



# ***Exploding The Phone***

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**Title**            **A Capt. Crunch Arrest**

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**Abstract**        John Thomas Draper arrested, suspected of being notorious phone phreak Captain Crunch.

**Keywords**      Captain Crunch; phone phreaks; Los Gatos, CA; FBI; John Thomas Draper; San Jose City College; California Microwave, Sunnyvale, CA; tandem; 2600; whistle

**Source**         Author Research

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Phone Phreak Suspect

# A Capt. Crunch Arrest

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P. 4  
SF Chron



JOHN THOMAS DRAPER  
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A man believed to be  
Captain Crunch, the bane  
of telephone companies  
and the hero of "phone  
phreaks" across the coun-  
try, was arrested near his  
home in Los Gatos yester-  
day by the FBI.

(or 29 — he differs with the  
FBI on the age), was ar-  
raigned on charges of fraud-  
ulently using the telephone  
company's long distance  
network before U.S. magis-  
trate Norden F. Blacker in  
San Jose and later released  
on his own recognizance.

Whether or not Draper,  
who is a student at San Jose  
City College and a part-time  
employee of California Mi-  
crowave, a Sunnyvale elec-  
tronics firm, is the notorious  
Captain Crunch, the FBI  
claims he made free long-  
distance calls on March 27

and 30 and May 1.  
He is scheduled to appear  
for a preliminary hearing on  
the charges in U.S. District  
Court here at 10 a.m. on  
May 25.

CALLS

Captain Crunch has be-  
come a hero of phone  
phreaks (who specialize in  
making long distance calls  
without having to pay for  
them by circumventing  
checking devices) through  
his talent for performing as-  
tounding feats with tele-  
phone circuits.

For a while, he drove  
around the country in a  
Volswagen bus packed with  
complex electronic and com-  
puter equipment.

The Captain would stop at  
a phone booth on isolated  
roads, plug a cable from his  
van into the phone lines, and  
take off via the phone cir-  
cuits to New York, London,  
Paris, Moscow, or around  
the world.

ECHO

He has called himself on  
an around-the world circuit  
just to listen to, the peculiar  
echo and the 20-second delay  
from the time he spoke and  
the time his voice returned  
— via Tokyo, South Africa,  
London, New York and num-  
erous other far-flung cor-  
ners of the globe.

Once, he called himself  
around the world eastward  
and westward at the same  
time — one way via cable,  
one way via satellite — so  
he could have both phreak-  
ing at the same time, put  
the receivers together, and  
send his voice back around  
the world twice again. It  
was all free, of course.

He has claimed that he  
has no desire to destroy the  
telephone company (in an  
interview that was part of a  
story on phone phreaks in  
Esquire magazine last  
year), although he claims  
three well-equipped phreaks  
could "busy-out" the entire  
telephone system of the  
United States.

"If I do anything, it's just  
for the pure knowledge  
of the (computerized tele-  
phone) system," he was  
quoted as saying.

The key to the technique is  
the use of "tandems," the  
long distance phone circuits  
that connect the cities of the  
world.

When not in use, a  
tandem sends out a 2600-  
cycle-per-second signal from  
both ends — one alerting the  
home phones it serves that it  
is free, the other signal  
alerting the rest of the sys-  
tem that it is available.



## Book Cleaners

Some of more than 60 volun-  
teers were cleaning books dam-  
aged in the March 31 arson fire  
at Ortega Branch Public Library  
yesterday. With about half of  
the 16,500 smoke-soiled books  
cleaned and ready for reuse,  
George Liu (center) of the

library's Technical Services Divi-  
sion instructed the volunteers on  
the best methods for getting rid  
of the grime — soap and water  
for covers, erasers for the pages.  
The city has estimated that it will  
cost at least \$80,000 to restore  
the burned-out library.

## Mine Toll Grows to 32

Kellogg, Idaho

Rescuers reached the  
smoke clogged No. 10  
shaft of the Sunshine mine  
yesterday and found eight  
more bodies, bringing to  
32 the death toll in the  
worst catastrophe in  
Western silver mining.

They pressed on toward 30  
other miners trapped a mile  
down the shaft.

Officials said the rescue crews,  
using breathing masks and  
tanks of oxygen, had  
reached the hoist room of  
the No. 10 shaft and pre-  
pared to descend to the  
5000-foot level as soon as it  
was pumped out and the  
hoist cleaned of soot and  
debris.

The rest of the trapped  
miners were believed at that  
level, where officials hoped

they had been able to sur-  
vive in fresh-air pockets or  
by tapping the air pipes  
which line the Sunshine's  
106-miles of chambers and  
passageways.

The fire broke out at  
mid-day Tuesday in old tim-  
bers in the 88-year-old mine  
at the 3000 to 4000-foot level.  
A total of 108 miners got  
out of the mine.

By The Press

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Save 40% t