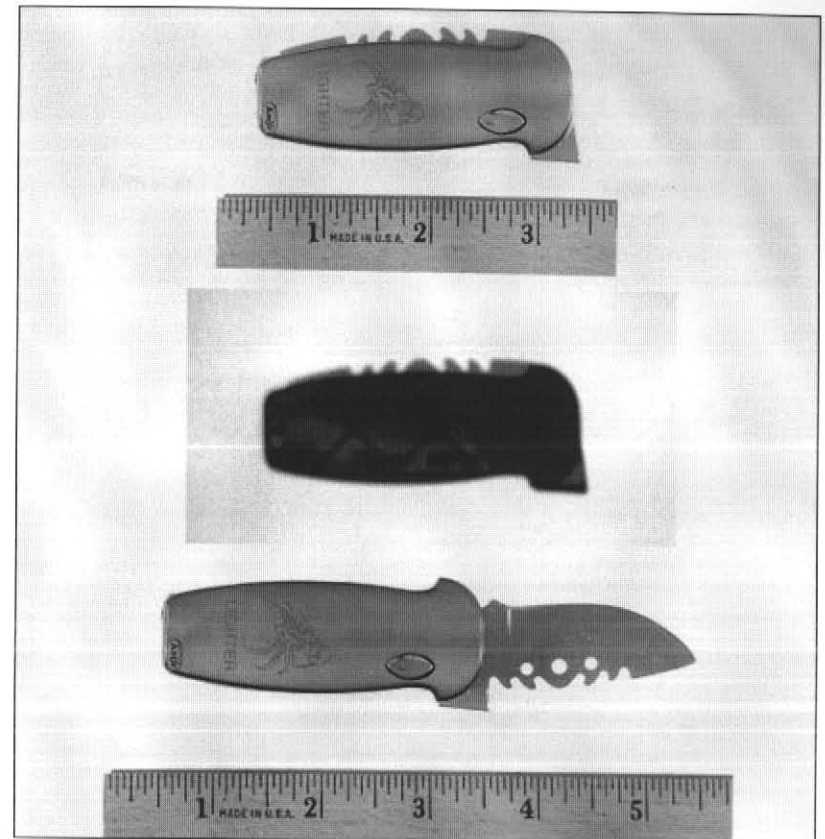
### LIGHTER KNIFE

Manufacturer: Howell

Made in Korea

Composition: Metal

Note: Working lighter that stores a knife blade, nail file, and scissors.



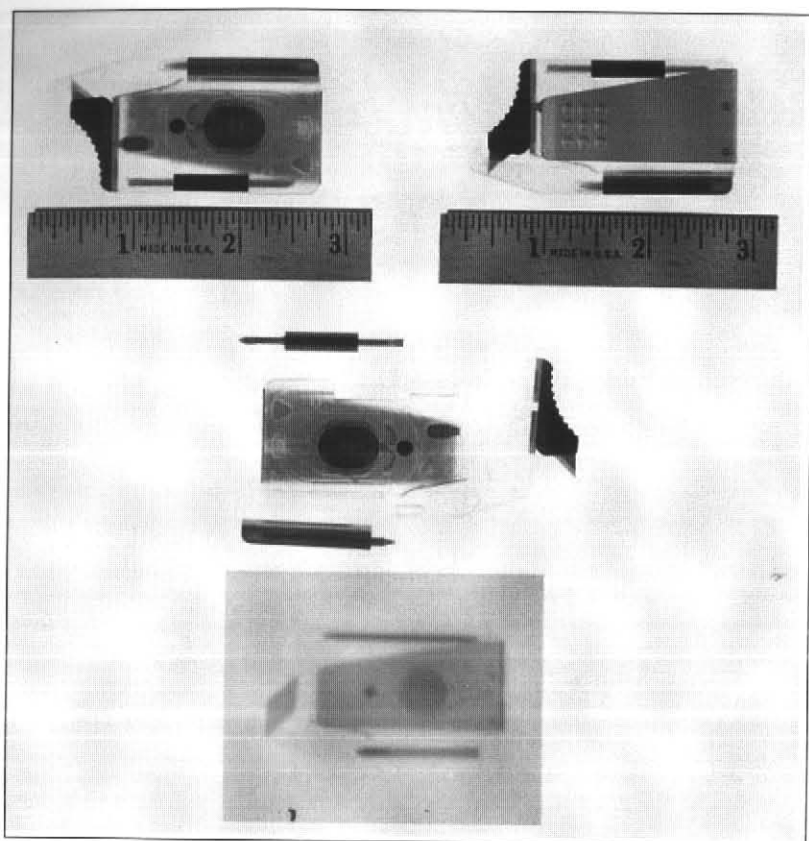
### CIGARETTE LIGHTER KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Metal knife blade in metal case handle

Note: This working lighter conceals an automatic knife.



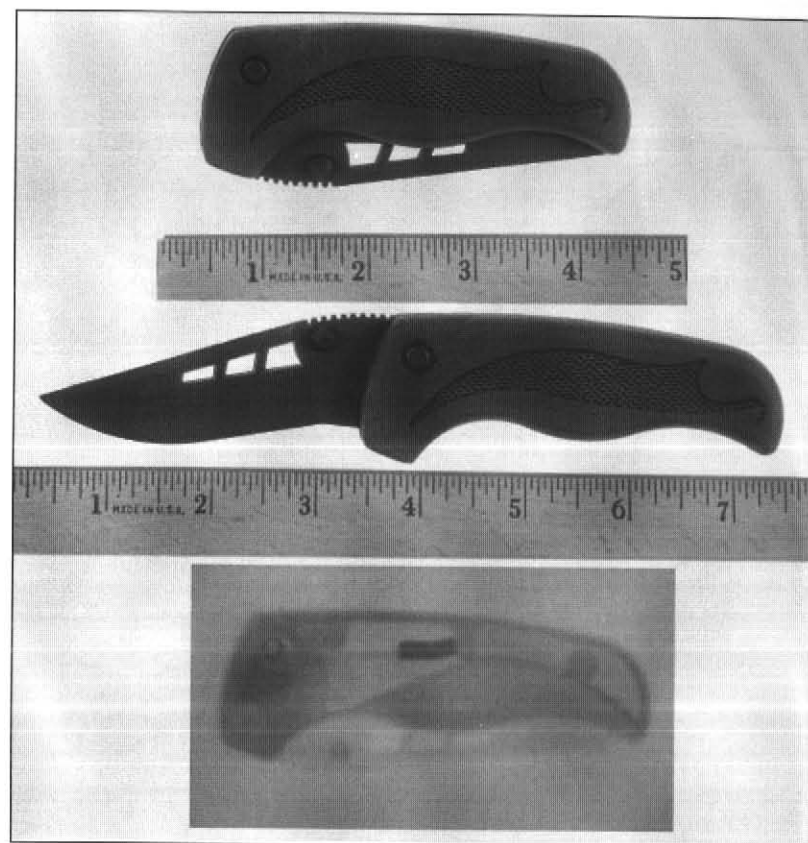
### TOOL CARD/MONEY CLIP

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: This money clip stores a blade, two screwdrivers, and a flashlight.



