

THE IPM SCANNER

The official newsletter of the International Police Museum

320 South Highway 101, PO Box 165, Rockaway Beach, OR 97136

Inside the Washed Ashore Arts, Crafts & More and Ringing Anvil Design Blacksmith



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Welcome to the Scanner, the official newsletter of the International Police Museum at Rockaway Beach, Oregon

As Executive Director, it is always a pleasure to report on the progress and activity of the International Police Museum (IPM). We had over 2000 visitors during the January through May time frame. While this is down from 2023, we have had a very wet spring which impacts tourism. Summer, hopefully, is just around the corner and we look forward to a busy summer. IPM has also received several significant artifact donations during this period. We received an early "Dick Tracy" comic book, which will go with Richard (Dick) Tracy's Rocky Butte Jail artifacts. This may answer some questions why "Dick Tracy" was a significant nickname. We received badges, motorcycle helmet and other Long Beach Police artifacts from the family of Robert Fischer. Additionally, we received from Randy Robinson, a hat badge, breast badge, and handcuffs from the late David Hines, Seattle PD Reserve, who later served in and retired from, Port of Seattle Police. IPM also received a Portland Police history book from 1982 from a local retired Portland officer. A German uniform jacket, hat, and shirt was mailed to us, along with some Arizona patches, from a retired police officer in Oklahoma who had no place to display them. IPM appreciates the support and contributions. I just returned from Japan with some donated artifacts, including plaques commemorating the old 1931 Tokyo Metropolitan Police Station, and the current station, built in 1980. These, along with mementos from members and the International Police Association, Tokyo Section. (IPA), will make an informative Japanese display.

Japan is undoubtedly one of the cleanest cities in the world and has an excellent relationship between its police officers and the citizens. Through IPA, I was able to meet several retired and active members of the Japanese National Police and Tokyo Metropolitan Police. They provided a tour of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Station, Police Museum and served as our guides as we went around the city and the Imperial Palace grounds. Tokyo itself has a population of over 17 million and a police force of approximately 44,000 officers with another 15-20,000 support staff. Of all the people I met, the populous feels safe and supported by their police. This comports well with Peel's ninth law or ninth principle, which states; "The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, and not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them." (Sir Robert Peel, London, 1839)

I was left with a significant amount of museum envy after touring the Tokyo police Museum. The museum has six stories, three of which are dedicated to interactive displays for visitors, young and old. I was amazed at the amount of computer assisted interactivity, such as the display of a shoe print, where participants chose a shoe they believe matches the print on a computer screen, which then tells them if they chose the correct shoe. There is also one floor which has static displays of old and new police uniforms, all very well presented.

TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT



E. WORTMAN (IPM) TMPD Officer M. NOZAKI (Retired)

Visit to the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Headquarters (TMPD) April 25, 2024. Tokyo has 43,500 Police Officers, about 9,000 support staff (2023) 1,292 cars, 13 helicopters 958 motorcycles, 23 boats, 36 dogs, 16 horses.

City of Tokyo population is over 17 million. Land area for Tokyo city is 3,300 square miles. Population of Tokyo metropolis (covered by additional police) totals over 40.8 million and covers 12,000 square miles. (About the same size as the US state of Maryland which has just over 6 million population) International Police Association, Tokyo Section (IPA) provided outstanding support during our visit. Mr. Nozaki, pictured above, was in Seattle in 1974 as part of a TMPD group studying American policing. He served as our tour guide in Tokyo. Several other members also assisted including Mr. Hamura, Mr. Yamamoto, Mr. Suzuki, Mr. Muramoto, Mr. Uto and Mr. Tahara. I appreciated their professional assistance, and that of other members and officers, I met while in Tokyo.



While in Tokyo, we also had the opportunity to visit the Tokyo Sky Tree, which has a total height of 2080 feet (634 m) and serves as a radio-tv tower for broadcasting. There are two observation levels where one can look out over the city of Tokyo, and surrounding areas. While the city of Tokyo has over 17 million inhabitants, the surrounding metroplex has over 40 million. Traffic was not as heavy as I had expected, partially because most people take the train as there is no place to park a car downtown.

