



# ***Exploding The Phone***

db883

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

Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title	<b>FBI File 87-HQ-121189, John Thomas Draper, aka Captain Crunch, ITSP-FBW</b>
Date	1972-05-04
Abstract	FBI file 87-HQ-121189 on John Thomas Draper's first arrest in 1972. Includes GTE security memorandum with details on the Vancouver 4A switching machine. Corresponding field office file 87-SF-33313
Keywords	John Thomas Draper; Captain Crunch; 4A switching machine; FBI; 87-HQ-121189
Notes	See also db365
Source	FBI via FOIA

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SF 87-33313  
FAG/vsk

California, 100 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, California. This transcript which details the multifrequency telephone calls made by Subject from his home on dates indicated was made available by [redacted] on 7/17/72. A copy of the above transcript was also made available to AUSA PAUL J. FITZPATRICK, who was prosecuting this matter.

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#### ADMINISTRATIVE

It is noted that the period of this report predates the period of the previous report due to the fact that information from auxiliary offices was received after the formation of the last report.

The New York Office by letter dated 9/9/72 advised that on 7/12/72, [redacted] NY Telephone Company, [redacted] 140 West Street, NYC, advised that in reference to a telephone call made by the Subject to [redacted] in NYC using a multi-frequency signaling device, [redacted]

[redacted] explained that telephone freaks are very knowledgeable concerning telephone operations and set up conference lines, in which several telephone freaks are on the line at one time. This is accomplished by one freak calling a central switchman and posing as a telephone test man, he cons the switchman into setting up a conference line. The line being open for an extended period of time, permits the Telephone Company to monitor the line, as it is being used without being paid for by any sneaking party. [redacted]

The interview which follows is being included in the administrative section of this report in view of the fact that [redacted] has advised he is willing to help the FBI in this matter, however, does not desire that his identity be disclosed. [redacted] interview follows:

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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b7DDate 7/28/72

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[redacted]  
[redacted] San Jose, California,  
telephone number [redacted] advised he first learned of [redacted]  
[redacted] through an article that appeared in an under-  
ground newspaper "The Village Reporter" out of New York.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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b7COn 7/26/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313by SA [redacted] ~~pmf~~ <sup>C</sup> Date dictated 7/26/72

COVER PAGE

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency;  
it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



U.S. Department of Justice

R 6/21/08

F-187

LL

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

*Washington, D.C. 20535*

June 18, 2009

MR PHILIP D LAPSLEY  
5133 MILES AVENUE  
OAKLAND, CA 94618

Subject: FILE NUMBER 87-HQ-121189

FOIPA No. 1110885- 000

Dear Mr. Lapsley:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Form OPCA-16a:

**Section 552**

- ☐ (b)(1)
- ☒ (b)(2)
- ☐ (b)(3) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ (b)(4)
- ☐ (b)(5)
- ☒ (b)(6)

**Section 552a**

- ☐ (b)(7)(A)
- ☐ (b)(7)(B)
- ☒ (b)(7)(C)
- ☒ (b)(7)(D)
- ☒ (b)(7)(E)
- ☐ (b)(7)(F)
- ☐ (b)(8)
- ☐ (b)(9)
- ☐ (d)(5)
- ☐ (j)(2)
- ☐ (k)(1)
- ☐ (k)(2)
- ☐ (k)(3)
- ☐ (k)(4)
- ☐ (k)(5)
- ☐ (k)(6)
- ☐ (k)(7)

**183** page(s) were reviewed and **122** page(s) are being released.

- ☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:
  - ☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.
  - ☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown, when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", followed by a stylized flourish.

David M. Hardy  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

Enclosed is an excised copy of File 87-HQ-121189, section 1, which is responsive to your Freedom of Information Act request.

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute(A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 61

Page 3 ~ b2, b6, b7C

Page 4 ~ b2

Page 22 ~ b6, b7C, b7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 8 1972

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Campbell	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Miller, ES	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Ponder	_____
Mr. Bates	_____
Mr. Waikart	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

NR 021 SF PLAIN

9 02 PM NITEL 5/4/72 BEH

TO: DIRECTOR

FROM: SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313)

[REDACTED] AKA - FUGITIVE, FBW.

RE FFL, THIS DATE.

SUBJECT APPREHENDED THIS DATE BY BUAGENTS IN [REDACTED]  
CALIF., WITHOUT INCIDENT. SUBJECT DECLINED TO MAKE STATEMENT  
PRIOR TO CONSULTING WITH ATTORNEY. REPORT FOLLOWS.

END

HOLD

REC-35

EX-116

87-121189-2

MAY 8 1972

54 JUL 28 1972

STAT SEC.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	DATE <b>5/10/72</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>4/18/72 - 5/8/72</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>on SF del 5-4</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; margin: 5px 0;"></div> <b>FUGITIVE</b>		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; margin: 5px 0;"></div>	TYPED BY <b>plh</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>ITSP-FBW</b> <b>5-18</b>	

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b7CREFERENCE

San Francisco teletype to Director; 5/4/72.

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ENCLOSURES

Enclosed to the Bureau is one copy 11/71 Esquire article entitled, "Secrets of the Little Blue Box, by RON ROSEMBAUM.

ADMINISTRATIVE

A copy of the 11/71 Esquire article "Secrets of the Little Blue Box" has previously been furnished the USA's Office in San Francisco.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS		
		<b>L-SF</b>				PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED <i>ACG</i>					DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 3-Bureau (Encl. 1) (87-121189) 1-USA, San Francisco 2-Los Angeles 1-Dallas (INFO) (87-21187) 3 - San Francisco (87-33313)					<b>87-121189-3</b> <b>24</b> <b>MAY 18 1972</b> <b>REC-50</b> <b>EX-116</b>	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations	
Agency	<b>USDO</b>				<b>FUG. SUP.</b> <b>STAT. SECT.</b> <b>Hold all copies</b>	
Request Recd.						
Date Fwd.	<b>5/3/72</b>					
How Fwd.	<b>6 JUN 2 1972</b>					
By	<b>6 JUN 2 1972</b>					

A

EXP. PROC.

Date 5/16/72

To: ☒ Director

Att.: FILE BU 87-121189

Title ITSP-FBW

☐ SAC

☐ ASAC

☐ Supv.

☐ Agent

☐ SE

☐ IC

☐ CC

☐ Steno

☐ Clerk

RE: rep SA                       
dated 5/10/72, SF.

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☐ Rotor #:                     

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Assign        Reassign       

☐ Bring file

☐ Call me

☐ Correct

☐ Deadline                     

☐ Deadline passed

☐ Delinquent

☐ Discontinue

☐ Expedite

☐ File

☐ For information

☐ Handle

☐ Initial & return

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

☐ Open Case

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Return file

☐ Search and return

☐ See me

☐ Serial #                     

☐ Post

☐ Recharge

☐ Return

☐ Send to                     

☐ Submit new charge out                     

☐ Submit report by                     

☐ Type

**CONSOLIDATION**

Attached is the enclosure, which was inadvertently not furnished with rerep.

SAC R.E. GEBHARDT

Office SAN FRANCISCO

See reverse side

**ENCLOSURE**

SF 87-33313  
FAG/plh

A copy of this report is being furnished to the Dallas Office in connection with their case entitled [REDACTED], Dallas file 87-21187, as there are items of mutual interest in the [REDACTED] investigation and in the [REDACTED] investigation.

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An extra copy of this report is being furnished the Bureau as FCC has indicated an interest in this investigation and has indicated that they will probably contact the Bureau for a copy of this report.

SF 87-33313  
FAG/plh

[redacted] General  
Telephone Company advised that the Subject is believed  
to be identical to the individual referred to as [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

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Inasmuch as no positive proof of this is availablee  
at this time the alias of [redacted] is not being  
carried in the title of this report.

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LEADS

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: Will interview [redacted]  
[redacted] who has been identified  
as a "phone freak" and who on several occasions has been  
contacted by Subject and attempt to obtain from [redacted]  
any information pertaining to Subject's violation.

SAN FRANCISCO

AT SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA: Will review the files  
and interview [redacted] Pacific  
Telephone Company for any additional information concern-  
ing Subject's violation.

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA: Will follow and  
report prosecutive action against Subject.

AT [redacted] CALIFORNIA: Will interview [redacted]  
[redacted], who is associated with  
Subject in a business called [redacted] for any  
information pertaining to Subject's violation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1-USA, SAN FRANCISCO.  
(Att: PAUL FITZPATRICK)

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Report of: [REDACTED]

Office: SAN FRANCISCO

Date: 5/10/72

Field Office File #: 87-33313

Bureau File #: ~~87-33313~~ 122-121189

Title: [REDACTED]

Character: INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY-  
FRAUD BY WIRE

Synopsis: Information furnished by the General Telephone Company reveals that Subject, through the use of a "blue box" and other devices has been able to emit multi-frequency signals enabling him to bypass telephone toll equipment and thus make toll free calls throughout the U.S. and other parts of the world. AUSA, San Francisco authorized filing of a search warrant to search Subject's residence and Volkswagen Van, and a complaint, bond recommended \$5,000. Complaint and search warrant filed before U.S. Magistrate San Jose, Ca., 5/3/72. Subject arrested and search conducted 5/4/72. Same date Subject appeared before U.S. Magistrate, San Jose and released on his OR. Preliminary hearing scheduled in USDC, San Francisco, 5/26/72. Subject's description and items seized in connection with search warrant set forth. Fugitive Form Letter submitted.

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DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

This investigation was predicated upon a telephone call from [REDACTED] General Telephone Company of California, 100 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, California 90406 to SA [REDACTED] of the San Francisco Office. [REDACTED] furnished a synopsis of the activities concerning [REDACTED] utilizing multi frequency signals enabling [REDACTED] to bypass telephone company toll equipment and make toll free calls throughout the United States.

[REDACTED] furnished the following summary memorandum to the San Francisco Office by letter dated April 13, 1972.

SUMMARY MEMORANDUM

Case classification 23  
Fraudulent Use of Toll Service

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Subject [redacted]

Telephone number [redacted]  
[redacted]

M/W/A - 5'11" - 170 - Blk/Blue - DOB: [redacted]  
Calif. Driver's License [redacted] - Wears glasses

On several occasions during the year 1971, information was received from the Security Department of British Columbia Telephone Company, Vancouver, Canada, that their long-lines department was observing illegal entry by parties dialing and multi-frequencing from points in the United States into their toll switching system and returning back to points in the United States. On several occasions line traces were made, and a number of them showed that some of the parties came through switching machines in the San Jose, California area.

On 4/17/71 [redacted] was placed into service in Vancouver. During this cutover it was observed that a conference call of several hours duration was set up illegally, and a recording of a portion of this conference call was made. [redacted] British Columbia Telephone Company, delivered a copy of this tape to the Security Department of General Telephone Company of California. Special Agent [redacted] analyzed the tape with [redacted] and from information on the tape it became apparent that one or more parties on the call were located in [redacted] California, served by Western California Telephone Company, a part of the General System.

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The findings were also reviewed with [redacted] [redacted] Pacific Telephone Company, and from his investigation into the fraudulent use of multi-frequency signaling, he had determined that at least two or more subjects were either living in the [redacted] area or were using the area to make fraudulent toll calls by means of multi-frequency signaling.

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A feature article on toll fraud by the use of multi-frequency signaling appeared in the November 1971. issue of Esquire magazine. [redacted]  
[redacted]

During January 1972, information was received from [redacted] San Jose Chief Special Agents' Office, that a citizen witness had observed a Volkswagen van, California license [redacted], near a phone booth in the San Jose area, and that the driver was in the booth with a device (box) that had the legend "Speech Scrambler" on the side. The box had a number of buttons on it, and he was doing something with it in the booth. The vehicle seen is registered to [redacted]. A second informant also reported to [redacted] that [redacted] was living at [redacted] and was using the telephones at this location to accomplish strange things.

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A check of Commercial records show that three lines are at this location listed as follows:

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1. [REDACTED]  
LR service installed 7/11/67 - 1 instrument - rotary dial
2. [REDACTED]  
LR service installed 11/8/71 - Touchcall - 1 2-line instrument
3. [REDACTED]  
LR service installed 11/5/71 - 1 instrument - rotary service.

In exchanging information between security departments throughout the United States and Canada, the names [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were associated on a number of occasions in matters pertaining to fraudulent use of multi-frequency signaling.

The credit information associated with [REDACTED] telephone service indicated that he is [REDACTED]. Further information developed shows that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

A check of the toll billing associated with [REDACTED] telephone service shows one toll call to Palo Alto from December 1971 through March 1972 billing.

On 3/27/72, a night time line observation was made on telephone number [REDACTED] starting at 1710 hours, and ending on 3/28/72, at 0810 hours.

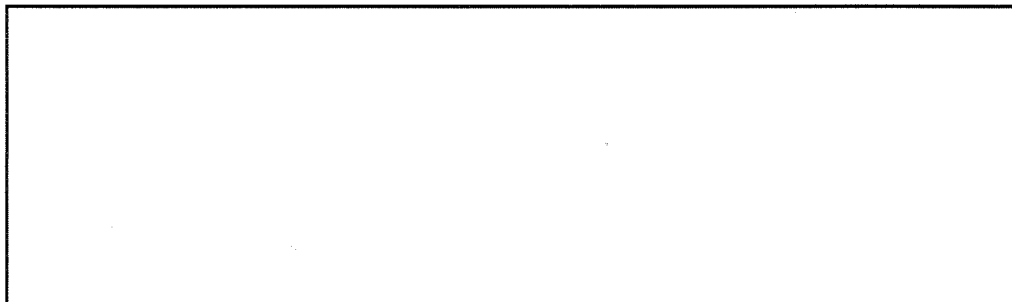
A tape identified as Master #1 was produced. It contains evidence of numerous attempts and completions of calls using multi-frequency signaling to points in California and to Sidney, Australia.

On 3/30/72, a day time line observation was made on telephone number [REDACTED] starting at 0630 hours and ending at 2010 hours.

A tape identified as Master #2 was produced. It contains evidence of numerous attempts and completions of calls using multi-frequency signaling to points in California, Texas, and New York.

Modified tapes identified as Mod. #1 from Master #1, and modified tapes identified as Mod. #1-1 and Mod. #1-2 from Master #2 were produced.

[REDACTED] uses two basic M.O.'s to complete toll calls after he has entered the tandem (toll) network after manipulation of the local exchange equipment:



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[REDACTED]

The overt act is committed by use of multi-frequency signaling since no equipment emitting multi-frequency tones is furnished to subscribers by the telephone companies.

A normal instrument, either standard rotary dial or touchcall, does not contain multi-frequency capability.

In addition, [REDACTED] has acquired a command of telephone language which he uses to impersonate, and is in contact with other "phone freaks" throughout the world. It can be assumed that a considerable amount of information is being exchanged to further his knowledge in telephony.

The findings of this investigation were reviewed with [REDACTED] of the Company's legal staff, and it is his conclusion that there is sufficient evidence to present this case to the U. S. Attorney or District Attorney.

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[REDACTED]

Sr. Special Agent

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 4/24/72

[redacted] General Telephone Company, personally appeared in the San Francisco Office of the FBI and advised as follows:

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Due to irregularities noted on a line of the Western Telephone Company, a subsidiary of the General Telephone Company on a line leased to [redacted] California, telephone [redacted], line [redacted] observations were authorized to be made on this line. [redacted] stated that the telephone companies have been afforded a limited right to intercept telephone calls where an irregularity is noted by the following laws:

1. Title III Omnibus Crime Bill  
(Public Law 93-51, Paragraph 2511 Section 2)
2. California Penal Code  
Chapter 1.5, Section 631(b)

[redacted] stated that he personally made these observations from 5:10 PM, March 27, 1972 until 8:10 AM, March 28, 1972 and again from 6:30 AM, March 30, 1972 until 8:10 PM, March 30, 1972. [redacted] stated that he made tapes identified as Master number 1 and Master number 2 as evidence of the numerous attempts and completion of calls using multi-frequency signaling to various points within the United States and to foreign countries. [redacted] stated that the calls made during this period of time included calls to points in California, Sidney, Australia, Texas and New York. [redacted] added that he produced modified tapes identified as mod. #1 from master #1 and modified tapes identified as mod. #1-1 and mod. #1-2 from master #2, which reflect the calls made by [redacted]

[redacted] further advised that examination of the toll billings associated with [redacted] telephone service reflects that [redacted] was not billed for any of the calls made during the above stated periods.

5

Interviewed on 4/18/72 at San Francisco, Calif. File # SF 87-33313

by SA [redacted] and [redacted] plh Date dictated 4/24/72

b6  
b7C

2  
SF 87-33313  
FAG/plh

made available the call detailed sheets reflecting the above calls. The call detail sheets are as follows:

b6  
b7C  
b7D

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/8/72

[redacted] General Telephone Company, personally appeared in the San Francisco Office of the FBI and advised that two line observations were personally made by him on the telephone leased by [redacted] telephone number [redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

The first line observation was made on April 30, 1972 between the hours of 8:00 PM through 12:00 midnight. [redacted] stated that during this period of time at 10:52 PM multi-frequency signals were detected coming from this line and an individual who identified himself as [redacted] completed a call by the use of multi-frequency signals to Inward Operator, Oakland, California.

[redacted] stated that he personally made line observations on [redacted] line on May 1, 1972 between the hours of 12:01 AM through 11:00 PM. [redacted] stated that during this period of time numerous calls were made through the use of unauthorized multi-frequency signals. [redacted] advised that all of the calls were made to points in California except for one call. This call was made at 7:59 PM which was a multi-frequency call made to a clandestine phone freak conference circuit set up in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

[redacted] stated that he has made tapes evidencing the above calls which he has identified on a call detail sheet as modified tape #3 and modified tape #4.

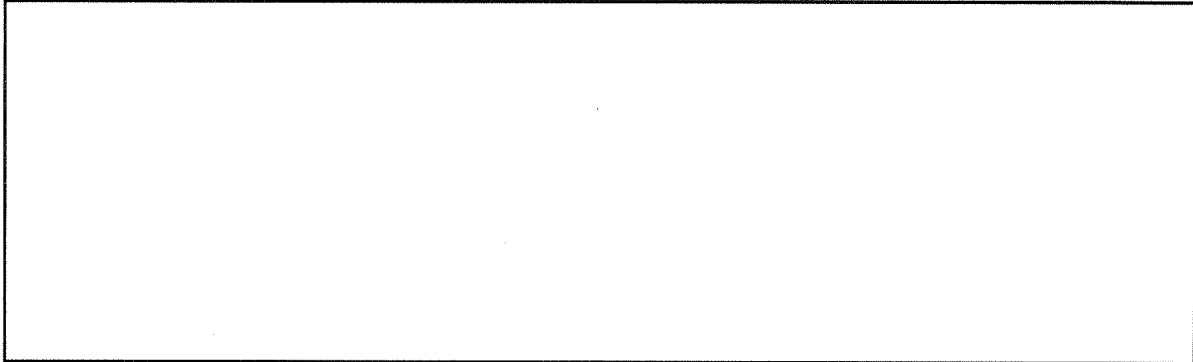
[redacted] made available the call detail sheets referring to these calls. The sheets are as follows:

Interviewed on 5/2/72 at San Francisco, Calif. File # SF 87-33313

by SA [redacted] / plh 10 Date dictated 5/8/72

b6  
b7C

SF 87-33313  
FAG/plh



b6  
b7C

On May 2, 1972, the facts of this case were presented to Assistant U.S. Attorney, PAUL J. FITZPATRICK by SA [redacted]. Mr. FITZPATRICK authorized the filing of a complaint charging [redacted] with violation of Title 18, Section 1343, Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property - Fraud by Wire. Bond was recommended at \$5,000-. At the same time Mr. FITZPATRICK authorized the filing of a search warrant for the search of a [redacted] located at [redacted] California; 1969 California Volkswagen Wagon, California license [redacted].

The above complaint and search warrant were filed by SA [redacted] before U.S. Magistrate, NORDIN F. BLACKER on May 3, 1972, at San Jose, California.

Fugitive Form Letter has been submitted to the Bureau.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription May 8, 1972

[redacted] b6  
[redacted] b7C  
California, was advised as to the identities of the interviewing Agents and then placed under arrest at the parking lot of the [redacted] located at [redacted] [redacted] California. SA [redacted] advised [redacted] that he was being placed under arrest for violation Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property, Fraud by Wire.

