

THE CREDIT CARD CODE - 1983  
by Chesire Catalyst

The 1983 credit card code has not, as of this writing, been cracked. What this article is about is the status of research into cracking the code, and what you, our readers can do to help.

First off, the thing is now called a "Calling Card". This is due, I believe, to a couple of factors. First off, calling something a "credit card" carries with it a number of legal obligations that may have been sticking points with some regulatory commissions when customer complaints came in of someone using their credit card number. It may just be a marketing ploy, since regulations regarding them have changed, in that if you place a Calling Card call from a pay phone, it is cheaper than a regular Operator Service call. The reason for this, of course, is that the phone company is putting in computers to accept Calling Card numbers (some of them, without needing an operator. Ergo, no operators, the operator assisted charges are a fraud. I'd love to have been there when they first got called on that.

The first thing one notices about the new Calling Card, is the fact that there are two numbers on it. There is your Calling Card number, and your International Number. The International Number is the same old format that we are all familiar with, and I regret that we've spent so much time on the domestic number, that we haven't gotten around to getting the international code broken. Sorry about that.

The Calling Card is laid out as follows:

NPR NXX 1234 5678

where NPR is the area code, NXX 1234 is the phone number, and 5678 is the "check sum". It was first thought that perhaps the code used the "same old format", but used one for each digit, but we now think that there may be some kind of equation that drops the 1234 down to the 5678 locations. Some of these cards have the old RRD's in place of the NPR. These are usually company billing numbers. The reason the RRD's are being phased out seems to be because the intermixing of Telco revenues and disbursements via the RRD process is changing under the new de-regulations of the telephone companies.

The word we got a few years ago stated that Bell would put every telephone credit card on a big computer somewhere, and every credit card call would be checked against the data base. We laughed off that as being too big a job for even Telco to pull off. Then we heard about CCIS, the Common Channel Interoffice Signaling system that would have computer communications links between all telephone toll centers, and all calls would be connected by having the computers tell each other where to switch the calls to. Now that ccis is installed almost everywhere, it actually is possible to reprogram the TSPS operator position so that as the operator punches in the Calling Card number, it flashes down to the Dallas database, and the database sends back an "ack" or "nack" (acknowledge) signal telling the operator whether it feels the card number was a valid one.

If this is the case, then the last four digits can be a completely random assignment by the telco computers. We rack our brains trying to figure out the coded numbers, and forget to break the International Number code. Brilliant, these telco types.

Anyone who wants to make fools of the TAP staff, can easily do so. In this case, it will be easier still by showing where we've made terrible mistakes, and mentioning in your letter how we've really messed up, and how simple the whole thing really is. Another thing you could do, is to send us any Calling Card numbers you may collect to add to our statistical base so that we can try to determine whether or not there really is some method to the Telco madness.

By the way, one of the reasons laid out in the brochure about the new method of punching your Calling Card number into a coinless pay phone is that your number won't be overheard in crowded train stations and airports when you tell it to an operator. Now who would be that unscrupulous?

Just Passing Through...  
by The Stainless Steel Rat

Shoplifting: Let's say (for purely theoretical reasons) that you are in your local radio rip-off store and you see a nice set of chips that go for 10 dollars each and you only have a dollar. The chips are behind the counter so you can't take them, now what?

Just take something that is worth 20 dollars and easily stolen. The next day walk on in and say that Uncle Jim got you said product for your birthday and that you wish to exchange it.

Just take something that is worth 20 dollars and easily stolen. The next day walk on in and say that Uncle Jim got you said product for your birthday and that you wish to exchange it.

Free records: I'm sure most of you have heard of the old trick of sending in applications to RCA and Columbia House addressed to a mail drop and after receiving the record closing the drop. If you don't have a drop or can't get one you are still eligible for the records. Send the club several applications under different names and only fill in one or two of the slots for record selection. When the records come you will also get a bunch of certificates for the empty selection boxes. Remove the certificates and send the records back stating that the club sucks etc. Get a sub under your name and don't fill in one or two of the boxes. When the records come use the certificates that you have accumulated to fulfill the subscription.

