



# ***Exploding The Phone***

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Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title           **Ban Long Distance Call Device**

Publication    *The Independent*

Date           1968-12-14

Abstract       Donald D. Britton banned from distributing free long distance calls.  
Britton ordered to provide Pacific Telephone with list of persons  
who have his plans or have inquired about them.

Keywords      Blue Box; Donald D. Britton; Don Britton Enterprises

Notes          Year in the date was illegible, most likely late 1960s. Article  
describes "devices" but probably should read "plans for devices".

Source         Newspaper Archive

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## The Country Parson



"We could stop crime by simply teaching it to our children as interestingly as most of us teach religion."

Copyright 1968, by Frank A. Clark

# Man Found Hiding in Cabin Attic; Wife and Son Missing

AUBURN (UPI) — William G. Nelson, a San Mateo importer-exporter who vanished mysteriously almost two months ago, was found secreted in the attic of his remote mountain cabin, detectives reported Tuesday.

But Sheriff's Detective Lt. Arthur Ables said no trace was found of Nelson's wife, Betty, 47, and son, David, 9. He said the possibility they met foul play is under investigation.

Ables said Nelson, 56,

was taken to Dewitt Hospital for observation while deputies stepped up efforts to find his wife and son.

Placer County and San Mateo law officers joined in an investigation of the disappearance of the Nelsons, who were reported missing in October by a daughter, Mrs. Betty Dorman, 24, Redwood City.

Sgt. John F. Borcharding of the San Mateo Police Department said Mrs. Dorman was given power of attorney over her father

in a letter mailed by him and postmarked from San Francisco Airport.

She authorized Placer County deputies to conduct a search of the family cabin near Foresthill, where they found Nelson hiding in the attic.

## BAN LONG DISTANCE CALL DEVICE

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Distribution of a device permitting free long distance telephone calls was banned Tuesday by court order.

Pacific Telephone Co. won an injunction against a device called a "multi-frequency signal generator," the invention of Donald D. Britton, who consented without admitting wrongdoing.

The device was said to permit calls without their being recorded for billing. Under the order, Britton, an electronics expert, agreed to furnish the company with a list of persons who have his plans or inquired about them.

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A spokesman for Mrs. Dorman said she has not talked with her father.

"He said he took a plane trip to Las Vegas and a bus ride to Denver and New Jersey," Ables said. Nelson told him during questioning at the hospital.

The detective reported

Nelson said he had not seen his wife or son for three weeks, but that he had hoped they would come to the cabin.

"He feels they were hiding from him," Ables said, so Nelson hid out in the attic hoping they would return unaware he was there.

An abandoned car leased to Nelson Nov. 24 by a Sacramento rental firm was found about a mile from the mountain cabin.

An FBI spokesman in Sacramento said his office had no file on the Nelson case.

Borcharding said the

missing persons report by Mrs. Dorman was handled routinely believing "the family had gone on vacation without telling anyone."

He said the investigation was intensified after the Nelsons had still not turned up after a month's absence.

# Two Youths Arrested in Fatal Beating of School Custodian

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Two 15-year-old boys were arrested on suspicion of murder Tuesday after a custodian was beaten to death in a Boyle Heights school.

Booked at Juvenile Hall were Reuben Chavez and Lawrence Tapia.

The boys were arrested at their homes after a set of keys found near the body of Harry Hammer, 47, were traced to a burglary at the school one month ago.

POLICE SAID Hammer had been beaten about the head. His body was found at the Bridge Elementary School.

Vandals had caused about \$5,000 damage to books, furniture and appliances, officers added.

Entrance to the facility apparently was gained by the keys, which had been stolen in the earlier burglary.

Sgt. Joe Wambaugh of Hollenbeck Detectives said he remembered the previous burglary, which he had investigated.

He arrested the two suspects Tuesday and had arrested them in connection with the burglary last month when the stolen property bearing the

Board of Education stamp was found at the Chavez home.

ALSO ARRESTED at that time were the parents of Chavez, Raul Ortega Chavez and Mrs. Eleanor Martinez Chavez.

The detectives said he arrived at the Chavez home when investigating the first burglary and got no response to his knock, but heard loud music coming from a rear bedroom.

