



Exploding The Phone

db800

www.explodingthephone.com

Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title	Dials Trouble Long Distance
Publication	<i>The Post-Standard</i>
Date	1964-01-14
Abstract	"Michael T. Spencer, an outstanding student in electrical engineering [at RPI], stood out Monday as a sophomore charged with engineering a phony telephone setup."
Keywords	Michael T. Spencer; Michael Spencer; blue box; Renssellaer Polytechnic Institute; RPI
Notes	Includes awesome, if blurry, photo.
Source	Newspaper Archive

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.



"Phoney" Ring

Michael T. Spencer, 19, of Franklin, Mich., described as an outstanding engineering student at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, sits behind a homemade device in Troy police headquarters. Police accuse the college sophomore of using the black box, attached to coin-boxes, to defraud the New York Telephone Co. out of long distance tolls.

(AP Wirephoto).

Dials Trouble Long Distance

TROY (AP) — Michael T. Spencer, an outstanding student in electrical engineering, stood out Monday as a sophomore charged with engineering a phony telephone set-up. Police said Spencer, 19, of Franklin, Mich., a sophomore at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute here, made the mistake of phoning his home town Saturday night.

They said he had rigged a metal box with equipment purchased from the New York Telephone Co. for \$200 and could make long distance calls without paying. By asking the long distance operator for a fictitious person, for instance, Arizona, he could seize the line and dial anyone he pleased, police said. But telephone agents in Michigan caught on, the calls were traced to the RPI area and, police said, detectives recorded the call made Saturday night.

The clever box, containing condensers, transistors, etc., is headed for a phone company museum, officials said. Police said Spencer explained that the job was just a challenge to him.

It also was a challenge to the phone company, which now must invent a way to prevent such interference.

Spencer was charged with

Guilty in Try To Kill Son

ROCHESTER (AP) — A father was found guilty Monday of attempted second degree murder for throwing his 2-year-old son from a bridge into the Genesee River here last July 24.

Limuel Arthur, 30, of Rochester had been charged with attempted first degree murder, but the Monroe County Court jury of 11 men and one woman returned the lesser verdict.

The jury said it found that Arthur intended to cause death, but there was no premeditation. The son, James Limuel, was pulled from the river near the Clarissa Street bridge after floating face down for five minutes. A rescuer applied mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and the child recovered.

Arthur testified at the trial that the child had slipped from his arms while he was standing at a railing on the bridge. The youngster fell 50 feet into the river.

Judge George D. Ogden of Monroe County Court set sentencing for Jan. 27.

DIES IN FIRE

HENRIETTA (AP) — Mrs. Genevieve Naven, 73, was killed Monday in a fire that destroyed her family's two-story home in this Monroe County community. Her son, Willard F. Naven, his wife, Eleanor, and the couple's four children escaped by sliding down a 15-foot rope.

Joint Board To Keep Peace In Canal Zone

Talks to Restore Diplomatic Ties Are Deadlocked

PANAMA (AP) — The United States and Panama, in a first step toward settling differences, agreed Monday to create a joint authority under the Organization of American States to keep the peace in the Canal Zone.

However, talks aimed at restoring diplomatic relations, broken off by Panama at the height of the crisis last week, were deadlocked over Panama's demand for a U.S. pledge to review the Panama Canal Treaty.

Sources inside the OAS peace commission meeting, suspended after the impasse arose, said the United States refused to promise under pressure to review the pact under which it controls the canal.

Amid signs of decreasing tension, Thomas C. Mann, personal envoy of President Johnson, paid a farewell call on Panama President Roberto Chiari before leaving for Washington to report to Johnson.

Mann voiced guarded optimism as he talked to reporters just before entering the presidential palace for his second meeting with Chiari during his stay.

"I am grateful for the progress we made in restoring peace and law in Panama and the Canal Zone," he said.

Panama broke diplomatic relations with the United States and demanded revision of the 61-year-old Panama Canal Treaty in the wake of a flag-raising incident at Balboa High School last Thursday that sparked clashes between Panamanians and U.S. troops.

The fighting and other violence took the lives of three U.S. soldiers and 21 Panamanians. U.S. property was attacked in Panama City and other places in the country, causing thousands of dollars in damage.

Workers were erecting twin flagpoles Monday at public school sites in the zone, including Balboa High School, for display of the Panamanian and U.S. flags.

Officials said all schools in

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Barry Has Slight Lead In P-S Poll Returns

Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon, U. S. Sen. Barry Goldwater and U. S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge drew the heaviest support in early returns from The Post-Standard's Republican presidential nomination poll.

First returns received yesterday and tabulated by this newspaper showed Goldwater first, with a hairline lead over Nixon and Lodge running third.

New York Gov. Rockefeller, an announced candidate for the nomination, as is Goldwater, ran a poor fourth. Michigan Gov. George W. Romney and Pennsylvania Gov. William W. Scranton drew only scattered support.

