



Stinger Grenades

A bit of resource for antifascists on
piggy Cheeseman's projectiles.

Love Pigs - Hate Cops

We've had a bloody gut full.

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Title page image shows the remains of stinger grenades deployed on Sunday 19th October 2025.

We've had a bloody gut full.

While the weak-as-piss thespians at Vicpol had a sook about cracked shields and rotten fruit in their little theatre piece for the press, we were holding each other, tending wounds, having real discussions and practicing simple, everyday revolutionary love.

The pig behaviour we experienced on the weekend was an escalation in violence against antifascists. They demonstrated a blatant willingness to maim. Many of us were naturally shocked and fuming. But while the violence was gratuitous, it wasn't exceptional – this is the very reason they exist. First Nations people have been resisting state terror on this continent for a long time. Shout out to the Wurundjeri warriors and everyone resisting colonisation from the beginning and into the future.

When we talk about pig violence on the left there's often a liberal urge to portray ourselves as "good protestors" who were victim to police aggression. There's a time and a place for that story but we want to say straight up, we are not innocent victims; we are militant antifascists and we were outmaneuvered by the pigs. We didn't see rocks being thrown on the day, but if Wayne Cheeseman is going to spin yarns about impressive projectiles to justify deployment of life threatening weapons and lobby for more authoritarian laws, perhaps next time the people really will throw rocks. Because what have they got left to lose?

Presumably the pigs thought they were teaching us a lesson; that we should cower to their terror and retreat from the streets. There are certainly lessons from the day. They are scorched permanently into our flesh. But the pigs are kidding themselves. There will be no retreat. What we learned is that we need to be more organised, more strategic, better equipped. Far from retreating, we are more resolved, more determined, more together.

See you on the streets,

antifa

P.S.: If someone really did throw that infamous rock, we'd love to buy you a beer sometime xo

Description and purpose

Stinger grenades give off a loud blast, bright flash and in the explosion, release 32-caliber 'stinging' rubber pellets. Some models are made to disperse irritants including OC or CS/CN (tear gas) during explosion as well. They are designed to physically injure the front line of a crowd badly enough to force dispersion and thinning out to significantly decrease the crowds capability to hold space/fight back. They can be effective at dispersing and injuring tight formations that are withstanding OC spray and rubber bullet attacks. MALS (Melbourne Activist Legal Support) describes their "potential for misuse" as "significant" and their danger to public being "shock and panic in crowds, blunt or penetrative injuries, particularly head, neck and torso trauma[,] severe bruising, death, (lethal at close range), blindness or eye damage, ear damage."



The "Flash Bang" is a DIFFERENT device to the stinger grenade. The flash bang produces a loud noise and bright flash and some models release CS/CN irritants. Its main use is to cause a mass panic. The flash bang is a metal cylinder which is designed to contain the explosion. They are not designed to produce shrapnel, but have been known to. The flash bang or "stun grenade" does not contain rubber pellets.

Both devices are used to disperse crowds with the flash bang being more common. Whether you are viewing a bang and a flash from a distance or are very close-by, it may be tricky to tell apart which of these devices has been used. Look out for stinger grenade injuries.

Some observations...

Observations from further away suggest that the pigs might have a certain protocol around throwing stinger grenades. Here are those observations in the hope that they might help give comrades more advanced warning signs and think about ways to minimise the impact of these fuckers.

On sunday, it seemed to take some level of effective pushback/holding space through OC spray, flash bangs and rubber bullet attacks for the stinger grenade to be used.

Within the span of a couple of minutes, the riot piggies sent the uniform cop line back 20 meters or so from the bollards that divided pigs from the counter. A line of about 20-30 riot cops came up to the bollards with their shields, guns/launchers up. Then, a pair of their co-conspirators stepped forward over the bollards. One rolled the grenade into their chosen group of comrades, and then cowarded back over the bollards before the blast seconds later, before shrapnel flew.

From within that targeted group, sparks drew their attention to a round dark grenade-like object with something like a fuse burning into it - easy to miss in an intense, hightened situation if eyes happened to be up instead of down. Before there was a chance to react, move away or warn anyone the thing exploded leaving multiple comrades with deep wounds on arms and legs needing stiches and shrapnel removed.

Some thoughts...

