



The New Year season makes us feel Full of joy, zeal, and zeal The joy we feel when we explode The 1974 Credit Card Code!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0. N X Z A G S Q F U J

To use this code, add the city code and then the code letter to a phone number of the desired corporation...

Dear TAP, I have noticed that all the envelopes I have received from TAP have been opened. Twice they were resealed with a lot of glue...

Ed. Note: For two years we have had problems with our mail, as you all know. But getting it intercepted by Bell is another story. In 1972, one reader reported that Bell security men knocked on the door and asked if they were the same person whose initials had appeared under a certain letter in YIPL...

HELP IS NEEDED

- We need info on the following subjects for future articles in TAP. Automatic Blue Boxes- With info about where they're necessary. Locking Machines- Locks, getting stuff, etc. Locks- New code books, picking Medeco, Sargent Keso, tricks, etc. Radio- Setting up your own station, transmitter schematics and building jammers, info on pirate station legal hassles. Burglar Alarms- Such as Holmes and other central station alarms, bypassing, electronic keys and clocks, etc. Also, Marmets, Overseas Phreaking, and Chemistry.

Dear TAP- Your advice on turning back Con Ed meters by hand is great- been doing it for years. However, you should mention that when turning the dials back, one should be very careful not to touch or even slightly rub the face of the meter. The black ink used to form:



smudges very easily on the white background- They must use a special ink to get that effect. Also the white background stains easily from the slightest touch.

The seal on the meter can be replaced so it will look untouched if you use common sense in cutting it (Any one know how?). But if there are smudges the meter reader closely examines the seal, which he wouldn't ordinarily do, and then puts Con Ed hip to the game. This happened to me once and I don't know their next step since I moved (for other reasons) right after Con Ed put in a new unsmudged meter with a new seal.

Also in any payphone, a 1/4" brass washer works for a dime-not by putting tape over the holes which rarely works but simply by spitting on the washer, both sides. It takes some practice until you learn just how wet the washer gets; you may have to drop it in the slot a few times. Use a 1/4" brass washer-not a #14, which is the same diameter, but has a bigger hole. I have never yet used a phone that didn't work on these. Works best on phones with lever coin returns-knob return phones must be tried a few times.

Keep up the good work. Buck them all! S- If you wrap some drano in aluminum foil then drop it in water, hydrogen is produced. Don't know what concentration is explosive, but it has possibilities-dropped in a toilet, quantities of explosive gas are produced.

Youth Hot Line Reports, Inc. 1973 Movement groups may reprint with TAP's address, and please send us copy of reprinted work if you can.

REPORT ON TOLL FRAUD DETECTORS

It is now widely acknowledged that Phone Phreaks have contributed greatly to society. For example, we have been regarded by AT&T as "a threat to national security". This has been of service to our President in his more trying moments of attempting to rationalize his grand theory of the Bill of Rights.

The most obvious way to eliminate Blue Boxing is to change the frequencies. Fortunately, that's impossible. The whole fucking world has adapted MF (multifrequency) as the standard. So the next thing tried was to detect the 2800 Hz. tone, which is normally not present on customer phone lines, or even better, to detect the C.O. (Central Office) Telonics (we printed their credit card # in issue #20) has a PFF-100 Fone Freak Follower for detecting 2800 Hz. tones longer than 1, 2, or 5 seconds (selectable). Two units are mounted on a card for rack mounting in a C.O. for \$88. For \$89 they sell a PFF-100 Portable Fone Freak Follower that also has two channels and is smaller than a breadbox.

