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# CPRC

CANADIAN POLICE RESEARCH CENTRE



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CENTRE CANADIEN DE RECHERCHES POLICIERES

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## ***TM-01-93*** ***Proposed New Patrol Jacket***

***By W.V. Harper and K. Don***

**TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

**Submitted by**  
**Edmonton Police Service**

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**April 1992**

NOTE: Further information  
about this report can be  
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## SUMMARY

### New Patrol Jacket Evaluation

Edmonton Police Service conducted an evaluation and field testing of a new patrol jacket from Nine-One Outerwear, the newest division of CAD's Enterprises Ltd. in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

The outershell material is Entrant which is a moisture permeable fabric that is waterproof. It allows perspiration vapour to escape from within. 3M Thinsulate comprises the insulating material in a removable liner. The uniforms are custom made.

After a lengthy evaluation period through various weather conditions, the field testing results were very positive. Suggestions for improvement were offered, and the uniform has been altered accordingly.

### PROPOSED NEW PATROL JACKET ANALYSIS

Based on the attached analysis done by Kim DON of Organizational Studies, it would appear that our proposed new Patrol Jacket meets the needs of the Edmonton Police Service. Notably those who tested the new item largely concluded that the jacket:

- (1) Met their needs
- (2) The entrant shell material accepted rough treatment while being waterproof and windproof.
- (3) The jacket was suitable for all-season wear but should be upgraded from a 200 to 300 weight thinsulate lining for protection from intense cold.
- (4) The jacket should have a borg collar.
- (5) The jacket fit well at the waist and neck.
- (6) Jacket had sufficient pockets, but the waist pockets were not large enough to hold gloves.
- (7) An elastic bomber style jacket is preferred over existing item being worn

by Edmonton Police Service at the present time.

- (8) The jacket, in conjunction with thinsulate trousers, could be used to replace the present parka if thinsulate is upgraded as per No. 3 above.
- (9) Button fastening device on jacket is unsuitable in that buttons break off.

It will be very easy and inexpensive to increase the thinsulate in the main body of the jacket from 200 to 300 weight, thus offering protection from -30 weather. 100 weight thinsulate to be retained in arms to afford maximum arm movement capability. Similarly we can go for a detachable borg collar for winter wear. Also easy to correct will be the anchoring of all buttons with metal fasteners.

Unfortunately the waist pockets cannot be enlarged in a bomber style jacket due to the shorter length of the jacket. We will have to live with this.

We would also be wise to pursue the suggestion that with windproof ski-style trousers of the type given to Traffic Section on trial, we may be able to cease issuing parkas to the membership. A follow-up trail could be run to assess this matter over Winter 1992/93. Such a move could have the positive effect of saving the Edmonton Police Service substantial monies while saving members from having to store and wear bulky and cumbersome parkas which tend to restrict officer mobility and agility.

The above assessments are based on a t  
matching rainproof wind trousers. Reque  
DON for her excellent assessment.

W .V. Harper,  
Quartermaster,  
Edmonton Police Service.

1992 April 14

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### **EVALUATION OF THE PA**

The analysis summarized here highlight  
forwarded to Organization Studies. Two of  
and 17 by Constables. One of these me  
Downtown, 6 from Traffic, 1 from Court D  
Neighbourhood Foot Patrol.

There was some difficulty in analyzing  
interpretation placed on some of the quest  
have been recorded to facilitate data an  
inconclusive results were not included in t

When asked whether they believed that th  
responded as follows:

strongly agree  
somewhat agree  
somewhat disagree  
strongly disagree

The results suggest that 28% felt that the  
remaining 73% felt that they could accept  
what this question actually means to the  
with this statement had not stated any cri

With the exception of one member, the gro  
of the jacket meets their needs (17/18). C  
that he would prefer an all leather jacket a

trial of 20 new style patrol jackets and 2  
st my special thanks be extended to Kim

---

### PATROL JACKET SURVEY

the results of 19 patrol jacket surveys  
the surveys were completed by Sergeants  
members were from South Division, 8 from  
Division, 2 from the Dog Unit and 1 from

the results due to uncertainty in the  
ions in the survey. Some of the questions  
analysis while other questions that yielded  
the analysis.

the jacket was "acceptable as is" the group

Count	Percent
4	21%
8	42%
5	27%
2	11%

jacket was not acceptable as is while the  
the jacket as is. It was difficult analyzing  
group since two members who disagreed  
criticisms of the jacket.