[redacted] upon observing arresting Agents and prior to his actual arrest, exited the Volkswagen van he was driving and walked to the rear of his vehicle. Upon reaching an area near the rear right bumper, he was observed by arresting Agents to drop from his shirt on the ground the following items which were seized:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

After discarding the above items, [redacted] was then observed to place a small metal object, later determined to be a magnet on the rear portion of his vehicle. This object, which was a silver in color magnet, approximately 7/8 inches long by 1/8 inches wide was also seized.

Interviewed on 5/4/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313

by SA [redacted] SA [redacted] esp Date dictated 5/5/72

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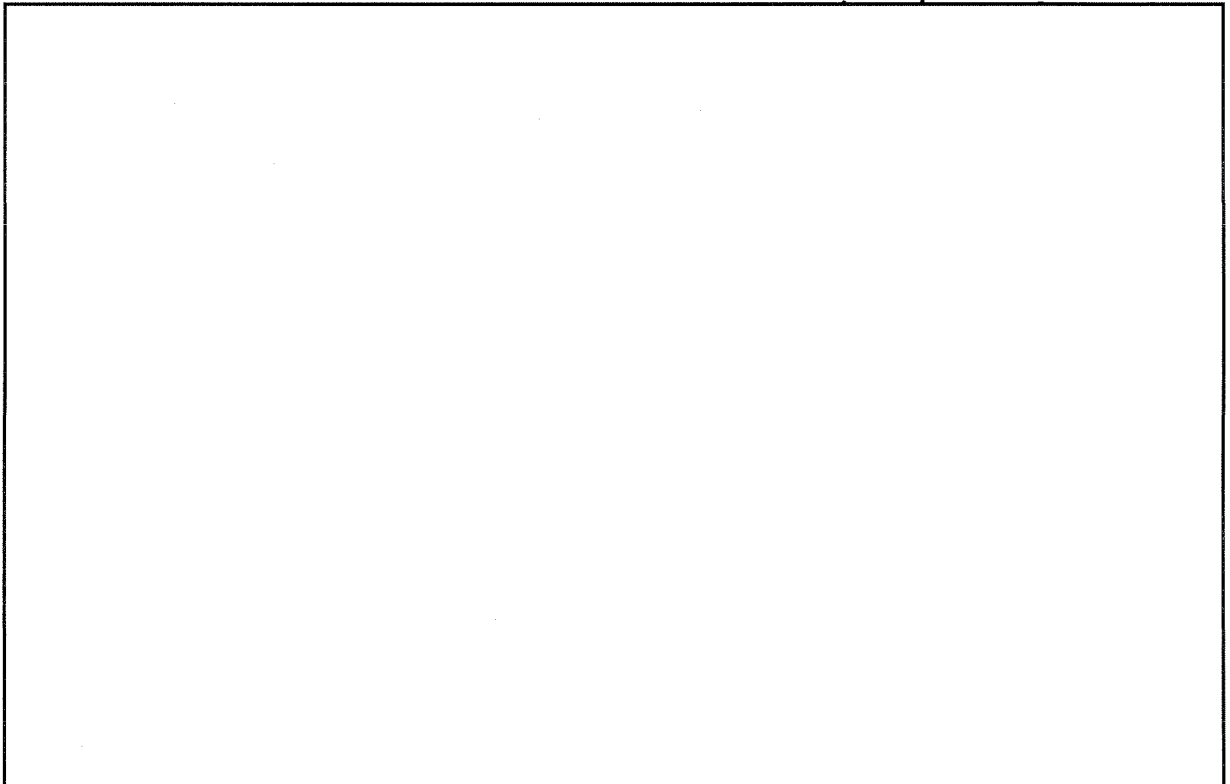
2

SF 87-33313  
DKB/PTF/esp

Upon placing [ ] under arrest, SA [ ] formally advised him of his rights by stating that before we ask you any questions you have certain rights. You have the right to remain silent, and anything that you say could be used against you in court. You have the right to talk to a lawyer before we ask you any questions and to have him present during the interview. If you are not able to afford a lawyer, one will be appointed for you prior to any interview. If you elect to answer questions at this time without your lawyer present, you may stop at any time until you do consult with your lawyer. [ ] stated that he understood his rights and that he did not have any questions.

b6  
b7c

During a search of [ ] incidental to his arrest, the following items were found on his person:



<sup>3</sup>  
SF 87-33313  
DKB/PTF/esp

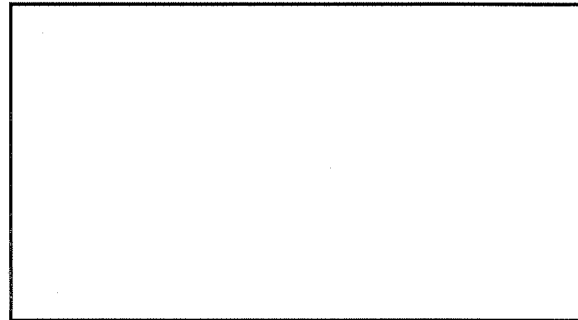
10)

A rectangular box with a black border, used to redact information.

The following description was obtained through  
observation and interview:

b6  
b7C

Name:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Height:  
Weight:  
Hair:  
Eyes:  
Peculiarities:

A rectangular box with a black border, used to redact information.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/10/72b6  
b7c

[redacted]  
California was arrested in the parking lot of the [redacted]  
[redacted]  
California, by SAs [redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted] was then placed in a Bureau automobile.

[redacted] was orally advised of his rights by SA [redacted]  
and was furnished a Waiver of Rights Form which after reading  
he stated he understood, but declined to sign.

[redacted] was furnished a copy of a search warrant  
issued on May 3, 1972 by U.S. Magistrate, NORDIN F. BLACKER  
and after reading above search warrant advised he understood  
the statements contained therein.

[redacted] said he did not wish to answer any questions  
at this time without benefit of an attorney, but was willing  
to furnish descriptive information:

The following information was obtained through  
observation and interview:

Name  
Race  
Sex  
Born  
Place of Birth  
Height  
Weight  
Hair  
Eyes  
Driver's License  
Social Security  
Occupation

Employer

Interviewed on 5/4/72 at [redacted] Calif. File # SF 87-33313

by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] / plh Date dictated 5/10/72

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2  
SF 87-33313  
FAG/plh

b6  
b7C

Parents

Brother

Sister

Current Address

Person Knowing Address

Military Service

[redacted] was asked if he had ever used any names other than [redacted] and he stated he did not wish to answer that question.

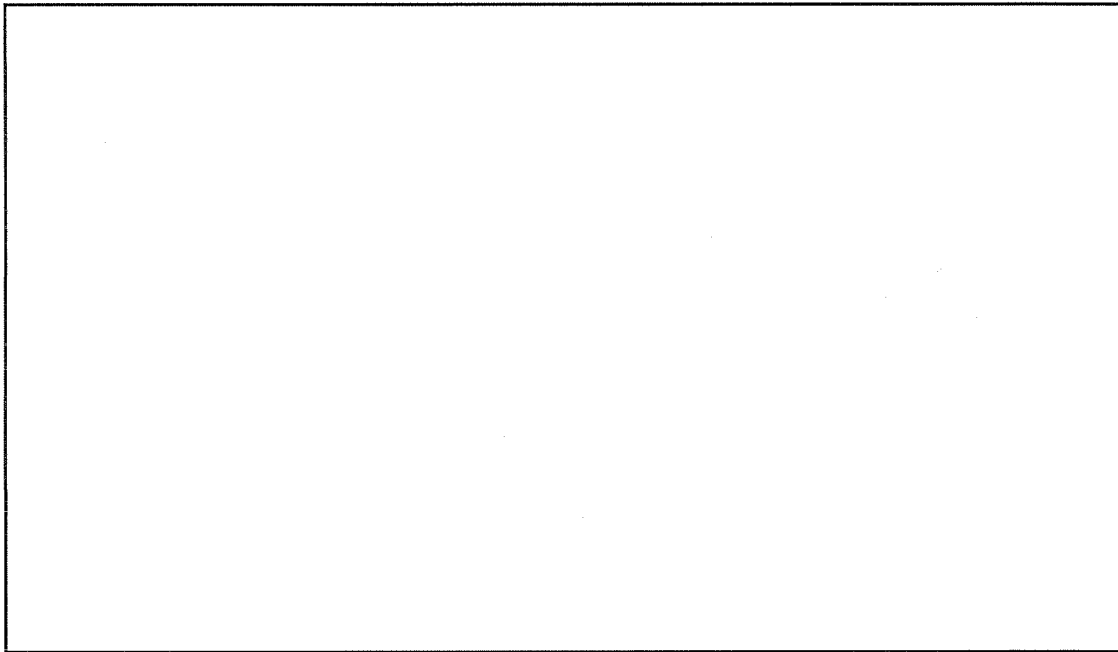
## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/10/72

After the arrest of [redacted] at [redacted]  
[redacted] California, a search of the  
Volkswagon van he was driving bearing California license number  
[redacted] was made by SAs [redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted] The search was made pursuant to a search warrant  
issued May 3, 1972, by U.S. Magistrate NORDIN F. BLACKER at  
San Jose, California.

b6  
b7C

The following items were located in the van and  
seized as evidence:



Interviewed on 5/4/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313  
by SA [redacted] and  
SA [redacted] vck Date dictated 5/5/72

1.9A  
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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription May 8, 1972

At approximately 10:10 am on May 4, 1972, a search of the residence described as a one story stucco dwelling house, with detached garage, located at [redacted] California, was made pursuant to the execution of a search warrant. It is noted the search warrant was issued by United States Magistrate NORDIN F. BLACKER, San Jose, California on May 3, 1972.

b6  
b7C

At the time of search [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] and was orally read the warrant by SA [redacted] [redacted] advised she understood the search warrant and voluntarily consented to the search.

A search was conducted in the rear bedroom of the residence on the southeast corner, which was considered by [redacted] to be [redacted]

The following items were seized and marked for evidence:



Interviewed on 5/4/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313  
by SA [redacted] SA [redacted] esp 20 Date dictated 5/4/72

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription May 10, 1972

[redacted] California. advised he is currently [redacted] [redacted] stated that he met [redacted] in [redacted] early October, 1971. [redacted] California.

b6  
b7C

[redacted] in San Jose. [redacted] stated he had a conversation with [redacted] at the party and during the conversation [redacted] talked about the telephone system and how the telephone system is set up. [redacted] further stated that [redacted] made reference during the conversation to an article which dealt with phone phreaks.

[redacted] stated he ran into [redacted] a few times after that and learned that [redacted]

[redacted] stated he became aware that [redacted] had a technical knowledge of the telephone system and seemed extremely interested in the telephone system. [redacted]

[redacted] stated that [redacted] was visited by numerous unknown individuals [redacted] however, [redacted] stated he could not name any of these individuals.

b6  
b7C

Interviewed on 5/4/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313

by SA [redacted] vck 23 Date dictated 5/10/72

SF 87-33313

KWT/vck

[redacted] stated that [redacted] kept to himself and would generally [redacted] [redacted] stated that he was unaware that [redacted] was doing anything wrong or illegal and [redacted] never made boasts or statements about any skills.

b6  
b7C

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/10/72

[redacted]  
California, advised that she is employed by [redacted]

[redacted] California, as a [redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

b6  
b7C

Interviewed on 5/4/72 at San Jose, California File # SF 87-33313

by SA [redacted] /vck \_\_\_\_\_ Date dictated 5/10/72

25

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/10/72

[redacted] General Telephone Company of California, 100 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, California, was present during the examination of items seized pursuant to the execution of a search warrant issued by U.S. Magistrate NORDIN F. BLACKER, San Jose, California, on May 3, 1972

b6  
b7C  
b7D

The above items seized on May 4, 1972 were taken from the person of [redacted], a 1969 Green Volkswagen Wagon bearing California license [redacted] registered to [redacted] and the residence at [redacted] California.

The above items were examined and the following identification regarding some of the items was made by [redacted] Senior Special Agent, General Telephone Company of California:

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Interviewed on 5/5/72 at San Jose, California File # SF 87-33313  
by SA [redacted] / plh 26 Date dictated 5/8/72

SF 87-33313  
FAG/plh

On May 4, 1972, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] California, appeared before U.S. Magistrate  
NORDIN F. BLACKER, San Jose, California, Docket Number  
5-72-107-B. He was released on his own recognizance and  
ordered to appear in U.S. District Court, San Francisco,  
on May 26, 1972

b6  
b7C

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 5/10/72

[redacted] [redacted]  
[redacted], California, was advised of the identities of interviewing Agents and of his rights as appeared on the Advice of Rights form. He executed the waiver by signature and advised as follows:

b6  
b7C  
b7D

He is associated [redacted] with [redacted]  
[redacted] in a business called [redacted]

[redacted] located at [redacted]  
This partnership was formed in approximately [redacted]  
by verbal agreement only between [redacted]

The purpose of the business is to [redacted]

[redacted]

He stated that he has known [redacted]

[redacted] and that he met

[redacted] a couple of years ago.

[redacted]

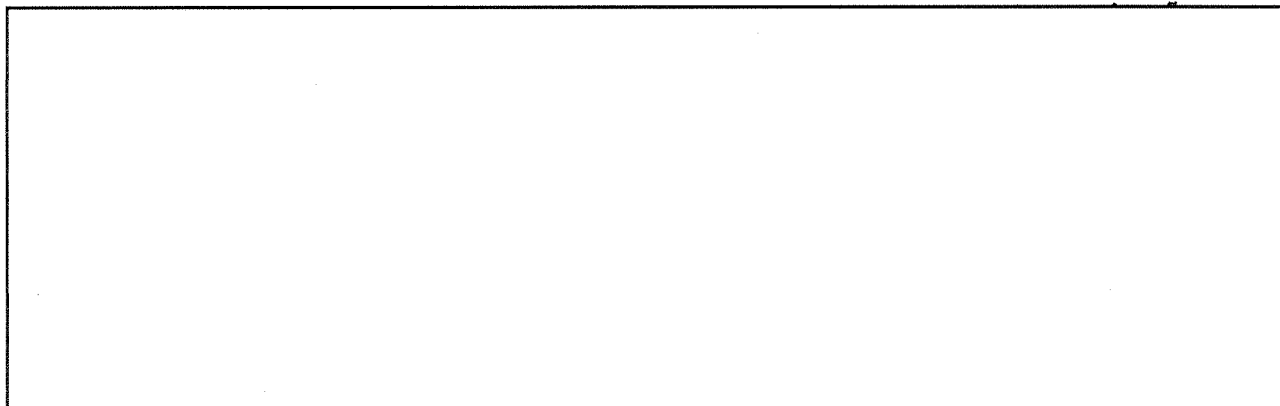
[redacted] has never discussed, participated in designing or manufacturing of any instrument with [redacted] or any other person that could to his knowledge be used to defraud the telephone company or any other company or individual in any way.

Interviewed on 5/8/72 at [redacted], Calif. File # SF 87-33313

29

by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] / plh Date dictated 5/10/72

2  
SF 87-33313  
TFW/plh



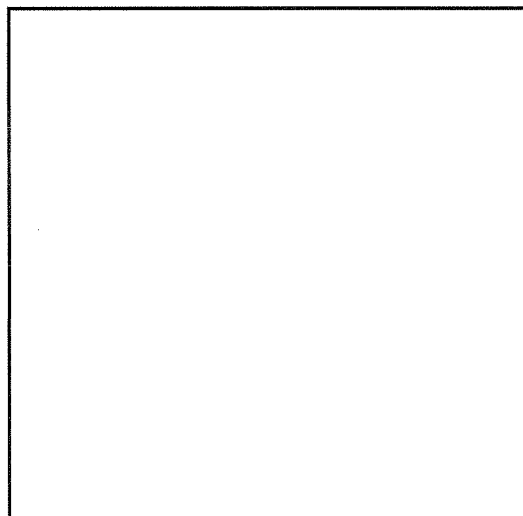
It is noted that [redacted] stated that he resides at this address and has the electrical shop in a small room in the front of the building at this address.

[redacted] furnished the following background and descriptive data:

Name  
Sex  
Race  
Birth Data

Eyes  
Hair  
Height  
Weight  
Marital Status  
Education

Major Field of Study  
Criminal Record



SF 87-33313  
FAG/plh

The files of the FBI Identification Division were examined on May 21, 1972 and no criminal record for the Subject was located.

b6  
b7C  
b7D

On May 8, 1972, [redacted]  
Federal Communications Commission (FCC), 322 Custom House,  
555 Battery Street, San Francisco, advised that his records  
reflect that a ham radio operator's license number [redacted]  
was issued to [redacted] Date of issue was not  
indicated. [redacted] also indicated that on [redacted]  
a radio telephone operator's first class license number  
[redacted] was issued to [redacted]

11

87-121189-3

ENCLOSURE

L ~~oose~~

Mail

# 5

# Secrets of the Little Blue Box

by Ron Rosenbaum

*A story so incredible it may even make you feel sorry for the phone company*

## The Blue Box Is Introduced: Its Qualities Are Remarkable

I am in the expensively furnished living room of Al Gilbertson\*, the creator of the "blue box." Gilbertson is holding one of his shiny black-and-silver "blue boxes" comfortably in the palm of his hand, pointing out the thirteen little red push buttons sticking up from the console. He is dancing his fingers over the buttons, tapping out discordant beeping electronic jingles. He is trying to explain to me how his little blue box does nothing less than place the entire telephone system of the world, satellites, cables and all, at the service of the blue-box operator, free of charge.

"That's what it does. Essentially it gives you the power of a super operator. You seize a tandem with this top button," he presses the top button with his index finger and the blue box emits a high-pitched cheep, "and like that"—cheep goes the blue box again—"you control the phone company's long-distance switching systems from your cute little Princess phone or any old pay phone. And you've got anonymity. An operator has to operate from a definite location: the phone company knows where she is and what she's doing. But with your beeper box, once you hop onto a trunk, say from a Holiday Inn 800 [toll-free] number, they don't know where you are, or where you're coming from, they don't know how you slipped into their lines and popped up in that 800 number. They don't even know anything illegal is going on. And you can obscure your origins through as many levels as you like. You can call next door by way of White Plains, then over to Liverpool by cable, and then back here by satellite. You can call yourself from one pay phone all the way around the world to a pay phone next to you. And you get your dime back too."

"And they can't trace the calls? They can't charge you?"

"Not if you do it the right way. But you'll find that the free-call thing isn't really as exciting at first as the feeling of power you get from having one of these babies in your hand. I've watched people when they first get hold of one of these things and start using it, and discover they can make connections, set up crisscross and zigzag switching patterns back and forth across the world. They hardly talk to the people they finally reach. They say hello and start thinking of what kind of call to make next. They go a little crazy."

The neat little package in his palm. His fingers are still dancing, tapping out beeper patterns.

"I think it's something to do with how small my models

\* His real name has been changed.

Photographed by Ronald Barnett

are. There are lots of blue boxes around, but mine are the smallest and most sophisticated electronically. I wish I could show you the prototype we made for our big syndicate order."

He sighs. "We had this order for a thousand beeper boxes from a syndicate front man in Las Vegas. They use them to place bets coast to coast, keep lines open for hours, all of which can get expensive if you have to pay. The deal was a thousand blue boxes for \$300 apiece. Before then we retailed them for \$1,500 apiece, but \$300,000 in one lump was hard to turn down. We had a manufacturing deal worked out in the Philippines. Everything ready to go. Anyway, the model I had ready for limited mass production was small enough to fit inside a flip-top Marlboro box. It had flush touch panels for a keyboard, rather than these unsightly buttons sticking out. Looked just like a tiny portable radio. In fact, I had designed it with a tiny transistor receiver to get one AM channel, so in case the law became suspicious the owner could switch on the radio part, start snapping his fingers, and no one could tell anything illegal was going on. I thought of everything for this model—I had it lined with a band of thermite which could be ignited by radio signal from a tiny button transmitter on your belt, so it could be burned to ashes instantly in case of a bust. It was beautiful. A beautiful little machine. You should have seen the faces on these syndicate guys when they came back after trying it out. They'd hold it in their palm like they never wanted to let it go, and they'd say, 'I can't believe it. I can't believe it.' You probably won't believe it until you try it."

## The Blue Box Is Tested: Certain Connections Are Made

About eleven o'clock two nights later Fraser Lucey has a blue box in the palm of his left hand and a phone in the palm of his right. He is standing inside a phone booth next to an isolated shut-down motel off Highway 1. I am standing outside the phone booth.

