

# Decon<sup>2</sup> (Decon Squared): Deconstructing Decontamination

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*The Government Is Telling Us That Terrorists Are All around Us. The Solution They Say: Submit to a Highly Dictatorial Police State*

—Alex Jones [1].

This paper highlights the possible erosion of privacy and civil liberties in the wake of hysteria over nuclear, chemical and biological terrorism.

It has often been said that the real cause of terrorism is oppressive foreign policy, rather than merely a lack of security, a lack of video surveillance, a lack of mandatory national identification cards or the like. Others have even gone so far as to argue that terrorists are or were once funded by the nations they attack. Weapons-grade anthrax, for example, is not something ordinarily made by the average disgruntled citizen, but rather is the domain of large government or corporate laboratories.

Foucault [2] describes how authorities once used the specter of plague to justify draconian quieting of any civil unrest. Just the mere mention of the word “plague” could be used to require quarantine or forced mass evacuations. Forced evacuation to mass delousing centers, cleansing stations or the like has sometimes been used to remove “undesirables” from a given area. Even “ethnic cleansing” could fall under the domain of decontamination (or “decon”).

More than a hundred years ago, the loss of dignity and autonomy associated with decon was noted:

delousing and disinfection of people and their clothing . . . showering, smearing the body with petroleum or other substances . . . passengers obeying all orders like meek children, only questioning now and then what was to be done with them. . . strange-looking people driving us about like dumb animals, helpless and unresisting . . . ourselves driven into a little room where a great kettle was boiling . . . our clothes taken off . . . In 1895, as part of this concept of “decontaminating” immigrants [3].

The existentialist writer Viktor Frankl commented on decon:

Suddenly there was a stir among my fellow travelers, who had been standing about with pale, frightened faces, helplessly debating. Again we heard the hoarsely shouted commands. We were driven with blows into the immediate anteroom of the bath. There we assembled around an SS man who waited until we had all arrived. Then he said, “I will give you two minutes and I shall time you by my watch. In those two minutes you will get fully undressed and drop everything on the floor where you are standing” [4].

Mandatory delousing was often met with some degree of resistance: “The intense resistance by the local population . . . dif-

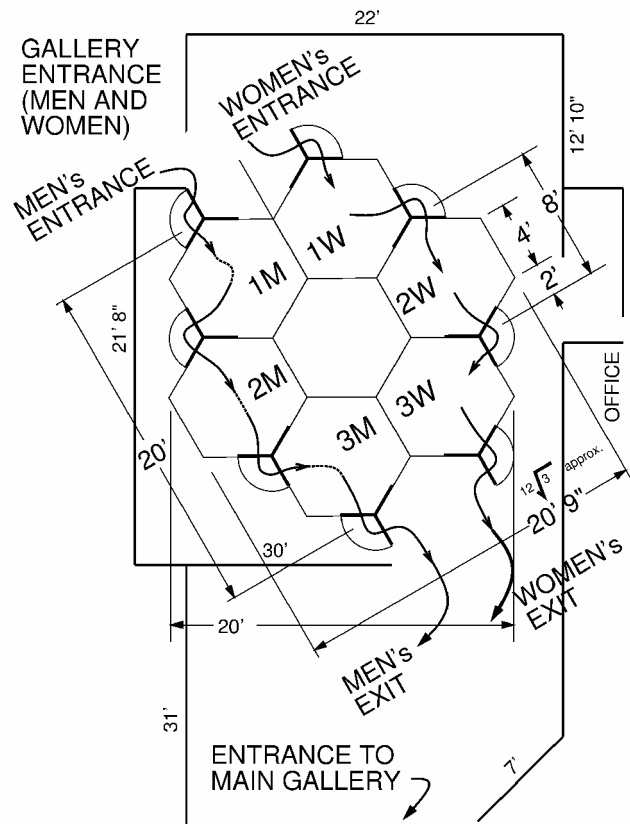
ficulties . . . encountered when they tried a variety of methods to induce people simply to bathe and have their clothes deloused either with steam or cyanide [5].

