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Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title	<b>Million-Dollar Telephone Fraud Traced To Operator's Long-Distance Call Scheme</b>
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Abstract	Robert Dunlap, 37, a college switchboard operator, admitted selling more than \$1 million worth of long distance calls using a blue box.
Keywords	New York University; Robert Dunlap (arrested); New York Telephone Co. (NYTCo); blue box; New York University; NYU; switchboard
Notes	Clippings page contains a note about another AP story on the same date and topic, in the Detroit Free Press.

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**New York — A New York**  
University telephone operator has been arrested for ringing up an unpaid phone bill of \$1 million in what may be the biggest telephone fraud in history, authorities said Thursday. Page 3A.

## Million-Dollar Telephone Fraud Traced To Operator's Long-Distance Call Scheme

NEW YORK (UPI) — A New York University telephone operator has been arrested for ringing up an unpaid phone bill of \$1 million in what may be the biggest telephone fraud in history, authorities said Thursday.

The operator, Robert Dunlap, allegedly ran a cut-rate, long-distance service to make contact with and arrange deals for New York businessmen.

Dunlap, 36, was arrested earlier this week by investigators for the Manhattan district attorney's office as he sat alone in the NYU operators' room.

A New York Telephone Co. spokeswoman said Dunlap used a force of salesman called "leaders" to arrange the deals and he made the telephone connections from his operators' room on the 2:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. shift.

The businessmen were from all over the city, with a high concentra-

tion from the garment district, the spokeswoman said.

Through Dunlap, the service included calls to Brazil, Singapore, Thailand, Ecuador, Israel, West Germany, Turkey, France, Belgium, Hong Kong and China, England, Iran, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and Indonesia.

"This guy just sat at NYU and made the connections," the spokeswoman said. "It was very well organized. He kept good records and was a very good market strategist."

"If, indeed, he made \$1 million as he claimed," the spokeswoman said, "then it is not only the biggest fraud New York Telephone ever had, but in the whole country."

New York Telephone discovered the allegedly fraudulent calls during an audit of its records in October.

Dunlap, who worked for NYU since 1969, allegedly used a "blue

box" to make the calls, which he told authorities he placed illegally for four years.

The box, an electronic device about the size of a hand-held calculator, enables the caller to transmit a signal to the telephone company's long-distance switching equipment.

Dunlap allegedly dialed numbers beginning with 800 or 555, the prefixes for toll-free and information numbers.

Before the calls were completed, Dunlap allegedly transmitted signals from the blue box indicating that the calls had been terminated but keeping the line open for another call.

Dunlap will be arraigned in Manhattan Criminal Court Nov. 26 on charges of theft of services and possession of burglar's tools. If convicted, he could serve a jail term of up to one year on each charge.