



# ***Exploding The Phone***

db703

[www.explodingthephone.com](http://www.explodingthephone.com)

Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title	<b>Secrets of Life and Death</b>
Date	1975-00-00
Author(s)	Frankenstein, V.
Abstract	Blue box operating manual.
Keywords	Blue Box Manual
Notes	Exquisitely written and professionally formatted. Date estimated, arbitrarily.
Source	Anonymous

*The following pages may contain copyrighted material. We believe that our use of this material for non-commercial educational and research purposes constitutes "fair use" under Section 107 of U.S. Copyright Law. If you wish to use this material for purposes that go beyond "fair use," you must obtain permission from the copyright owner, if any. While it will make us slightly sad to do so, we will nonetheless comply with requests from copyright owners who want their material removed from our web site.*

SECRETS OF LIFE & DEATH

by V. Frankenstein

INTRODUCTION & THEORY OF OPERATION

BASIC PRECAUTIONS

DIRECT DISTANCE DIALING

INTERNATIONAL DIRECT DISTANCE DIALING

CHANGING BATTERIES

THIS SHOULD NEVER HAPPEN TO YOU, BUT.....

INTERNATIONAL DIALING GUIDE

## INTRODUCTION & THEORY OF OPERATION

Congratulations! You are now the proud owner of a "Blue Box." With reasonable care, it should enable you to dial many hours of toll-free phone calls to any point in the world, for any purpose -- with no record made of the number called or the number you are dialing from! These latter points should prove of definite worth to those users who are already doing something illegal.

This manual has been provided to more fully acquaint you with the operating characteristics of the device, and to effectively insure freedom from detection.

The secret of the Blue Box's operation is:

"THE NUMBER YOU DIAL ON YOUR TELEPHONE  
IS THE NUMBER RECORDED BY THE PHONE COMPANY."

If you dial, for instance, a toll-free number (such as an "800" prefix number), and then use the Blue Box to reroute the call to Paris France (or wherever), the telephone company recording machinery will register the call as if you had talked to the "800" number for the duration of the call to Paris (or wherever). Therefore, since there is no record of the call to Paris, you will receive no bill for the call.

Since the operation of the Blue Box depends on the automatic long distance signaling system universally employed by U. S. and Canadian phone companies, it follows that to use the device, you must be on a long distance circuit of some kind. These long distance circuits are known as "Long Distance Tandems."

The tone signaling system used on these Long Distance Tandems is simulated by your Blue Box. These are NOT the same tones produced by a touch-tone phone.

There are certain very ancient (and also, some very advanced) phone exchanges, less than one percent of all exchanges in use, from which the Blue Box will not work. Repeated attempts to use the device in these forbidden areas will result in extreme frustration.

Before using your Box on the phone lines, practice a bit on the keyboard until you become proficient in dialing numbers. Press each button for about a quarter of a second or so with the fleshy part of your fingertip. Do not use a pencil, fingernail, or other sharp object on the keyboard, as you may damage it.

The numbers on the keyboard correspond to the numbers on your telephone. The two extra buttons, \* and #, are control commands. The button located on the end of the box, next to the earphone jack, is the "Clear" button. Use of these three special buttons is explained later in this manual.

After you are able to dial a number, including area code, in less than ten seconds, you are ready.

PLEASE READ THE NEXT SECTION CAREFULLY before you make your first call.

#### BASIC PRECAUTIONS

Using a Blue Box is something like using birth control devices -- there is no method that is absolutely foolproof. There are, however, certain precautions and procedures that will ensure maximum safety.

1. Do not tell anyone about your Blue Box that you don't trust implicitly. More users have been caught by their big mouths than anything else. Needless to say, do not brag about the device on the phone lines. (Besides, the people you call will think a lot more of you if they think that you are paying for all the long distance calls you have been making to them.)
2. DO NOT under ANY circumstances use a long distance information number (555-1212) to obtain a Long Distance Tandem.
3. Remember, the only record made of a call is the number you originally dial on your phone. Any time the phone company starts seeing records of overly long (over ten minutes) or unusually frequent use of "800" numbers, they will investigate further. You can talk for hours on a pay phone and they will have no recourse.

