



Exploding The Phone

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Bibliographic Cover Sheet

- Title** **Phone Suit For Story on Beating Bills**
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- Abstract** AP newswire story from Los Angeles in which Pacific Telephone files suit against Amateur Radio 73 magazine for publishing blue box plans. The suit seeks to prevent further publication, \$100,000 in punitive damages and an unspecified amount for lost revenue.
- Keywords** Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. (PT&T); Amateur Radio 73 (AR73); Spenser Whipple, Jr. (author, AR73, defendant); Wayne Green (editor/publisher AR73, defendant); Virginia Londner Green (business manager AR73, defendant); 73 Inc. (publisher, AR73, defendant)

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Phone Suit For Story on Beating Bills

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A magazine that told its readers how to make free long-distance telephone calls is being sued for more than \$100,000 by Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.

The article in Amateur Radio 73 magazine described how to build a "blue box," which bypasses the telephone company billing system.

Defendants in the action filed yesterday in Superior Court were Spenser Whipple Jr., who wrote the article; editor-publisher Wayne Green; business manager Virginia Londner Green; and 73 Inc, the New Hampshire firm that publishes the magazine.

The telephone company asked the judge to prevent the defendants from spreading the instructions any further. The suit also seeks \$100,000 punitive damages and an unspecified amount in long distance toll charges the company estimates it will lose because of the article.

A blue box, equipped with a set of buttons resembling a dialing keyboard, beeps tones into the telephone mouthpiece. The tones trigger switching equipment to place long-distance calls without leaving any trace.

Such devices could be built by readers of the article who are "rather sophisticated" and have "more than an ordinary degree of knowledge and interest in electronics and electronic gadgetry," the suit contends.