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TAP
Room 603
147 W. 42 St.
New York 10036

FEBRUARY 1982 No. 72

HOMEMADE FIREWORKS Pt. 1

By The Magician...

Of all of mankinds inventions throughout the ages, Fireworks must rate as one of the most spectacular and enjoyable. Unfortunately, due to a small percentage of people who mis-use fireworks (such as by throwing them at people, and using them for destruction) we all must suffer. In 1967 the federal government all but outlawed and class c firecrackers over 50 grains of powder. Thus no more M-80s, cherry bombs or block busters. On top of this, many states have outlawed the sale or procession of fireworks entirely !

For those that still have a love for fireworks, there are some options. The first is to buy them illegally. M-80s etc. are still readily available on the blackmarket. Another way is to have phriends going on vacations etc. buy them for you in states were they are still legal and bring them back. (You will not be able to get m-80s etc. this way). A third possibility is to build your own, and have phun doing it!

In a divergence from our normal electronic discussions, I will tell you in this, and a subsequent article exactly how to build some of your own homemade fireworks devices.

First lets discuss VERY important safety procedures. IF YOU DO NOT HEED ALL OF THESE SAFETY PROCEDURES, YOU HAVE A VERY GOOD CHANCE OF BLOWING YOUR HEAD OFF !! If you follow them, risk is minimal, and relatively safe. Neither TAP nor the Author can take any responsibility for any injuries or damage resulting from the following information.

RULES:

1. Wear eye goggles to prevent eye injuries.
2. Keep chemicals in a cool, dry SAFE place.
3. Never smoke or have any flames around your work area.
4. have a fire extiquisher and water close by.
5. When mixing chemicals, do so very gently. Do not grind together
6. Mix only very small quantities of chemicals at any one time.
7. Use only paper casings. NEVER put mixtures in any metal or glass containers (such as c02 cylinders)
8. If you have a dud, leave it until the next day and then bury it. do not try to reuse it.
9. Several books on fireworks now available from publishers recommend mixing chlorates (Such as Potassium Chlorate) with sulfur for explosive compound. This can be SUICIDE ! The chlorates can react spontaneously with sulfur and blew up for no apparent reason. At best the mixture is extremely unstable and will blow up with only a slight jar or change in temperature ! So, NEVER mix sulfur and chlorates.
10. Last but not least, USE COMMON SENSE !

Now down to the good stuff. We will first discuss making M-80s. You will need four basic components. A paper case, end plugs, safety fuse, and powder. The case can be purchased (recommended) from one of the distributors listed later, or can be made by taking a grocery bag, cutting about a 1.5 inch width strip about 12 inches long, coating it with elmers glue, then wrapping it up around a wood dowel and allowed to harden.

The end plugs are easily made by cutting an approx. 1/4 inch length of appropriate width wood dowel (same size used to role case) The safety fuse is best bought from a distributor 3/32 inch being the standard.

The powder is made as follows:

In a non-metal bowl, grind either potassium chlorate or potassium perchlorate until it is very fine with no lumps, then weigh the powder. Take some black aluminum dust and weight it getting a proportion (by weight) of approx. 7 parts potassium chlorate/ perchlorate to 3 parts aluminum dust.

After weighing, very carefully thoroughly mix the two chemicals together in a non-metal bowl being careful not to grind or crush them.

Drill a small hole in the top of your casing (not anywhere near the chemicals) and insert approx. 3 inches or more fuse so that the fuse hits the bottom of the casing. Put a little elmers glue around the hole to seal the fuse. Coat one of your endplugs with elmers and insert it into one end of your casing so that it is flush with the end. Pour powder into the casirg until it is about 1/2 full. Filling it only 1/2 gives the powder room to burn and will explode much louder than it would if totally filled.

Lastly, coat the other endplug with elmers and insert it, making it flush with the ends. Allow completed M-80s to dry thoroughly. After drying completely, they are ready to go. Never light and throw them, because there is a slight possibility the fuse will "flash through" or burn to rapidly and cause the M-80 to blow up in your hand. Always lay on the ground, light and run !

Block busters are made the same as M-80s, only with larger tubes. You may want to experiment with mixing in sawdust with the explosive powder as this can increase the loudness of the explosion. Also, mixing in about 1/3 (by weight) magnesium powder seems to add to the effect. Note: Commercial blackpowder powder burns to fast and does not work nearly as well as the above mixture in making M-80s blockbusters etc.