The ability to ship “verminous persons” off to a cleansing or delousing center still remains written into many laws: “The Council may, if satisfied that any person, or the clothing of any person, is verminous . . . cause such person to be removed to a cleansing station

## ABSTRACT

Decon is short for decontamination (e.g. stripdown and washdown in response to anthrax scares, etc.), but the term “decon” is also a short form for “deconstruction” (literary criticism asserting multiple conflicting interpretations of philosophical, political or social implications rather than an author’s intention). The author describes an anthrax-ready mailroom exhibit that included mass casualty decontamination showers, which he built in the summer of 2001, based on a patent he filed in April 2000, to deconstruct the coming “war on terrorism” and the suspension of civil liberties and personal privacy that might follow in the wake of bioterror attacks.

**Fig. 1. Gallery TPW Decon Facility floor plan.** (© Steve Mann) A honeycomb structure of closely packed rooms, 1W (women’s strip-down room), 2W (women’s washdown room) and 3W (women’s examination room), is used for the three stages of decon (strip, wash and cover). Likewise 1M, 2M and 3M denote the three rooms in the men’s pipeline.



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and cleansed as to his person and clothing” [6].

“Removal to cleansing stations of dirty and verminous persons. . . . Any person who wilfully obstructs the execution of, or fails or refuses to comply with, any such order shall be guilty of an offence” [7].

One victim describes being “taken to a soccer field and told to strip down to her underwear as strangers watched” [8] as being like rape:

Huizar and the others who were decontaminated, most of them women, said they had to strip down in an area that was within the view of a crowd of at least 100 emergency personnel, TV crews and other spectators. “It felt like we were raped,” said Huizar, 42, reenacting how she was told to lift up her arms and turn in circles as she walked down the line [9].

With the threats of terrorism, airports are being equipped with machines for the mechanized processing of humans: “The disinfection/decontamination process is akin to ‘putting humans through a car wash’ after first destroying their garments. Los Angeles World Airports have put in place a contingency plan to disinfect up to 10,000 persons who might have been exposed to biological or chemical substances” [10].

Elements of social control—methods of containing and controlling large numbers of civilians, etc.—while not explicitly stated, are evident in the decon process. They include the suspension of civil liberties, systems of surveillance, false accusations, mandatory vaccination and incarceration of those suspected of being ill.

Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government describes the kind of powers that responding agencies might desire:

The authority to compel people to remain in one location or move to another, including temporary detention; The authority to use the military for domestic law enforcement, population control, and mass logistics; The authority to seize community or private property, such as hospitals, utilities, medicines, vehicles, or transit centers, or to compel the production of certain goods; The authority to compel individuals to undertake decontamination procedures, take medicines, or be quarantined; The authority to censor and control the media; The authority to liberalize standards for conducting searches and seizures; . . . The authority to waive regulatory requirements on the use of certain pharmaceuticals. . . . No reasonable person wishes to sacrifice any of these principles, but it may be necessary to do so in a real incident if lives are to be saved [11].

We are now witnessing the erosion of the separation between various govern-

ment agencies, and the destruction of checks and balances on authority, such as recent U.S. Congressional changes to the Posse Comitatus Act (which is supposed to prohibit federal troops from participating in domestic law enforcement activities). We are also witnessing the powers of government joining with those of corporations.

Kenneth Miller suggests that persons suspected of having come in contact with hazardous materials should be hosed down:

Ambulatory victims may then undress and wash with soap and water and then dry and redress in large trash bags with holes cut out for the head and arms. Since a suspected terrorist incident constitutes a crime scene, all clothing removed from victims will be evidence. This means the clothing needs to be bagged . . . and set aside in a secure location until the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)—the lead law enforcement agency—determines its disposition [12].