When activated by a 2800 Hz. tone, it closes a relay that can be hooked up to a tape recorder, alarm bell, fuse, etc. It can also be wired to disconnect your line. too. Dianetek makes a \$295 SF and KP counter. It only responds when it hears 2800 (SF or Single Frequency) followed by Key Pulse within the next 20 seconds. Since most senders time out by 20 seconds, you can't beat it by blowing off and then coming back 20 seconds later. It won't be fooled by false alarms of people picking up their phones, dialing long distance information and waiting. However, it also won't respond to SF fraud, done by sending pulses of 2500 for each digit. SF is still around in some places and will report on it soon, as receive info on it. Hekiman Laboratories (301 424-3150) sells a \$4000, 51A Dialed Number Recorder. It records on paper tape like an adding machine, noting such trivia as every time you pick up the phone or hang it up, every call you receive, and the exact numbers you dial or touch-tone. Oh, yes it notes when 2800 appears on the line above -31 dBm in volume. Time is kept by an internal clock with the date, and for a measly \$1000 you can add Multi-frequency printout so that all Blue Boxed numbers will be recorded. It can also activate other equipment like the others. A remote signal extender allows the Recorder to be used at a point that is not connected by a DC loop, such as over a carrier (and multiplexed facilities. 5000 calls can be recorded before the paper tape has to be replaced, so don't hesitate to jiggle the switchback before you go to sleep tonight!

Northeast Electronics makes a similar Dialed Number Recorder, a little less expensive, and a capacity for only 500 calls on a roll of tape. Voiceprint labs has another but it doesn't even detect 2800 before you fork over another \$500 (after the initial \$2000).

Bramco (513 773-8271) makes cheap tone decoders that you'd have to modify to turn into a fraud detector. Hekiman also makes a Black Box detector that detects voice currents on a line which is not drawing info on it. current from the C.O. It also has a 2800 detector that is used to prevent "Reverse Sig" boxes, which simulate a black box by sending 2800 back to the caller. (information on Reverse Supervision boxes will be forthcoming).

As for Red Boxes, the Phone Company is relying on operator's ears. A lamp is usually able to tell if coins are present, but only when an operator manually collects or returns (or tries to) coins. Still, operators are so used to broken equipment that you can usually act inquisitive if they get suspicious and get away with it. The trick is not to have them collect or return money when there isn't any. Bell's had their own staff for a while, like a 2800 detector which activated a normal tape recorder. They would then use the tapes in court. And the Dialed Number Recorders are just fancy versions of the old Pen Register. A

computer program that counts 800 calls for normal statistical data is now used to call attention to excessive or low. 800 calls or 255-1212 calls. Suspects get 2800 detectors placed on their lines as the new step. Bell's own stuff was all designed to be compatible with the rest of the system, thus their 2800 detectors have "talk-off" protection. Though some 2800 detectors have a narrow acceptance bandwidth around the center frequency, in this case 2800, Bell's have an additional feature which rejects as false all 2800's that are accompanied by other sounds. These can be bypassed by using guard tones, also coming up soon in TAP, but the poor quality of all the other manufacturers doesn't allow the use of guard (because they don't use talk-off). All of these units work, but getting it intercepted by Bell is another story. Obviously, putting filters in all of the phone lines in the country is too expensive. Even putting in filters at points of concentration that all lines must go through is rough, and will take time. These would probably be set up to drop a call rather than trace it in order to discourage further phreak activity. This would be a definite burner. But we have one hope, and that is that we must rely on the inflated ego's of Bell's crack security force. These dudes know damn well that putting in filters and even the detectors won't earn them any points with the top brass. If Bell's own security can't stop phone phreaks, what the hell are they on the precious payroll for? If any agencies are reading this, and we know they are, we hope they ask themselves that question and get to work finding us with all the detectors they can. IF THEY CAN! Bob Kinsinger of Illinois Bell Telephone admits they spend more to catch us than they get back. One day, Bob, even JD might be forced by the biggies to stand this charade, along with the clowns. But Bob knows this and that's why phone phreaks have hope. If Bob gets every phreak in Illinois bell'd be out of a job. Yes, we'll hear rumors of busts at filters and detectors all over the place, and each time someone is caught a hundred papers will scream headlines, but in reality it will all be people like Bob who want job security, being PR people rather than recommending the most effective methods to their superiors and being replaced by a machine. We don't blame you, Bob.