Cherry bombs are made the same as M-80s, but instead of paper tubes, you take two little half circle paper cones (available from distributors), put a hole in top, insert fuse and about 1/2 fill with powder. The halfs are glued together, the whole circle is then dipped in elmers and then rolled in sawdust. The assembly is then allowed to completely dry, forming a very hard outer shell. The shell can then be spray painted the traditional red, or black etc. if desired

The following are the suppliers of chemicals, casings, fuse etc. to make fireworks:

Westech Corp.
P.O. Box 593
Logan, UT 84321
(Catalog $2.00)

Pioneer Industries
14A Hughey St.
Nashua, NH 03061
(Catalog $1.00)

Pt. 2 of this article will discuss more advanced items such as whistle rockets, fountains etc. Have phun, but please be careful and use common sense ! Also remember the illegal nature of completed fireworks in many states.

Send any comments, questions, new formulas etc. to:

TAP C/O The Magician

1982 Credit Card Code

For 1982, the Check Digit is keyed to the LAST digit of the billed phone number. The 1982 Credit Card Code

IF LAST DIGIT IS :	CHECK DIGIT IS :
1	6
2	4
3	2
4	9
5	1
6	3
7	5
8	7
9	0
0	8

MA BELL IS A CHEAP MOTHER

TAP Credit Card Hints Fact Sheet #1 is still available. This How-To fact sheet costs 50¢. CHEAP!!!!!!!!!!!

Random Ramblings No. 1

COSMOS

BY: PAUL MONTGOMERY

It is said that by 1984 unless you have some knowledge of computers, you will be unemployable. By 1984 computers will have proliferated into various aspects of all jobs. Back in the early 70's, a Blue Box was a big cumbersome device with many seperate oscillators. Now, the state of the art involves digital synthesis of MF frequencies. Analog tone generation is passé. In this column and seperate articles I hope to familiarize you with various computers and their functions. TAP is here to help you delve ahead into expanding technological fields. This would be a good time to get your computer hacking friends to subscribe.

Before I explain the wonders of Ma Bell's COSMOS computer system, I'd like to make a few random comments (thus, the name of this column). POSSR BUSS UNINCORPORATED - Please get in touch with me via TAP.

MUSHROOM & SPOOL DRIVERS: Al Bundy, in #67, explained how to pick locks with mushroom and spool pins. His article was somewhat inaccurate. As a professional physical & computer security consultant, I can say that picking mushrooms and spools is almost impossible. To pick them, you must pick all the pins at once. To do this, you need a E-Z PICK gun, or the equivilent. These provide the best results. If the lock is a MEDECO brand high security cylinder, forget it entirely.

AN INTERSTING THING HAPPENED THE OTHER DAY DEPT.: A few weeks ago, I reluctantly operated on my $900 modem, and wrote a computer program to dial numbers sequentially and look for a computer carrier. I ran it in the middle of the night for two consecutive days. 2500 woken-up subscribers later, Ma Bell anonymously began cutting off my phone after I placed a few calls. Finally, after I raised a little hell and threatened to call the local Bell security office charging employee sabatage (HA! Isn't that Ronnie Ride??), they left my phone alone. I've been a bit hesitant to run the program since, though...

DID YOU KNOW DEPT.: The billing computer center for all of Pacific Telephone and Nevada Bell is in Here in California. I was talking to an employee up there, and learned several interesting things. Number one: there is a big thick book chained down to the console in the printer room that lists virtually ALL computer dial-ups into misc. Bell System data processing centers. If any B&T people should obtain one, I will purchase a copy from you...Number two: one billing run prints bills with FICTITIOUS phone numbers. If you are an important person, you can request your bill to be printed with a fictitious phone number. That way snoopy mailmen can't get your phone number. Lets all call our C.O.'s and request fictitious billing numbers...Thirdly: one of the runs they do is to print out a HUGE street address directory for all of northern California...Non-Published numbers and all. Wouldn't you like one of those? Lastly: the Bell credit card you get is only one of about five other forms that are printed at the same time your C.C. is printed. I wonder who gets all the other copies??

COSMOS: COSMOS is a computer system which is in use in many parts of the Bell System which handles main-frame operations. It contains everyone's phone number, Office equipment number, cable/pair number, class of service, etc. It is used to automate the frame in your local C.O. by printing a list at the beginning of each day, telling them what numbers to disconnect and connect. If you can access COSMOS for a particular area, you can connect/disconnect/change anyone's phone number, or just access the afore mentioned info. Cable/pair numbers are very handy to wire-tappers, or people who like to piggy-back modems to computer dial-ups. COSMOS is run on a UNIX system. Some typical accounts include: NEO2, MFO2, COSMOS, LAO2, etc. The more important accounts used for service order entry are: BIN, ROOT, COM, COM1, COM, etc. Some have no passwords, while others have 6 character passwords such as SWMDF, BSLAC, WETEST, RINGIT, etc (As you can see, the Last Board uses COSMOS).