The ability to seize all clothing, jewelry, keys, wallets and other personal effects from thousands of people and hold this material indefinitely, while putting large numbers of people into garbage bags, puts forth the possibility of a very strong form of social control. Such an approach may be used as a mass strip-search of thousands of persons, to search for evidence. Such a strip-search is far more invasive than a traditional strip-search where the victims might retain their clothing and personal effects afterwards. Without checks and balances to limit this power, there is a possibility that it could be abused.

Just as the strip-search room at Canada Customs and Immigration contains two video cameras, video surveillance is recommended for decon as well: “Victims are also videotaped as they proceed through the decontamination line” [13].

Here are some further quotations from various government and industry documents pertaining to mass casualty decontamination: “The perpetrators may be the first victims”; “The city has taken steps to establish decontamination centers at various undisclosed locations”; “Victims must be confined”; “processing victims”; “garbage bags to wear”; “dozens of people could be herded through decontamination lines simultaneously”; “Get them out of their clothes. . . . What am I going to do with watches and rings and eyeglasses and all those valuable kinds of things? The problem we face is . . . fled by the time we get there. Getting these people corralled and headed toward a decon corridor is the most difficult task” [14].

Thus even the language of decon (tamination) would be worth decon (structuring) in the tradition of literary criticism. For example, Webster’s dictionary defines “corral” as: “a pen or enclosure for confining or capturing livestock” [15].

It is indeed clear that persons could be treated as livestock, herded like cattle without regard to their personal property, freedom or dignity.

Public health concerns have been used as a pretext for mass evacuation of the poor or other undesirables confined to ghettos [16] (where disease may in fact be a serious problem) or for rounding up and eliminating undesirables. The existence of large holding pens, such as would be found in a facility for detaining up to 500,000 persons at a U.S. Air Force base in times of emergency or martial law, has been noted and photographically documented [17].

## DRUG DEALS

Kristine Severyn, director of Ohio Parents for Vaccine Safety, describes mandatory vaccination as a corruption of policy makers by drug companies:

A representative from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) flew up from Atlanta to testify . . .

. . . CDC currently withholds information, circles its wagons, and cites only the studies which support its views, ignoring those studies that don’t. . . . The CDC committee which sets national vaccine policy, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, whose recommendations are routinely mandated by state legislatures, until 1997 operated for more than 20 years without making verbatim transcripts of its meetings available to the public . . .

Conflict of interest among ACIP [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices] members and vaccine manufacturers is quite common. While federal law (18 U.S.C. section 208) prohibits members of federal advisory committees from participating in matters in which he/she, [or the member’s spouse] or child, or organization has a financial interest, the conflict of interest can be waived if the need for the individual’s services outweighs the potential for a conflict of interest created by the financial interest involved . . . I was told last week by a CDC official who helps manage the conflict of interest waivers for ACIP members that all ACIP members serve under waivers . . .

Citizens are also confronted with similar obstacles when they try to research how vaccine policy is formulated [18].

Mandatory medicine has the potential to take ownership and control of the individual body as part of this secret policy. Other doctors have also been critical of mandatory vaccination [19].

## VICTIM AS SUSPECT; CRIMINALIZATION OF THE VICTIM

The Orwellian nightmare of mandatory physical fitness exercise regimens enforced by two-way video, etc., does not seem so far off when we consider attitudes toward persons who, in a state of despair, neglect their personal hygiene and personal health regimens. It has even been suggested that persons might deliberately infect themselves to spread disease: "The scrolling newswire on CNN said that some of the terrorists could try to infect themselves with contagious diseases and try to spread it around the U.S. Do they check refugees for diseases?" [20].

In addition to the obvious possibility of justifying xenophobia, one wonders, therefore, if a person practicing poor personal health might be accused of terrorism, or at least be a suspect in the "war" on terrorism.

Criminalization of the diseased is an age-old tradition: "In 1903, Hermann Biggs ordered the incarceration of willfully careless patients in a place that was called 'the consumptives' prison" [21].