This issue of the IPM scanner presents part three of our series; **Handcuffs; Capturing History**, by Board Secretary Jane McClain. This series outlines the history of restraints which has been well received and, Jane tells me, interesting to research. Restraints are, and always have been, necessary and yet intimidating. The picture of the suspect let away and chains has effect on the audience. There is a connotation of guilt for those in shackles, it's the reason courts minimize the visible restraint of defendants during trials. The act of restraining a suspect, and or placing handcuffs on the suspect, is not always an aesthetically pleasing situation. Unfortunately, there is no pleasant way to handcuff a subject who is determined to resist arrest. The ensuing disturbance and physical struggle often draw public attention, sometimes resulting in cell phone footage and accusations of police brutality, without the benefit of showing

immediately prior events that led to the arrest. We hope you find the series interesting and informative.

Our beverage container, recycling program continues to be a major source of income. Our guest book and donation box in the museum has also been well received. We are excited to be moving forward into our ninth year.

Coming Events:

IPM looks forward to the July 4th parade and fireworks in Rockaway Beach. Always a great event for visitors and residents alike. The new display. Tokyo Metropolitan Police, has been completed and other changes are scheduled for the weapons case. Work continues, for the Ford Model T and the kiddie rides, maybe running by fall. More interactive opportunities are planned, maybe even a bunch of lost "patrol ducks" to be found hiding in the community? Watch the website for more details. Have a great summer season in Rockaway Beach.

Article Sources: for page 3, Handcuffs; Capturing History, part 3.

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<https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/handcuffsforum/why-are-they-called-darby-cuffs-t2012.html>
<https://www.coursehero.com/lit/Bleak-House/characters/>
<https://unitedlocksmith.net/blog/history-of-handcuffs>; <https://tihk.co/blogs/news/14756441-a-history-of-handcuffs>
https://www.blueline.ca/a_history_of_handcuffs-2396/
<https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/handcuffsforum/orson-c-phelps-t7106.html>
<https://www.madehow.com/Volume-7/Handcuffs.html>;
<https://collection.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/objects/co156123/towers-handcuffs-handcuffs>
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A comment on a blog, that I have lost track of, said much of the concern of shimmying and other escape techniques could be solved by putting on handcuffs if the detainee's hands were back to back. Sounds plausible when possible.

New acquisitions:

Long Beach PD, (CA) artifacts, badges, helmet of Robert Fischer: Mrs. Linda Fischer, Jacksonville, OR
Early edition, Dick Tracy comic book: Local dealer, Rockaway Beach, OR
Seattle Police badges and handcuffs of David Hines, POSPD Retired: Randy Robinson, SPD (Ret) Seattle, WA
Portland Police Bureau History book, 1982: Ms Susan Lawitzke, Rockaway Beach, OR
German, Lower Saxony, Tunic, shirt and hat, also Arizona patches: Daniel Fortman (Ret) Sapula, OK
Tokyo Police plaques (3) for museum display: Mr M. Nozaki, TMPD (Ret) Secretary General of IPA Japan.
TMPD Challenge Coin, tie bar and IPA Tokyo banner: Mr. M. Hamura, (Ret) Chief of Tokyo Branch, IPA Japan

Modern Handcuff Advancement, Styles, and Companies

There are a vast number of handcuff styles and numerous publications dedicated to modern handcuff history. I have made an attempt to limit parts 3 and 4 to the most significant (or unique) handcuffs, advancements, and companies. Endnotes are available on the electronic version from the website.

1780-1815-1818 – Hiatt and Company - First Major Handcuff Producer?

Hiatt and Company Ltd., according to posters advertising the company, was organized in 1780 by “a certain Mr. Hiatt [who] was a maker of Prisoners' Handcuffs, Felons' Leg Irons and Gang Chains to the Trade.” However, no documentation of the company exists until the early 1800’s. The 1815 Wrightson's Triennial Directory of Birmingham “. . .include[s] a listing for Thomas Griffin and Co., horse and dog collar, fetter and gate lock makers . . .”, but nothing for Hiatt. In 1818, the Wrightson directory lists Thomas Griffin Hiatt as a maker of “felon's irons.”ⁱ The state of the art cuff in the 1800’s was the Darby handcuff. I could not confirm what the relationship between Thomas Griffin and Thomas Griffin Hiatt might be. In any event, Hiatt is credited with producing Darby handcuffs in England, and Providence Tool Company supplied most of those in the U.S. The Darby, also called English Handcuffs or Flexibles, used a long, round bolt-style key that minimized lock picking. However, it was a one-size fits all and offered escape for those with small or large hands. As with most older types, it required either use of force or compliance from the captive. It was popular because it was easy to conceal, although - weighing in at about a pound - heavy to carry.