Fraser likes to show off his blue box for people. Until a few weeks ago when Pacific Telephone made a few arrests in his city, Fraser Lucey liked to bring his blue box\*\* to parties. It never failed: a few cheeps from his device and Fraser became the center of attention at any gathering of gossips, playing phone tricks and doing request numbers for hours. He began to

\*\* This particular blue box, like most blue boxes, is not blue. Blue boxes have come to be called "blue boxes" either 1) because the first blue box ever confiscated by phone-company security men happened to be blue, or 2) to distinguish them from "black boxes." Black boxes are devices, usually a resistor in series, which, when attached to a home phone, allow all incoming calls to be made without charge to one's calls.

combinations of six master tones. Those are the tones you sometimes hear in the background after you've dialed a long-distance number. They decided to use some very simple tones—the tone for each number is just two fixed single-frequency tones played simultaneously to create a certain beat frequency. Like 1300 cycles per second and 900 cycles per second played together give you the tone for digit 5. Now, what some of these phone phreaks have done is get themselves access to an electric organ. Any cheap family home-entertainment organ. Since the frequencies are public knowledge now—one blind phone phreak has even had them recorded in one of those talking books for the blind—they just have to find the musical notes on the organ which correspond to the phone tones. Then they tape them. For instance, to get Ma Bell's tone for the number 1, you press down organ keys F<sup>5</sup> and A<sup>5</sup> [900 and 700 cycles per second] at the same time. To produce the tone for 2 it's F<sup>5</sup> and C<sup>6</sup> [1100 and 700 c.p.s.]. The phone phreaks circulate the whole list of notes so there's no trial and error anymore."

He shows me a list of the rest of the phone numbers and the two electric organ keys that produce them.

"Actually, you have to record these notes at 3¾ inches-per-second tape speed and double it to 7½ inches-per-second when you play them back, to get the proper tones," he adds.

"So once you have all the tones recorded, how do you plug them into the phone system?"

"Well, they take their organ and their cassette recorder, and start banging out entire phone numbers in tones on the organ, including country codes, routing instructions, 'KP' and 'Start' tones. Or, if they don't have an organ, someone in the phone-phreak network sends them a cassette with all the tones recorded, with a voice saying 'Number one,' then you have the tone, 'Number two,' then the tone and so on. So with two cassette recorders they can put together a series of phone numbers by switching back and forth from number to number. Any idiot in the country with a cheap cassette recorder can make all the free calls he wants."

"You mean you just hold the cassette recorder up to the mouthpiece and switch in a series of beeps you've recorded? The phone thinks that anything that makes these tones must be its own equipment?"

"Right. As long as you get the frequency within thirty cycles per second of the phone company's tones, the phone equipment thinks it hears its own voice talking to it. The original granddaddy phone phreak was this blind kid with perfect pitch, Joe Engressia, who used to whistle into the phone. An operator could tell the difference between his whistle and the phone company's electronic tone generator, but the phone company's switching circuit can't tell them apart. The bigger the phone company gets and the further away from human operators it gets, the more vulnerable it becomes to all sorts of phone phreaking."

#### A Guide for the Perplexed

"But wait a minute," I stop Gilbertson. "If everything you do sounds like phone-company equipment, why doesn't the phone company charge you for the call the way it charges its own equipment?"

"Okay. That's where the 2600-cycle tone comes in. I better start from the beginning."

The beginning he describes for me is a vision of the phone system of the continent as thousands of webs, of long-line trunks radiating from each of the hundreds of toll switching offices to the other toll switching offices. Each toll switching office is a hive compacted of thousands of long-distance tandems constantly whistling and beeping to tandems in far-off toll switching offices.

The tandem is the key to the whole system. Each

tandem is a line with some relays with the capability of signaling any other tandem in any other toll switching office on the continent, either directly one-to-one or by programming a roundabout route through several other tandems if all the direct routes are busy. For instance, if you want to call from New York to Los Angeles and traffic is heavy on all direct trunks between the two cities, your tandem in New York is programmed to try the next best route, which may send you down to a tandem in New Orleans, then up to San Francisco, or down to a New Orleans tandem, back to an Atlanta tandem, over to an Albuquerque tandem and finally up to Los Angeles.

When a tandem is not being used, when it's sitting there waiting for someone to make a long-distance call, it whistles. One side of the tandem, the side "facing" your home phone, whistles at 2600 cycles per second toward all the home phones serviced by the exchange, telling them it is at their service, should they be interested in making a long-distance call. The other side of the tandem is whistling 2600 c.p.s. into one or more long-distance trunk lines, telling the rest of the phone system that it is neither sending nor receiving a call through that trunk at the moment, that it has no use for that trunk at the moment.

When you dial a long-distance number the first thing that happens is that you are hooked into a tandem. A register comes up to the side of the tandem facing away from you and presents that side with the number you dialed. This sending side of the tandem stops whistling 2600 into its trunk line. When a tandem stops the 2600 tone it has been sending through a trunk, the trunk is said to be "seized," and is now ready to carry the number you have dialed—converted into multi-frequency beep tones—to a tandem in the area code and central office you want.

Now when a blue-box operator wants to make a call from New Orleans to New York he starts by dialing the 800 number of a company which might happen to have its headquarters in Los Angeles. The sending side of the New Orleans tandem stops sending 2600 out over the trunk to the central office in Los Angeles, thereby seizing the trunk. Your New Orleans tandem begins sending beep tones to a tandem it has discovered idly whistling 2600 cycles in Los Angeles. The receiving end of that L.A. tandem is seized, stops whistling 2600, listens to the beep tones which tell it which L.A. phone to ring, and starts ringing the 800 number. Meanwhile a mark made in the New Orleans office accounting tape notes that a call from your New Orleans phone to the 800 number in L.A. has been initiated and gives the call a code number. Everything is routine so far.

But then the phone phreak presses his blue box to the mouthpiece and pushes the 2600-cycle button, sending 2600 out from the New Orleans tandem to the L.A. tandem. The L.A. tandem notices 2600 cycles are coming over the line again and assumes that New Orleans has hung up because the trunk is whistling as if idle. The L.A. tandem immediately ceases ringing the L.A. 800 number. But as soon as the phreak takes his finger off the 2600 button, the L.A. tandem assumes the trunk is once again being used because the 2600 is gone, so it listens for a new series of digit tones—to find out where it must send the call.

Thus the blue-box operator in New Orleans now is in touch with a tandem in L.A. which is waiting like an obedient genie to be told what to do next. The blue-box owner then beeps out the ten digits of the New York number which tell the L.A. tandem to relay a call to New York City. Which it promptly does. As soon as your party picks up the phone in New York, the side of the New Orleans tandem facing you stops sending 2600

cycles to you and starts carrying his voice to you by way of the L.A. tandem. A notation is made on the accounting tape that the connection has been made on the 800 call which had been initiated and noted earlier. When you stop talking to New York a notation is made that the 800 call has ended.

At three the next morning, when the phone company's accounting computer starts reading back over the master accounting tape for the past day, it records that a call of a certain length of time was made from your New Orleans home to an L.A. 800 number and, of course, the accounting computer has been trained to ignore these toll-free 800 calls when compiling your monthly bill.

"All they can prove is that you made an 800 toll-free call," Gilbertson the inventor concludes. "Of course, if you're foolish enough to talk for two hours on an 800 call, and they've installed one of their special anti-fraud computer programs to watch out for such things, they may spot you and ask you why you took two hours talking to Army Recruiting's 800 number when you're 4-F. But if you do it from a pay phone, they may discover something peculiar the next day—if they've got a blue-box hunting program in their computer—but you'll be a long time gone from the pay phone by then. Using a pay phone is almost guaranteed safe."

"What about the recent series of blue-box arrests all across the country—New York, Cleveland, and so on?" I asked. "How were they caught so easily?"

"From what I can tell, they made one big mistake: they were seizing trunks using an area code plus 555-1212 instead of an 800 number. Using 555 is easy to detect because when you send multi-frequency beep tones off 555 you get a charge for it on your tape and the accounting computer knows there's something wrong when it tries to bill you for a two-hour call to Akron, Ohio, information, and it drops a trouble card which goes right into the hands of the security agent if they're looking for blue-box users.

"Whoever sold those guys their blue boxes didn't tell them how to use them properly, which is fairly irresponsible. And they were fairly stupid to use them at home all the time.

"But what those arrests really mean is that an awful lot of blue boxes are flooding into the country and that people are finding them so easy to make that they know how to make them before they know how to use them. Ma Bell is in trouble."

And if a blue-box operator or a cassette-recorder phone phreak sticks to pay phones and 800 numbers, the phone company can't stop them?

"Not unless they change their entire nationwide long-lines technology, which will take them a few billion dollars and twenty years. Right now they can't do a thing. They're screwed."

#### Captain Crunch Demonstrates His Famous Unit

There is an underground telephone network in this country. Gilbertson discovered it the very day news of his activities hit the papers. That evening his phone began ringing. Phone phreaks from Seattle, from Florida, from New York, from San Jose, and from Los Angeles began calling him and telling him about the phone-phreak network. He'd get a call from a phone phreak who'd say nothing but, "Haug up and call this number."

When he dialed the number he'd find himself tied into a conference of a dozen phone phreaks arranged through a quirky switching station in British Columbia. They identified themselves as phone phreaks, they demonstrated their homemade blue boxes which they called "M-F-ers" (for "multi-frequency," among other things)

for him, they talked shop about phone-phreak devices. They let him in on their secrets on the theory that if the phone company was after him he must be trustworthy. And, Gilbertson recalls, they stunned him with their technical sophistication.

I ask him how to get in touch with the phone-phreak network. He digs around through a file of old schematics and comes up with about a dozen numbers in three widely separated area codes.

"Those are the centers," he tells me. Alongside some of the numbers he writes in first names or nicknames: names like Captain Crunch, Dr. No, Frank Carson (also a code word for free call), Marty Freeman (code word for M-F device), Peter Perpendicular Pimple, Alefnull, and The Cheshire Cat. He makes checks alongside the names of those among these top twelve who are blind. There are five checks.

I ask him who this Captain Crunch person is.

"Oh. The Captain. He's probably the most legendary phone phreak. He calls himself Captain Crunch after the notorious Cap'n Crunch 2600 whistle." (Several years ago, Gilbertson explains, the makers of Cap'n Crunch breakfast cereal offered a toy-whistle prize in every box as a treat for the Cap'n Crunch set. Somehow a phone phreak discovered that the toy whistle just happened to produce a perfect 2600-cycle tone. When the man who calls himself Captain Crunch was transferred overseas to England with his Air Force unit, he would receive scores of calls from his friends and "mute" them—make them free of charge to them—by blowing his Cap'n Crunch whistle into his end.)

"Captain Crunch is one of the older phone phreaks," Gilbertson tells me. "He's an engineer who once got in a little trouble for fooling around with the phone, but he can't stop. Well, this guy drives across country in a Volkswagen van with an entire switchboard and a computerized super-sophisticated M-F-er in the back. He'll pull up to a phone booth on a lonely highway somewhere, snake a cable out of his bus, hook it onto the phone and sit for hours, days sometimes, sending calls zipping back and forth across the country, all over the world. . . ."

Back at my motel, I dialed the number he gave me for "Captain Crunch" and asked for G ---- T ----, his real name, or at least the name he uses when he's not dashing into a phone booth beeping out M-F tones faster than a speeding bullet, and zipping phantomlike through the phone company's long-distance lines.

When G ---- T ---- answered the phone and I told him I was preparing a story for Esquire about phone phreaks, he became very indignant.

"I don't do that. I don't do that anymore at all. And if I do it, I do it for one reason and one reason only. I'm learning about a system. The phone company is a System. A computer is a System. Do you understand? If I do what I do, it is only to explore a System. Computers. Systems. That's my bag. The phone company is nothing but a computer."

A tone of tightly restrained excitement enters the Captain's voice when he starts talking about Systems. He begins to pronounce each syllable with the hushed deliberation of an obscene caller.

"Ma Bell is a system I want to explore. It's a beautiful system, you know, but Ma Bell screwed up. It's terrible because Ma Bell is such a beautiful system, but she screwed up. I learned how she screwed up from a couple of blind kids who wanted me to build a device. A certain device. They said 'It could make free calls.' I told me I could make calls into a computer, my eyes lit up. I wanted to learn about computers. I wanted to learn about Ma Bell's computers. So I built the little device.

Only I built it wrong and Ma Bell found out. Ma Bell can detect things like that. Ma Bell knows. So I'm strictly out of it now. I don't do it. Except for learning purposes." He pauses. "So you want to write an article. Are you paying for this call? Hang up and call this number."

He gives me a number in an area code a thousand miles north of his own. I dial the number.

"Hello again. This is Captain Crunch. You are speaking to me on a toll-free loop-around in Portland, Oregon. Do you know what a toll-free loop-around is? I'll tell you."

He explains to me that almost every exchange in the country has open test numbers which allow other exchanges to test their connections with it. Most of these numbers occur in consecutive pairs, such as 302 956-0041 and 956-0042. Well, certain phone phreaks discovered that if two people from anywhere in the country dial those two consecutive numbers they can talk together just as if one had called the other's number, with no charge to either of them, of course.

"Your voice is looping around in a 4A switching machine up there in Canada, zipping back down to me," the Captain tells me. "My voice is looping around up there and back down to you. And it can't ever cost anyone money. The phone phreaks and I have compiled a list of many many of these numbers. You would be surprised if you saw the list. I could show it to you. But I won't. I'm out of that now. I'm not out to screw Ma Bell. I know better. If I do anything it's for the pure knowledge of the System. You can learn to do fantastic things. Have you ever heard eight tandems stacked up? Do you know the sound of tandems stacking and unstacking? Give me your phone number. Okay. Hang up now and wait a minute."

Slightly less than a minute later the phone rang and the Captain was on the line, his voice sounding far more excited, almost aroused.

"I wanted to show you what it's like to stack up tandems. To stack up tandems." (Whenever the Captain says "stack up" it sounds as if he is licking his lips.)

"How do you like the connection you're on now?" the Captain asks me. "It's a *raw* tandem. A *raw* tandem. Ain't nothin' up to it but a tandem. Now I'm going to show you what it's like to stack up. Blow off. Land in a faraway place. To stack *that* tandem up, whip back and forth across the country a few times, then shoot on up to Moscow."

"Listen," Captain Crunch continues. "Listen. I've got a line tie on my switchboard here, and I'm gonna let you hear me stack and unstack tandems. Listen to this. I'm gonna blow your mind."

First I hear a super rapid-fire pulsing of the flutelike phone tones, then a pause, then another popping burst of tones, then another, then another. Each burst is followed by a beep-kachink sound.

"We have now stacked up four tandems," said Captain Crunch, sounding somewhat remote. "That's four tandems stacked up. Do you know what that means? That means I'm whipping back and forth, back and forth twice, across the country, before coming to you. I've been known to stack up twenty tandems at a time. Now, just like I said, I'm going to shoot up to Moscow."

There is a now, longer series of beeper pulses over the line, a brief silence, then a ring.

"Hello," answers a far-off voice.

"Hello. Is this the American Embassy Moscow?"

"Yes, sir. Who is this calling?" says the voice.

"Yes. This is test board here in New York. We're calling to check out the circuits, see what kind of lines you've got. Everything okay there in Moscow?"

"Okay?"

"Well, yes, how are things there?"

"Oh. Well, everything okay, I guess."

"Okay. Thank you." They hang up, leaving a confused series of beep-kachink sounds hanging in mid-ether in the wake of the call before dissolving away.

The Captain is pleased. "You believe me now, don't you? Do you know what I'd like to do? I'd like to call up your editor at Esquire and show him *just* what it sounds like to stack and unstack tandems. I'll give him a show that will *blow his mind*. What's his number?"

I ask the Captain what kind of device he was using to accomplish all his feats. The Captain is pleased at the question.

"You could tell it was special, couldn't you? Ten pulses per second. That's faster than the phone company's equipment. Believe me, this unit is *the* most famous unit in the country. There is no other unit like it. Believe me."

"Yes, I've heard about it. Some other phone phreaks have told me about it."

"They have been referring to my, ahem, unit? What is it they said? Just out of curiosity, did they tell you it was a highly sophisticated computer-operated unit, with acoustical coupling for receiving outputs and a switchboard with multiple-line-tie capability? Did they tell you that the frequency tolerance is guaranteed to be not more than .05 percent? The amplitude tolerance less than .01 decibel? Those pulses you heard were perfect. They just come faster than the phone company. Those were high-precision op-amps. Op-amps are instrumentation amplifiers designed for ultra-stable amplification, super-low distortion and accurate frequency response. Did they tell you it can operate in temperatures from  $-55^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+125^{\circ}\text{C}$ ?"

I admit that they did not tell me all that.

"I built it myself," the Captain goes on. "If you were to go out and buy the components from an industrial wholesaler it would cost you at least \$1,500. I once worked for a semiconductor company and all this didn't cost me a cent. Do you know what I mean? Did they tell you about how I put a call completely around the world? I'll tell you how I did it. I M-F-ed Tokyo inward, who connected me to India, India connected me to Greece, Greece connected me to Pretoria, South Africa, South Africa connected me to South America, I went from South America to London, I had a London operator connect me to a New York operator, I had New York connect me to a California operator who rang the phone next to me. Needless to say I had to shout to hear myself. But the echo was far out. Fantastic. Delayed. It was delayed twenty seconds, but I could hear myself talk to myself."

"You mean you were speaking into the mouthpiece of one phone sending your voice around the world into your ear through a phone on the other side of your head?" I asked the Captain. I had a vision of something vaguely autoerotic going on, in a complex electronic way.

"That's right," said the Captain. "I've also sent my voice around the world one way, going east on one phone, and going west on the other, going through cable one way, satellite the other, coming back together at the same time, ringing the two phones simultaneously and picking them up and whipping my voice both ways around the world back to me. Wow. That was a mind-blower."

"You mean you sit there with both phones on your ear and talk to yourself around the world," I said incredulously.

"Yeah. Um hum. That's what I do. I connect the phones together and sit there and talk."

"What do you say? What do you say to yourself when you're connected?"

tween wanting to prove to the phone-company monitors that he does nothing illegal, and the desire to impress Ma Bell with his prowess. "Ma Bell knows the things I can do," he continues. "Ma Bell knows how good I am. And I am *quite* good. I can detect reversals, tandem switching, everything that goes on on a line. I have relative pitch now. Do you know what that means? My ears are a \$20,000 piece of equipment. With my ears I can detect things they can't hear with their equipment. I've had employment problems. I've lost jobs. But I want to show Ma Bell how good I am. I don't want to screw her, I want to work for her. I want to do good for her. I want to help her get rid of her flaws and become perfect. That's my number-one goal in life now." The Captain concludes his warnings and tells me he has to be going. "I've got a little action lined up for tonight," he explains and hangs up.

Before I hang up for the night, I call Joe Engressia back. He reports that his tormentor has finally gone to sleep—"He's not *blind* drunk, that's the way I get, ahem, yes; but you might say he's in a drunken stupor." I make a date to visit Joe in Memphis in two days.

#### A Phone Phreak Cell Takes Care of Business

The next morning I attend a gathering of four phone phreaks in - - - - (a California suburb). The gathering takes place in a comfortable split-level home in an upper-middle-class subdivision. Heaped on the kitchen table are the portable cassette recorders, M-F cassettes, phone patches, and line ties of the four phone phreaks present. On the kitchen counter next to the telephone is a shoe-box-size blue box with thirteen large toggle switches for the tones. The parents of the host phone phreak, Ralph, who is blind, stay in the living room with their sighted children. They are not sure exactly what Ralph and his friends do with the phone or if it's strictly legal, but he is blind and they are pleased he has a hobby which keeps him busy.

The group has been working at reestablishing the historic "2111" conference, reopening some toll-free loops, and trying to discover the dimensions of what seem to be new initiatives against phone phreaks by phone-company security agents.

It is not long before I get a chance to see, to hear, Randy at work. Randy is known among the phone phreaks as perhaps the finest con man in the game. Randy is blind. He is pale, soft and pear-shaped, he wears baggy pants and a wrinkly nylon white sport shirt, pushes his head forward from hunched shoulders somewhat like a turtle inching out of its shell. His eyes wander, crossing and recrossing, and his forehead is somewhat pimply. He is only sixteen years old.

But when Randy starts speaking into a telephone mouthpiece his voice becomes so stunningly authoritative it is necessary to look again to convince yourself it comes from chubby adolescent Randy. Imagine the voice of a crack oil-rig foreman, a tough, sharp, weather-beaten Marlboro man of forty. Imagine the voice of a brilliant performance-fund gunslinger explaining how he beats the Dow Jones by thirty percent. Then imagine a voice that could make those two sound like Stepin Fetchit. That is sixteen-year-old Randy's voice.