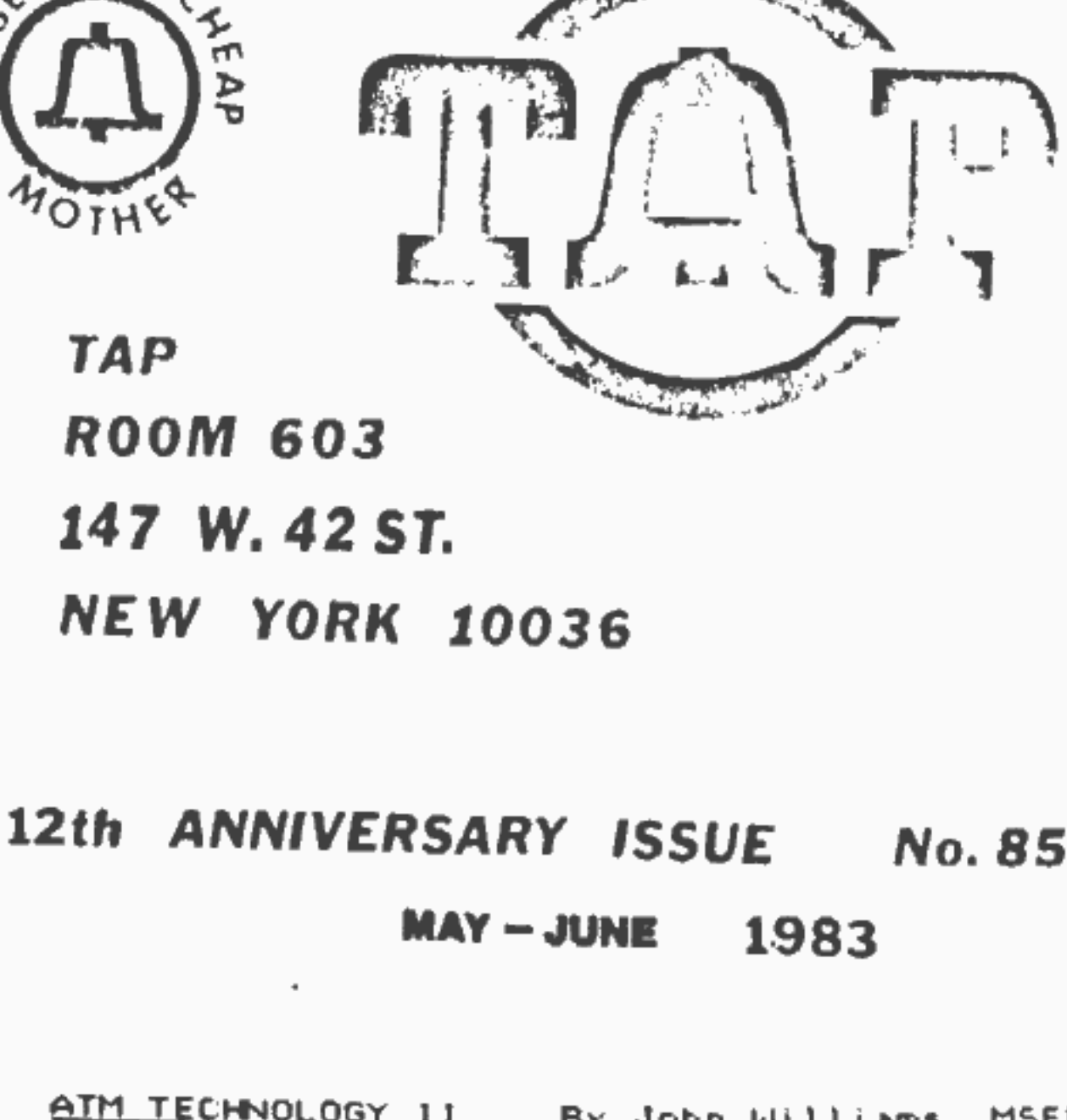
Opening P.O. Boxes: First of all, laying out with mailboxes (wether it's blowing them up or stealing the mail) is a federal rap so be CAREFUL. The old type of PO boxes (the type that have two wheels marked A to Z) are very simple to open. To find out the combination place your finger on the opening button and give it a hard jerk. As you do this watch the right hand wheel very closely. You will notice that it moves slightly. Turn the wheel to the next position and try again. At one point you will notice that the wheel stays absolutely still. This is the opening letter for this wheel.

Red Boxing: In issue #36 with Al Bell's red box I had some trouble getting the 1700 Hz oscillator to go low enough without distorting and losing volume. By adding a .001 uF cap in parallel with one of the .005 uF caps the problem cleared up.

