

U.S. military unveils heat-ray gun

A prototype “non-lethal” heat-ray weapon has ushered in a new era of paralyzing weapons for urban warfare. The gun – called *Silent Guardian* – projects an invisible high energy beam that produces a sudden burning feeling on the skin, but is actually harmless

Silent Guardian:

Transmitter unit mounted on Humvee vehicle

Weight: 4,500kg

Antenna: Emits focused beam of microwave energy

Range: Greater than 250 metres

Cross-section of skin

Epidermis: Microwaves penetrate skin to depth of 0.4mm, triggering sensory nerves and causing intolerable burning pain. Sensation ceases immediately when target individual moves out of beam

Source: Raytheon

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