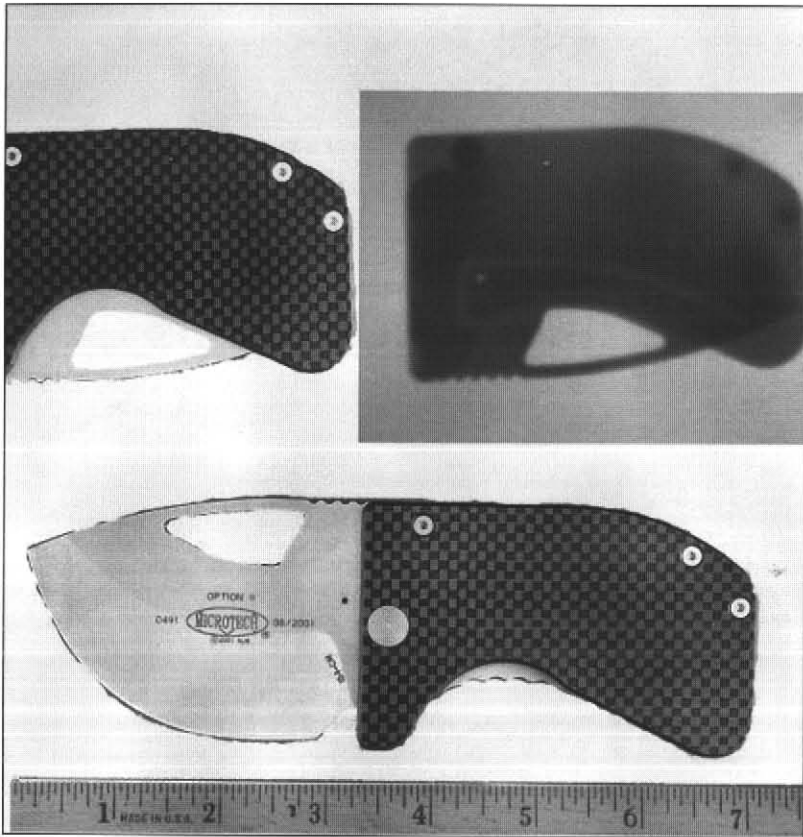
### PLASTIC FOLDING KNIFE

Manufacturer: Meyerco

Made in USA

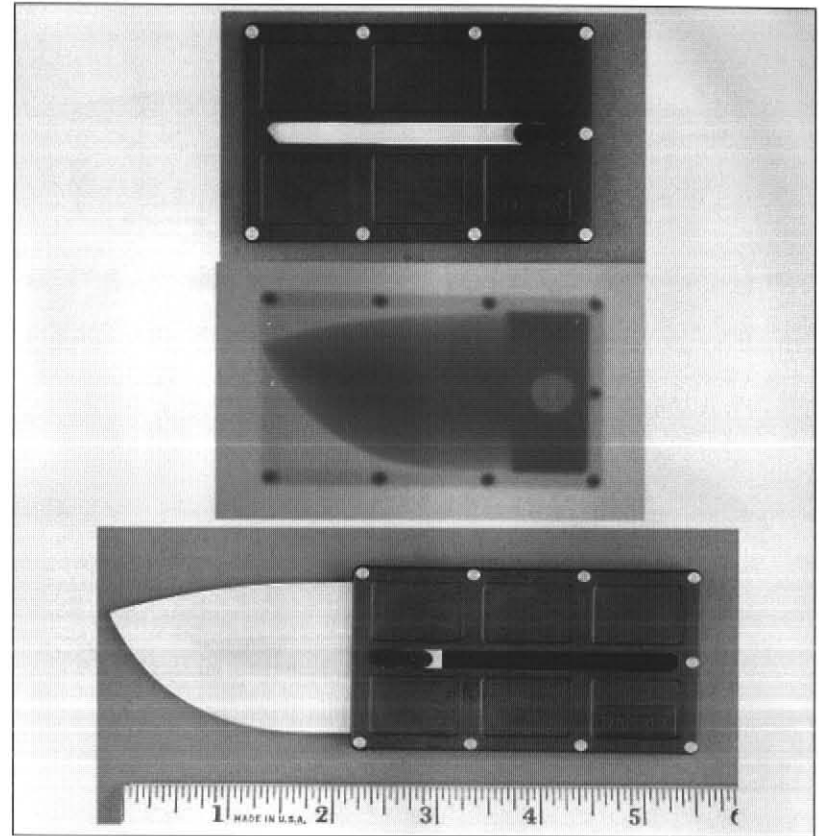
Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: The knife is all-plastic construction except for a small spring to assist in opening.



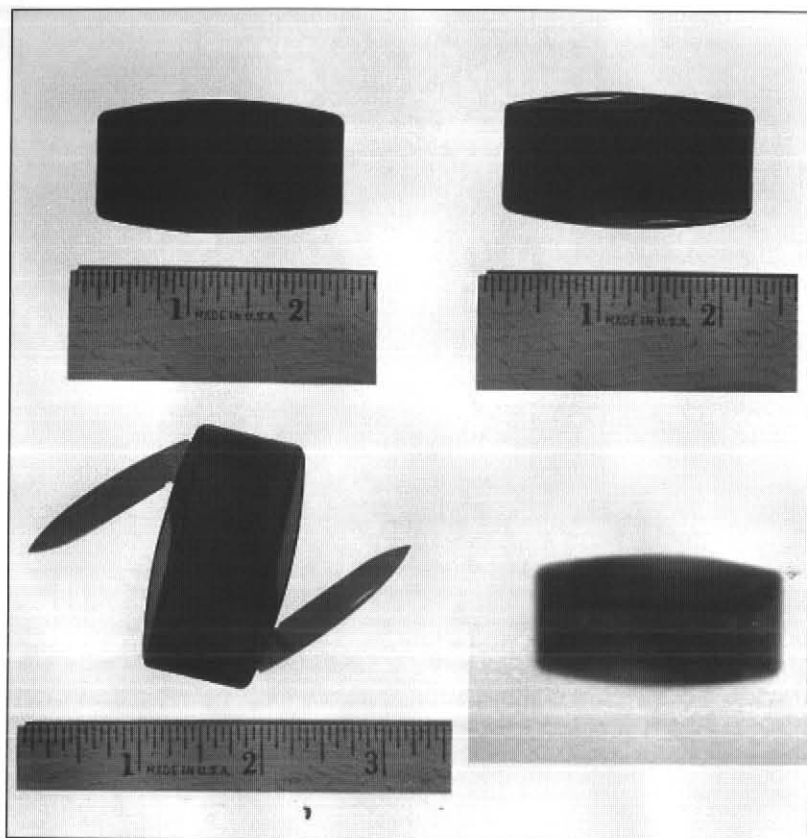
### CARD KNIFE

Manufacturer: Microtech (model name—Option II)  
Made in USA  
Composition: Plastic and metal



### CARD KNIFE

Manufacturer: Edge-Tek  
Made in USA  
Composition: Plastic and metal  
Note: Blade slides out of the handle.



### MONEY CLIP KNIFE

Manufacturer: Zippo

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Money clip houses a knife blade and nail file.



### OBSIDIAN KNIFE

Manufacturer: These knives are custom made.

Composition: Obsidian blade with a bone handle

Note: No metal is used in this knife, making it invisible to a magnetometer.



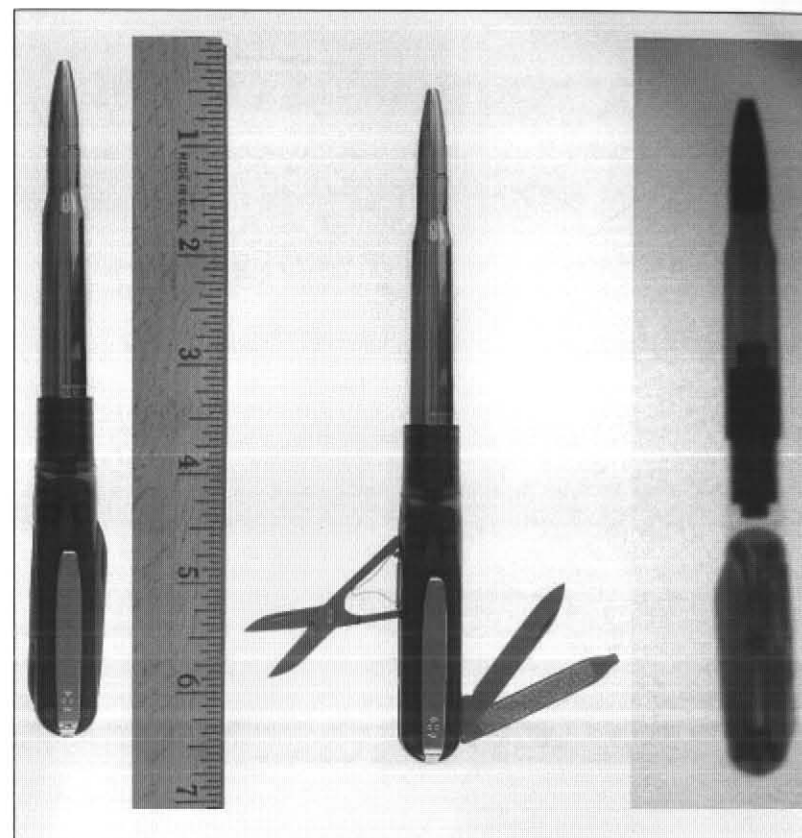
### OFFICE TOOL KIT

Manufacturer: Tool Logic (model name—Office Companion)

Made in USA

Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: The length and width of a credit card, it contains a stapler, ballpoint pen, and other common office tools.



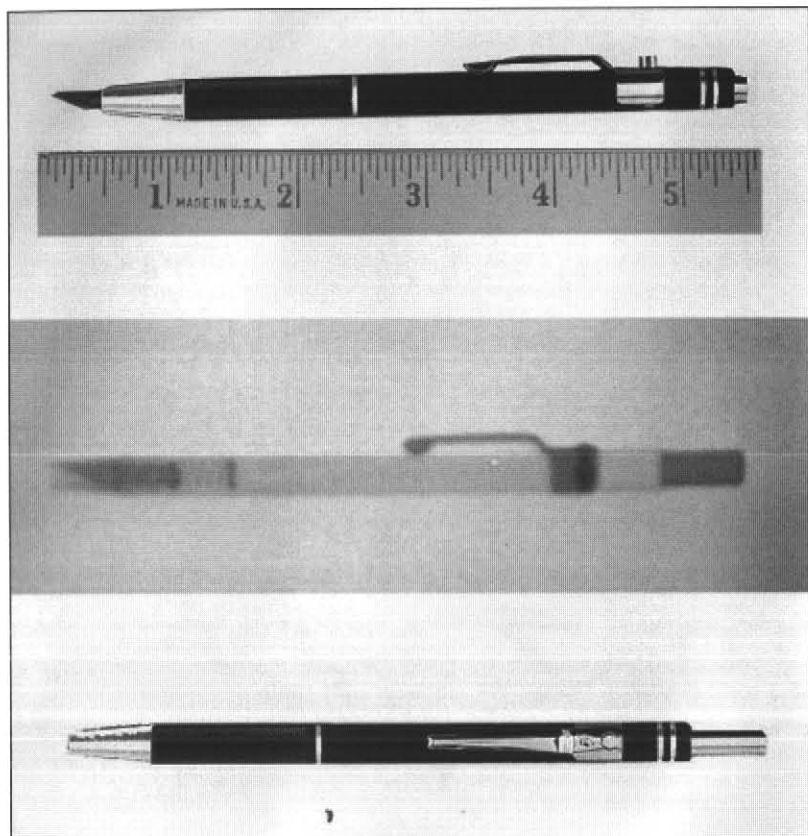
### INK PEN KNIFE

Manufacturer: Victorinox

Made in Switzerland

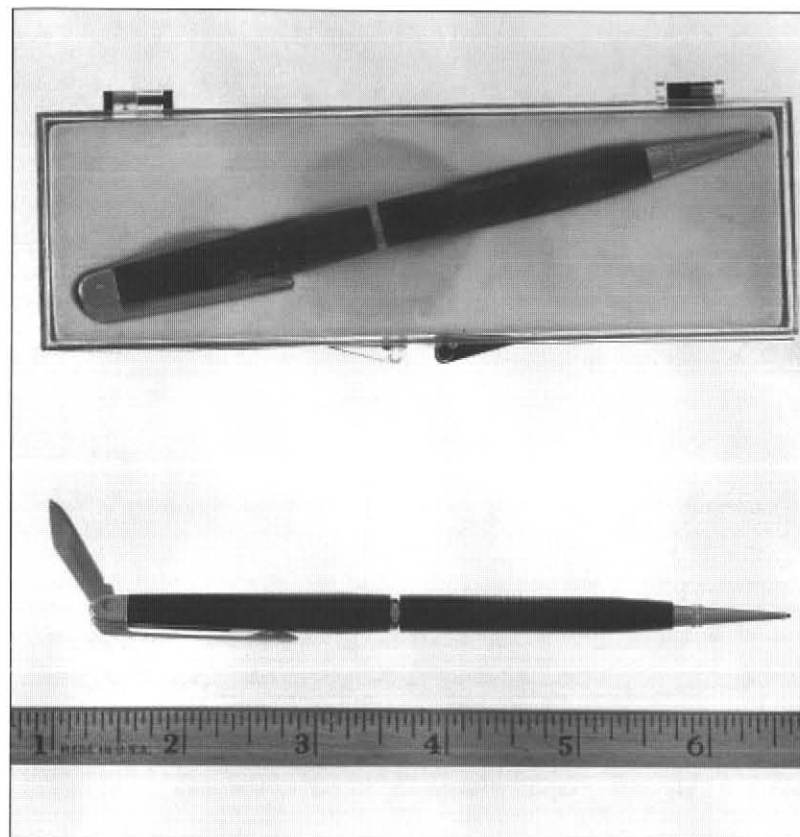
Composition: Metal blade with plastic handle

Note: Pen looks like a rifle cartridge. There is a knife blade, nail file, scissors, and a flashlight stored in the pen handle.



