

# DRUMMER

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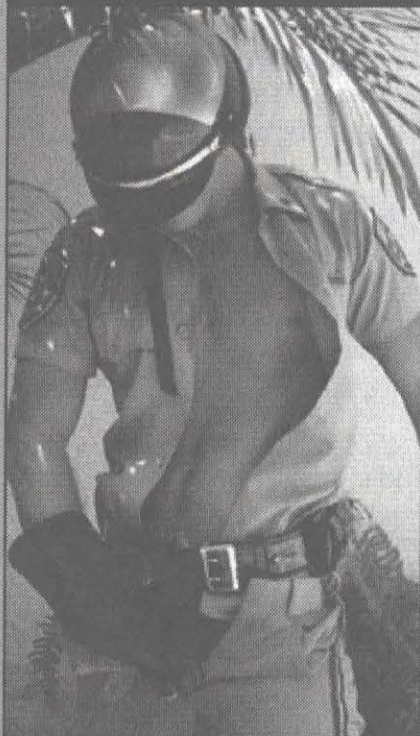
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“If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music that he hears, however measured and far away.”

— Henry David Thoreau

209



## Uniforms

are visual shorthand for our image of the occupations that require them. Cops, firemen, soldiers, sailors, marines — every little boy's dream about what to be when he grows up and every gay man's fantasy.

Even our civilian icons of masculinity, from Bogie's trenchcoat to Cary Grant's formal tails to Brando's leather jacket, have their origins in uniforms: trenchcoats in WWI, cut-away coats from 18th century British dress uniforms, and the leather jacket, WWII pilot's kit.

Symbols of authority can also be symbols of repression. Does the excitement of a cop uniform include the humiliation of arrest and restraint? Would uniforms be as arousing for gay men if we were no longer denied access to the Armed Forces?

## CONTENTS

### COLUMNS

MaleCall	5
DrumMedia	10
Techniques	12
Sleaze.com	39

### FEATURES

Excessive Force	7
Soldier at Ease	14
Law Of Desire	19
Hot For Cops	41

### BOOK SECTION

Magazine Reviews	25
The Policeman	27
Mombassa	29
Flight 69	32
Labor Relations	34

### DEPARTMENTS

DrumBeat	45
Classifieds	49
Destinations	62
Calendar 209	66
Opinion	68

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