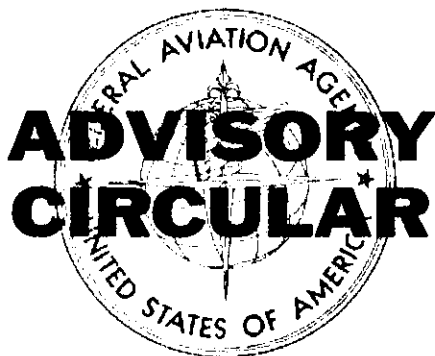


# Federal Aviation Agency

Cancelled 00-200



AC NO: AC 00-15

GENERAL

EFFECTIVE :

8/20/65

**SUBJECT :** POTENTIAL HAZARD ASSOCIATED WITH PASSENGERS CARRYING "ANTI-MUGGER" SPRAY DEVICES

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1. PURPOSE. This Advisory Circular is to advise aircraft operators, crewmembers, and others who are responsible for flight safety, of a possible hazard to flight should a passenger inadvertently or otherwise discharge a device commonly known as an "anti-mugger" spray device in the cabin of an aircraft.
  2. INFORMATION.
    - a. There are available for sale to the public spray devices designed to be used for protection against "muggers" and other assailants. These devices contain tear gas or other highly irritating substances. They are designed to be carried in a handbag, purse, or on the person of the individual.
    - b. The anti-mugger spray device is generally manufactured to resemble a fountain pen, toy pistol, or a small aerosol container of the type used to dispense shaving soaps or hair sprays. It is activated by pulling a trigger, releasing a spring loaded plunger, or depressing a button type switch. The spray in these devices is a compressed gas, and when released, is dispersed over a distance of up to ten feet. Release of the gas may affect the user unless he immediately leaves the vicinity. Contact with the gas causes extreme discomfort, profuse tears, and racking cough. Dissipation of the gas usually requires 5 to 20 minutes, depending on the volume of circulating air.
  3. RECOMMENDED ACTION. Although most manufacturers of these devices publish warnings cautioning the user against discharging the device in a confined area, the user may not always be fully aware of the potential hazard involved. Crewmembers, aircraft operators, and others who are responsible
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for flight safety, observing a passenger with one of these devices should advise the passenger of the hazards associated with carrying such a device on a passenger aircraft.

  
George S. Moore  
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