



Exploding The Phone

db152

www.explodingthephone.com

Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title **Bay 'Phonephreak' Gets Off the Hook**

Publication *San Francisco Chronicle*

Date 1974-08-28

Abstract Elton (Al) Hall pleads guilty to defrauding the phone company with a blue box and gets two years probation.

Keywords Elton Hall (guilty); Al Hall (guilty); phone phreaks; blue box; Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company (PTT); Call Alert (Elton Hall's business)

Source An anonymous phone phreak

The following pages may contain copyrighted material. We believe that our use of this material for non-commercial educational and research purposes constitutes "fair use" under Section 107 of U.S. Copyright Law. If you wish to use this material for purposes that go beyond "fair use," you must obtain permission from the copyright owner, if any. While it will make us slightly sad to do so, we will nonetheless comply with requests from copyright owners who want their material removed from our web site.

Bay 'Phonephreak' Gets Off the Hook

Elton (Al) Hall, one of those "phonephreaks" who give Ma Bell nightmares, was put on probation for two years yesterday.

The light sentence was imposed by Municipal Court Judge Agnes O'Brien Smith after Hall pleaded guilty to possession of an illegal electronic device called a "blue box."

"A very pleasant outcome," said Hall, 32, who's legally blind. "She didn't even fine me."

Hall admitted using the "blue box" to make hundreds, perhaps thousands, of free phone calls around the world.

He was arrested July 30

after a month-long investigation by the Pacific Telephone Co.

"A helluva hobby," said Hall, who operates a business, Call Alert, out of his Market street flat. "I never made any money out of it."

Hundreds of dollars worth of electronic equipment was confiscated, said Hall, whose dream it is to be a telephone company trouble-shooter.

Lafayette Club

The Lafayette Club will have a Candidates' Night at 8 p.m. tomorrow at N.D.V. Hall, 566 Bush street.

(AUG. 28, 1974) S.F. CHRONICLE