While ago while I was in red box on ACTS and the op came on instantly and asked what the problem was. I said that I had deposited 15\$. She returned the nickle and told me to start putting in money. So I put in the old nickle and "beeped" a dime. Before one could say Holy Shit the op started to get mad and asked what I was trying to pull, to which I replied "Your leg".

Interestingly, when I deposited my nickle there was no beep. The earpiece shorted as soon as the coin hit the mechanism. There are three possibilities as to what had happened. 1) The sound is transmitted over a different set of wires, like out of band signaling. 2) Some phones use a different set of frequencies and/or timing and the earpiece is shorted during it out and making another red box.

Credit Cards: A friend of mine gave me the CC number from a large corporation in Texas and after a bit of playing decided to check it against the RAO code and check digit and in TAP. The RAO did not exist, and the area code was listed under southern IL. Only the check digit was OK. The phone number of the



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ATM TECHNOLOGY II  
By John Williams, MSEE

Thank you for your informative article, ATM TECHNOLOGY, Issue #82 by Jolly Rogers. Among the many controversial survival publications, we sell AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINES Part 2, 2nd Edition. ATM describes, in vivid detail, vulnerabilities of ATMs and credit cards. Jolly Rogers discussed a number of effective methods covered in greater detail in "ATM". Among some methods not described by him is the easiest and most effective one of all. Stay tuned!

"ATM" is so hot that our 1st. Edition was criticized in a 7-page article solely devoted to "ATM Report", Feb. 11, 1982. It states, "...could cost our industry millions --- or even tens or hundreds of millions of dollars if it gets wide distribution among those criminally inclined." "ATM Report", INC., 1 World Center, Suite 1925, New York 10046, and apparently services about 250,000 executives in the banking/ATM world.

The banking/ATM industries are so alarmed by "ATM" that "ATM Report" among its various outrageous remarks, threatened harassment-type lawsuits on Page 4 of it states, "...Williams should be attacked with multiple lawsuits in every possible way."

ATMs are literally gold mines that can be mined by virtually anyone - no experience or skill required! We have received reports from all over the country stating that ATM frauds have doubled to quadrupled since 1982 from 1981. Citibank of New York recently (reluctantly) reimbursed customers for fraud alone in just a few weeks time! Because of collusion with the traditional news media, less than 1% of ATM crimes are ever reported - and arrest and conviction rates are virtually non-existent! Even the TV documentary, "ATM's: The Biggest Mistake Made by the Banking Industry since they caused the Great Depression" frankly, I mean the banking industry since they caused the Great Depression! Frankly, most Americans have been cheated out of a decent standard of living by these voracious money speculators.

Now - here it is! Some less sympathetic with the hapless plight of money-speculating bankers, have found it to be profitable to use a good disguise, or to "lend" their debit card to a good buddy and then fix themselves up with an alibi. Some ATMs are monitored by video camera tests or cameras. Care is taken accordingly. When they receive their bank statement, they immediately yell that their card was stolen or counterfeited and demand, under Regulation E, immediate refund of the missing monies.

Simply by invoking "Reg. E" the bank must immediately be prepared to do one of two things: 1. Prove that one defrauded his account, or 2. Return 100% of all monies missing from his account. ATM crimes are hard to prove. Banks cannot legally force patrons to take lie detector tests or fingerprints, or detain patrons (other than easily provable bank robbery) against their wills without incurring incredible civil - even criminal - liabilities. Another method is gaining access to avoid bad publicity.

A thin piece of sliced American cheese is fed into the ATM card slot resulting in expensive repairs. The little device simply wait until the repair crew shows up and opens up the ATM; they then spring into action.

We are preparing a lawsuit against ATM REPORT, INC., at least one president of a major ATM manufacturing firm, and a shit-pot full of other big-shot bank/ATM executives. We need to sue for at least \$50 Million. We need legal and investigative help. We need a good lawyer who can assist (or testify) - one who is prepared to be the next F. Lee Bailey or Gerald Spence - one who will bust his buns for 33% of a large fortune!

We can't pay anyone anything now but we will pay 10% of the final award for each case in excess of \$100,000.00. We are seeking a contingency-fee attorney who will be willing to take on all the legal and investigative and analytical work involved in this case. We are seeking a lawyer who is willing to take on all the legal and investigative and analytical work involved in this case. We are seeking a lawyer who is willing to take on all the legal and investigative and analytical work involved in this case.

