FORCIBLE ENTRY

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Forcible entry requires close coordination between all members of the forcible entry team.

1.2. When forcible entry is required, start immediately. A door should be forced in such a manner as to preserve its integrity. Take note of the type of door. (Wooden, metal, glass or glass panel). Try the doorknob.

1.3. For situations such as food on the stove, gas leak, water leak, etc. try to find the least damaging means of entrance. Entrance off a fire escape, portable ladder or aerial will permit the door to be opened from the inside.

1.4. If upon arrival an open apartment door is found allowing fire and smoke to extend to the public hall, close the door but ensure the door does not lock.

2. DOORS (INWARD OPENING)

2.1 Doors found with one, two or three locks may be forced in one of several ways or a combination of ways.

A. By placing the fork of the Halligan approximately 6" above or below the lock with the bevel side of the fork next to the door, slightly canted toward the floor or ceiling. Strike the Halligan with the axe driving it past the interior door jamb. Apply pressure on the Halligan toward the door, forcing the door open. Reference #1, Figure 1.

NOTES:
1) If stiff resistance is met while driving the Halligan with the axe, turn the Halligan so the bevel side of the fork is against the door jamb. Drive the Halligan in and force the door.

2) To provide additional leverage, place the axe head between the door and Halligan. Reference #1, Figure 2.

B. Drive the hook of the Halligan completely into the door jamb 6" above or below the lock. Apply downward pressure on the Halligan. Reference #1, Figure 3.

NOTES:
1) When forcing doors with two locks use the above procedures placing the tool between the two locks.

2) The door should not be allowed to spring inward exposing men at the doorway to heat and smoke. The door should be held partially closed if immediate entry cannot be made.

C. Taking action at the hinge side of the door is another method of forcing entry. With the back of an axe, or maul, strike the solid part of the door adjacent to the upper hinge location. If the door shows signs of being effectively forced in this manner continue striking until the upper hinge is freed and then use the same method on the lower hinge.

NOTE: Always attack the upper hinge first so that smoke and heat will rise while completing forcible entry on the bottom of the door.
3. DOORS (OUTWARD OPENING)

3.1 The method used to force outward opening doors is determined by the position of the door in the frame.

A. Flush fitting doors. These doors may be forced using either the adz or fork end of the Halligan.

   1) When using the fork end of the Halligan, place the concave side of the fork toward the door, tool canted slightly for initial penetration. As the tool is driven in between the jamb and door, it is brought to the perpendicular to avoid penetrating the jamb. When the tool has spread the door as far as possible, force the adz end away from the door.

   2) Place the adz of the Halligan 6" above or below the lock and drive it into the space between the door and jamb being careful not to penetrate the door stop portion of the jamb. Pry downward and out with the fork end of the tool.

B. Recessed doors or doors with a wall adjacent to the lock side of the door.

   Place the adz of the Halligan 6" above or below the lock and drive it into the space between the door and jamb being careful not to penetrate the door stop portion of the jamb. Pry downward and out with the fork end of the tool.

4. THROUGH THE LOCK METHOD

4.1. REMOVING CYLINDER

A. "K" TOOL.

   1) Mortise and rim cylinder puller.

   2) Used to pull out majority of lock cylinders.

   3) This tool is used in conjunction with the axe and Halligan.

      a. Force working edges of K-tool behind cylinder and ring.

      b. Tap with axe until K-tool takes a bite into body of cylinder.

      c. Using the Halligan, pry cylinder out of door.

      Reference #2, Figure 1.

B. LOCK CYLINDER PULLERS.

   Used to pull mortise or rim cylinder that are flush with door or recessed below door surface.

   The lock cylinder pulling tool is forced over and behind the trim ring and face of the lock cylinder until the blades of the tool "bite" into the body of the lock cylinder. After getting a bite with the tool, the tool leverage itself is used to forcibly pull the cylinder out of the door and lock. Reference #2, Figure 2.
C. Vise grips.

1) Use to remove mortise cylinders when time is not a factor.
2) Lock on to the cylinder and turn counter-clockwise to remove cylinder.
3) This method takes a little longer than with the K-tool and should be used with good judgment.

4.2. To open locks after the cylinder has been removed, different key tools and methods are used for the various type locks.
Reference #3, Figure 1.

A. MORTISE LOCK. Designed to fit into a cavity in the edge of a door.
Reference #3, Figure 2.

1) Cam principle. The key turns a cam that slides the bolt out of the strike.
Reference #3, Figure 3.