He is speaking to a switchman in Detroit. The phone company in Detroit had closed up two toll-free loop pairs for no apparent reason, although heavy use by phone phreaks all over the country may have been detected. Randy is telling the switchman how to open up the loop and make it free again:

"How are you, buddy. Yeah, I'm on the board in here in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and we've been trying to run some tests on your loop-arounds, and we find 'em busied out on

both sides. . . . Yeah, we've been getting a 'BY' on them, what d'ya say, can you drop cards on 'em? Do you have 08 on your number group? Oh that's okay, we've had this trouble before, we may have to go after the circuit. Here, lemme give 'em to you: your frame is 05, vertical group 03, horizontal 5, vertical file 3. Yeah, we'll hang on here. . . . Okay, found it? Good. Right, yeah, we'd like to clear that busy out. Right. All you have to do is look for your key on the mounting plate, it's in your miscellaneous trunk frame. Okay? Right. Now pull your key from NOR over to LCT. Yeah. I don't know why that happened, but we've been having trouble with that one. Okay. Thanks a lot, fella. Be seein' ya."

Randy hangs up, reports that the switchman was a little inexperienced with the loop-around circuits on the miscellaneous trunk frame, but that the loop has been returned to its free-call status.

Delighted, phone phreak Ed returns the pair of numbers to the active-status column in his directory. Ed is a superb and painstaking researcher. With almost Talmudic thoroughness he will trace tendrils of hints through soft-wired mazes of intervening phone-company circuitry back through complex linkages of switching relays to find the location and identity of just one toll-free loop. He spends hours and hours, every day, doing this sort of thing. He has somehow compiled a directory of eight hundred "Band-six in-WATS numbers" located in over forty states. Band-six in-WATS numbers are the big 800 numbers—the ones that can be dialed into free from anywhere in the country.

Ed the researcher, a nineteen-year-old engineering student, is also a superb technician. He put together his own working blue box from scratch at age seventeen. (He is sighted.) This evening after distributing the latest issue of his in-WATS directory (which has been typed into Braille for the blind phone phreaks), he announces he has made a major new breakthrough:

"I finally tested it and it works, perfectly. I've got this switching matrix which converts any touch-tone phone into an M-F'er."

The tones you hear in touch-tone phones are *not* the M-F tones that operate the long-distance switching system. Phone phreaks believe A.T.&T. had deliberately equipped touch tones with a different set of frequencies to avoid putting the six master M-F tones in the hands of every touch-tone owner. Ed's complex switching matrix puts the six master tones, in effect puts a blue box, in the hands of every touch-tone owner.

Ed shows me pages of schematics, specifications and parts lists. "It's not easy to build, but everything here is in the Heathkit catalog."

Ed asks Ralph what progress he has made in his attempts to reestablish a long-term open conference line for phone phreaks. The last big conference—the historic "2111" conference—had been arranged through an unused Telex test-board trunk somewhere in the innards of a 4A switching machine in Vancouver, Canada. For months phone phreaks could M-F their way into Vancouver, beep out 604 (the Vancouver area code) and then beep out 2111 (the internal phone-company code for Telex testing), and find themselves at any time, day or night, on an open wire talking with an array of phone phreaks from coast to coast, operators from Bermuda, Tokyo and London who are phone-phreak sympathizers, and miscellaneous guests and technical experts. The

conference was a massive exchange of information. Phone phreaks picked each other's brains clean, then developed new ways to pick the phone company's brains clean. Ralph gave *M F Boogie* concerts with his home-entertainment-type electric organ, Captain Crunch demonstrated his round-the-world prowess with his notori-

"Oh, you know. Hello test one two three," he says in a low-pitched voice.

"Hello test one two three," he replies to himself in a high-pitched voice.

"Hello test one two three," he repeats again, low-pitched.

"Hello test one two three," he replies, high-pitched.

"I sometimes do this: *Hello hello hello hello, hello, hello,*" he trails off and breaks into laughter.

#### Why Captain Crunch Hardly Ever Taps Phones Anymore

Using internal phone-company codes, phone phreaks have learned a simple method for tapping phones. Phone-company operators have in front of them a board that holds verification jacks. It allows them to plug into conversations in case of emergency, to listen in to a line to determine if the line is busy or the circuits are busy. Phone phreaks have learned to beep out the codes which lead them to a verification operator, tell the verification operator they are switchmen from some other area code testing out verification trunks. Once the operator hooks them into the verification trunk, they disappear into the board for all practical purposes, slip unnoticed into any one of the 10,000 to 100,000 numbers in that central office without the verification operator knowing what they're doing, and of course without the two parties to the connection knowing there is a phantom listener present on their line.

Toward the end of my hour-long first conversation with him, I asked the Captain if he ever tapped phones.

"Oh no. I don't do that. I don't think it's right," he told me firmly. "I have the power to do it but I don't. . . . Well one time, just one time, I have to admit that I did. There was this girl Linda, and I wanted to find out . . . you know. I tried to call her up for a date. I had a date with her the last weekend and I thought she liked me. I called her up, man, and her line was busy, and I kept calling and it was still busy. Well, I had just learned about this system of jumping into lines and I said to myself, 'Hmmm. Why not just see if it works. It'll surprise her if all of a sudden I should pop up on her line. It'll impress her, if anything.' So I went ahead and did it. I M-F-ed into the line. My M-F-er is powerful enough when patched directly into the mouthpiece to trigger a verification trunk without using an operator the way the other phone phreaks have to.

"I slipped into the line and there she was talking to another boyfriend. Making sweet talk to him. I didn't make a sound because I was so disgusted. So I waited there for her to hang up, listening to her making sweet talk to another guy. You know. So as soon as she hung up I instantly M-F-ed her up and all I said was, 'Linda, we're through.' And I hung up. And it blew her head off. She couldn't figure out what the hell had happened.

"But that was the only time. I did it thinking I would surprise her, impress her. Those were all my intentions were, and well, it really kind of hurt me pretty badly, and . . . and ever since then I don't go into verification trunks."

Moments later my first conversation with the Captain comes to a close.

"Listen," he says, his spirits somewhat cheered, "listen. What you are going to hear when I hang up is the sound of tandems unstacking. Layer after layer of tandems unstacking until there's nothing left of the stack, until it melts away into nothing. Cheep, cheep, cheep, cheep," he concludes, his voice descending to a whisper with each cheep.

He hangs up. The phone suddenly goes into four spasms: kachink cheep. Kachink cheep kachink cheep

kachink cheep, and the complex connection has wiped itself out like the Cheshire cat's smile.

#### The MF Boogie Blues

The next number I choose from the select list of phone-phreak illuminati prepared for me by the blue-box inventor is a Memphis number. It is the number of Joe Engressia, the first and still perhaps the most accomplished blind phone phreak.

Three years ago Engressia was a nine-day wonder in newspapers and magazines all over America because he had been discovered whistling free long-distance connections for fellow students at the University of South Florida. Engressia was born with perfect pitch; he could whistle phone tones better than the phone-company equipment.

Engressia might have gone on whistling in the dark for a few friends for the rest of his life if the phone company hadn't decided to expose him. He was warned, disciplined by the college, and the whole case became public. In the months following media reports of his talent, Engressia began receiving strange calls. There were calls from a group of kids in Los Angeles who could do some very strange things with the quirky General Telephone and Electronics circuitry in L.A. suburbs. There were calls from a group of mostly blind kids in ---, California, who had been doing some interesting experiments with Cap'n Crunch whistles and test loops. There was a group in Seattle, a group in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a few from New York, a few scattered across the country. Some of them had already equipped themselves with cassette and electronic M-F devices. For some of these groups, it was the first time they knew of the others.

The exposure of Engressia was the catalyst that linked the separate phone-phreak centers together. They all called Engressia. They talked to him about what he was doing and what they were doing. And then he told them—the scattered regional centers and lonely independent phone phreakers—about each other, gave them each other's numbers to call, and within a year the scattered phone-phreak centers had grown into a nationwide underground.

Joe Engressia is only twenty-two years old now, but along the phone-phreak network he is "the old man," accorded by phone phreaks something of the reverence the phone company bestows on Alexander Graham Bell. He seldom needs to make calls anymore. The phone phreaks all call him and let him know what new tricks, new codes, new techniques they have learned. Every night he sits like a sightless spider in his little apartment receiving messages from every tendril of his web. It is almost a point of pride with Joe that *they* call *him*.

But when I reached him in his Memphis apartment that night, Joe Engressia was lonely, jumpy and upset.

"God, I'm glad somebody called. I don't know why tonight of all nights I don't get any calls. This guy around here got drunk again tonight and propositioned me again. I keep telling him we'll never see eye to eye on this subject, if you know what I mean. I try to make light of it, you know, but he doesn't get it. I can hear him out there getting drunker and I don't know what he'll do next. It's just that I'm really all alone here. I just moved to Memphis. It's the first time I'm living out on my own, and I'd hate for it to all collapse now. But I won't go to bed with him. I'm just not very interested in sex and even if I can't see him I know he's ugly.

"Did you hear that? That's him banging a bottle against the wall outside. He's nice. Well forget about it. You're doing a story on phone phreaks? Listen to this. It's the *MF Boogie blues*."

Sure enough, a jumpy version of *Muskrat Ramble* boogies its way over the line, each note one of those long-distance phone tones. The music stops. A huge roaring voice blasts the phone off my ear: "AND THE QUESTION IS . . ." roars the voice, "CAN A BLIND PERSON HOOK UP AN AMPLIFIER ON HIS OWN?"

The roar ceases. A high-pitched operator-type voice replaces it. "This is Southern Braille Tel. & Tel. Have tone, will phone."

This is succeeded by a quick series of M-F tones, a swift "kachink" and a deep reassuring voice: "If you need home care, call the visiting-nurses association. First National time in Honolulu is 4:32 p.m."

Joe back in his Joe voice again: "Are we seeing eye to eye? 'Si, si,' said the blind Mexican. Ahem. Yes. Would you like to know the weather in Tokyo?"

This swift manic sequence of phone-phreak vaudeville stunts and blind-boy jokes manages to keep Joe's mind off his tormentor only as long as it lasts.

"The reason I'm in Memphis, the reason I have to depend on that homosexual guy, is that this is the first time I've been able to live on my own and make phone trips on my own. I've been banned from all central offices around home in Florida, they knew me too well, and at the University some of my fellow scholars were always harassing me because I was on the dorm pay phone all the time and making fun of me because of my fat ass, which of course I do have, it's my physical fatness program, but I don't like to hear it every day, and if I can't phone trip and I can't phone phreak, I can't imagine what I'd do, I've been devoting three quarters of my life to it.

"I moved to Memphis because I wanted to be on my own as well as because it has a Number 5 crossbar switching system and some interesting little independent phone-company districts nearby and so far they don't seem to know who I am so I can go on phone tripping, and for me phone tripping is just as important as phone phreaking."

Phone tripping, Joe explains, begins with calling up a central-office switch room. He tells the switchman in a polite earnest voice that he's a blind college student interested in telephones, and could he perhaps have a guided tour of the switching station? Each step of the tour Joe likes to touch and feel relays, caress switching circuits, switchboards, crossbar arrangements.

So when Joe Engressia phone phreaks he *feels* his way through the circuitry of the country garden of forking paths, he feels switches shift, relays shunt, crossbars swivel, tandems engage and disengage even as he hears—with perfect pitch—his M-F pulses make the entire Bell system dance to his tune.

Just one month ago Joe took all his savings out of his bank and left home, over the emotional protests of his mother. "I ran away from home almost," he likes to say. Joe found a small apartment house on Union Avenue and began making phone trips. He'd take a bus a hundred miles south into Mississippi to see some old-fashioned Bell equipment still in use in several states, which had been puzzling. He'd take a bus three hundred miles to Charlotte, North Carolina, to look at some brand-new experimental equipment. He hired a taxi to drive him twelve miles to a suburb to tour the office of a small phone company with some interesting idiosyncracies in its routing system. He was having the time of his life, he said, the most freedom and pleasure he had known.

In that month he had done very little long-distance phone phreaking from his own phone. He had begun to apply for a job with the phone company, he told me, and he wanted to stay away from anything illegal.

"Any kind of job will do, anything as menial as the

most lowly operator. That's probably all they'd give me because I'm blind. Even though I probably knew more than most switchmen. But that's okay. I *want* to work for Ma Bell. I don't hate Ma Bell the way Gilbertson and some phone phreaks do. I don't want to screw Ma Bell. With me it's the pleasure of pure knowledge. There's something beautiful about the system when you know it intimately the way I do. But I don't know how much they know about me here. I have a very intuitive feel for the condition of the line I'm on, and I think they're monitoring me off and on lately, but I haven't been doing much illegal. I *have* to make a few calls to switchmen once in a while which aren't strictly legal, and once I took an acid trip and was having these auditory hallucinations as if I were trapped and these planes were dive-bombing me, and all of a sudden I *had* to phone phreak out of there. For some reason I had to call Kansas City, but that's all."

#### A Warning Is Delivered

At this point—one o'clock in my time zone—a loud knock on my motel-room door interrupts our conversation. Outside the door I find a uniformed security guard who informs me that there has been an "emergency phone call" for me while I have been on the line and that the front desk has sent him up to let me know.

Two seconds after I say good-bye to Joe and hang up, the phone rings.

"Who were you talking to?" the agitated voice demands. The voice belongs to Captain Crunch. "I called because I decided to warn you of something. I decided to warn you to be careful. I don't want this information you get to get to the radical underground. I don't want it to get into the wrong hands. What would you say if I told you it's possible for three phone phreaks to saturate the phone system of the nation. Saturate it. Busy it out. All of it. I know how to do this. I'm not gonna tell. I friend of mine has already saturated the trunks between Seattle and New York. He did it with a computerized M-F'er hitched into a special Manitoba exchange. But there are other, easier ways to do it."

Just three people? I ask. How is that possible?

"Have you ever heard of the long-lines guard frequency? Do you know about stacking tandems with 17 and 2600? Well, I'd advise you to find out about it. I'm not gonna tell you. But whatever you do, don't let this get into the hands of the radical underground."

(Later Gilbertson the inventor confessed that while he had always been skeptical about the Captain's claim of the sabotage potential of trunk-tying phone phreaks, he had recently heard certain demonstrations which convinced him the Captain was not speaking idly. "I think it might take more than three people, depending on how many machines like Captain Crunch's were available. But even though the Captain *sounds* a little weird, he generally turns out to know what he's talking about.")

"You know," Captain Crunch continues in his admonitory tone, "you know the younger phone phreaks call Moscow all the time. Suppose everybody were to call Moscow. I'm no right-winger. But I value my life. I don't want the Commies coming over and dropping a bomb on my head. That's why I say you've got to be careful about who gets this information."

The Captain suddenly shifts into a diatribe against those phone phreaks who don't like the phone company.

"They don't understand, but Ma Bell knows everything they do. Ma Bell knows. Listen, is this line hot? I just heard someone tap in. I'm not paranoid, but I can detect things like that. Well, even if it is, they know that I know that they know that I have a bulk eraser. I'm very clean." The Captain pauses, evidently torn be-

ous computerized unit and dropped leering hints of the "action" he was getting with his girl friends. (The Captain lives out or pretends to live out several kinds of fantasies to the gossipy delight of the blind phone phreaks who urge him on to further triumphs on behalf of all of them.) The somewhat rowdy Northwest phone-phreak crowd let their bitter internal feud spill over into the peaceable conference line, escalating shortly into guerrilla warfare; Carl the East Coast international tone relations expert demonstrated newly opened direct M-F routes to central offices on the island of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf, introduced a new phone-phreak friend of his in Pretoria, and explained the technical operation of the new Oakland-to-Vietnam linkages. (Many phone phreaks pick up spending money by M-F-ing calls from relatives to Vietnam G.I.'s, charging \$5 for a whole hour of trans-Pacific conversation.)

Day and night the conference line was never dead. Blind phone phreaks all over the country, lonely and isolated in homes filled with active sighted brothers and sisters, or trapped with slow and unimaginative blind kids in straitjacket schools for the blind, knew that no matter how late it got they could dial up the conference and find instant electronic communion with two or three other blind kids awake over on the other side of America. Talking together on a phone hookup, the blind phone phreaks say, is not much different from being there together. Physically, *there* was nothing more than a two-inch-square wafer of titanium inside a vast machine on Vancouver Island. For the blind kids *there* meant an exhilarating feeling of being *in touch*, through a kind of skill and magic which was peculiarly their own.

Last April 1, however, the long Vancouver Conference was shut off. The phone phreaks knew it was coming. Vancouver was in the process of converting from a step-by-step system to a 4A machine and the 2111 Telex circuit was to be wiped out in the process. The phone phreaks learned the actual day on which the conference would be erased about a week ahead of time over the phone company's internal-news-and-shop-talk recording.

For the next frantic seven days every phone phreak in America was on and off the 2111 conference twenty-four hours a day. Phone phreaks who were just learning the game or didn't have M-F capability were boosted up to the conference by more experienced phreaks so they could get a glimpse of what it was like before it disappeared. Top phone phreaks searched distant area codes for new conference possibilities without success. Finally in the early morning of April 1, the end came.

"I could feel it coming a couple hours before midnight," Ralph remembers. "You could feel something going on in the lines. Some static began showing up, then some whistling wheezing sound. Then there were breaks. Some people got cut off and called right back in, but after a while some people were finding they were cut off and couldn't get back in at all. It was terrible. I lost it about one a.m., but managed to slip in again and stay on until the thing died . . . I think it was about four in the morning. There were four of us still hanging on when the conference disappeared into nowhere for good. We all tried to M-F up to it again of course, but we got silent termination. There was nothing there."

#### The Legendary Mark Bernay Turns Out To Be "The Midnight Skulker"

Mark Bernay. I had come across that name before. It was on Gillian Triggs's select list of phone-phreaks. The California phone phreaks had spoken of a mysterious Mark Bernay as perhaps the first and oldest phone phreak on the West Coast. And in fact almost every phone phreak in the West can trace his origins either directly to Mark

Bernay or to a disciple of Mark Bernay.

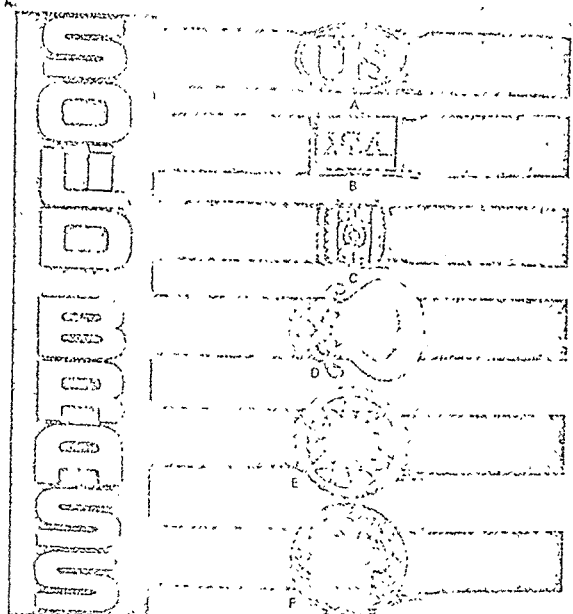
It seems that five years ago this Mark Bernay (a pseudonym he chose for himself) began traveling up and down the West Coast pasting tiny stickers in phone books all along his way. The stickers read something like "Want to hear an interesting tape recording? Call these numbers." The numbers that followed were toll-free loop-around pairs. When one of the curious called one of the numbers he would hear a tape recording pre-hooked into the loop by Bernay which explained the use of loop-around pairs, gave the numbers of several more, and ended by telling the caller, "At six o'clock tonight this recording will stop and you and your friends can try it out. Have fun."

"I was disappointed by the response at first," Bernay told me, when I finally reached him at one of his many numbers and he had dispensed with the usual "I never do anything illegal" formalities with which experienced phone phreaks open most conversations. "I went all over the coast with these stickers not only on pay phones, but I'd throw them in front of high schools in the middle of the night, I'd leave them unobtrusively in candy stores, scatter them on main streets of small towns. At first hardly anyone bothered to try it out. I would listen in for hours and hours after six o'clock and no one came on. I couldn't figure out why people wouldn't be interested. Finally these two girls in Oregon tried it out and told all their friends and suddenly it began to spread."