According to attorney Robert D. Kizer, who founded the National Association of Public Defenders, a Texas-based chain of law offices that represent only traffic violators, getting an attorney shows the prosecutor that you are serious about your case. To find an attorney who handles traffic tickets with some frequency and who will quote some low fees, call (800) 555-1212.

HOW TO FIGHT A TRAFFIC TICKET AND WIN

It is possible to fight an unjust traffic ticket - even a radar-backed speeding ticket - and win. A lawyer could be yes, if you combine your sense of justice with a little time and money.

According to Charles Butler, a driver-education consultant at the American Automobile Association (A.A.A.), the number of criteria to consider before you make the decision to fight:

"No. I consider whether the ticket is unjust or not," says Butler. It's important to remember here that police officers can make mistakes.

Radar use has come under increased attack in the past few years, as studies indicate that the units are operated under the wrong conditions or by an inexperienced policeman, their accuracy can be thrown off.

Ordering a copy of the original TAP flyer that Al Bell and Abbie Hoffman passed out at the 1971 Washington D.C. anti-war rally. Rather than throw them out, I will give them away FREE to anyone who request them and sends a stamped self-addressed envelope with \$3.37 postage.

OLD CONVENTION FREEBIES  
In cleaning out the TAP office I recently came across a pile of handouts from the 1973, 1979, and 1980 conventions as well as copies of the original TAP flyer that Al Bell and Abbie Hoffman passed out at the 1971 Washington D.C. anti-war rally. Rather than throw them out, I will give them away FREE to anyone who request them and sends a stamped self-addressed envelope with \$3.37 postage.

WON'T GET FOOLED AGAIN  
I tip my hat to the new revolution. Take a bow for the new constitution. Smile an' grin at the change all around. Pick up my guitar and play. Just like yesterday. And I'll get on my knees and pray. We don't get fooled again."

On TAP  
by TOM A. EDISON  
This issue marks the 12th anniversary of TAP and the 5th anniversary of my association with TAP. They have been 9 years hard but rewarding. I hope to have many more years in association with TAP.

OUT OF STOCK ITEMS  
TAP has sold out of mugs, T-shirts, patches, and tapes. Please do NOT order them anymore.

DELIVERY TIME  
Orders accompanied by cash, money orders, or certified checks will be shipped immediately. Orders accompanied by personal check will be shipped in 4-6 weeks or until your check clears your bank.

FLY NOW, PAY LATER  
Cohn, 30 of Miami, often took advantage of an airline practice called deadheading, in which pilots fly to their assigned flight in other cities. For almost a year, dressed in a Pan Am uniform, using various ID numbers and traveling under the name B. Cohen, he picked up letters of commendation from flight attendants and supervisors. But two months ago a Pan Am security official, noticing that the airline's computer system had kicked out the name B. Cohen on a Miami London flight as an unidentified person, launched an investigation. On Dec. 23, the free ride ended for Cohen when Dade County police arrested him in a Miami Pan Am office.

Cohn was charged with one count of grand theft, which carries a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison. He infamously told the crew and even received letters of commendation from flight attendants and supervisors. But two months ago a Pan Am security official, noticing that the airline's computer system had kicked out the name B. Cohen on a Miami London flight as an unidentified person, launched an investigation. On Dec. 23, the free ride ended for Cohen when Dade County police arrested him in a Miami Pan Am office.

Local phone call fee plan draws fire  
WASHINGTON - Despite the resistance of consumer groups and state regulators, telephone companies across the country are trying to apply their long distance pricing procedures to local phone service.

Local calls would be "measured" in other words, billed - on the basis of time-of-day, date, length of a call and distance - just like long distance. The industry lobbies such as the Local Measured Service of the National Public Relations Council have been lobbying for this.

The Florida Public Service Commission recently rejected a bid by Southern Bell to offer LMS as an option. Part of the problem, says Commissioner Susan W. Lawson, "was it just not to start pricing long distance consumers. There's really no way to keep track of your calls or verify charges."

Every time anyone phones information in San Francisco the first thing they hear is "a recording that goes something like 'you really can help keep phone costs down just by looking up numbers that are in the phone book whenever possible. Thanks for helping. Please stay on the line and give the operator the name and your zip. A live person will come on and get the requested information.'"

A Man Called Boris  
Boris is a Bulgarian exile living in Italy. He is doing his part to bring down the Soviet economy. He is a Bulgarian exile living in Italy. He is doing his part to bring down the Soviet economy. He is a Bulgarian exile living in Italy. He is doing his part to bring down the Soviet economy.