One five-hour call from a home phone is CERTAIN DEATH!

4. Grossly excessive use from any particular phone, including a particular pay phone, is sheer folly.
5. Listed in decreasing order of safety are the following places to use the Box from:
  - (1) A pay phone with direct distance dialing capability. (You even get your dime back!) These are now standard equipment in most large cities.
  - (2) A direct dial hotel or motel phone.
  - (3) A phone of a friend or relative who doesn't have a Blue Box. (Make a couple of calls for him or her. They'll love you for it!)
  - (4) A business phone used by several people.
  - (5) Your own home or business phone (see additional precautions below).

- (6) A pay phone where the operator must dial the call for you. (Note: Not recommended, except as a last resort. See calls involving an operator, below.)
  - (7) A home or business phone where you must tell the operator your number after you have dialed your long distance number -- not recommended on a regular basis; see calls involving an operator, below.
6. Additional precautions to be observed when using the Box from your own home or business phone:
- (1) Keep calls SHORT -- ten minutes maximum when you have used an "800" number to obtain a Long Distance Tandem.  
  
Many short calls can be made in succession to the same number, if necessary.
  - (2) If long duration or an excessive number of calls must be made from your own phone, use calls to adjacent area codes rather than to "800" prefix numbers to obtain a Long Distance Tandem. This will not be the lowest cost, but the margin of safety is worth it.
  - (3) If you are in the Import-Export business or something similar, don't have your overseas calls quit abruptly. Taper them off over a month or two.
  - (4) Check into obtaining Extended Area Service or Optional Residence Telephone Service. These services will enable you to call at least one adjacent area code and giving you access to a Long Distance Tandem for the cost of a local call. This is a good service to have even if you don't have a box.
7. Additional precautions when using a phone involving an operator:
- (1) DO this only as a Last Resort.
  - (2) Learn to push the buttons really Fast.
  - (3) The difficulty with going through any operator is that when you press the clear button, a light is going to blink in front of her. Now, if you can push buttons really fast and get all of the

numbers pushed before she comes back on the line to ask you what happened, you are OK. If you don't and she comes back on the line to ask if you have been disconnected, tell her no, that you've been put on hold. If she leaves the line, fine, go back to pushing buttons. If she doesn't, you had better leave the line.

If she happens to hear a bleep or two from the Box, explain to her that you are making a "computer data transaction call."

- (4) Better yet, never use this procedure.
- (5) If you must, try this from a home phone when the operator asks you for your number: Change the last one or two digits you give her, keeping in mind the problems in (1), (2) and (3) above.

If she/he becomes really suspicious of what you're doing at a home phone, she can seize the line until They have time to trace it, and then you are FUCKED.

A word to the wise: PLEASE REREAD this section before you go on. This is for your own safety and peace of mind.

#### DIRECT DISTANCE DIALING

This section covers all United States, Canadian, Caribbean, and some Mexican calls. These are all calls that use common area codes. If you do not have the area code for the city that you wish to call, dial Operator.

To place call, follow the Steps listed below:

1. Plug earphone into jack at top of Blue Box.
2. Place earphone over mouthpiece of telephone.
3. Dial a long distance number -- either an "800" prefix number (toll free), or a nearby area code number (safer, but toll; reread Precautions if at home phone, preceding pages).
4. After the number is dialed and just before it rings, a hissing sound will be heard. At this time or when you hear the first ring, press the "Clear" button (the small button located on the top of the Blue Box, next to the earphone jack) for one second. After you release the Clear button, the phone will make a clunk-clunk noise. You now have a Long Distance Tandem.
5. Press \* Area Code, Telephone Number, # (Do this within 7 seconds). If you make a mistake in the number or you do not complete the number in the allotted time, simply repress the Clear button and repeat this Step.

A typical example would be: \* 202 528-4361 #

#### Additional Notes:

1. The use of a prefix "1" for long distance calling (as required by many phone systems) is not required in Step 5 above.
2. If for some reason you wish to make a local untraceable call, simply dial: \* Your Own Area Code, Telephone Number, #.
3. Occasionally, the call will not go through because of idiosyncracies in the telephone switching system. Try using a new Long Distance Tandem (that is, start again at Step 3 above) if persistent difficulty is encountered.