Before his Johnny Appleseed trip Bernay had already gathered a sizable group of early pre-blue-box phone phreaks together on loop-arounds in Los Angeles. Bernay does not claim credit for the original discovery of the loop-around numbers. He attributes the discovery to an eighteen-year-old reform-school kid in Long Beach whose name he forgets and who, he says, "just disappeared one day." When Bernay himself discovered loop-arounds independently, from clues in his readings in old issues of the *Automatic Electric Technical Journal*, he found dozens of the reform-school kid's friends already using them. However, it was one of Bernay's disciples in Seattle that introduced phone phreaking to blind kids. The Seattle kid who learned about loops through Bernay's recording told a blind friend, the blind kid taught the secret to his friends at a winter camp for blind kids in Los Angeles. When the camp session was over these kids took the secret back to towns all over the West. This is how the original blind kids became phone phreaks. For them, for most phone phreaks in general, it was the discovery of the possibilities of loop-arounds which led them on to far more serious and sophisticated phone-phreak methods, and which gave them a medium for sharing their discoveries.

A year later a blind kid who moved back east brought the technique to a blind kids' summer camp in Vermont, which spread it along the East Coast. All from a Mark Bernay sticker.

Bernay, who is nearly thirty years old now, got his start when he was fifteen and his family moved into an L.A. suburb serviced by General Telephone and Electronics equipment. He became fascinated with the differences between Bell and G.T.&E. equipment. He learned he could make interesting things happen by carefully timed clicks with the disengage button. He learned to interpret subtle differences in the array of clicks, whirs and kachinks he could hear on his lines. He learned he could shift himself around the switching relays of the L.A. area code in a not-too-predictable fashion by interspersing his own hook-switch clicks with the clicks within the line. (Independent phone companies—there are nineteen hundred of them still left, most of them tiny island principalities in Ma Bell's vast empire—have (Continued on page 222)



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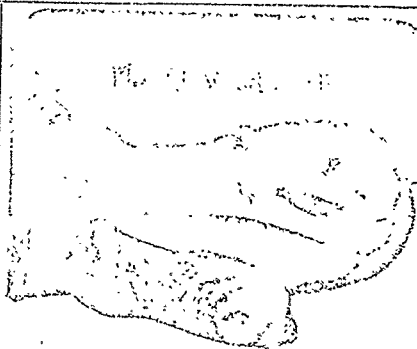


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ported that Joe sounded crushed by the whole affair.

"What I'm worried about," Carl told me, "is that Joe means it this time. The promise. That he'll never phone-phreak again. That's what he told me, that he's given up phone-phreaking for good. I mean his entire life. He says he knows they're going to be watching him so closely for the rest of his life he'll never be able to make a move without going straight to jail. He sounded very broken up by the whole experience of being in jail. It was awful to hear him talk that way. I don't know. I hope maybe he had to sound that way. Over the phone, you know."

He reports that the entire phone-phreak underground is up in arms over the phone company's treatment of Joe. "All the while Joe had his hopes pinned on his application for a phone-company job, they were stringing him along getting ready to bust him. That gets me mad. Joe spent most of his time helping them out. The bastards. They think they can use him as an example. All of a sudden they're harassing us on the coast. Agents are jumping up on our lines. They just busted -----'s mute yesterday and ripped out his lines. But no matter what Joe does, I don't think we're going to take this lying down."

Two weeks later my phone rings and about eight phone phreaks in succession say hello from about eight different places in the country, among them Carl, Ed, and Captain Crunch. A nationwide phone-phreak conference line has been reestablished through a switching machine in -----, with the cooperation of a disgruntled switchman.

"We have a special guest with us today," Carl tells me.

The next voice I hear is Joe's. He reports happily that he has just moved to a place called Millington, Tennessee, fifteen miles outside of Memphis, where he has been hired as a telephone-set repairman by a small independent phone company. Someday he hopes to be an equipment troubleshooter.

"It's the kind of job I dreamed about. They found out about me from the publicity surrounding the trial. Maybe Ma Bell did me a favor busting me. I'll have telephones in my hands all day long."

"You know the expression, 'Don't get mad, get even'?" phone-phreak Carl asked me. "Well, I think they're going to be very sorry about what they did to Joe and what they're trying to do to us." ■■■

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## SECRETS OF THE LITTLE BLUE BOX

(Continued from page 125) always been favorites with phone phreaks, first as learning tools, then as Archimedes platforms from which to manipulate the huge Bell system. A phone phreak in Bell territory will often M-F himself into an independent's switching system, with switching idiosyncrasies which can give him marvelous leverage over the Bell System.

"I have a real affection for Automatic Electric equipment," Bernay told me. "There are a lot of things you can play with. Things break down in interesting ways."

Shortly after Bernay graduated from college (with a double major in chemistry and philosophy), he graduated from phreaking around with G.T.&E. to the Bell System itself, and made his legendary sticker-pasting journey north along the coast, settling finally in Northwest Pacific Bell territory. He discovered that if Bell does not break down as interestingly as G.T.&E., it nevertheless offers a lot of "things to play with."

Bernay learned to play with blue boxes. He established his own personal switchboard and phone-phreak research laboratory complex. He continued his phone-phreak evangelism with ongoing sticker campaigns. He set up two recording numbers, one with instructions for beginning phone phreaks, the other with latest news and technical developments (along with some advanced instruction) gathered from sources all over the country.

These days, Bernay told me, he had gone beyond phone-phreaking itself. "Lately I've been enjoying playing with computers more than playing with phones. My personal thing in computers is just like with phones, I guess—the kick is in finding out how to beat the system, how to get at things I'm not supposed to know about, how to do things with the system that I'm not supposed to be able to do."

As a matter of fact, Bernay told me, he had just been fired from his computer-programming job for doing things he was not supposed to be able to do. He had been working with a huge time-sharing computer owned by a large corporation but shared by many others. Access to the computer was limited to those programmers and corporations that had been assigned certain passwords. And each password restricted its user to access to only the one section of the computer cordoned off from its own information storager. The password system prevented companies and individuals from stealing each other's information.

"I figured out how to write a program that would let me read everyone else's password," Bernay reports. "I began playing around with passwords. I began letting the people who used the computer know, in subtle ways, that I knew their passwords. I began dropping hints to the computer supervisors who told me that I knew what I know. I signed them 'The Midnight Skulker.' I kept going cleverer and cleverer with my messages and devising ways of showing

them what I could do. I'm sure they couldn't imagine I could do the things I was showing them. But they never responded to me. Every once in a while they'd change the passwords, but I found out how to discover what the new ones were, and I let them know. But they never responded directly to The Midnight Skulker. I even finally designed a program which they could use to prevent my program from finding out what it did. In effect I told them how to wipe me out, The Midnight Skulker. It was a very clever program. I started leaving clues about myself. I wanted them to try and use it and then try to come up with something to get around that and reappear again. But they wouldn't play. I wanted to get caught. I mean I didn't want to get caught personally, but I wanted them to notice me and admit that they noticed me. I wanted them to attempt to respond, maybe in some interesting way."

Finally the computer managers became concerned enough about the threat of information-stealing to respond. However, instead of using The Midnight Skulker's own elegant self-destruct program, they called in their security personnel, interrogated everyone, found an informer to identify Bernay as The Midnight Skulker, and fired him.

"At first the security people advised the company to hire me full-time to search out other flaws and discover other computer freaks. I might have liked that. But I probably would have turned into a double double agent rather than the double agent they wanted. I might have resurrected The Midnight Skulker and tried to catch myself. Who knows? Anyway, the higher-ups turned the whole idea down."

### You Can Tap the F.B.I.'s Crime Control Computer in the Comfort of Your Own Home, Perhaps

Computer freaking may be the wave of the future. It suits the phone-phreak sensibility perfectly. Gilbertson, the blue-box inventor and a lifelong phone phreak, has also gone on from phone-phreaking to computer-freaking. Before he got into the blue-box business Gilbertson, who is a highly skilled programmer, devised programs for international currency arbitrage.

But he began playing with computers in earnest when he learned he could use his blue box in tandem with the computer terminal installed in his apartment by the instrumentation firm he worked for. The print-out terminal and keyboard was equipped with acoustical coupling, so that by coupling his little ivory Princess phone to the terminal and then coupling his blue box on that, he could M-F his way into other computers with complete anonymity, and without charge, program and re-program them at will; feed them false or misleading information; tap and steal from them. He explained to me that he taps computers by busying out all the lines, then going into a verification trunk, listening into the passwords and

instructions one of the time sharers uses, and then M-F'ing in and imitating them. He believes it would not be impossible to creep into the F.B.I.'s crime control computer through a local police computer terminal and phreak around with the F.B.I.'s memory banks. He claims he has succeeded in re-programming a certain huge institutional computer in such a way that it has cordoned off an entire section of its circuitry for his personal use, and at the same time conceals the arrangement from anyone else's notice. I have been unable to verify this claim.

Like Captain Crunch, like Alexander Graham Bell (pseudonym of a disgruntled-looking East Coast engineer who claims to have invented the black box and now sells black and blue boxes to gamblers and radical heavies), like most phone phreaks, Gilbertson began his career trying to rip off pay phones as a teen-ager. Figure them out, then rip them off. Getting his dime back from the pay phone is the phone phreak's first thrilling rite of passage. After learning the usual eighteen different ways of getting his dime back, Gilbertson learned how to make master keys to coin-phone cash boxes, and get everyone else's dimes back. He stole some phone-company equipment and put together his own home switchboard with it. He learned to make a simple "bread-box" device, of the kind used by bookies in the Thirties (bookie gives a number to his betting clients; the phone with that number is installed in some widow lady's apartment, but is rigged to ring in the bookie's shop across town, cops trace big betting number and find nothing but the widow).

Not long after that afternoon in 1968 when, deep in the stacks of an engineering library, he came across a technical journal with the phone tone frequencies and rushed off to make his first blue box, not long after that Gilbertson abandoned a very promising career in physical chemistry and began selling blue boxes for \$1,500 apiece.

"I had to leave physical chemistry. I just ran out of interesting things to learn," he told me one evening. We had been talking in the apartment of the man who served as the link between Gilbertson and the syndicate in arranging the big \$300,000 blue-box deal which fell through because of legal trouble. There has been some smoking.

"No more interesting things to learn," he continues. "Physical chemistry turns out to be a sick subject when you take it to its highest level. I don't know. I don't think I could explain to you how it's sick. You have to be there. But you get, I don't know, a false feeling of omnipotence. I suppose it's like phone-phreaking that way. This huge thing is there. This whole system. And there are holes in it and you slip into them like Alice and you're pretending you're doing something you're actually not, or at least it's no longer *you* that's doing what you thought you were doing. It's all Lewis Carroll. Physical chemistry and phone-phreaking. That's why you have these phone-phreak pseudonyms like The Cheshire Cat, The Red King,

and The Snark. But there's something about phone-phreaking that you don't find in physical chemistry." He looks up at me:

"Did you ever steal anything?"

Well yes, I—

"Then you know! You know the rush you get. It's not just knowledge, like physical chemistry. It's forbidden knowledge. You know. You can learn about anything under the sun and be bored to death with it. But the idea that it's illegal. Look: you can be small and mobile and smart and you're ripping off somebody large and powerful and very dangerous."

People like Gilbertson and Alexander Graham Bell are always talking about ripping off the phone company and screwing Ma Bell. But if they were shown a single button and told that by pushing it they could turn the entire circuitry of A.T.&T. into molten puddles, they probably wouldn't push it. The disgruntled-inventor phone phreak needs the phone system the way the lapsed Catholic needs the Church, the way Satan needs a God, the way The Midnight Skulker needed, more than anything else, response.

Later that evening Gilbertson finished telling me how delighted he was at the flood of blue boxes spreading throughout the country, how delighted he was to know that "this time they're really screwed." He suddenly shifted gears.

"Of course, I do have this love/hate thing about Ma Bell. In a way I almost like the phone company. I guess I'd be very sad if they were to go away or if their services were to disintegrate. In a way it's just that after having been so good they turn out to have these things wrong with them. It's those flaws that allow me to get in and mess with them, but I don't know. There's something about it that gets to you and makes you want to get to it, you know."

I ask him what happens when he runs out of interesting, forbidden things to learn about the phone system.

"I don't know, maybe I'd go to work for them for a while."

In security even?

"I'd do it, sure. I just as soon play—I'd just as soon work on either side."

Even figuring out how to trap phone phreaks? I said, recalling Mark Bernay's game.

"Yes, that might be interesting. Yes, I could figure out how to outwit the phone phreaks. Of course if I got too good at it, it might become boring again. Then I'd have to hope the phone phreaks got much better and outsmarted me for a while. That would move the quality of the game up one level. I might even have to help them out, you know. Well kids—I wouldn't want this to get around but did you ever think of—I could keep it going at higher and higher levels forever."

The dealer speaks up for the first time. He has been staring at the soft blinking patterns of lights and colors on the translucent tiled wall facing him. (Actually there are no patterns: the color and illumination of every tile is determined by a computerized random-

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number generator designed by Gilbertson which insures that there can be no meaning to any sequence of events in the tiles.)

"Those are nice games you're talking about," says the dealer to his friend. "But I wouldn't mind seeing them screwed. A telephone isn't private anymore. You can't say anything you really want to say on a telephone or you have to go through that paranoid bulls---. 'Is it cool to talk on the phone?' I mean, even if it is cool, if you have to ask 'Is it cool,' then it isn't cool. You know. Like those blind kids, people are going to start putting together their own private telephone companies if they want to really talk. And you know what else. You don't hear silences on the phone anymore. They've got this time-sharing thing on long-distance lines where you make a pause and they snip out that piece of time and use it to carry part of somebody else's conversation. Instead of a pause, where somebody's maybe breathing or sighing, you get this blank hole and you only start hearing again when someone says a word and even the beginning of the word is clipped off. Silences don't count—you're paying for them, but they take them away from you. It's not cool to talk and you can't hear someone when they don't talk. What the hell good is the phone? I wouldn't mind seeing them totally screwed."

#### The Big Memphis Bust

Joe Engressia never wanted to screw Ma Bell. His dream had always been to work for her.

The day I visited Joe in his small apartment on Union Avenue in Memphis, he was upset about another setback in his application for a telephone job.

"They're stalling on it. I got a letter today telling me they'd have to postpone the interview I requested again. My landlord read it for me. They gave me some runaround about wanting papers on my rehabilitation status but I think there's something else going on."

When I switched on the 40-watt bulb in Joe's room—he sometimes forgets when he has guests—it looked as if there was enough telephone hardware to start a small phone company of his own.

There is one phone on top of his desk, one phone sitting in an open drawer beneath the desk top. Next to the desk-top phone is a cigar-box-size M-F device with big toggle switches, and next to that is some kind of switching and coupling device with jacks and alligator plugs hanging loose. Next to that is a Braille typewriter. On the floor next to the desk, lying upside down like a dead tortoise, is the half-battered body of an old black standard phone. Across the room on a torn and dusty couch are two more phones, one of them a touch-tone model; two tape recorders; a heap of phone patches and cassettes, and a life-size toy telephone.

Our conversation is interrupted every ten minutes by phone phreaks from all over the country. The line goes up and

about every piece of equipment but the toy phone and the Braille typewriter. One fourteen-year-old blind kid from Connecticut calls up and tells Joe he's got a girl friend. He wants to talk to Joe about girl friends. Joe says they'll talk later in the evening when they can be alone on the line. Joe draws a deep breath, whistles him off the air with an earsplitting 2600-cycle whistle. Joe is pleased to get the calls but he looked worried and preoccupied that evening, his brow constantly furrowed over his dark wandering eyes. In addition to the phone-company stall, he has just learned that his apartment house is due to be demolished in sixty days for urban renewal. For all its shabbiness, the Union Avenue apartment has been Joe's first home-of-his-own and he's worried that he may not find another before this one is demolished.

But what really bothers Joe is that switchmen haven't been listening to him. "I've been doing some checking on 800 numbers lately, and I've discovered that certain 800 numbers in New Hampshire couldn't be reached from Missouri and Kansas. Now it may sound like a small thing, but I don't like to see sloppy work; it makes me feel bad about the lines. So I've been calling up switching offices and reporting it, but they haven't corrected it. I called them up for the third time today and instead of checking they just got mad. Well, that gets me mad. I mean, I do try to help them. There's something about them I can't understand—you want to help them and they just try to say you're defrauding them."

It is Sunday evening and Joe invites me to join him for dinner at a Holiday Inn. Frequently on Sunday evening Joe takes some of his welfare money, calls a cab, and treats himself to a steak dinner at one of Memphis' thirteen Holiday Inns. (Memphis is the headquarters of Holiday Inn. Holiday Inns have been a favorite for Joe ever since he made his first solo phone trip to a Bell switching office in Jacksonville, Florida, and stayed in the Holiday Inn there. He likes to stay at Holiday Inns, he explains, because they represent freedom to him and because the rooms are arranged the same all over the country so he knows that any Holiday Inn room is familiar territory to him. Just like any telephone.)

Over steaks in the Pinnacle Restaurant of the Holiday Inn Medical Center on Madison Avenue in Memphis, Joe tells me the highlights of his life as a phone phreak.

At age seven, Joe learned his first phone trick. A mean baby-sitter, tired of listening to little Joe play with the phone as he always did, constantly, put a lock on the phone dial. "I got so mad. When there's a phone sitting there and I can't use it . . . so I started getting mad and banging the receiver up and down. I noticed I banged it once and it dialed one. Well, then I tried banging it twice. . . ." In a few minutes Joe learned how to dial by pressing the hook switch at the right time. "I was so excited I remember going 'whoop whoop' . . ."

At age eight Joe learned about whistling. "I was listening to some intercept nonworking-number recording in L.A.—I was calling L.A. as far back as that, but I'd mainly dial nonworking numbers because there was no charge, and I'd listen to these recordings all day. Well, I was whistling 'cause listening to these recordings can be boring after a while even if they are from L.A., and all of a sudden, in the middle of whistling, the recording clicked off. I fiddled around whistling some more, and the same thing happened. So I called up the switch room and said, 'I'm Joe. I'm eight years old and I want to know why when I whistle this tune the line clicks off.' He tried to explain it to me, but it was a little too technical at the time. I went on learning. That was a thing nobody was going to stop me from doing. The phones were my life, and I was going to pay any price to keep on learning. I knew I could go to jail. But I had to do what I had to do to keep on learning."

The phone is ringing when we walk back into Joe's apartment on Union Avenue. It is Captain Crunch. The Captain has been following me around by phone, calling up everywhere I go with additional bits of advice and explanation for me and whatever phone phreak I happen to be visiting. This time the Captain reports he is calling from what he describes as "my hideaway high up in the Sierra Nevada." He pulses out lusty salvos of M-F and tells Joe he is about to "go out and get a little action tonight. Do some phreaking of another kind; if you know what I mean." Joe chuckles.

The Captain then tells me to make sure I understand that what he told me about tying up the nation's phone lines was true, but that he and the phone phreaks he knew never used the technique for sabotage. They only learned the technique to help the phone company.

"We do a lot of troubleshooting for them. Like this New Hampshire/Missouri WATS-line flaw I've been screaming about. We help them more than they know."

After we say good-bye to the Captain and Joe whistles him off the line, Joe tells me about a disturbing dream he had the night before: "I had been caught and they were taking me to a prison. It was a long trip. They were taking me to a prison a long long way away. And we stopped at a Holiday Inn and it was my last night ever at a Holiday Inn, and it was my last night ever using the phone and I was crying and crying, and the lady at the Holiday Inn said, 'Gosh, honey, you should never be sad at a Holiday Inn. You should always be happy here. Especially since it's your last night.' And that just made it worse and I was sobbing so much I couldn't stand it."

Two weeks after I left Joe Engressia's apartment, phone-company security agents and Memphis police broke into it. Armed with a warrant, which they left pinned to a wall, they confiscated every piece of equipment in the room, including his toy telephone. Joe

the city jail where he was forced to spend the night since he had no money and knew no one in Memphis to call.

It is not clear who told Joe what that night, but someone told him that the phone company had an open-and-shut case against him because of revelations of illegal activity he had made to a phone-company undercover agent.

By morning Joe had become convinced that the reporter from Esquire, with whom he had spoken two weeks ago, was the undercover agent. He probably had ugly thoughts about someone he couldn't see gaining his confidence, listening to him talk about his personal obsessions and dreams, while planning all the while to lock him up.