up was in agreement that the present style  
One member who liked the jacket indicated  
and would be willing to defer the cost of an

all leather jacket out of his own pocket. A  
on the cuffs and pocket serve no functional  
not enough leather to make any difference

Only one member felt that the jacket re  
member who indicated that the jacket styl

Six out of 18 members felt that the jacket h  
members were more likely to state that they  
Some comments were that the jacket tend  
that “the elastic bottom of the jacket tende  
that the jacket should be at the same level  
would like to see “zippers put on the sides  
easily”. Another suggestion was that wa  
Browne via velcro or snaps to prevent the

The group was in agreement that the sh  
majority of the members surveyed (15) fel  
while 4 members felt that the jacket was t

Most members felt that the jacket was acc  
provided adequate protection from the col  
The majority of members also felt that the j  
(15/1 8).

Most members stated that the jacket fit v  
sleeves (17/1 7), and cuffs (16/1 8).

All members somewhat or strongly agre  
(19/1 9). With the exception of one membe  
the pockets were ok (17/1 8). The main cri  
“not deep enough to store issue gloves w

Comments on the lining were very positiv  
strongly agreed that it was acceptable (18  
members felt that the lining should be flor

All members somewhat or strongly agree  
preferred (19/1 9).

Only one member answered the questions  
trousers were acceptable, and the style me  
length was just right. The shell materia  
provided adequate protection from the col  
fit him well on the waist, legs and cuff are

Another member felt that the “leather trim  
purpose as far as appearance; there was  
”.

restricts his movement. This is the same  
he did not meet his needs.

hampers access to their equipment. These  
y felt that the present jacket was too long.  
ed “to billow out in the mid-section” and  
ed to ride up”. Some members suggested  
l as the Sam Browne. One member felt he  
s so he could access his equipment more  
aistband could be secured onto the Sam  
jacket from riding up.

ell material was acceptable (18/18). The  
t that the jacket was just the right length  
too long.

ceptable as an all-season coat (17/18), and  
d (16/18), rain (16/18), and wind (18/18).  
jacket should have an optional Borg collar

well on the waist (16/19), collar (15/18),

ed that the number of pockets was ok  
er, those surveyed felt that the location of  
criticism of the pockets was that they were  
ithin” (2/19).

e. The majority of members somewhat or  
/19), and easily removed (16/19). Only 8  
escent.

d that an elastic style bomber jacket was

on the trousers. This member felt that the  
t his needs. This member also felt that the  
l was acceptable, and that the trousers  
d, rain/snow, and wind. The trousers also  
ea.

Three additional questions were added to the survey to determine whether the jacket could replace the parka, whether it can stand up to rough wear, and to determine if the florescent liner had ever been worn by a member as a traffic vest. Overall, we found that the majority of members surveyed felt that the jacket combined with the thinsulate trousers could replace the present parka (10/16). However, 6 members surveyed indicated that the jacket should have a warmer liner for -30° weather.

All members of the group felt that the jacket could stand up to rough wear (16/16). No members surveyed had worn the florescent liner as a traffic vest (0/16).

Overall it would appear that the group felt that the jacket was a big improvement over the old patrol jacket. Nearly all the comments received on the jacket were very positive. Members said that they were “very impressed with the quality”, and that the jacket “was far better than our present issue”, and “is a big improvement over the old style”. The main criticism of the jacket was that the buttons fall off too easily.

Kim DON,  
Research Analyst  
Organization Studies

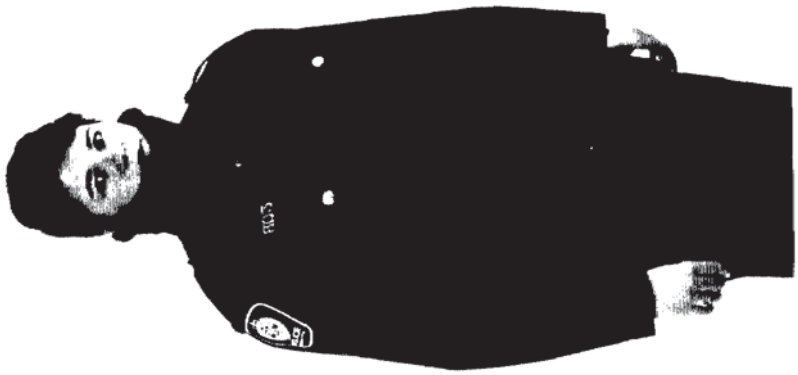
1992 March 31

**NOTE:** Main body thinsulate increased from 200 to 300 weight to accommodate request for warmer jacket, also buttons now anchored with metal rings with plastic devices.