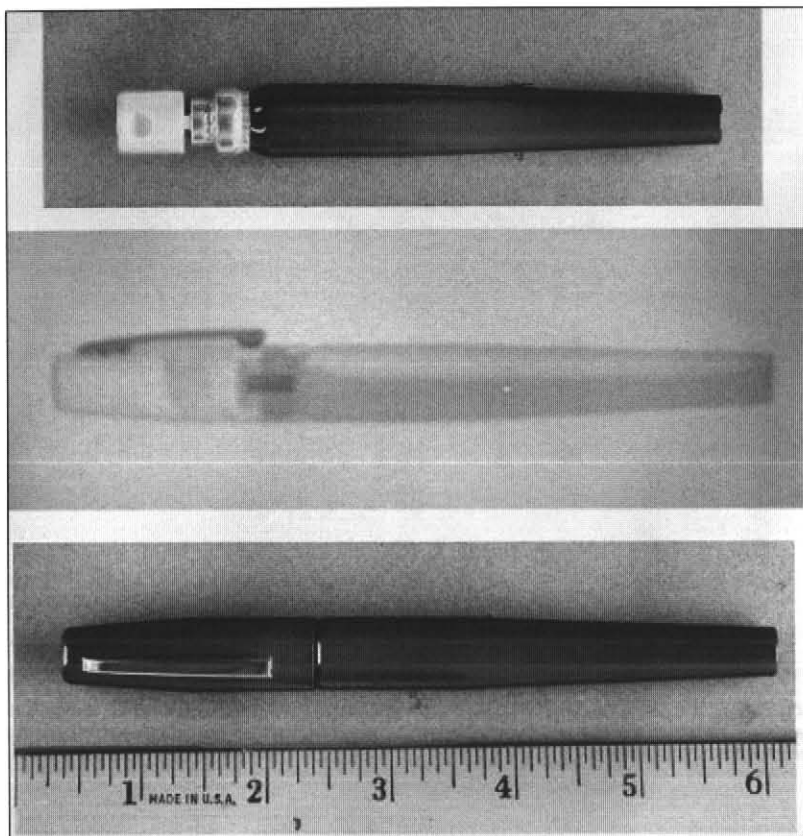
### RAZOR KNIFE

Manufacturer: X-ACTO (model name—X-Calibre)  
Made in ?  
Composition: All metal  
Note: Looks like an ink pen. Push button deploys blade.



### INK PEN KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown  
Made in USA  
Composition: Metal  
Note: Looks like an ink pen. Knife blade folds in the side of the pen.



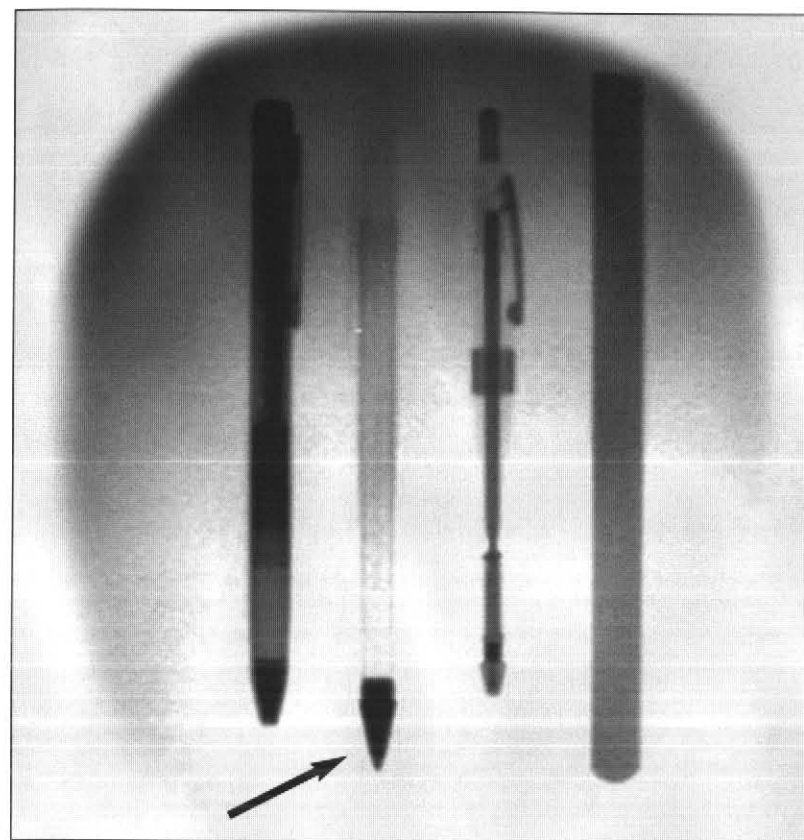
### INK PEN PEPPER SPRAY

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Plastic and metal

Note: Looks like an ink pen and can eject pepper spray.



### PENKNIFE

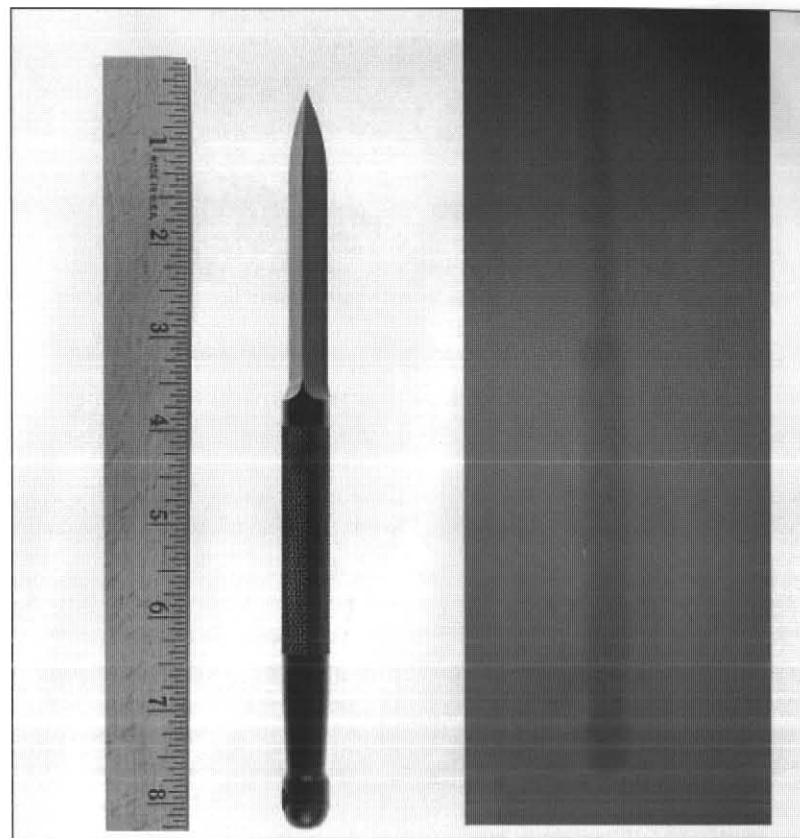
X-ray of a penknife with other pens; the penknife is the second image from the left.





### **PEN-TYPE KNIVES**

This photograph shows the profile of the various penknives when carried in a pocket.



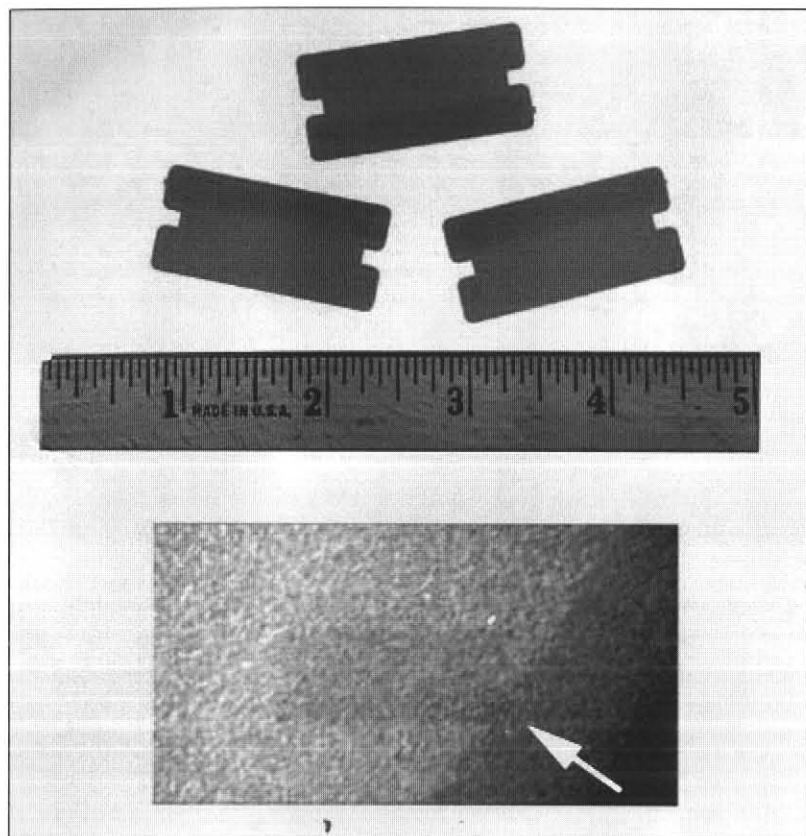
### **PLASTIC SPIKE**

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Polymer/plastic

Note: All-plastic construction of the spike (dagger) makes it invisible to a magnetometer.