The name “Darby” may have come from Derby (the British pronunciation is Darby), U.K., which used the phrase “Father Derby’s bands” for restraints, and the term, which evolved to “Darbies”, became slang for handcuffs circa 1500.ⁱⁱ However, *Bleak House*, by Charles Dickens, published in 1852-53, includes a character who is a police constable – and his name is Darby.ⁱⁱⁱ

1862 – Ratcheted Handcuffs – W. V. Adams

The first patent for ratcheted handcuffs was issued in 1862 to W.V. Adams. It was a improvement to the Darby and a major advancement in handcuff technology as the ratchet design permitted size adjustment. The bow, the part of the handcuff which swings open, had teeth (ratchets) that would engage with bored holes or interlocking notches when inserted into the closure (pawl), and allowed a more custom fit. Although they did not provide perfect fit because of the large size of early ratchets, technology would fine tune the system to the fully adjustable handcuffs we use today.^{iv}

1866 Patent Adjustable to Wrist Size – Orson C. Phelps

On July 17, 1866, Orson C. Phelps got a patent on his design for handcuffs that improved on the Adams improvement of the Darby cuffs. We do not know if Phelps had a license to use Adams’ patent, or paid him a royalty.^v His new handcuffs were adjustable for virtually all wrist sizes. This was the last of four patents Phelps received. He had also worked with Issac Singer to develop the sewing machine, and in 1847 had received a patent for a sewing machine attachment.^{vi}

1865-66 – Tower Handcuffs – John J. Tower

In 1865/66, with licensing for the patents of W. V. Adams and O. C. Phelps, John Tower started his handcuff company. Tower Handcuffs would come to be known for its high standards, and Tower made several further modifications to the designs of Adams and Phelps. Tower later applied for his own patent in 1871 further fine-tuning the Adams and Phelps designs. It was issued in 1874.^{vii}

1877 – Tower Handcuffs

In 1877, following the deaths of Adams and Phelps, Tower purchased their patents and proceeded to work to find a way to adapt the patterns to make them more escape proof – a hazard that arose from the adjustable nature of the cuffs.^{viii} ix

See more, beginning with the 1879 Tower Double Lock. In the next issue



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See part 3 of “Handcuffs: Capturing History” in this issue



Darby



Tower



German



British



Help International Police Museum keep history alive

International Police Museum is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which provides a free interactive experience to visitors young and old. IPM has no paid staff and 100% of your donations go directly to supporting our mission. Your donations allow us to bring the Law Enforcement experience to life for visitors, school children, and other tour groups. Donations may be made directly to the Museum, or online at:

www.internationalpolicemuseum.org

Back issues of the IPM SCANNER are available on the web site

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- i <http://www.handcuffs.org/hiatt/> Research on this topic is an invitation to rabbit-hole research_
 - ii <https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/handcuffsforum/why-are-they-called-darby-cuffs-t2012.html>
 - iii <https://www.coursehero.com/lit/Bleak-House/characters/>
 - iv <https://unitedlocksmith.net/blog/history-of-handcuffs>; <https://tihk.co/blogs/news/14756441-a-history-of-handcuffs>
 - v https://www.blueline.ca/a_history_of_handcuffs-2396/
 - vi <https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/handcuffsforum/orson-c-phelps-t7106.html>
 - vii <https://www.madehow.com/Volume-7/Handcuffs.html>;
<https://collection.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/objects/co156123/towers-handcuffs-handcuffs>
 - viii <https://collection.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/objects/co156123/towers-handcuffs-handcuffs>
 - ix A comment on a blog, that I have lost track of, said much of the concern of shimmying and other escape techniques could be solved by putting on handcuffs to the detainee's hands were back to back. Sounds plausible when possible.