

ARMING THE POLICE

The arms of the law

As calls for arming Britain's police grow ever louder there remain wide differences of opinion within the force itself. A compromise may be found in a new pepper spray – a highly irritant mixture squirted into the face, rendering violent suspects temporarily harmless



38mm L67A1 riot gun
Fires plastic bullets and CS gas cartridges

Pepper spray –
In use in U.S. and Canadian police forces. Mixture of red cayenne pepper, alcohol and glycol. Range: 5 metres – effects last for up to 60 seconds. Introduction supported by Police Federation and ACPO*

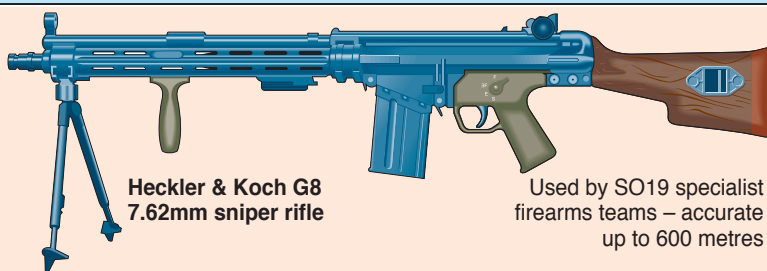


Heckler & Koch MP5
9mm sub machine gun

Currently used by armed response vehicle crews, SO19 firearms units and airport police

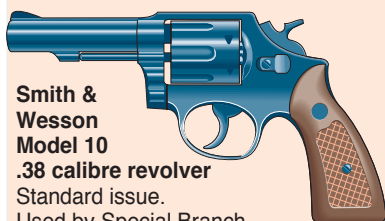


Glock 17
9mm semi-automatic pistol – Largely made from polycarbonate. 17-round magazine



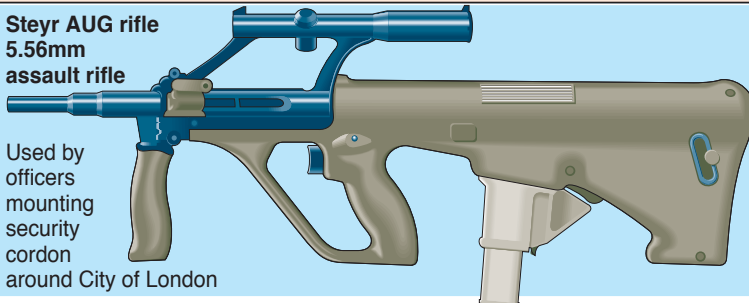
Heckler & Koch G8
7.62mm sniper rifle

Used by SO19 specialist firearms teams – accurate up to 600 metres



Smith & Wesson Model 10

.38 calibre revolver
Standard issue. Used by Special Branch personal protection officers and royal bodyguards



Steyr AUG rifle
5.56mm assault rifle

Used by officers mounting security cordon around City of London