4. Remember, you may keep clearing a Long Distance Tandem and redialing until someone answers. (Strange how people are never home when you call them at reduced rates.)
5. If a line will not clear when you hit the Clear button, you may not be on a Long Distance Tandem. Sometimes, adjacent areas not on the same area code are connected by local lines due to calling volume. If you encounter this problem, try a number further away.
6. After you have completed a call and the called party hangs up, the Long Distance Tandem will most likely drop on you within 20 seconds. You will have to start again at Step 1 above to place the next call.

#### INTERNATIONAL DIRECT DISTANCE DIALING

International calls require that you familiarize yourself with a few more elements of the telephone switching system. These include:

The Country Code. A number unique to each country. Two or three digits.

The City Routing Code. The foreign equivalent to our Area Code. One to five digits.

a Foreign Telephone Number. Four to seven digits.

A complete foreign call will require a Country Code, a City Routing Code, and a Foreign Telephone Number, up to a maximum of twelve digits.

To place an overseas call, follow the Steps listed below:

1. Look up the Country Code and the City Routing Code in the International Dialing Guide located in the back of this book. If possible, obtain the City Routing Code along with the Foreign Telephone Number from the party to be dialed, since space limitations prohibit publishing a complete listing of the City Routing Codes. Delete any leading zeroes from a City Routing Code provided by a foreign contact.

2. Obtain a clear Long Distance Tandem.  
See Steps 1-4 in Direct Distance Dialing section.

<u>If Dialing:</u>	<u>Press:</u>
England,	* 182 #.
Europe, Africa or the	
Near East,	* 183 #.
South America,	* 185 #.
Australia or Far East,	* 186 #.

4. Wait for an International Dial Tone.  
Press \* immediately and hold until the International Dial Tone stops (this may take up to one second); then, press the Country Code, the City Routing Code, the Foreign Telephone Number and #.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECT DISTANCE DIALING (Continued)

If you make a mistake or the call does not go through, press the Clear button and begin again with Step 3.

A typical example for an overseas call would be:

\* 183 # (International Dial Tone) \* 49 611 1158 #

ADDITIONAL NOTES for International Direct Distance Dialing:

1. City Routing Codes are best obtained from your foreign contact, since they are occasionally changes as the world's phone system is updated.

2. Some countries may not be direct-dialable (even though their Country Codes are included in this manual), as the international phone system is not yet fully automated.

3. In those areas (mostly larger cities) where International Direct Distance Dialing is in service, you can obtain Country Codes and City Routing Codes directly from the Information Operator.

#### CHANGING BATTERIES

The only service that your Box should ever require is a change of batteries.

This should be done yearly, or more often if necessary. The batteries are good for 30 hours of continuous tones, plenty for normal calling but not for use as a musical instrument.

To change the batteries, remove the four Phillips screws holding the front panel to the case. Carefully pry the front panel from the case and lift out the old batteries. Remove battery clips and install new batteries.

Use only the same type battery as supplied with your Box (Mallory 146X or equivalent).

Replace cover gently, and retighten screws.

THIS SHOULD NEVER HAPPEN TO YOU, BUT.....

If you are caught, killed or captured, which should never happen if you have followed the instructions under Basic Precautions, we will disavow any knowledge of your inept actions.

Seriously, though, the best thing for you to do is to Deny Everything, at least until you have talked to your attorney.

Never, NEVER, NEVER! talk to the phone company. They are not the prosecuting agency.

Do not attempt to plea bargain. For some reason, no one has received a reduced sentence in this kind of case, no matter how much they co-operated.

Finally, if you are convicted, the average fine is five hundred dollars and, as far as is known, nobody has ever been given a jail sentence.

The focal point of the government's case is the Blue Box itself. The device is small enough that if you are clever as to where you hide it between calls, even the most determined FBI search shouldn't dislodge it.

In closing, one last comment: Don't keep this booklet with the Blue Box, as it would make almost as good an exhibit.

