



ROLL CALL RELEASE

In Collaboration with the ITACG



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(U//LES) Radio Frequency Jammers Used to Disrupt Communication Devices

(U//LES) Radio frequency jammers are devices designed to prevent communication devices from operating by deliberately broadcasting disruptive radio transmissions on the frequencies used by the targeted devices. Radio frequency jammers have been used to interfere with communications between law enforcement officers.

(U//FOUO) Characteristics of Radio Frequency Jammers

(U//LES) Originally created for law enforcement and the armed forces to interrupt criminal and terrorist communication, radio frequency jammers have been developed for civilian use and are sold illegally on the Internet.

(U) Unlike older radio frequency jammers, which broadcast noise on the target frequency to disrupt communications, newer jammers use more subtle techniques, in which no sound is heard on the targeted equipment.

(U//LES) In October 2008, police in Canada encountered a vehicle driven by supporters of a violent motorcycle gang. The officers noticed that they were unable to transmit radio calls to other officers. During a search of the vehicle, they discovered a radio frequency jammer that blocked their radio transmissions within five meters of the device.

(U//LES) Indicators that a radio frequency jammer is in use are:

- (U//LES) Users are unable to transmit on two-way radios.
- (U) Users hear faint music, electronic noises, or other recorded sounds on their designated frequencies.

(U) Portable radio frequency jammers can be concealed in cigarette packs, briefcases, luggage or laptop bags, and can be disguised as a key fob or cell phone car charger. Some jammers are small enough to be plugged into a vehicle cigarette lighter.



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(U) Portable radio frequency jammer hidden in cigarette pack.

FOR POLICE, FIRE, EMS, and SECURITY PERSONNEL

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