



Exploding The Phone

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Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title	Newsire story regarding phone phreaks
Date	1971-09-28
Author(s)	AP
Abstract	UPI newswire story re Philadelphia, PA arrests. Kenneth Spacil, Robert Helms, Francis Mitchell, and Mrs. Helen Williams arrested for blue box fraud in PA.
Keywords	Kenneth Spacil (arrested); Robert Helms (arrested); Francis Mitchell (long lines employee, arrested); Helen Williams (Mrs., toll operator, arrested)

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Phone Phreaks

PHILADELPHIA AP - The
Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylv-
vania today announced the ar-
rest of four self-styled "phone-
phreaks", including two tele-
phone company employees.

The four were arrested Mon-
day night and Bell security of-
ficials said they are looking for
another suspect in Pennsylvania
and two persons in Memphis,
Tenn.

The four were accused of
making thousands of free tele-
phone calls throughout the
world, using an electronic de-
vice called a bluebox which cir-
cumvents long-distance opera-
tors and automatic billing
equipment.

William S. Cashel, Bell presi-
dent, said the arrests were part
of a nationwide crackdown on
the underground group who call
themselves "phone-phreaks."

Those arrested were: Kenneth
M. Spacil, 19, of Glenmore R.D.
2; Francis E. Mitchell, 25 or
26, of Devon; Robert Helms,
18, of Downingtown; and Mrs.
Helen Williams, about 40, of
West Chester.

Mitchell has been employed
by the longlines department of
American Telephone and Tele-
graph Co. at Wayne for seven
years. Mrs. Williams is a Bell
toll traffic operator at West
Chester.