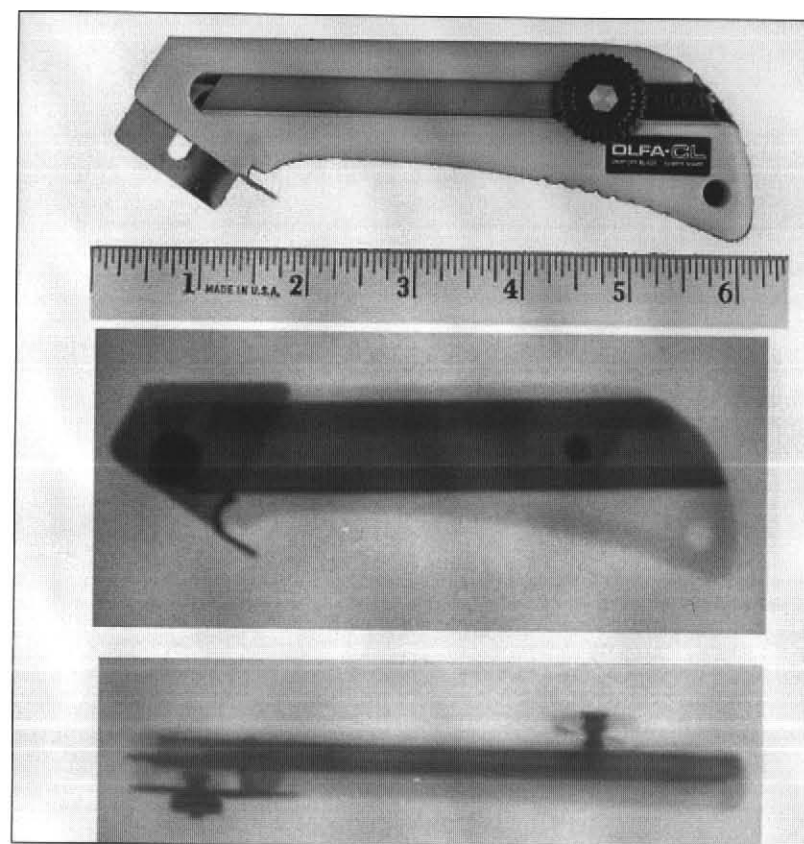
### PLASTIC RAZOR BLADES

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in China

Composition: Plastic

Note: These are the same size as standard metal razor blades. All-plastic construction makes them invisible to a magnetometer.



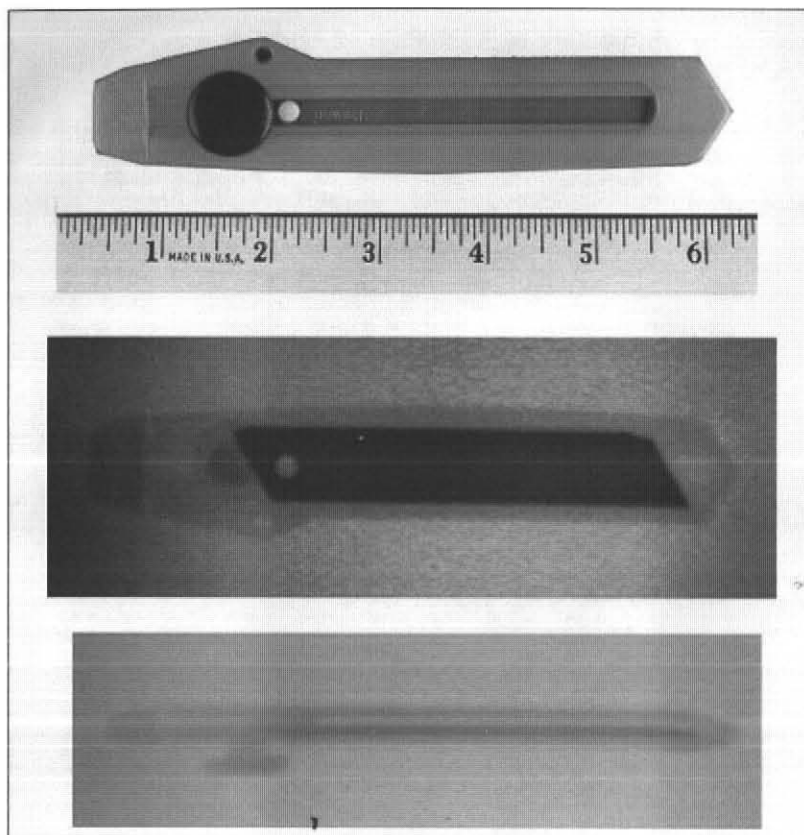
### BOX CUTTER KNIFE

Manufacturer: OLFA

Made in Japan

Composition: Metal razor blade with plastic handle

Note: Razor blade slides out of handle.



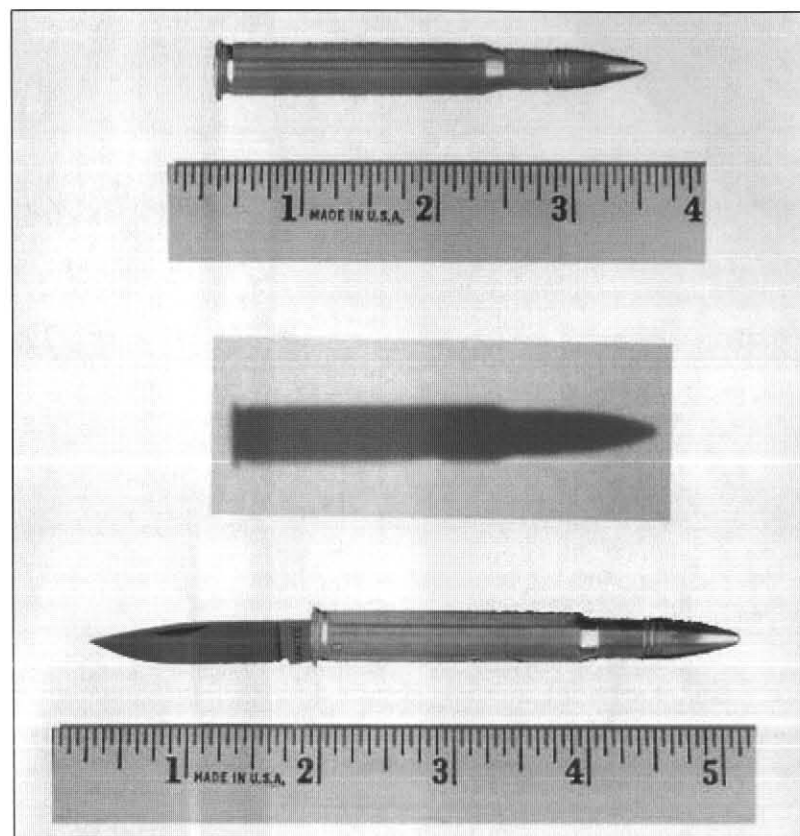
### RAZOR KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Metal razor blade with plastic handle

Note: Razor blade slides out of handle.



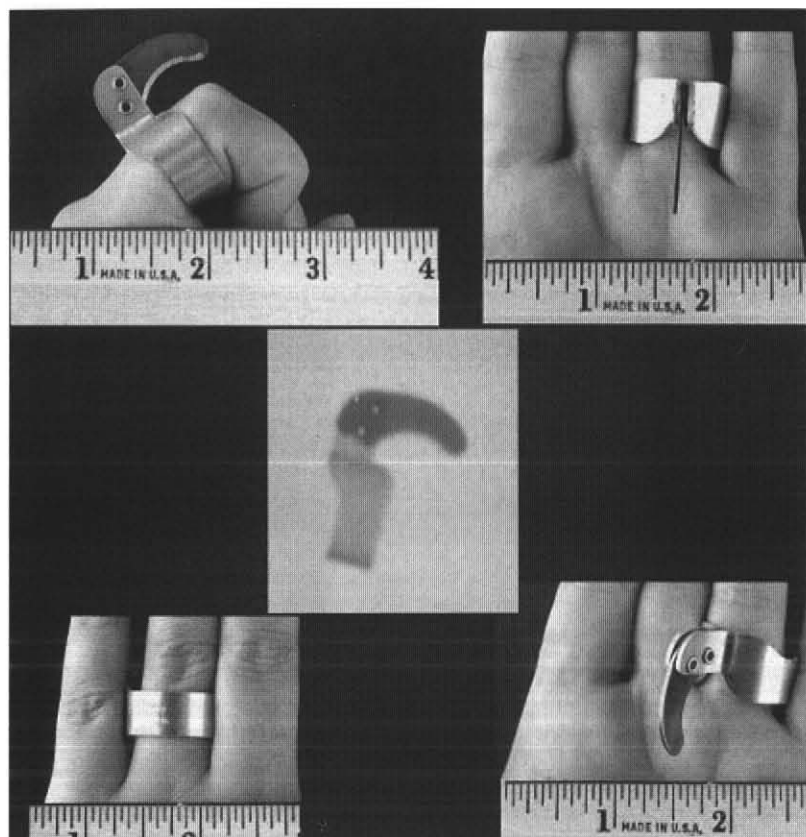
### BULLET (CARTRIDGE) KNIFE

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Italy

Composition: Metal blade inside of metal cartridge

Note: Looks like a rifle cartridge. Headstamp reads "30-06 SPRG."