Eighty-eight years later, the same thing was happening again: New York City detained 44 TB patients in hospitals. Soon it began to happen all over the country. Incarceration—the forced confinement of people with tuberculosis—has become the second technique in the battle against TB [22].

## A MASS DECONTAMINATION FACILITY FOR PROCESSING LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE

In July 2001 I exhibited my anthrax-ready mailroom decontamination installation entitled "Prior Art: Art of Record for Personal Safety." In the exhibit, I literally deconstructed decontamination by building a futuristic mass decontamination facility open to the public [23]. The details of the decon facility design, which formed part of the exhibition, expand upon information that is mentioned briefly in the final chapter of my recent book [24], offering an expanded look at the design, [de]construction and testing of this new mass decontamination facility, as described in the patent [25].

The title of the exhibit, "Prior Art: Art of Record for Personal Safety," borrows from the terms "prior art" and "art of record," commonly used in patent law. Moreover, rather than use the traditional literary meaning of "deconstruction," I "deconstruct" decontamination by con-

structing decontamination. In other words, through the actual invention, design and display of a futuristic decontamination facility, I attempt to take a critical look at decon.

The text I wrote to accompany the exhibit details steps that may be needed to evacuate ("herd") thousands of possibly panic-stricken persons to a decontamination facility while ensuring high efficiency and rapid turnover. Victims would be processed in three steps: strip (deconfiscate decontraband); wash (shower); and cover (after examination from a safe distance, by way of a telemedicine video link). Without "pipelining," each stage would require 30 seconds per person, and the entire process would require 1 hour to process 40 persons. However, by increasing efficiency through pipelining and parallelism (with separate facilities for men and women, thus also addressing privacy issues), combined with six-station rooms for stripdown, showering, and examination/drying/dressing, I offer a blueprint for the postcyborg age (postcyborgism, postpostmodernism, pastmodernism, etc.), including a system by which 720 men plus 720 women (= 1,440 persons) may be processed per hour!

The floor plan (my original design for the gallery space) is depicted in Fig. 1. A feature of the space-efficient hexagonal packing is that people never need to turn at angles tighter than 120°, so throughput is very high. Also, the 120° angles where walls meet facilitate the installa-

tion of high-security rotogate turnstiles like those used in unguarded automated subway exits. This ensures that no person can flee from the facility without passing through in the proper direction. Moreover, the hexagonal packing of the six rooms creates lost space in the center. This lost space is actually put to good use as a central triage observation room. The walls of this central room are made entirely of smoked lexan so that guards in the room can have a clear view of activities taking place in the six rooms around the outside, but, for reasons of national security, persons in the six rooms cannot see into the central guard room. This central triage/observation room also houses computers and video cameras to buffer the video for archival, quality control and training purposes and to ensure that safety policy and procedures are complied with.

## CENTRAL TRIAGE/ OBSERVATION ROOM

A key feature of this facility is the hexagonal rooms. A hexagonal countertop was first built for the central room. The countertop was too big to be moved into an already-built central triage/observation room, so it was built first and the triage/observation room built around it, as shown in Fig. 2.

The countertop was originally intended to be used by decon/triage officers for setting down their notepads or portable computers. However, six high-

**Fig. 2. Building the hexagonal-shaped countertop and moving it into position so that six walls made of darkly tinted bulletproof "glass" (darkly smoked lexan polycarbonate) can be built around it, to form the central room of the seven rooms depicted in Fig. 1. (© Steve Mann) Three of these walls are being assembled behind the stepladder shown in the background and will later be moved forward and joined to the other three walls to complete the central guard tower.**





**Fig. 3. Deconstructing Decontamination:** A partially (de)constructed mass-casualty decontamination facility is shown, so that we can understand how anthrax hysteria might motivate the design of architecture. (© Steve Mann)

resolution video cameras were also installed on the countertop, to offer the decon/triage officers remote viewing capabilities or to record video for evidence as victims later move through the decon lines. Six walls made of smoked polycarbonate were then built around the countertop, with the cameras and computer equipment inside. Therefore, decon officers did not actually need to be physically present in the central guard tower's control room.