"I really thought he was a reporter," Engressia told the Memphis Press-Scimitar. "I told him everything. . . ." Feeling betrayed, Joe proceeded to confess everything to the press and police.

As it turns out, the phone company did use an undercover agent to trap Joe, although it was not the Esquire reporter.

Ironically, security agents were alerted and began to compile a case against Joe because of one of his acts of love for the system: Joe had called an internal service department to report that he had located a group of defective long-distance trunks, and to complain again about the New Hampshire/Missouri WATS problem. Joe always liked Ma Bell's lines to be clean and responsive. A suspicious switchman reported Joe to the security agents who discovered that Joe had never had a long-distance call charged to his name.

Then the security agents learned that Joe was planning one of his phone trips to a local switching office. The security people planted one of their agents in the switching office. He posed as a student switchman and followed Joe around on a tour. He was extremely friendly and helpful to Joe, leading him around the office by the arm. When the tour was over he offered Joe a ride back to his apartment house. On the way he asked Joe—one tech man to another—about "those blue boxes" he'd heard about. Joe talked about them freely, talked about his blue box freely, and about all the other things he could do with the phones.

The next day the phone-company security agents slapped a monitoring tape on Joe's line, which eventually picked up an illegal call. Then they applied for the search warrant and broke in.

In court Joe pleaded not guilty to possession of a blue box and theft of service. A sympathetic judge reduced the charges to malicious mischief and found him guilty on that count, sentenced him to two thirty-day sentences to be served concurrently, and then suspended the sentence on condition that Joe promise never to play with phones again. Joe promised, but the phone company refused to restore his service. For two weeks after the trial Joe could not be reached except through the pay phone at his apartment house, and the landlord screened all calls for him.

Phone-phreak Carl managed to get through to Joe after the trial, and re-

# Kentucky Tavern tastes exactly the same as when it was expensive.

Whether you're a connoisseur of fine  
whisky or just a casual drinker,

you'll find that the taste of this  
whisky is exactly the same as when it was expensive.

And it's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

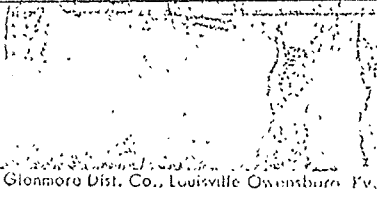
That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.

It's the same for everyone else.

That's why this whisky is so popular.



Glenmorr Dist. Co., Louisville Owensboro, Ky. 86 & 100 Proof Bottled in Bond

SAC, San Francisco (87-33313)

EX-112 REC-57  
Acting Director, FBI (87-121189) - 4

June 8, 1972

b6  
b7C

1 - [redacted]  
1 - Mr. Conrad  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]

ITSP-FBW  
OO: SAN FRANCISCO

Reurlet 6/1/72, submitting photographs of a "blue box" seized in this case.

At such time as this device is no longer needed as evidence in this case, you are requested to submit it to the Radio Engineering Section of the Laboratory for retention or destruction. The Laboratory is interested in obtaining various devices of this type for study, comparison and instructional purposes.

MAILED 10

JUN - 8 1972

FBI

WEH:skb

(7)

Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Bates \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Campbell \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Cleveland \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
Marshall \_\_\_\_\_  
Miller, E.S. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ponder \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kinley \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Armstrong \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Herwig \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Neenan \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

55 JUN 27 1972

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (87-121189)  
ATTN: FBI LAB

DATE: 6/1/72

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313) 'P

SUBJECT:   
ITSP-FBW  
OO: SAN FRANCISCO

b6  
b7C

Rerep SA , 5/10/72, at San Francisco.

Enclosed for the information of FBI Laboratory are five photographs of a device commonly referred to as a "blue box," which device was seized from Subject, 5/4/72, pursuant to an authorized search warrant.

EXP. PROC.  
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The above device is being maintained by the San Francisco Office as evidence in the forthcoming proceedings against Subject.  is scheduled to appear in USDC, San Jose, California, 6/12/72, for purposes of entering a plea.

- 1 cc let & encl. Resub 4/17/72*
- ② - Bureau (Encls. 5)
  - 2 - San Francisco
- FAG:rap  
(4)

REC-57

EX-112

JUN 5 1972

*Letter to SAC, San Francisco  
WEH:skb 6/8/72*

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 12 1972

TELETYPE

Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Bates	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Campbell	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Jenkins	_____
Mr. Marshall	_____
Mr. Miller, E.S.	_____
Mr. Ponder	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Kinley	_____
Mr. Armstrong	_____
Ms. Herwig	_____
Mrs. Neenan	_____

NR 002 NY PLAIN

1255 AM NITEL 7-12-72 MJW

TO ACTING DIRECTOR 87-121189

SAN FRANCISCO 87-33313

FROM NEW YORK

[REDACTED] AKA [REDACTED] - FUGITIVE, ITSP -

FBW; 00: SF

b6  
b7c

RE MMAND SFNIPELS, JULY TEN, LAST.

[REDACTED] DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] APPREHENDED BY BUAGENTS AT NEW YORK, THIS DATE, WITHOUT INCIDENT. DECLINED INTERVIEW.

[REDACTED] AFFORDED HEARING THIS DATE BEFORE US MAGISTRATE, EDNY. WAIVED IDENTITY HEARING, AND INDICATED HE WOULD WAIVE REMOVAL HEARING. CASH BAIL SET AT TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS. HEARING ADJOURNED TO JULY TWENTY FIRST, NEXT. [REDACTED] REMANDED CUSTODY OF US MARSHAL, EDNY, IN LIEU OF BAIL.

SAN FRANCISCO INSURE ORIGINAL BENCH WARRANT AND CERTIFIED COPY OF COMPLAINT FORWARDED TO US MARSHAL, EDNY.

REPORT FOLLOWS.

E N D

THAT IS IT AKK FOR SEVEN PLS

TMT FBI SOG  
CC-MR. BATES  
ACK UR SEVEN

REC-44  
EX-116

12 JUL 12 1972

117  
58 OCT 6 1972

STAT SEC  
574

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NR 016 SF PLAINTEXT

JUL 11 1972

1131PM NITEL 7/10/72 EJG

TELETYPE

Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Bates	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Campbell	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Jenkins	_____
Mr. Marshall	_____
Mr. Miller, E.S.	_____
Mr. Ponder	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Kinley	_____
Mr. Armstrong	_____
Ms. Herwig	_____
Mrs. Neenan	_____

TO: DIRECTOR (87121189)

MIAMI (80-1353)

NEW YORK (SENT FACSIMILE)

FROM: SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313) (P) 3P

b6  
b7C

AKA,

DASH FUGITIVE.

ITSP DASH FBW. OO: SAN FRANCISCO.

RE TELCALL THIS DATE WITH SA [REDACTED] MIAMI OFFICE.

FOR INFORMATION NYO, SUBJECT, A PHONE FREAK, ARRESTED [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CALIFORNIA, MAY FOUR, LAST ON AN AUTHORIZED COMPLAINT CHARGING HIM WITH VIOLATION TITLE EIGHTEEN, SECTION ONE THREE FOUR THREE. COMPLAINT ALLEGES SUBJECT DEVISED A SCHEME TO DEFRAUD AND DID CAUSE TO BE TRANSMITTED BY WIRE COMMUNICATION IN INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXECUTING SAID SCHEME SIGNALS AND SOUNDS AND DID WITHOUT AUTHORITY ENTER THE LONG DISTANCE NETWORK OF THE WESTERN TELEPHONE CO. THROUGH THE USE OF A MULTI-FREQUENCY SIGNALING DEVICE AND THEN DID COMPLETE LONG DISTANCE TOLL FREE CALLS. BOND RECOMMENDED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

REC 43  
EX-116

87-121189-6

SUBJECT APPEARED BEFORE U.S. MAGISTRATE, SAN JOSE, MAY FOUR, LAST AND RELEASED ON OR. TERMS OF RELEASE REQUIRES SUBJECT TO OBTAIN PERMISSION OF THE MAGISTRATE OR ANY USDC,

END PAGE ONE

58 JUL 18 1972

FBI  
JUL 18 1972

SF 87-33313

PAGE TWO

NDC, IN THE EVENT HE DESIRES TO LEAVE AREA.

[REDACTED] (PROTECT) IDENTITY, [REDACTED],

THIS DATE, ADVISED SUBJECT LEFT [REDACTED] AREA JULY SEVEN, LAST  
EN ROUTE TO [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

THIS DATE, ABOVE FACTS PRESENTED TO USDC JUDGE ROBERT F.  
PECKHAM, SAN JOSE, CALIF. JUDGE PECKHAM REVOKED SUBJECT'S BOND  
AND ORDERED A BW ISSUED FOR SUBJECT'S ARREST. NEW BOND RECOMMENDED  
AT TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS.

b6  
b7C

FOR THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OF THE NYO, [REDACTED]  
SECURITY OFFICE, PACIFIC TELEPHONE CO., SAN JOSE, CALIF., JULY  
SEVEN, LAST ADVISED THAT INFO WAS RECEIVED FROM [REDACTED]  
END PAGE TWO

SF 87-33313

PAGE THREE

OFFICE, NY TELEPHONE CO., ONE FOUR ZERO WEST ST., NY, THAT SUBJECT  
CALLED A BLIND TELEPHONE FREAK NAMED [REDACTED] IN NYC BY THE USE  
OF MULTI-FREQUENCY SIGNALING DEVICE FROM A TELEPHONE BOOTH. [REDACTED]  
STATED THAT [REDACTED] HAD THE DETAILS CONCERNING THIS VIOLATION. AUSA  
PAUL FITZPATRICK, SF , STATED THAT HE WILL AUTHORIZE REARRESTING  
SUBJECT IF ABOVE ALLEGATION CAN BE PROVED.

b6  
b7c

[REDACTED] DESCRIBED AS WMA, DOB [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

MIAMI AT MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, WILL ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND  
APPREHEND SUBJECT. IN EVENT SUBJECT HAS DEPARTED FOR NY, WILL  
ADVISE NYO. NY WILL THEN ATTEMPT TO APPREHEND SUBJECT AND WILL  
CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED]

END

WASH PLS HOLD

CC-MR. BATES

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>NEW YORK</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	DATE <b>7/17/72</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>7/11/72</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>aka, - FUGITIVE</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>7-24</b>	TYPED BY <b>mtv</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ITSP - FBW</b>	

REFERENCES

SF teletype to Acting Director, 7/10/72.  
 MM teletype to NY, 7/10/72.  
 NY teletype to Acting Director, 7/11/72.

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE

Information copy designated for Miami in view of  
 investigative interest in that Division.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:  PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
		<i>Taken</i>					
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES MADE:						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
① - Bureau (87-121189)						<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>87-121189-7</b> </div>	
1 - USA, EDNY							
1 - Miami (80-1353) (INFO)							
3 - San Francisco (87-33313) (1 - USA, NDC)							
1 - New York (87-68137)						REC-8	
						EX-110	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency						<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>4 JUL 20 1972</b> </div>	
Request Recd.	<i>33</i>						
Date Fwd.	<i>57 JUL 26 1972</i>						
How Fwd.							
By							

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONb6  
b7C

## Copy to:

1 - USA, EDNY (ATTN: AUSA ROBERT L. CLAREY)  
1 - USA, NDC (ATTN: AUSA PAUL FITZPATRICK)

## Report of:

[REDACTED]

Office: New York, New York

## Date:

7/17/72

## Field Office File #:

87-68137

Bureau File #: 87-121189

## Title:

[REDACTED]

## Character:

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY-  
FRAUD BY WIRE

## Synopsis:

[REDACTED] arrested 7/11/72 at NY.  
Declined to make statement. [REDACTED] afforded  
hearing 7/11/72, before Magistrate, EDNY. Waived identity  
hearing and indicated he would waive removal hearing. Cash  
bail set at \$10,000. Hearing adjourned to 7/21/72. [REDACTED]  
remanded to custody US Marshal, EDNY in lieu of bail.

-P-

DETAILS:



NY 87-68137

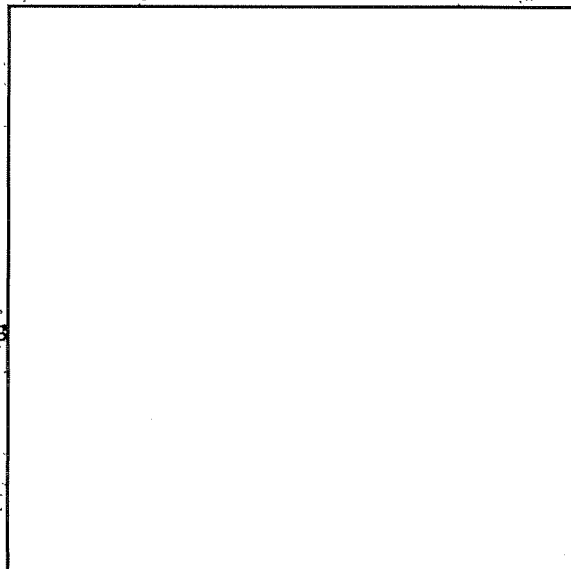
2.

b6  
b7c

Weight  
Hair  
Eyes  
Social Security  
Account Number  
Residence

Telephone  
Employment  
California Drivers  
License Number  
Automobile

Education



NY 87-68137

JHG:mtv

1.

On July 11, 1972, [redacted] was afforded a hearing before United States Magistrate MAX SCHIFFMAN, Eastern District of New York (EDNY). [redacted] waived identity hearing and indicated he would waive removal hearing. Cash bail set at \$10,000 and hearing was adjourned to July 21, 1972. [redacted] was then remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal, EDNY.

b6  
b7c

NY 87-68137

LEADS

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK. Will follow and  
report removal of subject.

-B\*-  
COVER PAGE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SAN FRANCISCO	DATE 7/28/72	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 6/6/72-7/19/72
TITLE OF CASE CHANGED <i>on NYtel 7-1</i> [redacted] aka, [redacted] FUGITIVE		REPORT MADE BY [redacted]	TYPED BY drw
		CHARACTER OF CASE  ITSP-FBW <i>8-8 mltt</i> 3 b6 b7C	

The title of this case is marked changed to include the alias [redacted] which alias witnesses indicate was used by Subject.

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted], dated 5/10/72, at San Francisco;  
Letter from Acting Director to San Francisco, dated 6/8/72;  
San Francisco airtel to Los Angeles, dated 5/26/72;  
San Francisco letter to Dallas, 5/31/72;  
Los Angeles letter to San Francisco 6/19/72;  
Miami teletype to San Francisco, 7/10/72  
San Francisco teletype to Acting Director, 7/10/72, 7/17/72;  
New York teletype to Acting Director, 7/12, 13/72. *A*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED: <i>REG</i> COPIES MADE: 2-Bureau (87-121189) 1-USA, San Francisco 2-New York (1-USA, New York EDBY) 1-Dallas (info) 1-Miami (info) 3-Los Angeles (87-36042) 2-San Francisco (87-33313)						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW  87-121189-8 4 AUG 4 1972 REC-69 ST-11	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency						<i>332</i> 60 AUG 14 1972 <i>100% SUP.</i> <i>STAN. SEC.</i>	
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

SF 87-33313

FAG/drv

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Information copies of this report are being furnished to the Dallas and Miami Offices, in view of the possibility that persons interviewed by these offices may be subpoenaed as witnesses. On 7/18/72, [redacted] General Telephone Company, Santa Monica, California, by telephone advised the San Francisco Office that he had received information from [redacted] New York Telephone Company, that a phone freak convention was scheduled to be held in New York City, starting 7/28/72

b6  
b7C  
b7D

LEADS

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK. Will maintain the liason with [redacted] New York Telephone Company for additional information concerning Subject.

(2) Will also obtain from [redacted] any additional information regarding phone freak convention scheduled to be held in New York City on 7/28/72.

b6  
b7C

(3) Will contact logical informants who may attend this convention and determine if [redacted] is in attendance.

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA Will interview [redacted] noting that [redacted] has been alleged to be the [redacted] in Southern California.

AT RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA. Will interview [redacted] [redacted] a phone freak, has been interviewed by an agent of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, San Diego Office, and claims to know [redacted] and is in a position to furnish information concerning his FBW violation.

SF 87-33313  
FAG/drw

SAN FRANCISCO

b6  
b7C

AT BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA. Will review the files of the Berkeley Police Department noting that information has been received that on 6/11 or 12/72 one, [REDACTED] and possibly [REDACTED] were arrested in connection with using a "Blue Box".

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. Will follow and report prosecutive action against Subject.

C\*  
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1-USA, SAN FRANCISCO  
1-USA, NEW YORK EDWY

b6  
b7c

Report of:

[REDACTED]

Office: SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Date:

7/28/72

Field Office File #:

87-33313

Bureau File #: 87-121189

Title:

[REDACTED]

aka,

Character:

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY-  
FRAUD BY WIRE

Synopsis:

[REDACTED] entered plea of not guilty in USDC, 6/12/72 to charge of violation Title 18, Section 1343. FBW. 7/10/72 information received by FBI that [REDACTED] had left [REDACTED] of California in violation of his bond. Bench warrant for Subject's arrest issued by USDC that date. 7/11/72 Subject arrested in New York by FBI and remanded to custody U.S. Marshal in lieu \$10,000 bond. 7/19/72 Subject appeared USDC, San Francisco where his motion to suppress evidence argued. Motion denied by USDC. USDC set trial date for 9/19/72. Witnesses interviewed stated have observed or have been contacted by Subject through use of "Blue Box". Witnesses state Subject identical to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

-P-

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The records of the Clerk of the United States District Court, Criminal Docket Number CR 72-503 contained the following information.

On May 26, 1972 [REDACTED] with counsel appeared in U.S. District Court of Judge ROBERT F. PECKHAM for arraignment. The matter was continued to

SF 87-33313  
FAG/drw

June 12, 1972. June 12, 1972 Subject appeared in U.S. District Court and entered a plea of not guilty. Trial by jury was set for July 11, 1972 by the court. June 26, 1972, [redacted] through his attorney, filed a motion to suppress evidence which had been obtained in this matter and requested that all seized property be returned to [redacted]

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b7C

On July 10, 1972, [redacted]  
[redacted] California, who [redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

[redacted] continued that [redacted]  
[redacted] told her that he could be reached at the following telephone numbers until about [redacted] 1972:

[redacted] or

[redacted] further indicated to [redacted]  
that [redacted]  
[redacted]

It is noted that issue number 11, June-July 1972 Issue of the Youth International Party Line, on page one, under an article which advises that "the world's first phone freak convention is being held July 11-15, 1972 in Miami Beach!" [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

b6  
b7C

On July 10, 1972, the above information was made available to AUSA PAUL J. FITZPATRICK, San Francisco. Mr. FITZPATRICK stated that the terms of [redacted] personal recognizance bond do not permit him to leave the [redacted] of California, without obtaining the approval of the court. FITZPATRICK stated that this approval has not been requested nor has it been

SF 87-33313  
FAG/drw

granted. AUSA FITZPATRICK stated that he would immediately make the above information available to United States District Court Judge ROBERT F. PECKHAM and make a request that a bench warrant be issued for [ ] arrest. b6 b7C

On July 10, 1972, Judge PECKHAM revoked the personal recognizance bond of [ ] and issued a bench warrant for his arrest. Bond was set by Judge PECKHAM at \$10,000.

By communication dated July 10, 1972, the Miami and New York Offices were advised of the issuance of the above bench warrant. The Miami Office on July 10, 1972, advised that inquiry at the [ ]

[ ] revealed that [ ] had resided at that address for approximately three days, but had left at 1 PM, July 10, 1972 stating that he had to catch a flight at the Miami National Airport. At the time [ ] left, he was observed to be carrying a radio, tape-recorder, and brown valise with wires protruding from the top.

The New York Office by communication dated July 11, 1972 advised that [ ] on that date, was arrested by the FBI in Jamaica, New York. Subject was afforded a hearing the same date before the U.S. Magistrate, Eastern District of New York, who remanded Subject to the custody of the U.S. Marshal in lieu of \$10,000 bond.

On July 18, 1972, United States District Court Judge PECKHAM executed a personal appearance bond ordering that [ ] appear before him in U.S. District Court, San Francisco, on July 19, 1972 in order that [ ] motion to suppress evidence could be argued. Judge PECKHAM requested the U.S. Marshal to advise the New York authorities of the above order.