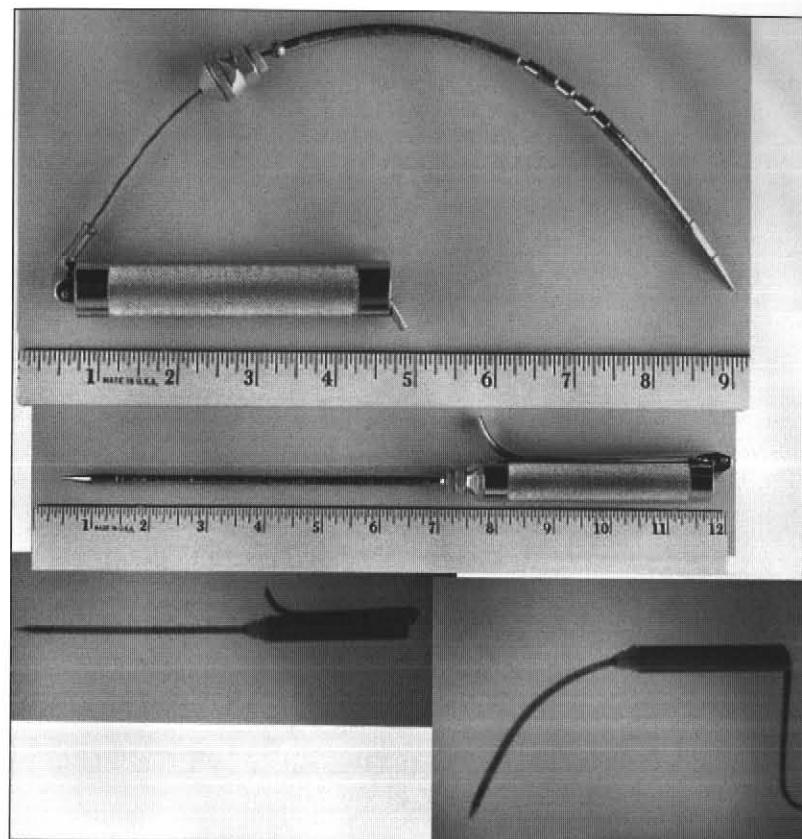
### RING KNIFE

Manufacturer: Bates

Made in USA

Composition: Metal blade with ring

Note: Blade attached to a ring. Commonly used to cut strings on packages and hay bales.



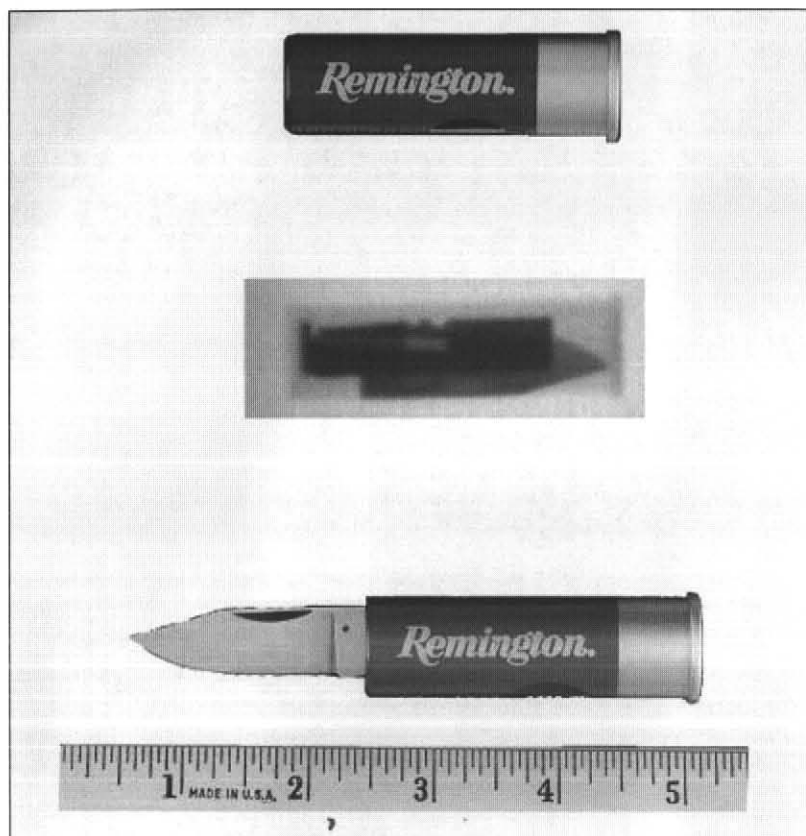
### SHUCKRA

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Metal

Note: By locking the handle and pulling on an internal wire, this device becomes taut and may be used as a spike.



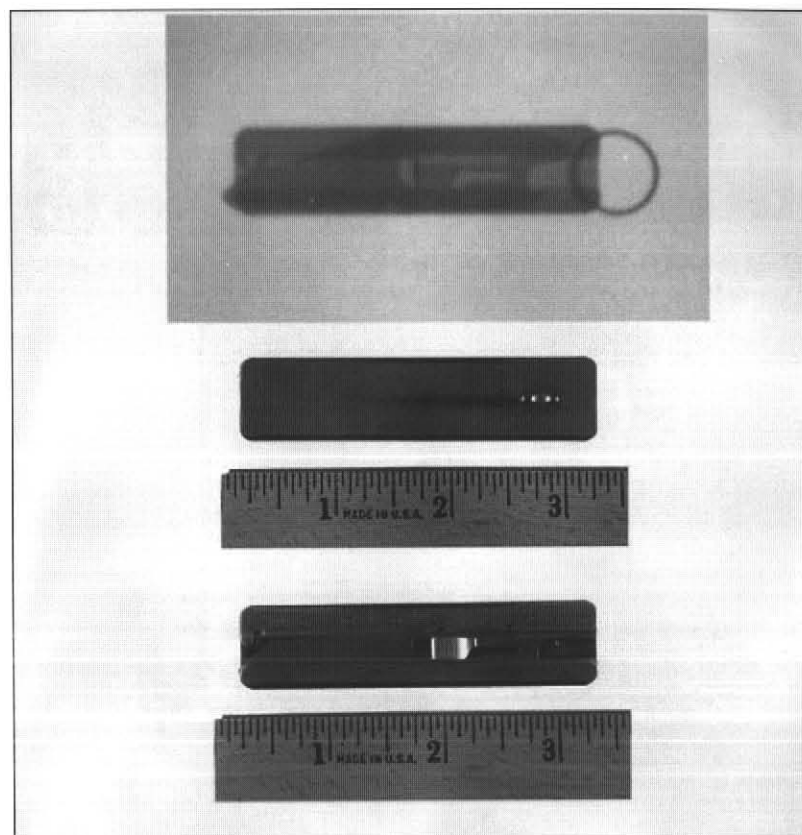
### SHOTSHELL KNIFE

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Italy

Composition: Metal blade inside plastic shotshell

Note: Looks like a shotshell for a shotgun. Headstamp reads "12-GA REMINGTON PETERS."



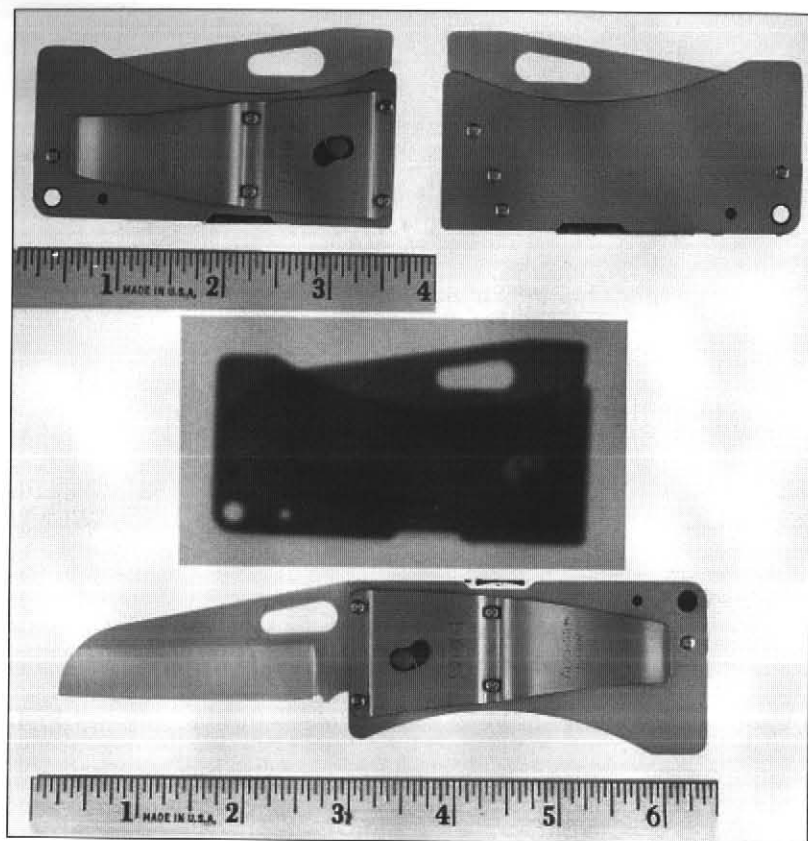
### SLIDER KNIFE

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in USA

Composition: Metal razor blade with metal handle

Note: Handle looks like a ruler. The blade has a lock button that allows the knife to be deployed.