Sgt. Wambaugh said he then proceeded to the rear bedroom and found the door was closed. He opened the door and found Chavez and Tapia

using sound equipment valued at \$1,500, which had been taken in the burglary.

EVERYTHING taken in that burglary was recovered except the set of keys, the detective noted.

However, he said the district attorney refused to issue complaints against the boys or parents because the evidence was assertedly obtained illegally.

Sgt. Wambaugh explained he had no search warrant when he went to the Chavez home nor did he have permission to enter the house.

## PAYS TO HAVE A SICK WIFE

RESEDA (CNS) — If at first you don't succeed try again, and that's exactly what two robbers did to a Reseda mechanic.

David Erickson, 22, first encountered his assailants as he exited from a tavern shortly before it closed at 1:30 a.m. Tuesday.

He successfully dissuaded the robbers from taking his money by telling

them "I have a sick wife and kid at home." The two men left and Erickson returned to the bar. But when Erickson departed the bar a second time, he was not so lucky.

Once again the two men stopped him and told Erickson, "we don't believe you. Give us your money." Erickson handed over \$78.

## S.F. Bidding for Alcatraz as Fun Area

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — The city took steps Tuesday to transfer Alcatraz from the federal government to city administration as a recreational facility, possibly as early as next summer.

Mayor Joseph L. Alioto appointed Jack Tolan, deputy for development, to represent the city in negotiations aimed at putting a fair price tag on the prison island.

Alioto ordered an immediate start of negotiations to determine the purchase price of the island after officials of the General Services Administration (GSA) informed him offers have been received from several would-be commercial developers.

REGIONAL GSA Director Thomas E. Hannon told Alioto one unnamed large corporation sought the island as the site of a restaurant combined with open grounds and prison tours.

Alioto indicated the city hopes to buy the island at a bargain price. If it becomes the legal owner, the city can lease all or part of the property to private operators, he indicated.

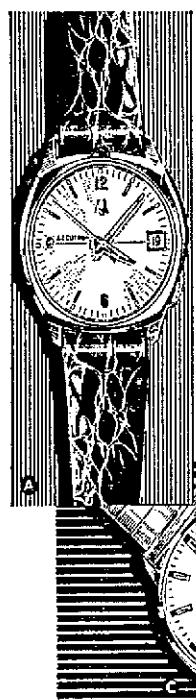
The federal government usually sells its property at discount prices if it is to be used for purely recreational purposes instead of commercial development.

## Reagan Appointees

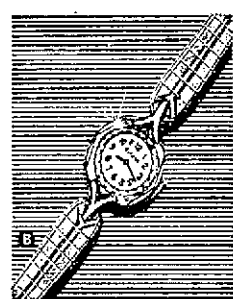
SACRAMENTO (UPI) — Gov. Ronald Reagan Tuesday appointed Municipal Court Judge William T. Low and attorney Leland C. Neilsen, both Republicans from La Jolla, to San Diego County Superior Court.



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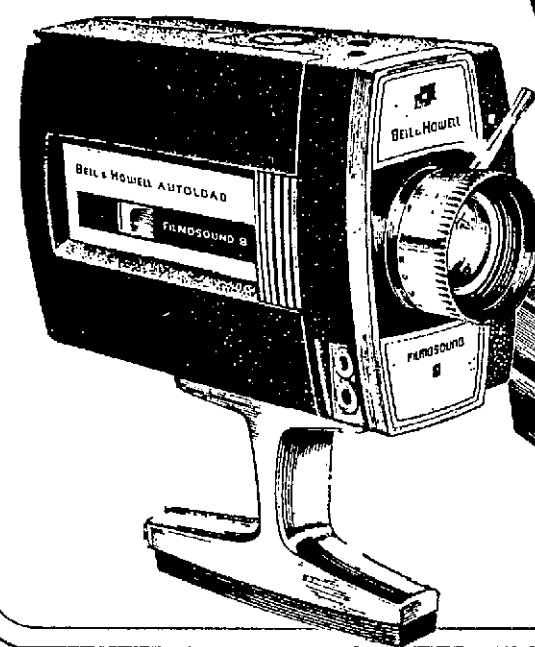
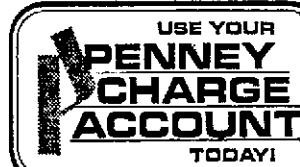
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