



Exploding The Phone

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Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title	Press Release Regarding a Court Case Involving Bernard Cornfeld
Date	1976-03-15
Author(s)	Mollura, Dennis
Abstract	AT&T press release stating that Bernard Cornfeld named a defendant in a civil lawsuit filed in Manta Monica by Pacific Telephone. PT&T seeking over \$1 million for blue box use.
Keywords	Bernard Cornfeld; blue box; Pacific Telephone

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TO ALL NEWSPERSONS:

AT 1195

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
195 BROADWAY, ROOM 504
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007

MARCH 15, 1976

THE FOLLOWING STORY WAS RELEASED IN LOS ANGELES TODAY TO
CALIFORNIA NEWS MEDIA AND THE NEWS WIRE SERVICES.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 15, 1976

FINANCIER BERNARD CORNFELD HAS BEEN NAMED AS A DEFENDANT IN A CIVIL LAWSUIT FILED IN SANTA MONICA SUPERIOR COURT BY PACIFIC TELEPHONE. THE COMPANY IS SEEKING OVER \$1 MILLION IN ACTUAL AND PUNITIVE DAMAGES FOR ALLEGED FRAUDULENT "BLUE BOX" USE.

A BLUE BOX IS AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE USED WITH A TELEPHONE TO AVOID INCURRING CHARGES FOR LONG DISTANCE CALLS.

ALSO NAMED A DEFENDANT IN THE SUIT IS GAYHALL, INC. OF WHICH CORNFELD IS PRESIDENT AND WHICH IS LOCATED AT HIS HOME IN BEVERLY HILLS.

TWO BLUE BOXES WERE SEIZED AT CORNFELD'S MANSION BY THE FBI ON JAN. 28, 1975. FOLLOWING THE SEIZURE, CORNFELD WAS INDICATED BY A FEDERAL COURT ON CRIMINAL CHARGES. HE WAS RELEASED ON \$10,000 BAIL AND ORDERED TO RETURN TO ENTER A PLEA ON THESE CHARGES TODAY.

Possessing or using a blue box is a crime in California; using a blue box is a federal crime when it's used in interstate or foreign commerce.

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