To ensure complete, total, absolute privacy, a black cloth sheet was hung down the center of the triage observation room, so that men could not look into the smoked lexan and see through to the women's side, or vice versa.

A black opaque hexagonal ceiling was fitted onto the top of the triage/observation room, for security and to ensure darkness inside the observation room, making it easy to see out into the six surrounding rooms, but hard for people in the outer six rooms to see into the central seventh room.

Next, highly efficient hexagonal shower columns were installed. The facility design calls for panoptic automated showers with body tracking/scanning systems. One such shower, in the form of an interactive video installation, was installed on the men's side in the July 2001 installation. Since the purpose of the exhibit was to show a partially completed decon facility (so that visitors could see how it worked, etc.), the women's side was left uncompleted. This served to emphasize the gender distinction implicit in the postcyborg age. Figure 3 shows the

newly installed men's showers to the left of the triage/observation room.

The July 2001 installation was an exhibition of the partially (de)constructed facility. The complete decon facility is to be built at a later date [26]. After installation of the showers, six hexagonal rooms are to be built around the central triage/observation room, together with high-security rotogate turnstiles similar to the turnstiles used in unguarded subway exits. In the July 2001 exhibit, the locations of the walls of these six hexagonal rooms were marked in red tape, and the positions of the turnstiles were marked in yellow tape. The design calls for separate entrances for men and women; three of the six rooms are for men, and the other three are for women.

A six-station column shower [27], modified for sensor operation, has already been installed in the men's wash-down room (see Fig. 3). A second column shower to be installed in the women's shower room will also be modified for sensor operation. A close-up picture of the modified column shower is shown in Fig. 4.

The knobs and soap dishes have been removed from the column shower, and the resulting holes have been replaced with a machine vision system composed of 12 laser diode body scanners together with six round lexan viewing windows molded into the inside of the column. An infrared video sensor in each of the six windows works in conjunction with two laser diode body scanners for each of the video sensors. A set of six video motion detectors with an Internet-connected ma-

chine vision computer is placed inside each of the shower columns. The system is sealed and completely watertight.

Up to six men can use this shower at the same time, but only the stations actually being occupied will consume water. Moreover, water is only consumed when a user is present. Since there are no knobs or controls of any kind, the possibility for deliberately destructive acts is minimized. Each nozzle faces one side of the hexagonal room to maximize space usage and efficiency.

Typically the triage personnel or decontamination officers operate the facility remotely by way of the six video cameras installed in the triage/observation room.

## REMOTE CONTROL ROOM FOR TELEMEDICINE

The design/patent calls for a control room capable of controlling a global network of decontamination facilities to be built as a networked art installation controlled by a jury of a dozen gerbils deliberating in matters of justice (12 gerbil wheels connected to miniature three-phase electric generators feeding into a decontrol network). Twelve video display terminals, one mounted in each gerbil cage, will be used to show the output from each of the six cameras in the triage/observation room.

**Fig. 4. Sensor-operated column shower** in which five of the six nozzles are visible. (© Steve Mann) Also visible are three of the six small round viewing windows and some of the 12 laser diode body scanners, two being positioned below each viewing window.





The cameras are of very high quality and high resolution, so that remote triage personnel can clearly distinguish, for example, anthrax from dust or other dirt. Archived images can also be used as evidence to prosecute those placing society at risk by failing to properly undergo decontamination. Recorded video may be used to prosecute those who refuse to undress or refuse to cooperate with medical staff or decon officers. The high-resolution image sensors used throughout the facility ensure satisfactory video quality.