- Scattering out of tight formations would maybe make groups less of a target for stinger grenades but more vulnerable to rubber bullets.
- Staying in a tigher formation might mean that the rubber pellets and shrapnel are less likely to gain height and hit the torso, neck and head where the injury could be more severe/fatal. The unpredictable dispersal of shrapnel makes them a danger to anyone in the area
- Seemed to take some level of effective pushback/holding space through OC spray, flash bangs and rubber bullet attacks before this thing was used.
- It seems very unlikely that there's enough time from when it lands to the point of explosion to kick it out of harms way.

Injuries and treatment – repairing not retreating

Physical injuries of a stinger grenade attack can include: Burns, bleeding, deep wounds (like gunshot wound), embedded shrapnel, grazes, temporary numbness of affected limbs, temporary deafness, ringing ears, dizziness, vertigo and shock. There is likely to be a delayed pain response (can take up to a few days). The wounds will take several weeks to heal.

Shock can cause comrades to be: confused about what happened, unaware of injuries and/or confused about how they got them, aware they've been injured but not know what the injury is, under the impression the injuries are not as bad as they are. They are likely to need help with: finding a safe place away from pigs/crowds/media, remaining unidentifiable, identifying their wounds, finding medic/receiving first aid, getting to hospital, getting appropriate and necessary treatment.

Street response to stinger grenade injury:

- If you think there are comrades that have been hurt, gain consent, help them away from danger/crowds, reassure them and stay with them or find someone to stay with them.
- Look out for OC spray on any items of clothing. Avoid spreading contamination.
- Check for impact wounds, grazes, and burns. Make sure to do this thoroughly because some smaller wounds may be easy to miss. Look for holes in their clothes that may have been caused by the explosion and the expelling of rubber pellets.
- Thoroughly clean the wound with saline and cover. If you don't have the right equipment on you, get help from a street medic.
- If you can see shrapnel embedded in the wound, do not attempt to remove it. Send the comrade to emergency in hospital asap.
- If you see any 'holes' similar to a gunshot wound, ensure the casualty goes to an urgent care clinic or emergency in hospital as soon as possible. Xrays and/or getting checked out by a professional may be necessary to identify possible shrapnel that could still be embedded in the wound. Stitches may be necessary to close the wound.
- It can be a really good idea to take photos of the wounds if you have access to a phone or camera to document them. You may be glad to have them later.
- Ask for a medical certificate so you have it on record that you are unable to go to work/school.

After something like a stinger grenade attack, mental health is likely to be rough. People may experience: sensitivity to loud noise or light and high stim environments, increased anxiety, flashbacks, nightmares, trouble sleeping, not wanting to be alone, feeling isolated, crying, feeling fragile, not wanting to go into environments where there is an uncertainty of people's 'side', feeling exhausted, feeling far away and disassociated, sleeping a lot, rage and anger. These kinds of strains on peoples mental health, are not limited to those who are physically injured people and are likely to be felt by anyone surrounding a stinger grenade explosion, especially those helping their injured comrades. The communities' response to stinger grenades is vital for our collective recovery.

Recovery relies on our collective ability to support each other by: planning in affinity/organising groups how to care for each, centering and prioritising mental and physical healing before debriefing grievances or tactics and strategy, helping each other figure out all our individual recovery needs, providing material support like food, lifts, medication, being angry and feeling feelings together, spending time with loved ones, taking it easy and skipping work as much as possible.

Being together through it is building our collective power, is how we win.

Carlton Medical and Urgent Care Clinic 1/221 Drummond Street Carlton VIC 3053, 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM 7 days a week

Urgent Care is bulk-billed, for follow-up appointments the GP is 50\$ out of pocket for medicare card holders and 30\$ for concession (subject to change, info OCT 2025). They have been briefed by Street Medics Naarm.

St Vincent's Hospital 41 Victoria Parade Fitzroy VIC 3065 (enter emergency via Princes St), 24 hours a day 7 days a week

Has had cops being treated after inner city protests recently. If wanting to avoid those fucking dogs then going to Carlton Urgent Care Clinic or Royal Melbourne may be a good idea.

Royal Melbourne Hospital 300 Grattan Street Parkville VIC 3052 (Ground Level South East), 24 hours a day 7 days a week

Hasn't had the pigs most recently. It could be assumed they went to St Vincent's because it's closest to the site of protest. Reconsider choices if protest is in a different location.



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