## APPENDICES



PHOTOGRAPH 1 - Bomber jacket front view



PHOTOGRAPH 2 - Bomber jacket winter Borg collar up



PHOTOGRAPH 3 - Bomber jacket with



PHOTOGRAPH 4 - Bomber jacket Bo



with winter lining and Barg collar



Barg collar up

Police Officers Insulated Bomber



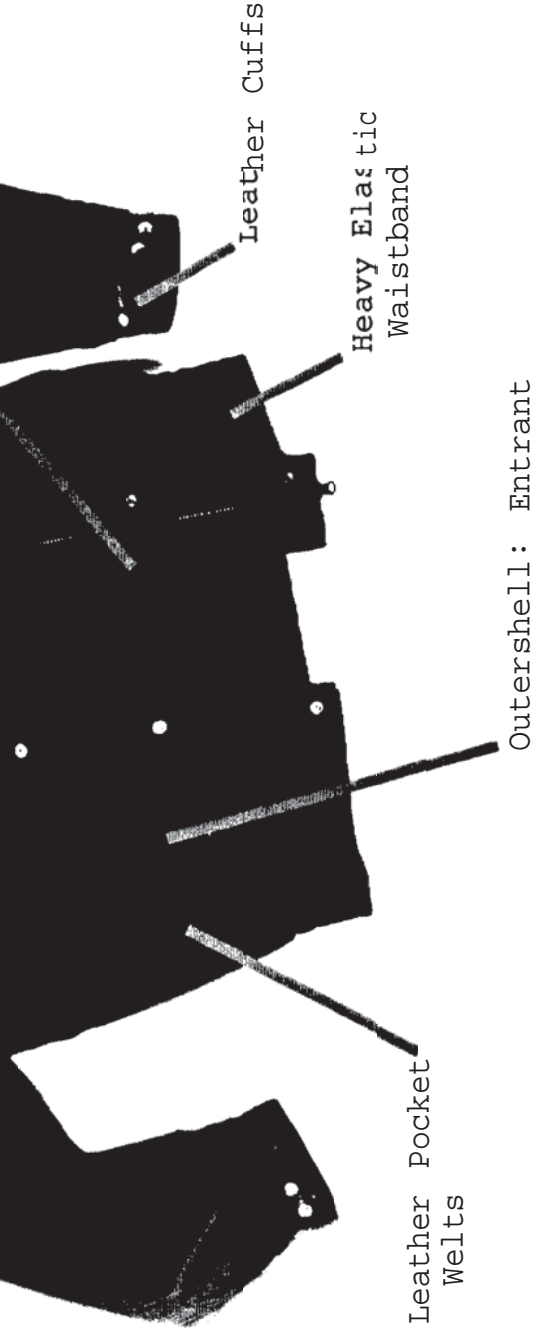
Shoulder Epaulets

Action Back

Inside Envelope Pocket

Zip-in Thinsulate Liner

Lining: Gibraltar Nylon



Leather Cuffs

Heavy Elastic  
Waistband

Outershell: Entrant

Leather Pocket  
Welts



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## INFORMATION SHEET

Nine-One-One Outerwear is the newest division of Cad's Enterprises Ltd., a 17-year old Saskatchewan based manufacturer, with production facilities in Saskatoon.

Nine-One-One was created in part, from local police, fire, and ambulance departments who required custom uniform jackets. Major specifications requested were that these new jackets be lightweight, waterproof, available for year round wear, and durable enough to stand the test of time in a sometimes very physical atmosphere.

The new fabric chosen for the outershell is Entrant™. Entrant is a moisture permeable fabric that is completely waterproof. This ingenious fabric will totally repel water from the outside, while allowing perspiration vapor to escape from within. To further enhance the capabilities of this fabric, all seams are heat seal taped during construction to block **off** icy winds and water. After all, why have a waterproof jacket that leaks at the seams.

Combined with a 3M Thinsulate removable liner, and new and clean designs, Nine-One-One is confident they have developed a line of outerwear that exceeds the strict specifications of all emergency services personnel.

Nine-One-One is above all a custom manufacturer. Each department's requirements differ. Whether your department is very large, or very small, allow us the opportunity to custom design to meet your needs.