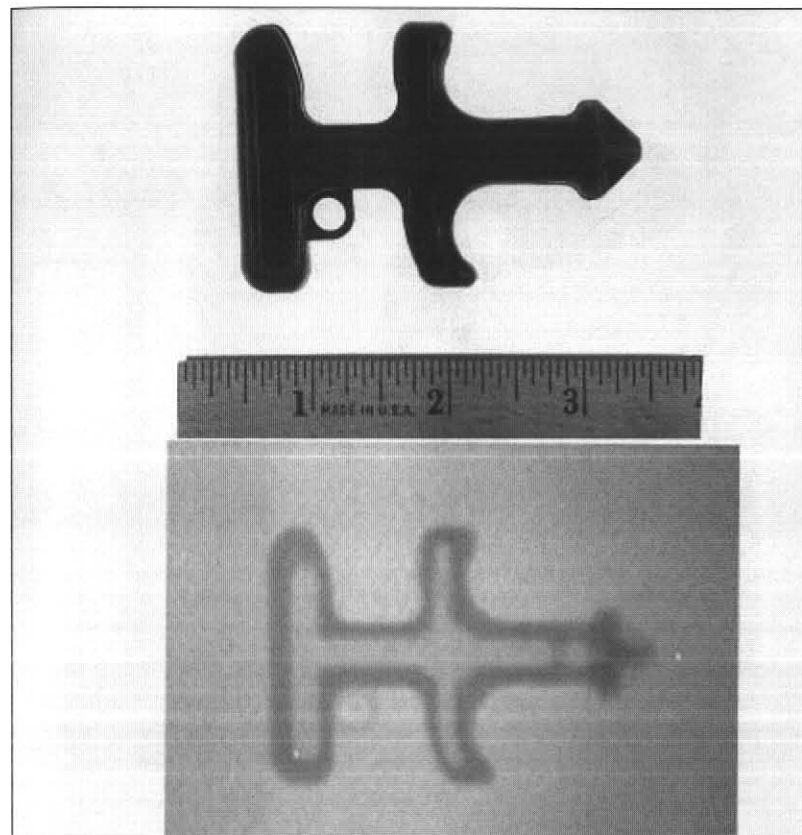
### SOG ACCESS CARD

Manufacturer: SOG

Made in Japan

Composition: Metal blade and handle

Note: This knife houses tweezers, a toothpick, and a straight pin.



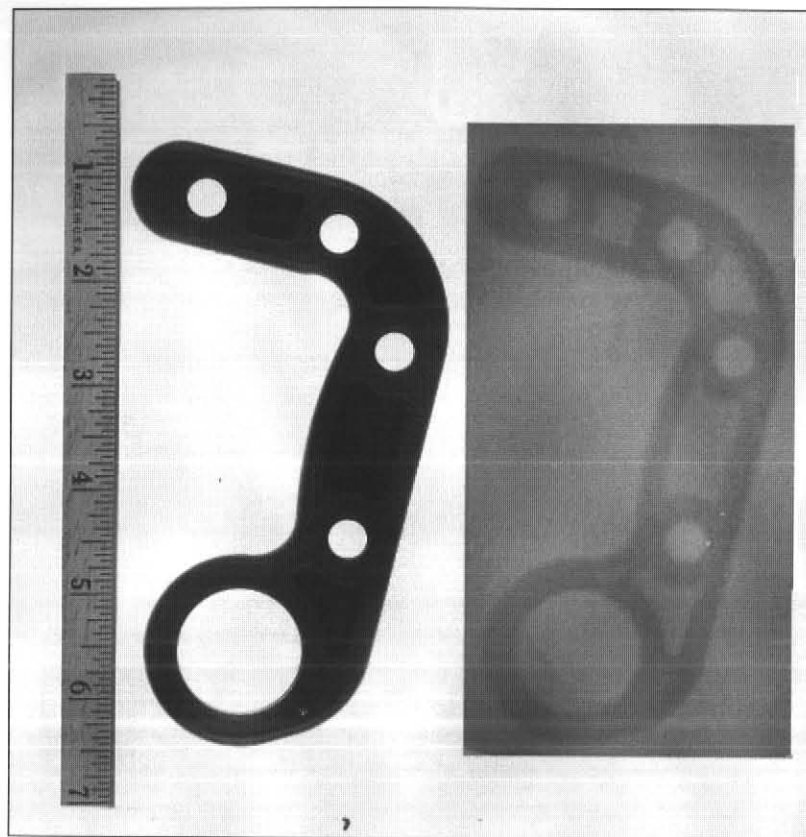
### STINGER KEY CHAIN

Manufacturer: Shomer-Tec

Made in USA

Composition: All-polymer/plastic striking tool

Note: Comes in black, blue, or clear. All-plastic construction makes it invisible to a magnetometer.



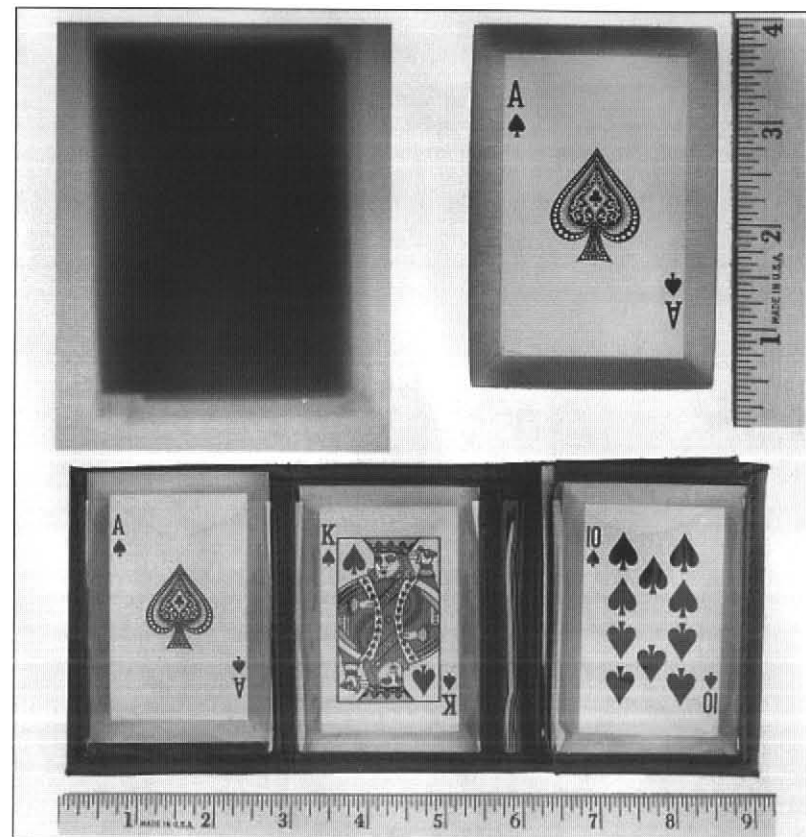
### IMPACT KERAMBIT

Manufacturer: Shomer-Tec

Made in USA

Composition: All-polymer/plastic

Note: This impact tool is made of plastic, making it invisible to a magnetometer.



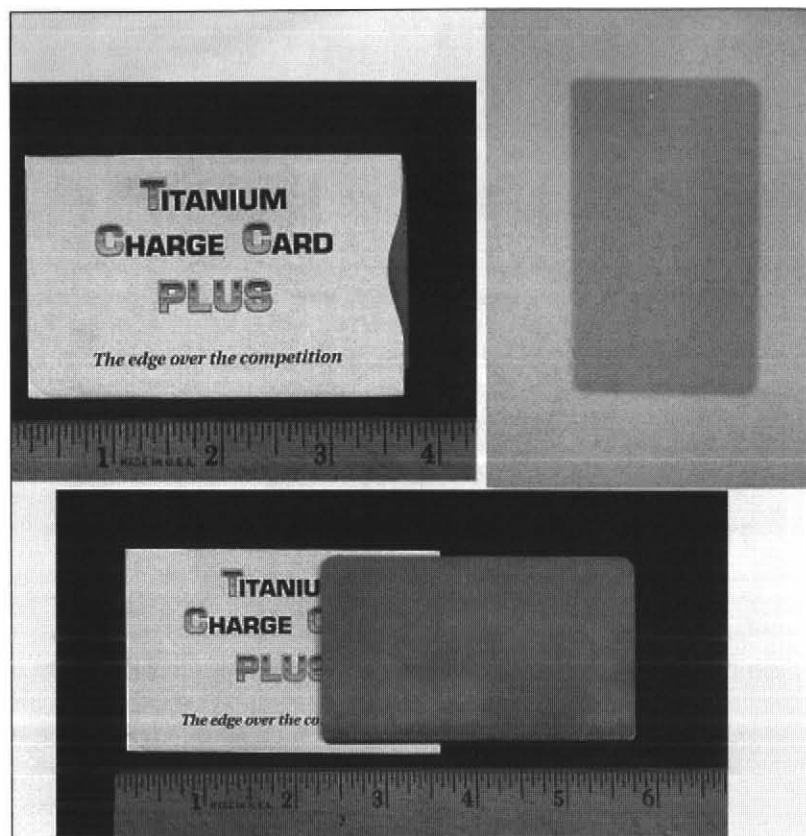
### THROWING CARDS

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in ?

Composition: Metal

Note: These all-metal cards are the size of standard playing cards. They are edged on all sides and designed to be thrown at a target.