One person, who identified himself as a Republican, indicated Democratic President Lyndon B. Johnson will be his choice in November come what may.

Returns started arriving at The Post-Standard in the first mail yesterday, following the publishing of the Republican presidential preference coupons in the Sunday and Monday issues of this newspaper.

The poll is a completely unofficial and unscientific sampling of public sentiment in the vast area in Northern, Central and Southern New York where this newspaper circulates.

The results will nevertheless be closely watched by state and national leaders of both political parties.

In Albany it has already sparked comment and interest. Several Republican lawmakers, an aide to the governor, and numerous political leaders made it a point Monday to inquire what the early returns had shown.

The coupon published Sunday and Monday listed the names of the six men so far most prominently mentioned for the GOP nomination for president.

320 Pupils Boycott Integrated School

ROCHESTER (AP) — More than half the enrollment at a predominantly white school here remained home Monday in protest to the transfer of 118 pupils to the school from a predominantly Negro school in the city.

The 320 pupils stayed away from the school, officials said, in a protest led by their parents. The transfer was made without incident.

The city's Board of Education had ordered the transfer from School 3 to School 40 to correct what it called "overcrowding" at School 3.

Police lined the corridors at School 40 to assure order. Total enrollment at the school was 547, before new students arrived.

The board has been ordered to explain the transfer Tuesday in State Supreme Court. A group of petitioning par-

HALF OF U. S. STRUCK BY WINTER'S WORST



Snowstorm Thins Times Square Area Activity

Auto and pedestrian traffic was thinned considerably in New York's Times Square area during yesterday's snowstorm. This view is looking north at

44th Street with Broadway in the foreground and Seventh Avenue with theaters in the background. (AP Wirephoto).

State to Ask Corporation Taxes Early

ALBANY (AP) — Gov. Rockefeller's budget advisers are drafting a plan to speed payment of state corporation taxes to help balance the new state budget without raising tax rates.

This off-stage development marked the first working meeting of the new legislative session—one which the members of the Legislature battled a major statewide snow storm to attend.

Both the Senate and the Assembly scheduled Monday night sessions, but no major legislation was on the calendar in either house.

A high Republican source said the change in the corporation-tax procedures was in the works, but he had no details. The governor has promised a balanced budget with no tax increases, but he faces a tight fiscal situation because of the steadily rising costs of state government.

Meanwhile, there were these other developments: —Assembly Speaker Joseph F. Carroll cautioned chairmen of joint legislative committees on committee spending and urged them to speed up the work of their groups. He told them they would have to clear any out-of-state trips in advance with him or Senate Majority Leader Walter J. Mahoney. Carroll also said committee expense accounts would be watched more carefully.

—Assemblyman R. Watson

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Syracuse Gets Share Of Latest Wintry Blast

Old Man Winter continued his assault on Syracuse and Onondaga County yesterday, lashing the area with bitter cold and high winds, as well as four inches of new snow south of the city.

The latest bombardment brought the winter snow total to 42.4 inches, 7 of an inch below normal.

Slick intersections and icy roads were blamed in 20 property damage accidents in the city yesterday. One person was hurt in a two-car collision.

Evening rush hour traffic created many traffic problems, especially on Erie Boulevard, E. E. Fayette Street and S. State Street. Many main arteries were clogged with bumper-to-bumper traffic moving at a snail's pace on the slippery pavement.

Mrs. Mary B. Margeson of 113 Archer Road suffered an injured knee when her car was involved in a collision at Clairmont and Bellevue Avenues yesterday morning.

Skids on Incline

Policemen Cosmo Cappelletti and William Cleland said a car driven by Edward E. Falkowski, 52, of 241 Whittier Ave., was westbound on Clairmont Avenue when it skidded on a downgrade, went through the intersection and collided with the Margeson vehicle.

The Falkowski car, police said, then jumped a curb and struck a utility pole. Falkowski escaped injury and Mrs. Margeson said she would see her own doctor for treatment of the knee injury, police said.

Yesterday's snow, caused by the combined efforts of two snowstorms, one from the south along the Atlantic coast and the other spawned in the Midwest, raised havoc with East Coast airlines and forced many cancellations.

American Airlines reported all eastbound flights canceled, particularly those originating from New York City and Boston. All flights to New York from Hancock Field were canceled.

Cancel Flights

Mohawk Airlines reported all flights canceled, while Eastern flights from Washington to Philadelphia were canceled, as well as a number of hops to and from Syracuse from East Coast cities.

The New York Central Railroad reported trains were running on time, though experiencing difficulties on runs from New York City to Syracuse.

Greyhound and Syracuse Transit Co. officials said all buses were operating on schedule. Some difficulties were experienced with rush hour traffic yesterday evening, but no serious delays were experienced.

