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Title **Inventor of 'Blue'Box' Accused of Phone Fraud**

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Abstract MIT graduate Raymond C. Straub, 27, arrested on charges of defrauding the phone company. Massachusetts State Police seized 200 blue boxes at Straub's Cambridge apartment.

Keywords Raymond C. Straub; blue box; MIT; Cambridge, MA

Source Alan Rubinstein

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Inventor of 'Blue-Box' Accused of Phone Fraud

BOSTON, Dec. 20 (UPI)—An inventive 27-year-old graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who manufactured more than 200 electronic devices known as "blue-boxes" that allow free worldwide telephone calls has been accused of defrauding the telephone company, the police said today.

The devices generate audio tones that permit direct telephoning, bypassing the telephone billing apparatus.

The police charged Raymond C. Straub with 200 counts of possession of illegal devices to defraud the telephone company. The maximum sentence could be a \$2,000 fine for each count or one year in jail for each count.

According to Massachusetts State Police, 200 "blue-boxes" were seized at the man's apartment in Cambridge, Mass., along with diagrams and electronic components.

The police said that Mr. Straub was planning to sell the devices for \$300 apiece.

Device for Free Phone Calls Seized

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (AP)—The Federal Bureau of Investigation raided two apartments here today, confiscating an electronic gadget that could allow free telephone calls to be made to any part of the world. No arrests were made. Information was to be presented to a Federal grand jury. Agents said that the device was used to make more than 40 calls to Athens, Greece, since September.

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