## CONCLUSION: THE NEED FOR FURTHER INQUIRY

The July 2001 anthrax-ready mailroom exhibit raised a lot of important questions. In the wake of the anthrax attacks in the fall of 2001, this work has taken on a new relevance. Many unanswered questions remain, which I intend to explore in a subsequent exhibit to be called "DECON<sup>3</sup> (DECON cubed): DECONstructing and DECONtextualizing DECONTamination." This will be done through a DECONference (decontamination conference), in which attendees are required to complete their (de)conference registration forms in dodecuplicate (12 copies) for submission to the jury (gerbils), the decisions of the jury on who may attend the event being final. Perhaps the most important as-yet-unanswered question is what happens when the new heroes of society are placed in such high regard that they fall outside the scope of scrutiny. Take, for example, the firefighter. From fire extinguishers to riot extinguishers (big cans of pepper spray), the need for crowd control has been marketed as a new social order. With fire hoses for crowd control, the need for the firefighter has changed from controlling fire to controlling people. As crowds of people are hosed down to prevent them from leaving [28], one might ask: Is he/she the firefighter cum people fighter? Or has the firefighter's desire to control fire [29] merely evolved into a desire to control people?

## Acknowledgments

Bradley Corporation, Leonard, Symmons, and Sloan Valve donated plumbing equipment to make the exhibit possible. ViewCast and ATI donated video capture equipment to make the six-channel telemedicine video link possible. Dupont donated the white Tyvek jumpsuits. James Fung, Corey Manders, Chris Aimone and Thomas Hirmer assisted greatly with the construction of the facility. Thanks also to Gallery TPW, curator Kathleen Pirrie Adams and curatorial web site designer Michelle Kasprzak.

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- Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (New York: Pantheon Books, 1977), translated from the original French, *Surveiller et punir*.
- This event took place in Germany. See <[http://www.wearcam.org/decon/decon\\_1881\\_inconshr.html](http://www.wearcam.org/decon/decon_1881_inconshr.html)>. This quote was taken from the first Google hit, <[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)>, on a search for "de-lousing and disinfection" performed on 7 May 2001.
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- Chris Seiple, "Another Perspective on the Domestic Role of the Military in Consequence Management," cached at <[http://www.wearcam.org/decon/victims\\_videotaped\\_trough\\_decon\\_line.htm](http://www.wearcam.org/decon/victims_videotaped_trough_decon_line.htm)>.
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- Merriam-Webster dictionary accessed by way of the /local/bin/mweb command.

16. "Government is attempting to create buffer zones by mass evacuations of . . . villages resisting oppression. . . . Government has taken advantage of the strategic situation created by the crisis . . . to step up the evacuation . . . on the pretext of maintaining security." From "Human Rights, Mass Exoduses and Displaced Persons," Commission on Human Rights, 50th session, Agenda item 11 (d), encirclement and forced evacuation of villages in Turkish Kurdistan (1990–1993). Cached at <[http://wearcam.org/decon/forced\\_evacuations.htm](http://wearcam.org/decon/forced_evacuations.htm)>.

17. The Elmendorf Airforce Base in the northeast area of Anchorage has an estimated capacity to hold 500,000 persons at the far end of the base. See "Concentration Camps in America," at <[www.freedomdomain.com/concamp.html](http://www.freedomdomain.com/concamp.html)>. See also <<http://www.freedomdomain.com/concamps/fema01.html>> (for information about a *Miami Herald* article published 5 July 1987) and <<http://GulagAmerika.homestead.com/CampsHistory.html>>.

18. Kristine M. Severyn, "Mandatory Vaccination," presented at the 56th annual meeting of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho (14 October 1999), cached at <[http://wearcam.org/decon/mandatory\\_vaccine\\_cdc\\_corruption.htm](http://wearcam.org/decon/mandatory_vaccine_cdc_corruption.htm)>.

19. Grady A. Deal, "Mandatory Vaccination Is Medical Genocide," (1 October 1995), cached at <[http://wearcam.org/decon/vaccination\\_is\\_genocide.htm](http://wearcam.org/decon/vaccination_is_genocide.htm)>.

