

Basic Detail Report

A security guard checks a passengers shoes
as they go through a security gate at the airport

Date

1969-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Airport security in the 60s and 70s was almost non-existent. Even with soaring skyjacking rates (40 attempts on US planes in 1969), most airlines opposed the idea of individual passenger screening. In 1973 there was the institution of universal passenger screenings, and it was outsourced to contractors, often underpaid and incompetent. They operated x-ray machines and metal detectors.

Dimensions

Overall: 30.5 x 20.3 cm (12 x 8 in.)