How do we get around the detectors that are around? By using common sense. Don't use home phones for Blue Box calls. Don't have a "favorite" booth for Red or Blue Box calls. Don't stay on long on Black Box calls. Without calling attention to yourself, try to find out what the story is in your local C.O. This is possible by asking your business rep. what kind of switching system you've got. They'll tell you sometimes, if you say you just read an article about ESS (Electronic Switching System), and you're doing a report for school. Get a job or have a friend get a job at your C.O. And keep their calls, even drop pay phones, under 10 minutes and even less if possible. You can make twice as many calls safely if they're half as long. Try this gem: Use a Red Box to call a cheap long distance number, and keep off to Blue Box land! At the end of the call, give the operator her money. Use a Blue Box if you've got a Red Box! Europe, Australia and Africa, for example! Most booths won't hold enough Red Box k. If a Blue Box Detector records your call, there's a chance that the number you box will also be taped. So be sure to call only cool people, or amateurs, or corporations. However, the most important security precaution you can take is to watch what you say. More phreaks have been caught because of big mouths than anything else. Before they put a detector on your line, they have to suspect you, right? Don't brag about your Black Box when people you don't trust are within earshot. Bob says, "Most of our help on Black Boxes comes from informants". Don't tell your friend that you just called them with a hot credit card or a red box or the operator may hear you. Just act like every phone you're on is tapped. If you subscribe to TAP, they probably are!



- BACK ISSUES-50C 1-Extension, cordless switches 2-Blue Box Story and Able on reports 3-Telephoned Story 4-Day Phone Issue 5-Blue Box 1 6-Blue Box 2 7-Using your own 8-Credit card calls and 1972 code 9-Super Super Project (see issue 11) 10- 11-Reverse key tone 12-Blue Box Plans 13-International Calls, Fax, Plans 14-International Calls - AT&T Plans 15-1973 Credit Card Code, 1 letter 16-Red Box Plans FACT SHEETS-25¢ 1-New Credit Card Fact Sheet 2-1973 Code and How to do it safely! 3-Receipts, Lon, Distance Calls From (Gen. Tel. version of issue 11) 4-Displayed Red Box 15¢ 5-2800 whistle detector- 15¢ 6-Dual Tone oscillator with Interceptor-15¢ 7-List of Destructory Assistance Topics - Free 8-Schedule from 2nd Int'l Phreak Convention - Free 9-To receive via, via first class envelope, add \$1.50 10-Subscription approx. 10 issues/yr. 11-Number on address area indicates first issue sent. 12-If your address has a 14 or less on it, TAP, M&M 504, 152 A, 42 ST., N.Y., N.Y. 10036 13-Call, include only, check or money order only, NO CASH!

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Table listing various items and their issue/page numbers, including Credit Cards, Phone Books, and various technical articles.

Dear TAP, Black Box Detector depends on the kind of switching equipment you have in your C.O. Identification Step by Step Dial your own number and listen after each digit. If it makes a distinct click or clicks after most of the digits you have SXS. If you get nothing except a distinct Klunk Klunk sound after the last digit only, before you have a busy you have Crossbar, either no. 1 (the first kind Bell created) or no. 2, the improved variety. If your busy signal sounds real suspicious rather than the normal harsher busy you probably have no. 1 ESS. Black boxes are considered safe only on no. 1 or possibly no. 1 crossbar. It can be used on SXS but for only very short periods, unless your C.O. switchroom is unattended at the time you use the box or if the C.O. doesn't have CPI alarms. The purpose of these is not to catch you in the switchroom but to catch you if they do, but to keep phreaks who called you from holding your line up in case they don't hang up. If the alarm comes in once in a while the switchman will just get up and knock down the connection (you'll be disconnected, and after a minute or more) but he'll get VERY suspicious if it happens too often and he may listen in. If he hears a conversation and the alarm says one person hung up, well... Some cheap offices don't have alarms, they're safe for boxing. To find out, call some business you can't stand in the same office (same prefix or first 3 digits) and after they hang up sit on the line. Make the call just before they close for the day, or they'll call the phone company and disconnect the connection. Or try a friend who doesn't mind his line being held up for half a day. After that time, if you're still holding the line up, either the office doesn't have alarms or it is unattended during that time. ESS is almost impossible to use any kind of box with, move to a different area. Or find a friend who works in the switchroom to re-program the computer to give you the neat extra cost features like call forwarding free! California loop around numbers vary widely across the state, but in Southern California the pattern is XXX-1118 and XXX-1119 or XXX-0118 and 0119. Most charge, some are free when called from the same area code but charge outside that area code. -CALIFORNIA-

