



# ***Exploding The Phone***

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Title           **Sorry, Wrong Voiceprint**

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Abstract       Ike Turner and two other defendants found not guilty on charges related to blue box use. Dennis Rubenstein convicted, fined and placed on probation.

Keywords      Ike Turner; Hollywood, CA; blue box; Ingleside, CA; Dennis Rubenstein (convicted)

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## Sorry, Wrong Voiceprint

When police raided a Hollywood recording studio last March they found "blue boxes" on the telephones and rock musician **Ike Turner** behind a desk. Turner and three others were charged with cheating the phone company on long distance calls by using the boxes — devices which permit calls to be dialed anywhere in the country without being recorded by the phone company's automatic billing equipment.

The prime evidence: Voiceprints recorded when the phone lines were tapped during the investigation preceding the raid. The verdict: For Turner, not guilty. An Ingleside, Calif., judge ruled this week that Turner's voice was not among those on voiceprints, nor were the voices of two other accused persons.

Left holding the bag and the bill: **Dennis Rubenstein**, whose voice matched one of those on the voiceprints. Rubenstein was convicted, placed on a year's probation, fined \$625 and ordered to pay \$3,000 in restitution to the Pacific Telephone Co.

*Detroit News 8-7-74 5A*

# Stop the World

## Celebrevities

Rock musician **Ike Turner** was cleared yesterday in Inglewood, Calif., of a charge of possessing a device used to avoid paying for telephone calls. The misdemeanor charges against Turner and two others were dismissed on grounds that their voices did not show up on voice prints taken during the investigation. A fourth defendant was convicted. Turner, husband of singer **Tina Turner**, and three others were arrested at a recording studio March 26 for allegedly using studio telephones equipped with "blue boxes" which bypass the phone company's automatic billing equipment.

## Notes on People

A court in Inglewood, Calif., has cleared **Ike Turner**, the rock musician, of charges that he used a "blue box" device to cheat the telephone company of toll call revenues. Mr. Turner, who performs with his wife, **Tina Turner**, was arrested last March 26, with three others, at a recording studio and accused of using the multifrequency device, which permits telephone calls to be made to any dialing point and not be recorded by the phone com-

pany's automatic billing equipment. A judge dismissed the charges against Mr. Turner and two other defendants because their voices were not on voice prints taken during the investigation. The voice of Dennis

Rubenstein, the fourth defendant, did show on the print, and he was sentenced to one year's probation, fined \$625, and ordered to reimburse the telephone company \$3,000.

*New York Times*  
*8-8-74 39*