- - -

# INTERNATIONAL DIALING GUIDE

Country/ City	Country Code/ City Routing Code	Country/ City	Country Code/ City Routing Code
AFGHANISTAN	93	BOTSWANA	267
ALBANIA	355	BRAZIL	55
ALGERIA	213	BRITISH HONDURAS	501
	214	BULGARIA	359
	215	BURMA	95
AMERICAN SAMOA	684	BURUNDI	257
ANDORRA	33	CAMBODIA	855
ANGOLA	244	CAMEROON	237
ARGENTINA	54	CANADA	(Same Area Code system as United States. Check with operator for assist- ance.)
AUSTRALIA	61	CAPE VERDE ISLANDS	238
Adelaide	8	CARIBBEAN ISLANDS	(All points are United States Area Code 809 unless specifically listed. Check with operator for assistance.)
Belgrave	3	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	236
Brisbane	72	CEYLON	94
Canberra	62	CHAD	235
Chelsea	3	CHANNEL ISLANDS	355
Culcairn	60	CHILE	56
Finley	58	COLOMBIA	57
Hobart	02	COMORO ISLANDS	269
Melbourne	3	CONGO, Rep. of	242
Newcastle	49	COSTA RICA	506
Perth	92	CUBA	53
Southport	75	CYPRUS	357
Sydney	2	CZECHOSLOVAKIA	42
Townsville	77	DAHOMY	229
Whyalla	86	DENMARK	45
Wonga Park	3	Aalborg	8
AUSTRIA	43	Aarhus	6
BAHREIN	973	Allerod	3
BELGIUM	32	Ansager	5
Antwerp	3	Assens	9
Bruges	50	Billund	5
Brussels	2	Borre	3
Charleroi	7	Copenhagen	1
Coutrai	56	Esbjerg	5
Ghent	9	Gelsted	9
Hasselt	11		
La Louviere	64		
Libramont	61		
Liege	4		
Louvain	16		
Malines	15		
Mons	65		
Namur	81		
Ostend	59		
Verviers	87		
BOLIVIA	591		

INTERNATIONAL DIALING GUIDE (Continued)

<u>Country/</u> <u>City</u>	<u>Country Code/</u> <u>City Routing</u> <u>Code</u>	<u>Country/</u> <u>City</u>	<u>Country Code/</u> <u>City Routing</u> <u>Code</u>
DENMARK (Cont.)	45	Heidelberg	6221
Haderslev	4	Koblenz	261
Korsor	3	Mannheim	621
Wykoberg	3	Munich	89
Odense	9	Nurnberg	911
Randers	6	Stuttgart	711
Vorgod	7	Wiesbaden	6121
ECUADOR	593	GHANA	233
EL SALVADOR	503	GIBRALTAR	350
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	240	GILBERT ISLAND	686
ETHIOPIA	251	GREECE	30
FIJI ISLANDS	679	Archanai	81
FINLAND	358	Athens	21
FRANCE	33	Candia, Crete	81
Aix-En-Provence	91	Corinth	741
Bordeaux	56	Eleusis	219
Cannes	93	Hydra	298
Chauvigny	49	Kavalla	51
Cherbourg	33	Larissa	41
Grenoble	76	Napos	285
Le Havre	35	Oreokastron	31
Lourdes	62	Piraeus	21
Lyon	78	Rhodes	241
Marseille	91	Salonica	31
Nancy	28	Sparta	731
Nice	93	Volos	421
Paris	1	Zagora	426
Rouen	35	GREENLAND	45
Toulouse	61	GUADELOUPE	590
Tours	47	GUAM	671
FRENCH GUIANA	594	GUATEMALA	502
FRENCH POLYNESIA	689	GUINEA	224
FRENCH SOALILAND	253	GUIANA	592
GABON	241	HONDURAS	504
GAMBIA	220	HONG KONG	852
GERMANY, East	37	Castle Peak	12
GERMANY, West	49	Cheung Chau	5
Bad Homburg	6172	Fan Ling	12
Berlin	30	Hong Kong	5
Bonn	2221	Kowloon	3
Bremen	421	Kwai Chung	12
Cologne	221	Lamma	5
Dusseldorf	211	Ma Wan	5
Essen	201	Peng Chau	5
Frankfurt	611	Sek Kong	12
Hamburg	40	Sha Tin	12