Kidnapers Get Van, \$3000

Oakland police were looking yesterday for a telephone company van stolen Wednesday afternoon by two men who kidnaped and robbed a woman in whose booth she had \$3000 in cash. Sergeant Ed Sabca said Nancy Alest, 21, had just completed her rounds and was sitting in her Pacific Telephone Co. van in front of 2817 Piedhill Boulevard at 1:35 p.m. when a man with a gun suddenly appeared beside the van. She told Sabca the man pointed the gun through the window and ordered her to move over. As he got in he told the wheel, she said a second man entered the van from the passenger side. With Mrs. Alest between them, the two drove the van to 5th and H. streets where they stopped and the driver got out. A third man, who was apparently waiting for them, handed a pair of bolt cutters to the driver, who then got back in the van and drove off again. They returned to an area near where the holdup began and the driver got out again. This time he cut the

Dear TAP, Able showed me an amazing catalog from American Colonial Armament, 1 Riverside Road, Riverside, Ill. 60546. In addition to a large selection of electronic bugs, bug detectors, surveillance units, and other electronic goodies, it contains weapons, police equipment, army surplus and books. Just about everything Able mentions in Stal This Book. It's a little right wingy in tone, but a real trip to read. Cost is \$20. Keep up the excellent work. -OHIO-

Dear TAP, Better tell people to turn off most if not all the power in the house when they pull the meter. When you put it back in, if there is a good load it could blow out. Just throw the main switch at the fuse box. There is a meter direct wired here that is working fine. -FLORIDA-

Dear TAP, Brainstorm! If you want to find out who owns a local #, call the business office and say "Service rep please, 329 residence (or whatever the exchange is, and whether business or residence)". The operator will switch you, and when the rep. answers, order an out-of-town directory. They'll ask you a number of questions, and then they'll ask for your phone # so that they can get your name and address. Give them the number you want to check, and then when the rep comes on and says, "Alright, Mr. Roberts, I'll handle your request", complete the call and then check the directory for which Mr. Roberts matches the number. This is a way to get around the telco ripoff of allowing law agencies to find who owns a number, but not Joe Public. -TEXAS-

Able's case has gone to court with a motion to drop all charges on the grounds that cocaine is improperly classified as a narcotic with heroin. The judge complimented the defense on the extent of their research and documentation but refused the motion. His case goes to trial soon & money is desperately needed, so if you can help with a few bucks please send it to Able Hoffman & Friends Defense Fund, 940 Broadway, N.Y., N.Y. 10012, don't send cash! TAP has courses on Basic Electricity that are easily understood, no matter how little knowledge of Electronics you already have. You learn by building useful projects and experiments such as those in TAP. In fact, you should be able to build any project in TAP after 6 courses, which are 50¢ each (free if you can't afford it). 3 courses are available now: A-Basic Electricity, B-Alternating Current, and C-Basic Phones, with more coming soon. We urge you to send for them if you want a quick education in electricity. If you want to meet other phreaks in your area, and are willing to be met, write to Met, write to Met, write to Met, and name and mail you up with someone accurately as a list as possible, and notify both.

T-shirts will be coming soon, but we don't have them yet. They'll look like choice no. 1 in issue 22.

TAP, ROOM 504, 152 W. 42 ST., N.Y., N.Y. 10036