Well, I'm out of space. My next column will explain the use of COSMOS for devious things, and include a Southern California dial-up to practice on. If you have questions or comments, please write me at TAP.

If you want to cut your phone bills, cut out this chart.

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INTERNATIONAL LAW: JURISDICTION

by Dr. Atomic

How far does the jurisdiction of the United States go? One would reasonably suppose that it covers all of the territory and out to sea for two hundred miles. There are, however, international situations where the question of jurisdiction is not clear cut.

For example, Mr. "A" sells 100 pounds of hashish to Mr. "B" (who is an American) at a bar in Kabul, Afghanistan. Later, Mr. "B" gets arrested in the U.S. with the hashish, and he implicates Mr. "A" as the supplier.

The question is, is Mr. "A" criminally liable for the sale of the hashish if the sale took place outside of U.S. territory, and in a country where hashish was legal? The answer, unfortunately, is Yes, he is liable. The jurisdiction of the U.S. extends further than one would reasonably expect because of its conspiracy laws:

From U.S.CA., Title 21 se 963: 11. Overt Act. It was not necessary to conviction for conspiracy to import narcotics that it be shown that defendant committed an overt act within the U.S., where other members of the conspiracy did so. U.S. v. Canta-La Lux, CA Cal. 1971, 443 F2d 413.

And from Rivard v. U.S., 5 Cir. 1967, 375 F2d 882:

7. Criminal Law (Key) 97(3). Man who outside of a country willfully puts in motion a force to take effect in it is answerable at place where evil is done; acts producing detrimental effect within it, justify state in punishing cause of harm as if he had been present at effect, if state should succeed in getting him within its power.

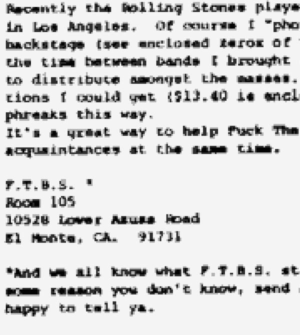
If the state wants to prosecute someone for an act done outside of its jurisdiction, and if that person is located outside of U.S. territory, the State often succeeds in getting them within its power by kidnap, especially if extradition is not possible. The U.S. kidnaps people from all parts of the world — both citizens and non-citizens alike. And there are many kidnappings, mostly for narcotics offenses. Government agents are known to pay off local police and body guards, whenever practical, to facilitate a smooth kidnapping. Also, Judges are not concerned how the defendants got brought before their benches, and they are not sympathetic to complaints of kidnap.

LETTERS

Dear TAP:
Recently the Rolling Stones played at the Collesium here in Los Angeles. Of course I "phone phreaked" my way backstage (see enclosed xerox of The Pass...), but to fill the time between bands I brought along 100 copies of TAP to distribute amongst the masses. Taking whatever donations I could get ($13.40 is enclosed) I met alot of other phreaks this way.
It's a great way to help Fuck The Bell System and make new acquaintances at the same time.

F.T.B.S. *
Room 105
10528 Lower Azusa Road
El Monte, CA. 91731

*And we all know what F.T.B.S. stands for, right? If, for some reason you don't know, send a S.A.S.E. and I'll be happy to tell ya.



JOHN J. WILLIAMS
P.O. Drawer 537, 2011 Crescent Dr., Alamogordo, NM 88310
505-434-0234

TOM EDISON
TAP

Dear Tom,

How are you? I hope fine.

I hope that you don't have to go out of business. You are an inspiration to me and many others like minded folks fed up with big-shots ripping us off left and right.

I have been sending your return envelopes and flyers to a number of CONSUMERTRONICS CO. customers who ask about the kind of topics you are into and I have recommended in several times (and will do so again) in our National newsletter, REBEL.

I felt left out that you did not carry an ad for us. Can you do me the small favor of letting me know about one month prior to publishing TAP that you are nearing a deadline and for us to get our ad in. At that time, I will gladly do so. However, I do not like to tie up ad money for three months or so and sometimes we forget about when your publication is ready to come out. We will place an ad with you 100% of the time if you only let me know about a month in advance.

You should also raise your subscription rate. I am far more interested in you guys surviving then being cheap until you go out of business. There is nothing shameful in making a little money. Also, try producing a book - let's say, on all the different colored phone boxes articles you have published over the years in some kind of cohesive form. That makes a lot better sense than selling T-Shirts and ink pens. I am sure that many countercultural medias would give you good publicity and coverage if you could do so. You might try to interest a rich liberal to help you with financing the book project.

Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,
John
President, CONSUMERTRONICS CO.

MA BELL IS A CHEAP MOTHER

Dear Tom;

I love you when you get tough! Your GODFATHER approach was original and well taken. Maybe TAP needs a commander instead of an editor-in-charge. Put me down for two pens and a renewal.

This is a stickdown

WAVERLY, Ohio — Sticky fingers were involved in a drug store robbery, but the victims had them, not the thieves.

Waverly police say two men entered the Waverly Drug Store just after closing time Monday and took an undetermined amount of money and drugs at gunpoint.

Before they fled, the men used epoxy to glue the hands of the store's employees to the floor to try to make certain they couldn't alert the authorities, officers said. But the employees pulled themselves loose and called police, said Capt. Mike Corwess.

No injuries or arrests were reported.

Dear Tap,

Well, I see you're starting to join the real world & exercise a small power play. Don't know about the rest of you're subscribers, but it worked with me! Heres 2 bucks for one of your "Machiavelli Anniversary Pens" and a "Ma Bell" patch. Remember,....threats always beat pleas!

Dear People of TAP,

A colleague of mine and I recently recieved all of the TAP (YIPL) back issues. They are very hard to put down (like a good book). Even though some of the material is almost a decade old, it is still very refreshing. Many of the past issues have some harsh language directed at subscribers to get them to contribute in some way. This tactic is justified. Consider the work, time, energy, and motivation it took (and still does) to produce such material. No matter what we are charged (within reason) we are getting a bargin. If it were'nt for Abby, Al, Tom, etc., we the consumers of this invaluable informational service, would just be sucking our thumbs. Organization is the key to power, and that is what TAP does. I am a computer programmer & engineer at a midwestern University. At present I am constructing a small computer that will do "everything". I still have some more reading to do to find out what "everything" is. It shall be called the "OMNI BOX". Considering what it will do it will be small. There is a lot of work and debugging that will have to be done. Be patient, I will have it by Christmass '81. And when I do, it will be yours.

Thanks for existing

Dear Readers,

This is an open letter to all of you, especially those who have been reading TAP for a few years. Recently it seems that TAP has been publishing an ever-increasing amount of information on drugs!! I'm sure that this is becuase you people are sending this shit in, and not phone info...now, I certainly don't object to anyone's right to get high and fly, but fuckin' A, are we losing sight of what TAP was originally intended to be?

I feel this way: There are enough fucking newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals that publish shit on drugs! Why waste valuable TAP space on shit that can be found all over the place? TAP, as far as I know (correct me, please, if I am wrong...) that publishes PHONE INFO on a regular(?) basis! So if you want to read about drugs, buy a drug rag. If you want to write about drugs, send it to your mother. And if you DON'T want to read about drugs, send in a goddamn phone-related article to TAP! And remember,

F T B S !!!!!

At every opportunity...in every conceivable way...
...for every possible reason...

Frank T.B. Schuster

Classified

The TAP Classified Ad Sheet is published as a service to our readers. All ads MUST be typed and camera ready. Ads will appear in the next ad sheet unless they arrive after printing deadline in which case they will appear in the following ad sheet. The cost per ad per issue is $4. If you wish to preserve your anonymity, TAP Box numbers are available at the cost of $5 per ad per issue. This extra cost is for the postage to mail you the replies to your ad. Full page ads cost $12 and half-page ads cost $6. Payment must accompany all ads. Send cash and get a 10 % discount on all ads. Address all ad requests to : TAP, Room 603, 147 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036.

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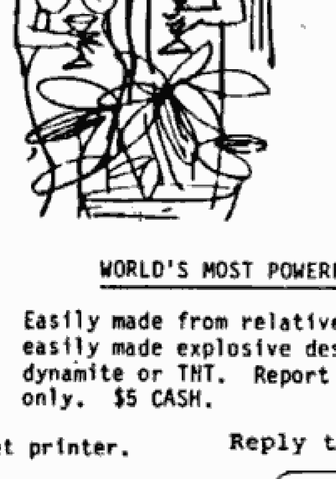

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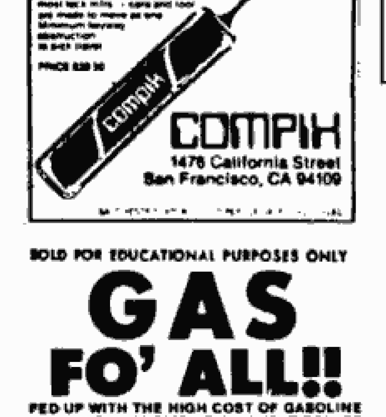

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