INTERNATIONAL DIALING GUIDE (Continued)

<u>Country/ City</u>	<u>Country Code/ City Routing Code</u>	<u>Country/ City</u>	<u>Country Code/ City Routing Code</u>
HONG KONG (Cont.)	852	ITALY (Cont.)	39
Silvermine Bay	5	Venice	41
Tai-o	5	Verona	45
Tai Po	12	IVORY COAST	225
Ting Kau	12	JAPAN	81
Taun Wan	12	Gifu	532
HUNGARY	36	Hiroshima	822
ICELAND	354	Kanazawa	762
INDIA	91	Kanda	93
INDONESIA	62	Kobe	78
IRAN	98	Kyoto	75
IRAQ	964	Nagoya	52
IRELAND	353	Niigata	252
ISRAEL	972	Osaka	6
Agula	65	Sapporo	11
Akko	4	Sasebo	956
Ashqelon	51	Tachikawa	425
Bat Yam	3	Tokyo	3
Beer Sheva	57	Toyota	565
Dimona	57	Yokohama	45
Hadera	63	Yokosuka	463
Haifa	4	JORDAN	962
Holon	3	KENYA	254
Jerusalem	2	KUWAIT	965
Nazareth	65	LAOS	856
Netanya	53	LEBANON	961
Rehovot	3	LESOTHO	266
Tel Aviv	3	LIBERIA	231
Tiberias	67	LIBYA	218
Zefat	67		219
ITALY	39	LUXEMBOURG	352
Bari	80	(Country Code and	
Bologna	51	City Routing Code to all	
Brindisi	831	points is the same...352)	
Capri	81	MACAO	853
Como	31	MALAGASY REPUBLIC	261
Florence	55	MALAWI	265
Genoa	10	MALAYSIA	60
Milan	2	MALI	223
Naples	81	MALTA	356
Padua	49	MAURITANIA	222
Palermo	91	MAURITIUS	230
Pisa	50	MARTINIQUE	596
Rome	6	MEXICO	52
Trieste	40	(Many areas may now be	
		reached through United	
		States Area Code system.	



INTERNATIONAL DIALING GUIDE (Continued)

<u>Country/ City</u>	<u>Country Code/ City Routing Code</u>	<u>Country/ City</u>	<u>Country Code/ City Routing Code</u>
MEXICO (Cont.)	52	NORWAY (Cont.)	47
Check with operator for assistance.)		Narvik	82
MONACO	33	Oslo	2
Monaco	93	Sarpsborg	31
Monte Carlo	93	Skien	31
MONGOLIA	976	Stavanger	45
MOROCCO	210	Tonsberg	33
	211	Trondheim	75
	212	PAKISTAN	92
MOZAMBIQUE	258	PANAMA	507
MUSCAT	968	PAPUA	675
NEPAL	977	PARAGUAY	595
NETHERLANDS	31	PERU	51
Amsterdam	20	PHILIPPINES	63
Arnhem	85	Angeles	40
Eindhoven	40	Bacolod	34
Groningen	50	Baguio	442
Haarlem	23	Cebu	32
Heemstede	23	Clarfield	7
Hillegersberg	10	Cotabato	325
Hoensbroek	45	Dagupan	48
Hoogvliet	10	Davao	35
Loosduinen	70	Iliolo	33
Nijmegen	80	Lucena	42
Oud Zuilen	30	Manila	2
Rottedam	10	San Fernando.	
The Hague	70	La Union	46
Utrecht	30	San Fernando.	
NETHERLANDS		Pampanga	45
ANTILLES	599	San Pablo	41
NEW CALEDONIA	687	Subic Bay	8384
NEW GUINEA	675	Tarlac	47
NEW HEBRIDES	678	POLAND	48
NEW ZEALAND	64	PORTUGAL	351
NICARAGUA	505	PORTUGUESE GUINEA	245
NIGER	227	PORTUGUESE TIMOR	672
NIGERIA	234	QATAR	974
NORWAY	47	REUNION	262
Arendal	41	RHODESIA	263
Bergen	5	RUMANIA	40
Drammen	2	RWANDA	250
Fredrikstad	31	SAO TOME	233
Havgesund	47	SAUDI ARABIA	966
Kongsvinger	66	SENEGAL	221
Kristiansund	73	SIERRA LEONE	232
Larvik	34	SINGAPORE	65
Moss	32	SOLOMON ISLANDS	677