On July 19, 1972 Subject with his attorneys, appeared in the U.S. District Court of Judge PECKHAM. At that time the Government presented its response to the motion to suppress evidence. Judge PECKHAM

SF 87-33313  
FAG/drw

stated that he would set trial date for September 9, 1972, and denied [ ] motion to suppress evidence and return seized property. By communication dated June 8, 1972, the Dallas Office furnished the following information:

b6  
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 6/8/72

[redacted] who knew the identity of the interviewing agent from previous interviews, was interviewed concerning [redacted]. At the outset of the interview [redacted] was furnished an Interrogation; Advice of Rights form which he read and signed. Thereafter, he furnished the following information:

b6  
b7C

[redacted] stated in [redacted] he received a telephone call from [redacted] in California, who at that time was still openly calling himself [redacted].

Following this, [redacted] also talked to [redacted] on conference circuits wherein he came to recognize his voice.

On one of the conference calls [redacted] and [redacted] had a private talk wherein [redacted] told him [redacted].

[redacted] stated he telephoned [redacted] at the number given and recognized his voice as the same individual who had previously used the name [redacted].

[redacted] stated he could not recall the exact number at this time, however, it is the number in his Masterpiece spiral notebook recorded for the name [redacted] which was seized by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

[redacted] was asked if he recognized the name [redacted] as synonymous with [redacted]. He stated he had not heard the name [redacted].

Interviewed on 6/6/72

File # Dallas 87-21346

San Francisco 87-33313

by SA [redacted] / cnf

Date:

b6  
b7C

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2

DL 87-21346  
SF 87-33313

b6  
b7C

prior to [ ] arrest by Agents of the Federal Bureau  
of Investigation in 1972.

[ ] further stated the only names he knew  
this individual to use were [ ] and [ ]  
He stated the inference in a signed statement he furnished  
April 26, 1972, that [ ] was known also as  
[ ] and [ ] was incorrect.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 6/8/72

Examination of a white Westernize brand spiral notebook by Special Agent [redacted] on June 7, 1972, reflected on page 13 therein a column of names with corresponding telephone numbers.

b6  
b7C

The 13th name recorded on this page was shown as:

[redacted]

[redacted]

This is the name and number referred to by [redacted] in an interview on June 6, 1972, as the number at which he called [redacted] who was previously known to [redacted] as [redacted]

Interviewed on 6/6/72 at Dallas, Texas

File # Dallas 87-21346

San Francisco 87-22222

by SA [redacted] / cnf Date dictated         

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

SF 87-33313  
FAG/drw

Concerning the above information contained in the white notebook, the records of the General Telephone Company, according to [REDACTED] reflect that telephone number [REDACTED] is the number listed to [REDACTED] California. [REDACTED] has been previously identified as [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

The Los Angeles Office by communication dated June 19, 1972, furnished the following information.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 6/16/72b6  
b7C

[redacted] who resides at [redacted] Los Angeles, California, telephone number [redacted] was interviewed near the intersection of [redacted] by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted]. Prior to the interview, SA [redacted] advised [redacted] that the purpose of the interview was to obtain any information he might have concerning [redacted] or [redacted], and their involvement in making illegal telephone calls through the use of electronic devices.

[redacted] advised that he met [redacted] and [redacted] at [redacted] residence in [redacted] California, approximately two years ago. [redacted] stated that at the time he met [redacted] and [redacted] he was accompanied by [redacted] of [redacted] California.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] is known to him and others in the Los Angeles area as [redacted] in Los Angeles, California. [redacted] stated that whenever an individual is interested in telephones or electronic devices he will go to [redacted] for advice as to how to accomplish whatever that individual wishes to accomplish through the use of electronic devices. [redacted] stated that [redacted] and is employed by the [redacted] Northridge, California.

[redacted] stated that at the time he was at [redacted] residence, [redacted] had installed on his telephones a muting device which is also known as a "black box." [redacted] advised that [redacted] also had with him a device called a "blue box" which he was showing to [redacted] and they were discussing the functions and uses for the blue box.

[redacted] advised that it is his understanding that [redacted] often comes to Los Angeles to talk with [redacted] and obtain advice concerning telephones and electronic devices.

[redacted] stated during June 1971, he was in San Jose, California, at which time he again saw [redacted]. [redacted] advised that he was visiting friends in [redacted] and [redacted] came over to the residence and was showing everyone in the residence how the blue box functioned, and was making calls all over the world.

Interviewed on 6/13/72 at [redacted] California FILED Los Angeles 87-36042

by SA [redacted] and  
SA [redacted] /DKC/rsr

Date dictated 6/15/72

FBI - SAN FRANCISCO

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2  
IA 87-36042

b6  
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b7D

[ ] stated he could not recall any specific places [ ] called at this time except that he does recall [ ] called [ ] through the use of the blue box. [ ] stated also present at the residence were [ ] and an individual named [ ] [ ] also stated that he witnessed [ ]

[ ] [ ] advised he does not understand how this call was set up but it was accomplished through the use of the blue box.

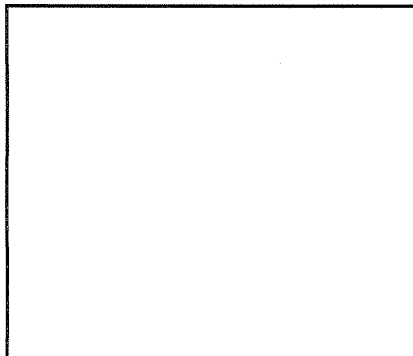
[ ] stated that [ ] is also known to him as [ ] [ ] advised that [ ] is known as [ ] to many phone freaks. [ ] stated in his conversations with other phone freaks in the Los Angeles area, it is more or less common knowledge that [ ]

[ ] stated that [ ] who is also a phone freak in the Los Angeles area, knows [ ] and has been involved in working with phones for five or six years.

[ ] advised [ ] who is also known as [ ] resides at [ ] Los Angeles, California, and has three telephone numbers, which are [ ] and [ ] [ ] stated [ ] would probably be not very cooperative with the FBI concerning this matter.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name  
Race  
Sex  
Date of Birth  
Height  
Weight  
Hair  
Eyes  
Social Security  
Number



SF 87-33313  
FAG/drw

AT SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

SA [ ] The following investigation was conducted by

b6  
b7C  
b7D

On July 6, 1972, [ ]  
[ ] San Jose, California, advised [ ]  
[ ], is [ ]

[ ] said [ ] has met  
[ ] who [ ]  
and he, [ ], told her he saw [ ] make a call  
using a "blue box", but she doesn't think [ ]  
would be willing to talk with the FBI due to a strained  
relationship with [ ] that just recently  
was resolved.

[ ] said she would speak with [ ]  
[ ] and they would contact [ ], and see  
if he is willing to be contacted by the FBI regarding  
this matter.

On July 7, 1972, [ ] telephonically  
contacted the San Jose Resident Agency and advised writer  
that she and [ ] had contacted [ ]  
[ ] and asked him if he would be willing  
to talk with the FBI regarding [ ] and  
he told them he would rather not become involved  
in this matter and would not talk with the FBI.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date July 11, 1972

b6  
b7C

[redacted] California, advised that in the latter part of 1971, possibly December; she cannot remember the month or day but stated it was the same day she [redacted] telephone booth [redacted] she was going to use the pay [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] described the man as follows: White, male, in his 30's, dark hair curling in back, believes wearing glasses, believes clean shaven, 5 feet 6 inches-6 feet, 180-185 pounds, wearing a waist length jacket possibly a greenish-gray in color.

On 7/6/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-35313  
by [redacted] SMS Date dictated 7/10/72

b6  
b7C

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2  
SF 87-33313  
JPM:sms

[redacted] stated she does not know if she would recognize the man in the phone booth if she saw him again.

b6  
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date July 11, 1972

1

b6  
b7c

[redacted]  
[redacted] California, was furnished a brown manila folder contain-  
ing several photographs, including that of [redacted]  
numbered 1-8.

After viewing the above photographs, [redacted]  
stated that the man in photograph number eight most resembles  
the man she saw in the phone booth in the latter part of 1971  
[redacted] but she is not sure if this  
was the man.

The photograph designated number eight is a photo-  
graph of [redacted]

On 7/6/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313  
by [redacted] :SMS Date dictated 7/10/72

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SAN FRANCISCO	DATE 9/18/72	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 7/10/72 - 9/11/72
TITLE OF CASE  [redacted] aka [redacted]		REPORT MADE BY [redacted]	TYPED BY vsk
		CHARACTER OF CASE  ITSP - FBW	

b6  
b7c

REFERENCES: New York report of SA [redacted] 7/17/72.  
 San Francisco report of SA [redacted] 7/28/72.  
 Miami airtel to New York, 7/19/72.  
 New York letter to San Francisco, 8/9/72.  
 Los Angeles letter to San Francisco, 8/24/72.

- P -

ENCLOSURETO THE BUREAU

Enclosed to the Bureau is one copy of a "Call Detail  
 & Transcript" of tapes one through four complied by [redacted]  
 [redacted] General Telephone Company of

b6  
b7C  
b7D

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:  PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED <i>REG</i> COPIES MADE						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
1 - Bureau (87-121189) (Enc. 1) 1 - USA, San Francisco 2 - Los Angeles (87-36042) 2 - New York (87-68137) (1 - USA EDNY) 2 - San Francisco (87-33313)						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
						87 121189-9 REC 43	
						15 SEP 22 1972 EX-100	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency						SIX STAT. SECT.	
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

54 SEP 29 1972

COVER PAGE

2  
SF 87-33313  
JPM:rmf

b6  
b7C  
b7D

[ ] stated the "phone freaks" are going to have a meeting on July 29, or August 29, 1972, at the Hotel Diplomat, New York City, New York, telephone number -  
[ ]

[ ] said he has been contacted several times by a [ ] who is a reporter for the Village Reporter, an underground newspaper in New York, and can be contacted through telephone number [ ] in San Francisco; about a [ ] defense fund and she has given his number to several people in Europe apparent "phone freaks" who call him asking about [ ]

D  
COVER PAGE

SF 87-33313  
FAG/vsk

b6  
b7c

LEADS

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK. Will upon completion of prosecution of Subject in San Francisco, advise USA, EDNY, the results of this prosecution in order that he may render a prosecutive opinion concerning possible prosecution of Subject in EDNY.

LOS ANGELES

AT RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA. Will continue efforts to locate and interview [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

SAN FRANCISCO

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. Will follow and report results of prosecution and will advise New York Office.

E\*  
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONb6  
b7CCopy to: 1 - USA, San Francisco  
1 - USA, New York

Report of:

[REDACTED]

Office: San Francisco, California

Date:

9/18/72

Field Office File #: 87-33313

Bureau File #: 87-121189

Title:

[REDACTED]

Character:

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY -  
FRAUD BY WIRE

Synopsis:

[REDACTED] identified as being in [REDACTED]  
Items seized from [REDACTED] by New York Office incidental  
to arrest set out. AUSA, EDNY, withholding prosecutive  
opinion concerning Subject's possible FBW violation  
that district. Witness states [REDACTED] uses code name,  
[REDACTED] and states he observed Subject using  
"blue box". USDC, San Jose, California, continued  
Subject's trial until 10/24/72.

- P -

DETAILS:

The Miami Office by communication dated July 19,  
1972, furnished the following information:

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.Date of transcription 7/13/72

[redacted]  
[redacted] Miami Beach, Florida, was advised of the official identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the inquiry. [redacted] furnished the following information:

b6  
b7C  
b7D

From a photograph shown to him by SA [redacted] [redacted] identified the photograph as identical with an individual who had stayed in apartment [redacted] of this hotel for the past several days.

At approximately 1:00 p.m. on July 10, 1972, the individual in the photograph, who had previously identified himself as [redacted] entered the hotel and asked if he could get his luggage out of apartment [redacted] as he was leaving town. [redacted] was not the registered occupant of apartment [redacted] but had been going in and out of that apartment for several days. After [redacted] obtained his luggage, which consisted of a radio, tape recorder and a brown valise with wires protruding from the top, he left the hotel and got into an awaiting car. [redacted] had mentioned the previous day that he would be leaving Miami on July 10, 1972, and possibly would travel to New York City.

b6  
b7C

Interviewed on 7/10/72 at Miami Beach, Florida File # Miami 87-32612  
by SA [redacted] thm 2 Date dictated 7/12/72

SE 87-33313  
FAG/vsk

b6  
b7C  
b7D

The New York Office advised that on July 24, 1972, Assistant United States Attorney ROBERT L. CLAREY, Eastern District of New York, advised that Subject was removed to the Northern District of California on July 19, 1972. Assistant United States Attorney CLAREY further advised that he would render a prosecutive opinion concerning a possible Fraud by Wire Violation in the Eastern District of New York pending results of prosecution in the Northern District of California.

Regarding the cassette tape taken from the Subject at the time of his arrest, it should be noted that [REDACTED] New York Telephone Company, [REDACTED] 140 West Strret, New York City, can testify, as an expert witness, concerning its content and use.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/26/72

[redacted] New York Telephone Company,  
[redacted] 140 West Street, New York  
City, New York, telephone [redacted] examined a cassette  
tape taken from a tape recorder being used by [redacted]  
[redacted] at the time of his arrest on July 11, 1972. [redacted]  
subsequently provided the following information relative  
to the contents of the tape and its use:

b4  
b6  
b7C  
b7D  
b7E

[redacted]

Using this tape to make toll calls would be  
fraudulent use of the Bell System's Toll Network.

b4  
b7D  
b7E

## METHOD OF OPERATION:

[redacted]

On 7/13/72 at New York, New York

by SAs [redacted]

SEARCHED [initials]  
SERIALIZED [initials]

AUG 14 1972 NY 87-68137

File # [redacted]

b6  
b7C

by [redacted] dictated 7/19/72

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NY 87-68137

2.

b4  
b7D  
b7E

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

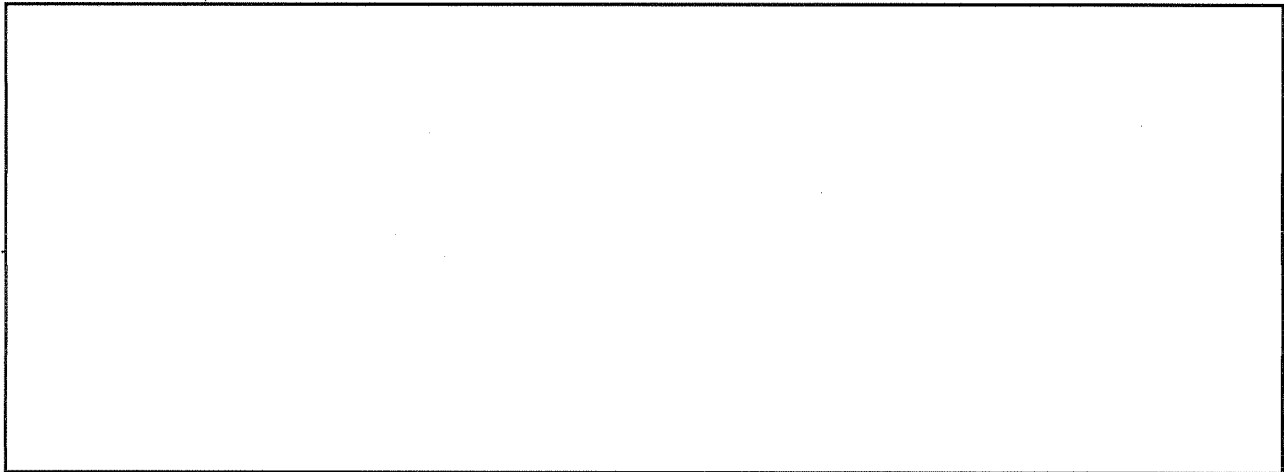
TECHNICAL EXPLANATION OF OPERATION:

[REDACTED]

NY 87-68137

3.

b4  
b7D  
b7E

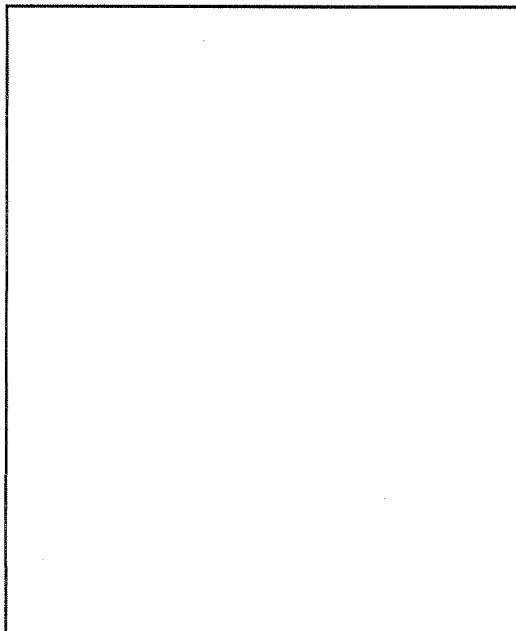


[redacted] made available the decoding tape which was used to decode the names, initials and numbers on the cassette tape.

b6  
b7C  
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The following names, initials, and numbers were recorded on the cassette tape:

HOME

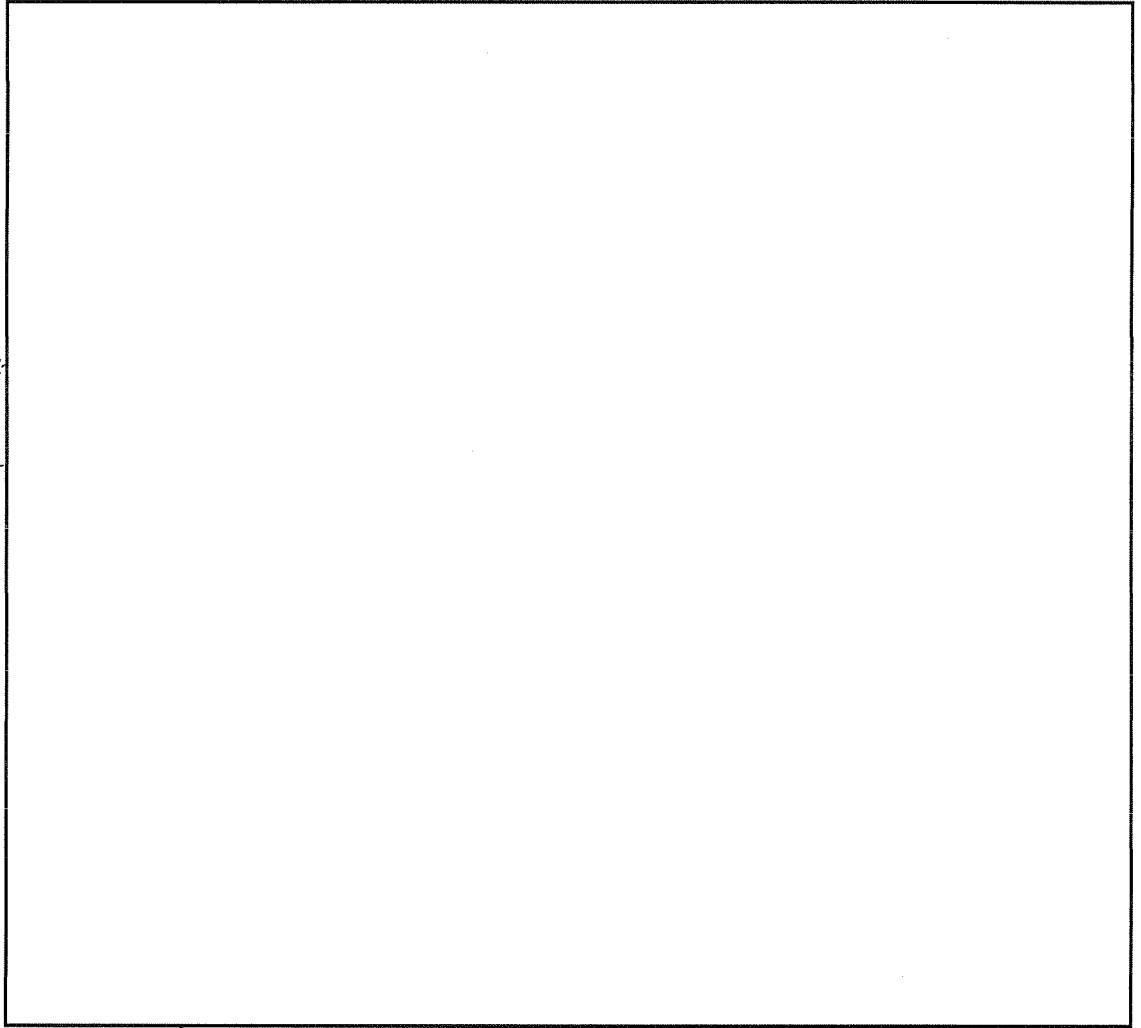


b6  
b7C  
b7D

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1cDate of transcription 7/15/72

The following items, of possible evidentiary value, were obtained during a search of the person, incidental to the arrest of [REDACTED] on July 11, 1972:

b6  
b7CInterviewed on 7/11/72 at New York, New York File # NY 87-68137by SA [REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] EGG Date dictated 7/13/72

9

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87-33312-91

SF 87-33313  
FAG/vsk

b6  
b7c

By letter dated August 15, 1972, the New York Office advised that on August 10, 1972, [redacted] New York Telephone Company, 140 West Street, New York City, advised that he did not attend the phone freak convention held in New York City on July 29, 1972, as he was on vacation. [redacted] advised that [redacted] was present at the convention and that she could furnish detailed information concerning same.