2) 5 o'clock to 7 o'clock principle. Before pulling the lock cylinder check the position of the keyway. The keyway is always your 6 o'clock position. After pulling the cylinder insert the bent end of the key tool into lock through cylinder hole, holding key tool parallel to ground and perpendicular to door. With bent end pointing to approximately 5 o'clock, move the bolt slide to the 7 o'clock position or if slide is found at the 7 o'clock position move the slide to the 5 o'clock position.
Reference #3, figure 4.

3) Deadlock mechanism.

a. Some mortise locks also have a deadlock mechanism which prevents the bolt from being moved. Reference #4, Figure 1.

b. It will be found at either the 5 o'clock' or 7 o'clock position. To slide bolt out of the strike (jamb), you must depress the deadlock mechanism with the end of the key tool, while sliding the bolt.

4) If after the dead bolt is retracted (5 to 7) and latch is still in the locked position (knob will not turn), continue rotating the key tool until contact is made with spring loaded latch lever, which is usually found at 9 o'clock or 3 o'clock. Depress this latch to release the spring latch.
B. RIM LOCK - Manufactured to fit on the inside surface of the door with the cylinder visible from the outside. Reference #4, Figure 2.

1) Screw driver principle. Key turns stem on the end of the cylinder which fits into the backplate of the lock. The stem opens or closes the lock in the lame fashion as a screw driver.

2) Pull cylinder and check rear of cylinder for stem size.

3) Insert straight end of key tool into stem slot on the lock. Turn key tool either direction left or right.

4) If for any reason you cannot insert key tool into stem slot (shutter present) or turn the key tool (night latch thrown), place the point of the Halligan or similar tool in the cylinder hole and drive the lock off the door.

**NOTE:** Some rim locks have a shutter which will move into the area vacated by the stem as the cylinder is withdrawn. This shutter can be moved by the use of a tool such as a dental pick if time permits.

5) On police locks (rim locks) the stem of the cylinder is square shaped thus requiring a special 5/32” square key tool for those locks.

   Police locks, also known as vertical bar locks, are usually found in tenement areas on wooden or kalamein doors. Usually a few good shots an the door may cause the vertical bar to jump from the hole in the floor, thus unlocking the door.

6) (Double bar lock - Fox locks) Easily recognizable by the location of the cylinder in the center of the door.

   a. Cylinders are usually covered with a metal plate with four bolts.

   b. Using a Halligan, shear off the top two bolts and one bottom bolt then turn the plate down exposing the lock cylinder. Remove the cylinder with the K tool. Using the square key tool, turn the tool towards the bottom bar thus unlocking the door.
5. **PADLOCKS**

5.1 Padlocks are portable or detachable locking devices having sliding and pivoting shackles that pass through a staple and are then made fast.

A. There are two types:
   - **Regular**
     All padlocks with shackles of ¼ inch or less and not hardened.
   - **Heavy duty**
     Padlocks with a shackle of more than ¼ inch and hardened.

**NOTE:** A feature on many of the newer heavy duty padlocks is toe and heel locking. This means that both ends of the shackle (toe and heel) are locked when the shackle is depressed into the lock case. On this type of padlock, cutting only one side of the shackle will not permit us to pivot the lock and remove the padlock from the staple. Both sides of the shackle must be cut. On regular padlocks, cutting one end of the shackle is usually sufficient to pivot the lock.

B. Attack points:
   - **Staple.**
   - **Point of attachment.**
   - **Shackle.**

C. Tools.
1) Halligan.
2) Duck bill.
3) Bolt cutter.
4) Saw - aluminum oxide blade.
5) Cutting torch.
6) Bam-bam tool.

D. Operation.
1) Attack the point of least resistance.
2) Hook of Halligan or the duck bill can be driven through staple or shackle.
3) Bolt cutter to cut staple or shackle.
4) Case hardened locks requires use of saw (aluminum oxide blade) or cutting torch. It is also possible to pull the cylinder on some of these locks with a bam-bam tool.
6. **AMERICAN LOCKS SERIES 2000**

6.1 A portable or detachable locking device that fits over a staple, etc. and locks by use of a movable steel pin located in the body of the lock.

A. Attack points.
   → Point of attachment.
   → Body of lock.

B. Tools.
   1) Saw (aluminum oxide blade).
   2) Cutting torch.

C. Operation.
   1) Use either of the above tools to cut staple or other point of attachment to wall, etc.
   2) Cut through the lock about 2/3rds of the distance up from the keyway, cutting it in two pieces. Then remove the pin from the security gate. Reference #5 Figure 1.

7. **BARS AND SLIDING BOLTS**

7.1. *Bar*
   A piece of wood or steel held in place by brackets, which traverses both sides of the door frame. Reference #5, Figure 2.

7.2. *Sliding bolt*
   ¼ to ¾" steel with a throw of 1" or more. Mounted on the door and projects into the frame. Reference #5, Figure 3.