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21. *The People's Plague: Tuberculosis in America*, a film by Diane Garey and Lawrence R. Hott, narrated by Joe Mantegna (Florentine Films, 1995). For transcript see <[http://wearcam.org/postcyborg/arrest\\_of\\_diseased\\_persons.htm](http://wearcam.org/postcyborg/arrest_of_diseased_persons.htm)>.

22. Garey and Hott [21].

23. The exhibit was held at Gallery TPW, Toronto (5–28 July, 2001). See Kathleen Pirrie Adams, "Steve Mann—Prior Art: Art of Record for Personal Safety," essay by exhibition curator, <<http://www.existech.com/tpw/index.html>>. See also the 4 June 2001 press release: "Wearable Computers Paint a Path to a Future Where Packages Arrive on Time, Terrorism is Zero, and Morale Is High," <[http://existech.com/press\\_release\\_deliverity.htm](http://existech.com/press_release_deliverity.htm)> as well as my Call for Volunteers to undergo decontamination: "Volunteer as a Subject for Our Decontamination Drill: Open to the Public, Thursday 2001 July 5th, 7:00 PM," <<http://wearcam.org/tpw.htm>>.

24. Steve Mann (with Hal Niedzviecki), *Cyborg: Digital Destiny and Human Possibility in the Age of the Wearable Computer* (Toronto: Random House Doubleday, 2001).

25. Canadian Patent 2303611, filed 1 April 2000, describes a novel approach to the problem of processing thousands of unwilling or uncooperative civilians. See also the 1 April 2001 posting <<http://www.wearcam.org/decon/decon2001apr1/aa040101a.htm>>, which provides the link between this exhibit and my previous work in wearable computing, as described in the final chapter of Mann [24].

26. I am now constructing a new exhibit called DECON<sup>3</sup> in a building of cement and steel construction, supplied by a 6-inch water main and a 600-amp three-phase electrical service. This new, fully working decon facility provides working showers with 20-gallon-per-minute capacity, fed from a 200,000-BTU hot-water heater with 400-gallon capacity. Nobody will be allowed into the DECON<sup>3</sup> exhibit without removal of clothing, contraband and contamination. Complimentary conference attire (a white jumpsuit with no pockets in which to store contraband) will be provided for each of the first 200 attendees. Subsequent attendees will wear garbage bags with holes cut out for the head and

arms, as advised by government and industry documents.

27. The six-station column showers were donated by Bradley Corporation.

28. "Police officers . . . help fire crews hose people down both to decontaminate them and to discourage them from leaving the area. In some jurisdictions, law enforcement officers have standing authority to use non-lethal force to maintain order

during riots." See Amy E. Smithson, "Metropolis, USA: Progress, Pitfalls in Front-line Readiness," cached at <[http://wearcam.org/decon/decon\\_squad\\_tyvek.htm](http://wearcam.org/decon/decon_squad_tyvek.htm)>.

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Leonardo Electronic Almanac

The Leonardo Electronic Almanac is issuing an open call for papers to be published in 2003. The LEA Editorial Board seeks proposals for the following:

**Theoretical Discussions:** original essays documenting research and critical commentary in areas of discussion such as nanotechnology, cyberart, cyberfeminism, hypertext, robotics, bio-art, artificial life and genetics. This list is by no means exhaustive, and proposals need not be limited to these areas.

**Artists' Statements and Gallery Commissions:** international artists are encouraged to submit statements or proposals for exhibiting new media artwork. Curators are welcome to propose thematic exhibitions.

LEA encourages international artists, academics, researchers and students to submit proposals for consideration. We particularly encourage authors outside North America and Europe to send proposals for articles.

Proposals should include:

- a 150–300 word abstract or synopsis detailing subject matter
- a brief bio (and list of prior works for reference)
- names of collaborators (if suggesting a thematic issue or curated gallery)
- any related URLs
- contact details.

Please send proposals or queries to:

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