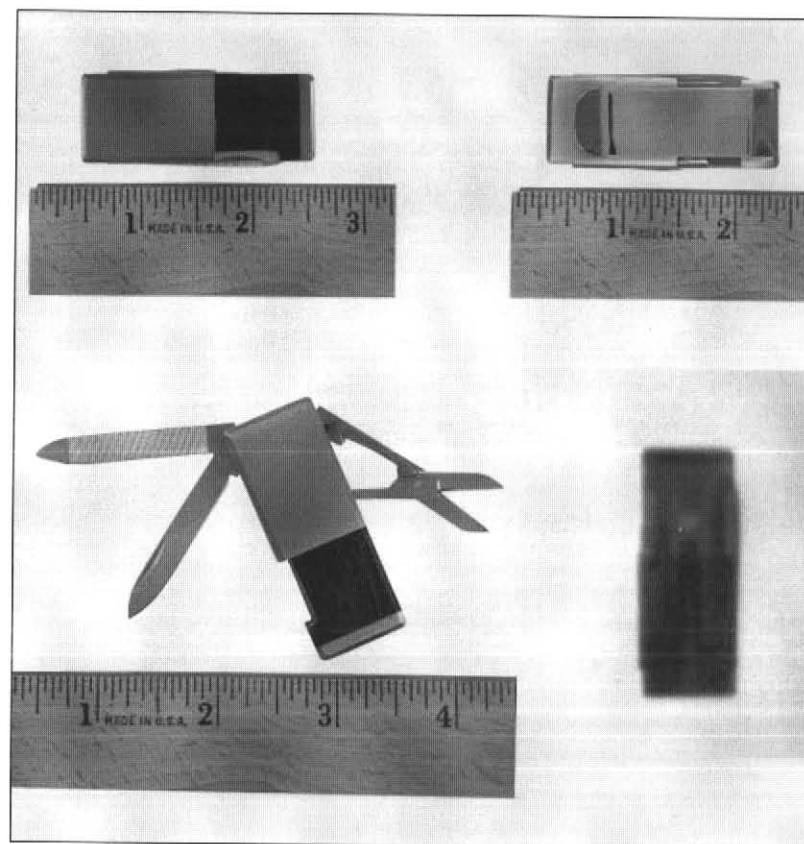
### TITANIUM CHARGE CARD PLUS

Manufacturer: Shomer-Tec

Made in USA

Composition: Metal

Note: Edged on one side, this card is designed to fit in your wallet like a credit card.



### MONEY CLIP

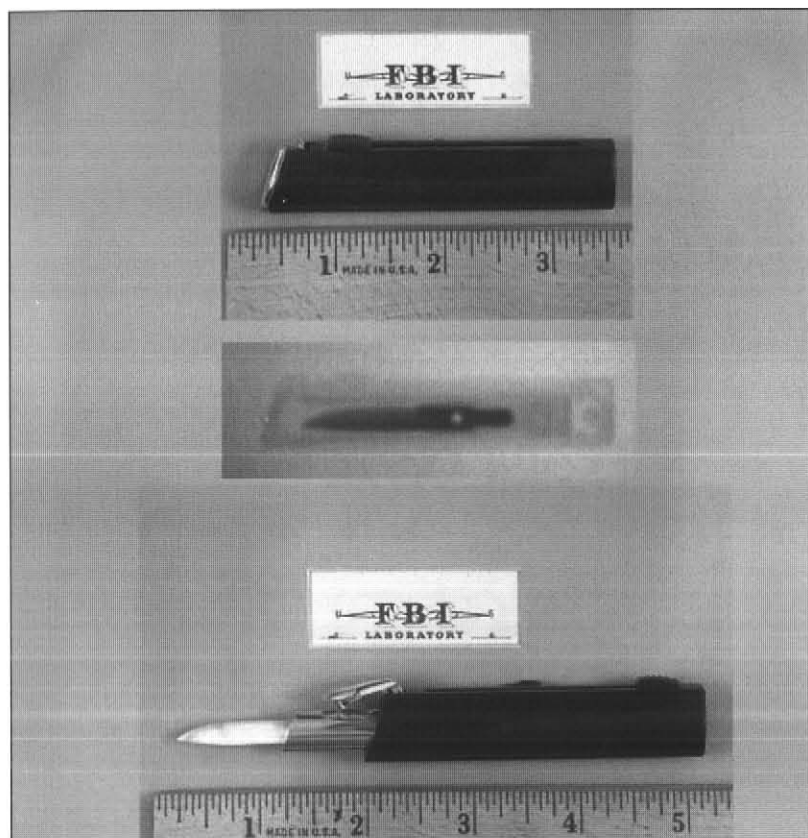
Manufacturer: Kershaw

Made in Japan

Composition: Metal

Note: Money clip conceals a blade, nail file, and scissors.





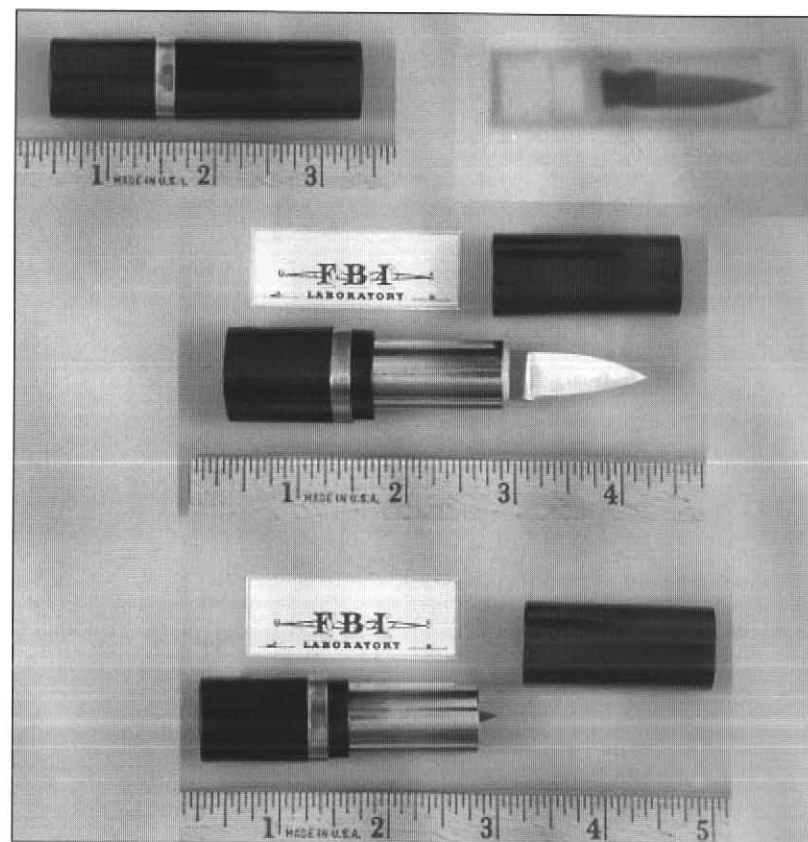
### LIPSTICK

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Plastic case with metal band

Note: Appears to be a cosmetic. Blade extends by sliding the button along the side of the case.



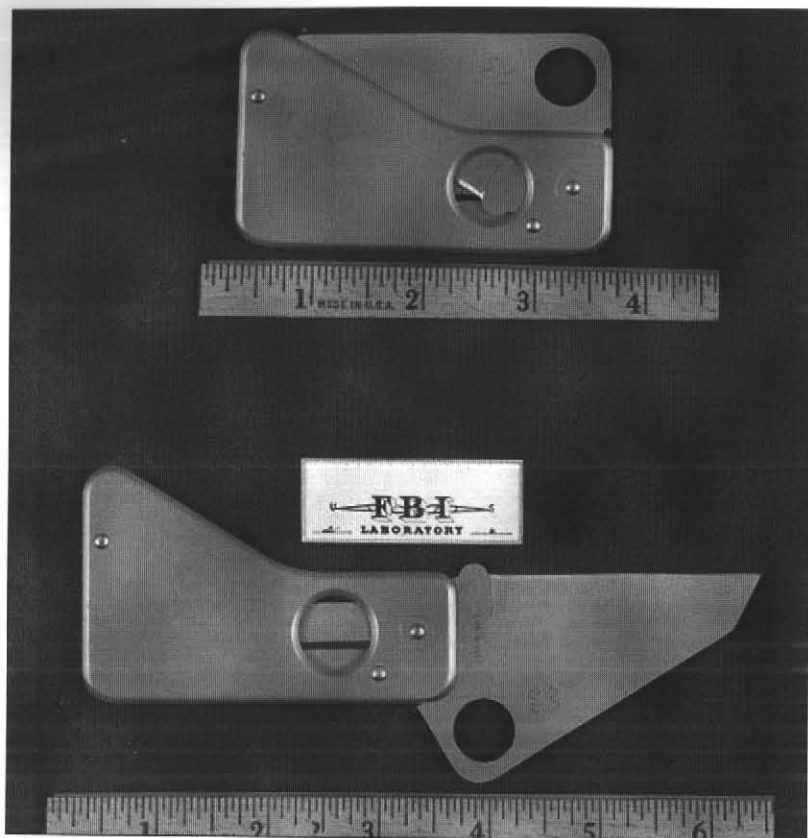
### LIPSTICK

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Plastic case with metal band

Note: Appears to be a cosmetic. Blade extends by twisting the case.



### CARD KNIFE

Manufacturer: Spyderco

Made in Japan

Composition: Metal

Note: Many companies make credit card-sized knives.

Styles vary by manufacturer.



### PLASTIC KNIFE

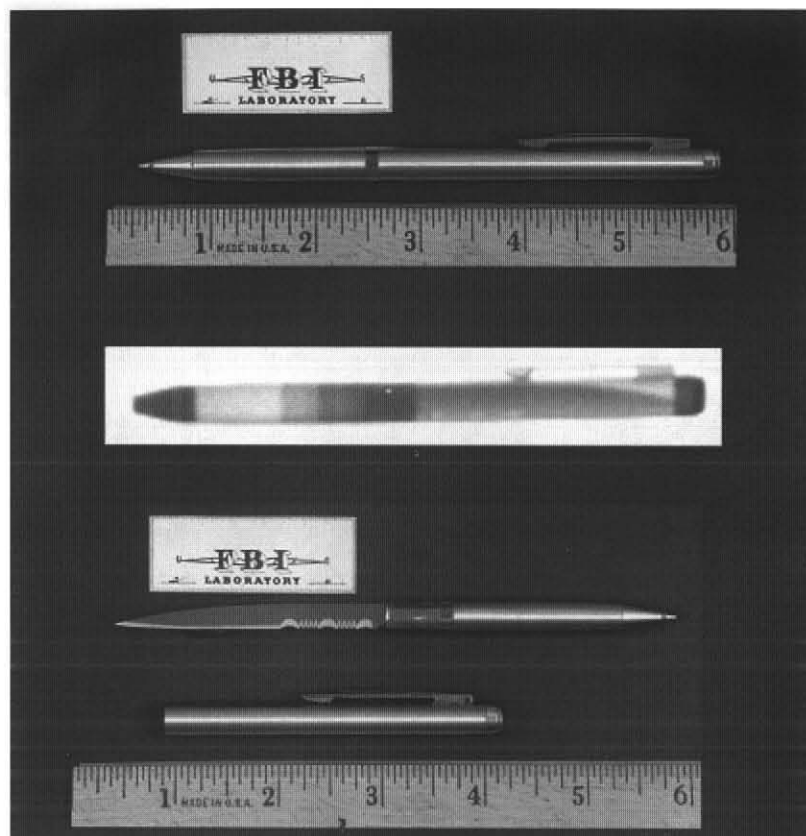
Manufacturer: Lansky

Made in USA

Composition: Plastic

Note: Other companies make knives similar to this one.