7.3. Forcible entry may be made using the axe and Halligan. The bar brackets or bolt may be driven off the door frame by driving the fork end of the Halligan directly at the bar or bolt.
8. **WINDOWS**

8.1 By placing the fork end of the Halligan under the window at the center of the window sill and applying downward pressure on the Halligan a single window and/or window lock can be forced.

A. Some windows found at the ground floor level or fire escape will have window gates behind the glass. By attacking the window gate at the hinge side (opposite the locking device), using a Halligan, the gate is easily forced. After taking the top and bottom hinge, slide the gate towards the locking device thus clearing about 2/3rds of the window.

**NOTE:** Any other method (forcing or kicking in) of forcing a window gate could result in jamming of the gate and a loss of time.

B. Protect-A-Guard window gate.

1) Similar to accordion and scissor gates.

2) Easily opened from the inside and there is a total absence of padlocks. The gate is equipped on the inside with a small box-like enclosure which contains a door and a swivel type knob. To open the gate from the inside, turn the swivel knob, open the door and lift the weight.

3) When forcing this gate, member should concentrate on hinge side.

**NOTE:** When entering an apartment through a window, take out the whole window, creating a vent and a quick means of escape if necessary.

9. **MULTI-LOCK DOORS**

9.1 Found in some projects and newly renovated buildings. The lock is not necessarily centered in the door but easily recognizable by the large plate covering the lock. Four bars, one in each direction, enter the door jam when the lock is engaged.

**NOTE:** Make sure multi-lock is engaged prior to forcing entry. By sliding paper or cardboard under the door along the bottom, you will be able to tell if lock is engaged or not.

To force the door, cut a triangle in the lower quadrant of the door on the doorknob side. This will enable you to unlock conventional locks as well. Make the cut large enough to get your arm through and back out, but small enough so that you don't cut the bar. Reference #6, Figure 1.
10. **SECURITY GATES**

10.1. Found in all areas of the City. There are three types, manually, mechanical and electric.

A. **Manually operated doors** - Commonly found on the fronts of smaller stores. Readily recognized by the absence of any raising mechanism housing at drum level (top) and the presence of lift handles attached to the bottom bar. These doors usually have from two to four padlocks installed on the bottom or along the sides. To force entry remove the padlocks and removable eye bolts that penetrate the gate. Then lift door.

B. **Mechanically operated doors** - The operating mechanism is a chain hoist assembly similar to that found in many firehouses. They are easily recognized by the gear and chain mechanism located in a housing at the top of the door alongside the drum with approximately one foot of the operating chain remaining visible beneath this housing. The chain hangs down alongside the door and is covered by a vertical length of angle iron. This cover is mounted on hinges and is locked against the curtain guides by two padlocks. To force entry remove all padlocks from chain cover and door; then, using chain, raise the door.

C. **Electrically operated doors** - As the name implies, these doors are electrically operated. The unit containing the motor and related components is contained in a large metal housing. This is located on the outside of the installation, adjacent to either side of the drum. This large housing readily identifies this type of door. The electric key switches that activate the operator will be found usually on the building wall on either side of the door.

1) All electrically operated doors are equipped with an auxiliary chain hoist which can be used in the event of a power failure. The auxiliary hoist mechanism is located inside the operator housing and is not visible from the outside.

2) To force entry remove the padlocks from the door. Remove the cover plate of the operator housing or remove the entire housing by use of the forcible entry tools. This will expose the working mechanism of the operator. The lever that changes the operator from electrical to mechanical will be readily visible. Pushing the lever towards the chain hoist mechanism will engage the unit and the door can be raised mechanically by the use of the chain provided.

3) Another method may be used to raise the electrically operated door. Remove the front cover plate or the housing itself. A roller chain similar to the drive mechanism of a bicycle will be visible. Cut the bicycle chain using the bolt cutters and the security gate is now hanging free. You now have a manually operated door. Two or three men may now raise the door.
10.2. If a delay is anticipated and heavy fire conditions exist and application of water is of immediate necessity, the security gate may be cut using the saw.

A. A small triangle shaped opening, can be made rapidly, below the center of the door and a stream directed into the store.

B. By making a larger triangle cut, the slats on either side of the opening can be easily removed. Slide the slats toward the cut.
Reference 2

Figure 1

Figure 2
Reference 3
KEY TOOLS

Figure 1
- Flat End
- Cam End
- Square End

Figure 2
- REGULAR

Figure 3
- 5/32” SQUARE
- CAM

Figure 4
Reference 4

Figure 1

Figure 2
Reference 5

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

BAR

SLIDING BOLT
Reference 6

MULTI-LOCK DOOR

Figure 1