Snow and bitter cold failed to close any city or county public or parochial schools. Onondaga

Community College, Syracuse University and Le Moyne College conducted classes as usual.

Thruway officials said blowing snow and ice endangered motorists along the length of the 420-mile super highway. Authorities advised against travel unless absolutely necessary.

City Public Works Commissioner Raymond H. Dodge said

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 3)

Sections of State Buried In Up to 2 Feet of Snow

ALBANY (AP) — A coastal storm that reached blizzard proportions in parts of New York State mixed residents in more than 2 feet of snow in some sections Monday night, stranding thousands, closing schools and businesses and contributing to the death toll.

Wind gusts to 60 miles an hour drove snow into mountainous drifts that clogged highways and reduced visibility to near zero. Air travel was disrupted and trains and buses ran hours behind schedule.

The drifting, blowing snow filled roads as fast as snow crews could clear paths. At least 10 deaths were attributed to the weather, including eight in New York City where snowfall measured more than 11 inches.

Winds Expected

The Weather Bureau said the northern moving storm would taper off Tuesday but that the wind would continue to build

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

5 Crewmen Leap Before B52 Crash

CUMBERLAND, Md. (AP) — An eight-engine B52 carrying two nuclear weapons crashed and burned on a Western Maryland mountainside Monday during a pre-dawn blizzard.

The commander of the Air Force jet bomber's five-man crew, turning up haggard but safe at a nearby farm after trudging six hours through snow, sometimes waist-deep, said aboard had bailed out before crash.

But night fell with no firm word on the whereabouts of the other four, and searchers expressed concern for the fliers still missing in the rugged, sparsely populated area.

A Civil Air Patrol report that two crewmen, presumably be- sides the commander, had been found alive and were being taken to a hospital remained un- confirmed hours later.

(Continued on Page 1, Col. 2)

Huge Storm Extends From Gulf to Canada

10-Foot Drifts Strand Vehicles; Deaths Mount

NEW YORK (AP) — A travel-crippling, school-closing storm, labeled a blizzard in some northern sections, dumped snow from Florida to New England.

Another snowstorm hit the Midwest a heavy blow and then moved eastward from the Mississippi river to join with its southern-spawned twin into a gigantic storm system the Weather Bureau on Monday called the winter's worst.

West of the Mississippi, skies generally were clear and temperatures cold. The mercury fell to 43 degrees below zero at Fraser, Colo.

At least 40 deaths were attributed to the weather, directly or indirectly, including eight in New York City.

Traffic accidents accounted for most, with some attributed to overexertion or carbon monoxide poisoning.

In Franklin Lakes, N.J., Army Sgt. Stacy MacFadden, 43, dropped dead while putting tire chains on his car.

Seek Refuge

The storm left thousands of rural residents and travelers snowbound in Indiana and Illinois. Some 500 motorists took refuge with the 1,200 residents of the central Illinois community of Neoga, stranded by snow-clogged highways.

Ten-foot drifts blocked traffic in the Kentland area of northwestern Indiana, trapping about 2,000 travelers. A New York Central freight train picked up many of them and took them to Fowler, Ind., where they could get passenger trains.

The Peoria Journal-Star used its helicopter for emergency hospital calls.

In western Maryland's Garrett County, a snow plow dug an ambulance path to Mrs. John J. Peterhelm's snowbound farm residence and she reached a hospital in time for the birth of her daughter.

Plane Crashes

Snow hampered efforts of rescue crews to reach the Appalachian Mountains site in Maryland where an Air Force B52 jet bomber crashed and burned during a storm. The plane carried a crew of five.

Flights virtually halted at New York and Washington metropolitan airports, as well as many other fields in the East and Midwest.

Police cut the speed limit on the New Jersey Turnpike from 50 to 35 m.p.h. and the Ohio

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Inside Today

50th Anniversary 1914-1964	January 1964
1234	567891011
12131415161718	19202122232425
262728293031	32333435363738

Page	
21	Astrological Forecast
21	Comic Pages
21	Crossword Puzzle
21	Death Record
2	Editorial
16-17	Markets
4	Morning's Mail
22	Puzzle Quiz
15	Radio-TV Programs
12-13-14-15	Sports
6-7-11-17-22	Syracuse News
2	Theaters
20	Tell Me Why
10	Women's Features
COLUMNISTS	
28	Bridge
10	Dear Abby
10	Sen. Barry Goldwater
22	Lyons Den
4	Fulton Lewis Jr.
11	Walter Lippmann
17	Business Post
4	Drew Pearson
22	Post Scripts
12	Bill Reddy
12	Robert Ruark
12	Sportsman's Corner
11	Strength for the Day

Syracuse Headlines

MURDER CASE SOLUTION NEAR.	Page 6
BAKER DENIES EVADING TAX.	Page 7
BIRD WAR TO QUICKEN.	Page 17
SMOKING INFORMATION PROVIDED.	Page 22