The style of knife may vary by manufacturer.



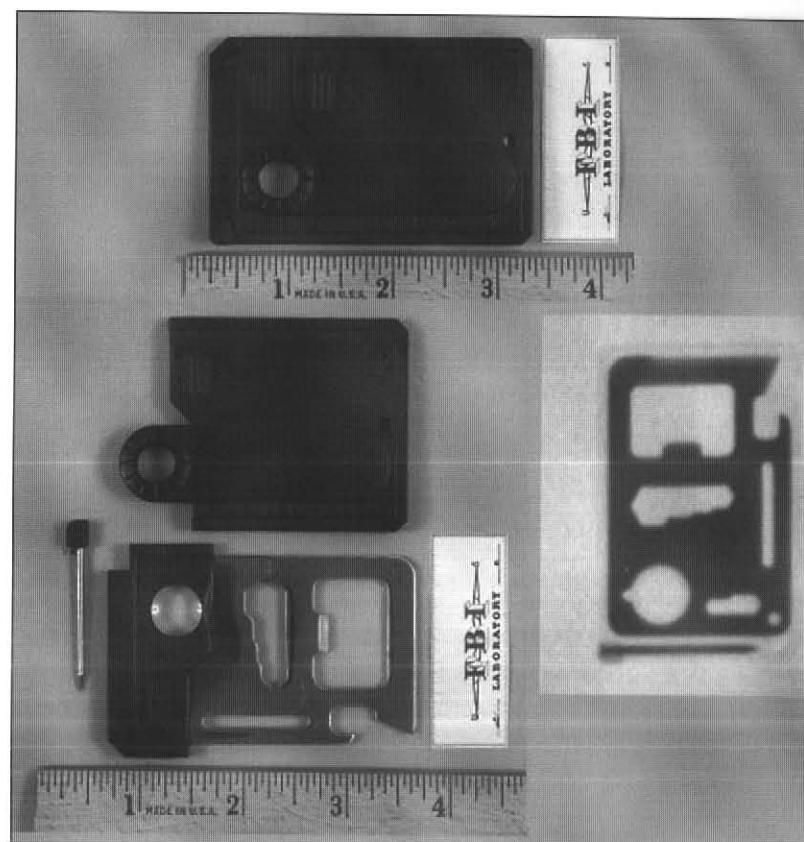
### PENKNIFE

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Metal

Note: Styles vary to include different blade styles and case colors.



### CREDIT CARD-STYLE UTILI-TOOL

Manufacturer: Unknown

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Plastic case with metal blade

Note: Includes a can opener, screwdriver, bottle opener, wrenches, and a magnifying glass.



### COMB

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Plastic

Note: Appears to be a normal comb. Handle pulls from head, which acts as a sheath.



### HAIRBRUSH

Manufacturer: United Cutlery

Made in Taiwan

Composition: Plastic

Note: Appears to be a normal hairbrush. Handle pulls from head, which acts as a sheath.



### CAN SAFES

Can safes open at the bottom so that items may be hidden inside.





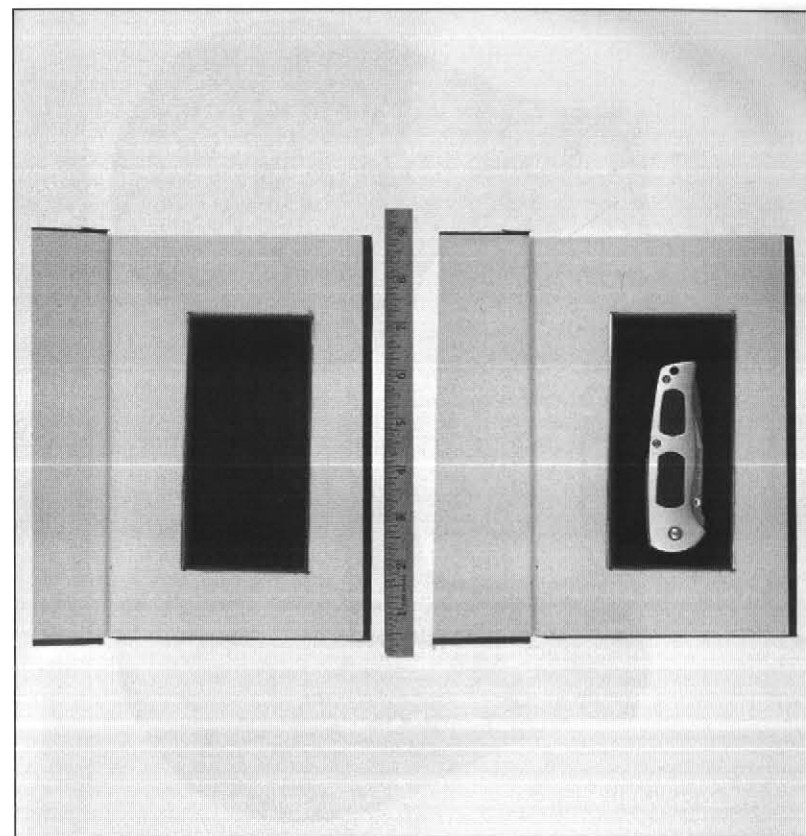
### BOX CUTTER KNIFE

Manufacturer: OLFA

Made in Japan

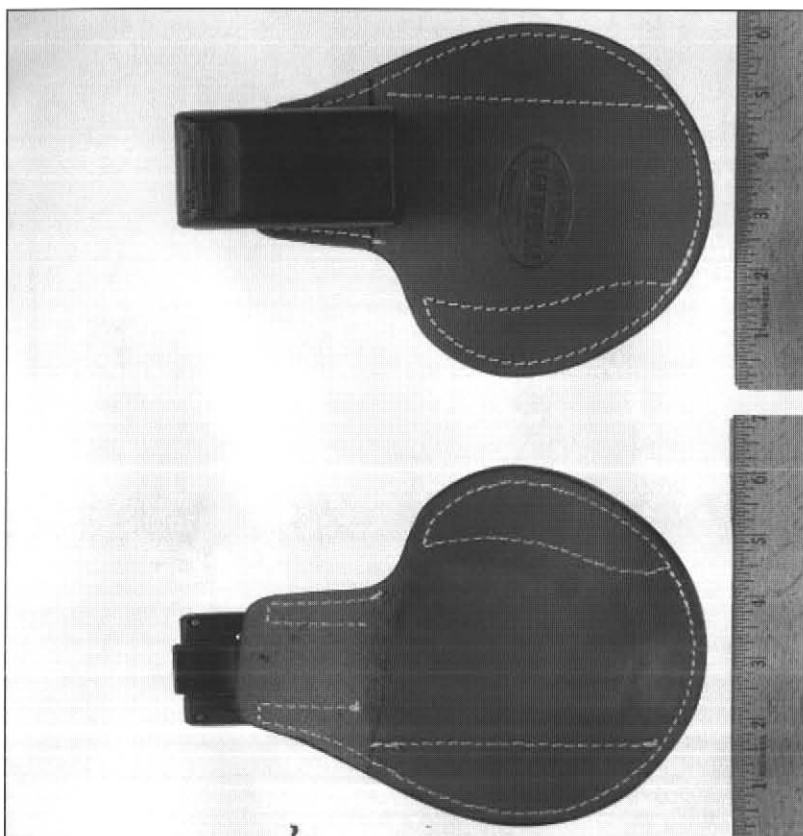
Composition: Plastic case with metal blade

Note: Colors and styles vary.



### BOOK SAFE

This is an example of a book safe. The pages are one solid piece and are hollowed out on the inside.



### **PAGER PAL HOLSTER**

Manufacturer: Pager Pal

Made in USA

Composition: Fake plastic pager with leather holster

Note: This inside-the-pants holster can be used with the provided fake pager or a real one. The holster can also hold small firearms and/or knives.

**I**n the wake of the September 11, 2001, airline hijackings, the Firearms and Toolmarks Unit of the FBI Laboratory started a collection of small, easily concealed knives and other potentially lethal objects. The collection was compiled into a catalog containing photos of each weapon along with a brief description, scales for size reference, and in many cases X-ray images to show how the item might look if passed through a scanning device.

The *FBI Guide to Concealable Weapons* has been distributed to airport screeners and law enforcement agencies across the United States to alert them to the presence of these weapons, but now this information is available to every citizen who wants to be prepared to face future terrorist attacks.

In this reprint of the FBI's catalog, you will see metal, plastic, and ceramic knives hidden in pens, keys, belt buckles, jewelry, canes, and cigarette lighters, as well as impact weapons disguised as keychains and items hollowed out for the possible concealment of explosives. Whether purchased simply as novelty items or as weapons, each of these objects must be viewed with its lethal potential in mind.

As citizens responsible for our own safety, we must know everything possible about the dangers that face us. Awareness is the first, vital step in this direction.

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