INTERNATIONAL DIALING GUIDE (Continued)

<u>Country/</u> <u>City</u>	<u>Country Code/</u> <u>City Routing</u> <u>Code</u>	<u>Country/</u> <u>City</u>	<u>Country Code/</u> <u>City Routing</u> <u>Code</u>
SOUTH AFRICA,		SWEDEN (Cont.)	46
Republic Of	27	Eskilstuna	16
Bloemfontein	51	Gamleby	493
Cape Town	21	Goteborg	31
De Aar	571	Helsingborg	42
Durban	31	Karlstad	54
East London	431	Linkoping	13
Gordons Bay	24	Lund	46
Johannesburg	11	Malmo	40
La Lucia	31	Norrkoping	11
Pietermaritzburg	331	Stockholm	8
Port Elizabeth	41	Sundsvall	60
Pretoria	12	Trelleborg	410
Richards Bay	352	Uppsala	18
Sasolburg	16	Vasteras	21
Somerset West	24	SWITZERLAND	41
Vitenhage	422	Baden	56
Welkom	17	Basel	61
SOUTH KOREA	82	Berne	31
SOUTH VIETNAM	84	Davos	83
SOUTH-WEST AFRICA	264	Fribourg	37
SPAIN	34	Geneva	22
Barcelona	3	Interlaken	36
Bilbao	44	Lausanne	21
Cadiz	56	Lucerne	41
Ceuta, Spanish		Lugano	91
North Africa	56	Montreux	21
Granada	58	Neuchatel	38
Igualda	3	St. Gallen	71
Las Palmas		St. Moritz	82
(Canary Islands)	28	Winterthur	52
Leon	87	Zurich	1
Madrid	1	SYRIA	953
Malaga	52	TAIWAN	86
Palma de Mallorca	71	TANZANIA	255
Pamplona	48	THAILAND	66
Santander	42	TONGA ISLANDS	676
Seville	54	TOGOLESE REPUBLIC	228
Torremolinos	52	TRUCIAL OMAN	971
Valencia	63	TUNISIA	216
SUDAN	249		217
SURINAM	597	TURKEY	90
SWAZILAND	268	UGANDA	256
SWEDEN	46	UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC	20
Alingsas	322		
Boras	33		

INTERNATIONAL DIALING GUIDE (Continued)

<u>Country/</u> <u>City</u>	<u>Country Code/</u> <u>City Routing</u> <u>Code</u>	<u>Country/</u> <u>City</u>	<u>Country Code/</u> <u>City Routing</u> <u>Code</u>
UNITED KINGDOM	44	VENEZUELA	58
Belfast (N. Ireland)	232	Barquisimento	51
Birmingham	21	Cabimas	64
Bournemouth	202	Caracas	2
Cardiff (Wales)	222	Coro	68
Durham	385	Guanare	57
Edinburgh (Scot.)	31	Maiquetia	31
Glasgow (Scot.)	41	Maracay	43
Gloucester	452	Merida	74
Ipswich	473	Puerto Cabello	42
Liverpool	51	Punto Fijo	69
London	1	San Cristobal	76
Manchester	61	San Juan	
Nottingham	602	De Los Morros	46
Prestwick (Scot.)	292	Valle De La Pascua	35
Sheffield	742	Zaraza	38
Southampton	703	WALLIS ISLAND	681
UNITED STATES - For Area		YEMEN, North	967
Codes, call operator.		YEMEN, South	969
UPPER VOLTA	226	YUGOSLAVIA	38
URAGUAY	598	ZAIRE	243
U.S.S.R.	7	ZAMBIA	260
VATICAN	39	ZANZIBAR	259
Vatican City	6		