On August 10, 1972, [redacted] New York Telephone Company, advised that she attended the phone freak convention held at the Hotel Diplomat, 108 West 43rd Street, New York City, on July 29, 1972. She stated that the convention ran from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and that approximately 75 people were in attendance. No equipment was displayed, however, visual diagrams of blue boxes and devices used were shown and explained. It should be noted that the convention received a great deal of publicity.

[redacted] advised that Subject was not in attendance at the convention. Four individuals spoke including [redacted] and [redacted] is also known to phone freaks as [redacted] and resides at [redacted] Long Island, New York.

By letter dated August 24, 1972, the Los Angeles Office furnished the following information:

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 7/19/72b6  
b7c

[redacted]  
[redacted] telephone numbers [redacted] [redacted] and [redacted] was interviewed at his place of residence. Prior to interview the interviewing Agents identified themselves as representatives of the FBI and advised [redacted] of the purpose of the interview which was to obtain from him any information he might have concerning the activities of [redacted] relating to his use of multi-frequency devices circumventing telephone companies circuitry.

[redacted] advised that he has been acquainted with [redacted] for approximately [redacted]. He stated he met [redacted] through his, [redacted] hobby of studying telephone devices and equipment. [redacted]  
[redacted]

[redacted] stated that he could not provide any information concerning [redacted] past or current activities involving the use of multi-frequency telephone devices as he did not have any firsthand knowledge as to [redacted] activities. [redacted] stated, however, that he did know [redacted] had a strong interest in the "blue boxes" and other types of devices and felt that [redacted] would be the type of individual who would experiment with those devices because of that interest.

[redacted] stated that he has known that [redacted] uses the code name [redacted] and felt that this was probably common knowledge among individuals he termed as "phone freaks".

b6  
b7c

Interviewed on 7/13/72 [redacted] California File # Los Angeles 87-36042

by SA [redacted]  
SA [redacted] /DKC/sem Date dictated 7/18/72

11

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription August 1, 1972

[redacted] was interviewed at  
his residence, [redacted] California.

b6  
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b7D

He was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent, and of the nature of the interview. He was advised of his rights as appear on the "Interrogation; Advice of Rights" Form. He executed the waiver by signature, and advised as follows:

[redacted]

[redacted]

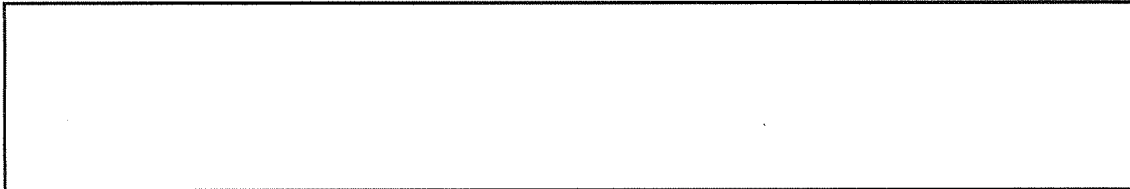
b6  
b7C

Interviewed on 7/20/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313-89

by SA [redacted] ksb Date dictated 7/26/72

12

2  
SF 87-33313  
TFW/ksb



b6  
b7C  
b7D

[redacted] never discussed owning or using or manufacturing any instrument or device to defraud the Telephone Company.

[redacted] never knew anything concerning any equipment that [redacted] had in his possession for making telephone calls without cost, until such time as he read in the newspaper that [redacted] had been arrested. [redacted] has no knowledge concerning a so called "blue box" or any other equipment that [redacted] or any other individual might possess to make toll free telephone calls. [redacted] furnished the following background and descriptive data:

Name:  
Residence:  
  
Race:  
Sex:  
Birthdate:  
Birthplace:  
Hair:  
Eyes:  
Height:  
Weight:  
Employment:  
  
Education:  
Arrest record:



SF 87-33313  
FAG/vsk

On September 12, 1972, Assistant United States Attorney PAUL FITZPATRICK, Northern District of California advised that on September 11, 1972, a hearing was afforded the Subject in United States District Court, San Jose, California. At that time, Subject testified that he was without funds and the court appointed a public defender to defend him. The court continued Subject's trial until October 24, 1972.

CALL DETAIL &

TRANSCRIPT

TAPE #1

87-12189-9  
ENCLOSURE

CALL DETAIL &  
TRANSCRIPT

TAPE #2

CALL DETAIL &  
TRANSCRIPT

TAPE #3

CALL DETAIL &  
TRANSCRIPT

TAPE #4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

TELETYPE

Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Baker	_____
Mr. Bates	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Jenkins	_____
Mr. Marshall	_____
Mr. Miller, E.S.	_____
Mr. Ponder	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Kinley	_____
Mr. Armstrong	_____
Ms. Herwig	_____
Mrs. Neenan	_____

NR 023 SF PLAINTEXT

4:28 AM NITEL 10/12/72 EJG

TO: ACTING DIRECTOR (87-121189)

NEW YORK (87-68137)

FROM: SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313) P 1P

AKA, ITSP, FBW

b6  
b7c

AUSA PAUL FITZPATRICK, SAN FRANCISCO, REQUESTS PRESENCE  
OF SA [ ] IN SAN FRANCISCO, OCT. TWENTYTHREE, NEXT,  
FOR PRETRIAL CONFERENCE. SA [ ] WILL BE UTILIZED AS GOVERNMENT  
WITNESS TO TESTIFY TO ARREST AND SEIZURE OF EVIDENCE FROM SUBJECT ON  
JULY ELEVEN, LAST, IN NYC. SA [ ] REQUESTED TO BRING ALL EVIDENCE  
SEIZED FROM SUBJECT. TRIAL DATE SET FOR OCT. TWENTYFOUR, NEXT,  
USDC, SAN JOSE, CALIF.

END

HOLD PLS

REC-23

87-121189-10

16 OCT 16 1972

ST-113

54 OCT 19 1972 F442

6-Ja

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 21 1972

TELETYPE

Mr. Felt	
Mr. Baker	
Mr. Bates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Cleveland	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Dalky	
Mr. Jenkins	
Mr. Marshall	
Mr. Miller, E.S.	
Mr. Ponder	
Mr. Soyars	
Mr. Walters	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Kinley	
Mr. Armstrong	
Ms. Herwig	
Mrs. Neenan	

NR 023 SF PLAINTEXT

11:17 PM NITEL 10/20/72 EJG

TO: ACTING DIRECTOR (87-121189)

NEW YORK (87-68137)

FROM: SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313) (P) 1P

[REDACTED], AKA. ITSP; FBW.

AUSA PAUL FITZPATRICK, SAN FRANCISCO, ADVISED THIS DATE  
THAT [REDACTED] TRIAL WILL BE CONTINUED TO NOVEMBER TWENTYEIGHT  
NEXT, USDC, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA. MR. FITZPATRICK REQUESTS  
THAT SA [REDACTED] APPEAR SAN FRANCISCO FOR PRETRIAL  
CONFERENCE NOVEMBER TWENTYSEVEN NEXT, UACB.  
END

PLS ACK FOR TWO

BJM FBI WASHDC

ACK FOR NR021 & 023

CLR

REC-36

87-121189-11

ST-112

16 OCT 24 1972

F425  
54 OCT 27 1972

cc- Mohr

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	DATE <b>11/17/72</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>10/11/72 - 11/13/72</b>
TITLE OF CASE  [redacted] aka [redacted]		REPORT MADE BY [redacted]	TYPED BY <b>mjl</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>ITSP - FBW</b>	b6 b7C

REFERENCES: San Francisco report of SA [redacted] dated 9/18/72.  
New York airtel to San Francisco dated 10/16/72.  
Los Angeles letter to San Francisco dated 10/30/72.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE

Information copies of this report are being furnished the Los Angeles and New York offices in view of their investigative interest in this matter. *Ri*

Authority to serve subpoenas in this case was granted by former SAC ROBERT E. GEBHARDT.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED <input type="checkbox"/> NONE						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
APPROVED <i>REC-2</i> COPIES MADE: ② - Bureau (87-121189) 1 - USA, San Francisco 1 - Los Angeles (87-36042) (Info) 2 - New York (87-68137) (Info) (1 - USA, EDNY) 2 - San Francisco (87-33313)						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW <b>87-121189-12 ST-104</b> <b>17 NOV 20 1972</b> <b>REC-2</b>	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations <b>STAT SECT.</b>	
Agency							
Invest Recd.							
Fwd.							
Fwd.							

80 NOV 27 1972

A  
COVER PAGE

SF 87-33313  
FAG:mjl

LEAD

SAN FRANCISCO

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. Will follow and  
report results of prosecution.

B\*  
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, San Francisco  
1 - USA, New York

Report of: [REDACTED]

Office: San Francisco, California

Date: 11/17/72

Field Office File #: 87-33313

Bureau File #: 87-121189

Title: [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

Character: INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY -  
FRAUD BY WIRE

## Synopsis:

Interviews with some persons contacted telephonically by Subject during March, April, and May, 1972, set out. Former phone freak and acquaintance of Subject observed [REDACTED] with electronic equipment which could be used to defraud telephone company. Subject's trial, which had been scheduled for 11/28/72, will be continued to a date not yet determined.

- P -

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO

On October 11, 1972, Assistant United States Attorney PAUL J. FITZPATRICK, requested that the FBI interview and serve with a subpoena to testify on October 24, 1972, in United States District Court (USDC), San Jose, California, certain persons who were telephonically contacted by Subject during the periods from March 27, 1972, through March 30, 1972, and April 30, 1972, through May 1, 1972. In accordance with the request of Mr. FITZPATRICK, the following investigation was conducted:

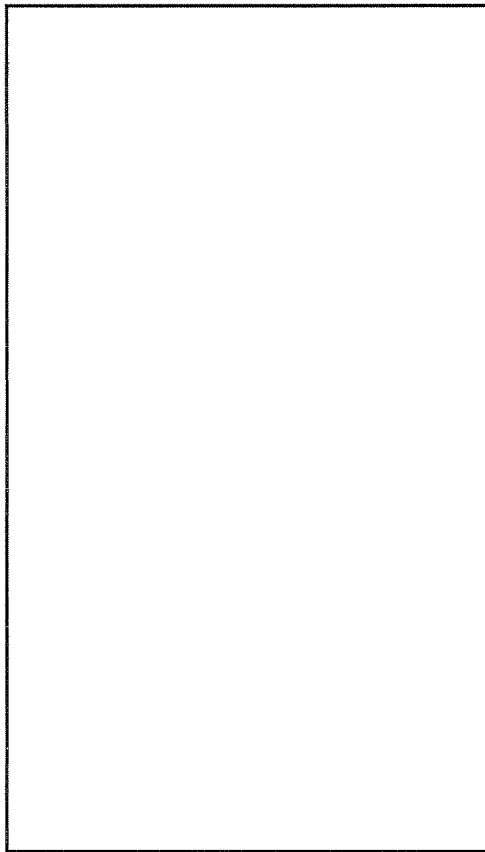
## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 10/18/72

[redacted] General Telephone Company, 100 Wilshire Boulevard, made available tapes of telephone conversations monitored by the General Telephone Company during the periods from March 27, 1972, through March 30, 1972, and April 30, 1972, through May 1, 1972. The tapes include calls which were monitored from the telephone listed to [redacted] telephone number [redacted]

b6  
b7C  
b7D

[redacted] The tapes, which are ten in number, include calls made from [redacted] telephone to the telephones listed to the following persons:

b6  
b7C

On 10/16/72 at Santa Monica, California File # SF 87-33313

by SA [redacted] wja Date dictated 10/18/72

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency, nor duplicated within your agency.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6  
b7C  
b7D1Date 10/18/72

[redacted] was interviewed at his place of residence. [redacted] advised that he is [redacted]

[redacted] was asked if he remembered receiving a telephone call on March 30, 1972, from a [redacted] California. [redacted] stated that he did remember receiving a call last spring from this company concerning a "Bio-feed-back device", which he had received from the above company and which he considered unsatisfactory. [redacted] stated that he does not know the name of the individual who made the call to him and he is not familiar with the name [redacted]. [redacted] added that he has never seen this individual. [redacted] stated that his home telephone number is [redacted]. [redacted] stated that the device which he ordered from [redacted] was advertised in an underground newspaper which he reads.

A transcript from a recording of the above call was read to [redacted]. [redacted] was not certain from the portion of the transcript read to him whether or not he had received the above call. A tape containing the conversation from this call, which tape was made available by the General Telephone Company, was then played to [redacted]. [redacted] stated that one of the voices on this tape was his voice and the playing of the tape refreshed his recollection so that he now remembered having received the above telephone call.

SA [redacted] then served [redacted] with a subpoena to testify in United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Courtroom of Judge PECKHAM, 190 North Market, San Jose, California, on October 24, 1972, at 10:00 AM.

b6  
b7C

On 10/16/72 at Los Angeles, California File # SF 87-33313

SA [redacted]  
by SA [redacted] wja Date dictated 10/18/72

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency, nor duplicated within your agency.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 10/18/72b6  
b7c

[redacted] was interviewed at his place of employment, [redacted] advised that he is the [redacted] at the above company, and he stated that he resides at [redacted] California. [redacted] further advised that his home telephone number is [redacted].

[redacted] was then asked if he remembered receiving a telephone call on March 30, 1972, from an individual who identified himself as [redacted] from San Jose. [redacted] advised that he had no recollection of receiving this telephone call. [redacted] was then asked if he knew a [redacted] and a photograph of [redacted] was shown to [redacted]. [redacted] stated that he did not know this individual nor did he recognize the person depicted on the photograph. [redacted] advised that his records reflect that on March 30, 1972, he was at his place of employment and would not have been home to receive the above call.

On 10/16/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313  
by SA [redacted]: wja Date dictated 10/18/72

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency, nor duplicated within your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 10/18/72

[redacted] was interviewed at his place of employment [redacted] stated that he is [redacted] and resides at [redacted] California.

b6  
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[redacted] stated that he is acquainted with an individual by the name of [redacted]. He added that he knows [redacted] to be a "phone freak", and stated that [redacted] uses the code name [redacted].

[redacted] was asked by SA [redacted] if his home telephone number is [redacted]. [redacted] replied that this is his home telephone number. [redacted] was then asked if he recalled receiving a telephone call from [redacted] on [redacted]. [redacted] stated that he had no recollection of receiving a call on that particular date, however did state that he has, in the past, received telephone calls from [redacted].

A transcript of a telephone call made from a telephone listed to [redacted] telephone number [redacted] to telephone number [redacted] previously identified as the telephone listed to [redacted] was then read to [redacted]. A tape containing this telephone conversation, which tape was made available by the General Telephone Company, was then played for [redacted]. He stated that the above refreshed his recollection and he did recall receiving this telephone call from [redacted]. [redacted] stated that [redacted] desired to attend a telephone freak convention which was to be held in about April or May of 1972 at the University of California at Los Angeles. [redacted] further advised that he believed that [redacted] did in fact attend this convention.

SA [redacted] then served [redacted] with a subpoena to testify in United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Courtroom of Judge PECKHAM, 190 North Market, San Jose, California, on October 24, 1972, at 10:00 AM.

On 10/17/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313  
by SA [redacted]  
SA [redacted] wja Date dictated 10/18/72

b6  
b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency, nor duplicated within your agency.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 10/18/72

[redacted] was interviewed at her place of residence. [redacted] stated that she is married to [redacted] and she added that she is employed by the [redacted] stated that her home telephone number is [redacted]

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[redacted] was asked if she recalled receiving a telephone call on March 30, 1972, from an individual who identified himself as [redacted] from San Jose. [redacted] stated that she had no recollection of receiving this call. A portion of the conversation which was involved in this call, and which was taped by the General Telephone Company of California, was read to [redacted] by SA [redacted]. [redacted] stated that she still did not recall receiving the above call. A recording of this call was then played to [redacted]. [redacted] advised that she was not certain that the voice appearing on this tape was her voice. She stated, however, that she recalled a "guy" calling, however she did not recall how long ago this call was received. She added that she therefore guesses that it must have been her voice on the tape.

[redacted] stated that she does not know anyone by the name of [redacted]. A photograph of [redacted] was shown to [redacted] and she stated that she did not know the person depicted on this photograph.

SA [redacted] then served [redacted] with a subpoena to testify in United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Courtroom of Judge PECKHAM, 190 North Market, San Jose, California, on October 24, 1972, at 10:00 AM.

On 10/17/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313  
by SA [redacted]  
SA [redacted] wja Date dictated 10/18/72

b6  
b7C

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 10/17/72b6  
b7C  
b7D

[redacted] was interviewed at his place of employment [redacted] advised that he is [redacted] [redacted] was asked if he recalled receiving a telephone call on March 30, 1972, from an individual who identified himself as [redacted]

[redacted] stated that the above refreshed his recollection and he recalled receiving this telephone call from [redacted]

A tape of the conversation from this call, which tape was made available by the General Telephone Company of California, was played to [redacted] [redacted] identified one of the voices on this tape as his voice.

SA [redacted] then served [redacted] with a subpoena to testify in United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Courtroom of Judge [redacted] 190 North Market, San Jose, California, on October 24, 1972, at 10:00 AM.

b6  
b7C

On 10/17/72 at Los Angeles, California File # SF 87-33313

SA [redacted]  
by SA [redacted] wja Date dictated 10/18/72

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency, nor duplicated within your agency.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 10/18/72

[redacted] was interviewed at his place of residence, [redacted] stated at the outset of the interview that he is [redacted]. He further advised that he has telephone number [redacted].

b6  
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[redacted] stated that he does know a [redacted] however he declined to further identify this individual. [redacted] was asked if he remembered receiving a telephone call on about April 30, 1972, from [redacted] [redacted] stated that he does not recall receiving this telephone call.

A partial transcript of this call, which was taped by the General Telephone Company and made available to the FBI, was read to [redacted] [redacted] stated that this did not refresh his recollection and he did not recall receiving the call. [redacted] was advised that the call was recorded by the telephone company and he, [redacted] was requested to listen to a tape reflecting this conversation. [redacted] declined to listen to the tape and stated that he did not desire to be involved in this matter.

SA [redacted] then served [redacted] with a subpoena to testify in United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Courtroom of Judge PECKHAM, 190 North Market, San Jose, California, on October 24, 1972, at 10:00 AM.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] it would be impossible for him to appear in court in San Jose, California, and he stated that he would contact PAUL J. FITZPATRICK, Assistant United States Attorney, San Francisco, and advise him that he would not be present in court on October 24, 1972, as directed.

b6  
b7C

On 10/18/72 at [redacted] California File # SF 87-33313  
by SA [redacted]  
SA [redacted] : wja Date dictated 10/18/72

SF 87-33313  
FAG:mjl

The Los Angeles office, by letter dated October 30, 1972, furnished the following information:

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/27/72

[redacted] California, voluntarily appeared at the Riverside Resident Agency of the FBI for the purpose of interview. [redacted] was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents by display of credential and furnished the following information regarding the activities of a [redacted]

b6  
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[redacted] advised that he had only seen [redacted] He said that [redacted] and a person named [redacted] whose last name was unknown to him, visited him [redacted] He stated that he has not talked to [redacted] via telephone since [redacted]

When asked how he first met [redacted] [redacted] advised that it was through a telephone call made by [redacted] to [redacted] [redacted] stated that while he [redacted] was a "phone freak" he talked to [redacted] approximately [redacted] (It was at this time during the interview that [redacted] was provided an FD-368, Voluntary Appearance; Advice of Rights form, which he read and executed by signing) When asked the nature of his conversations with [redacted] [redacted] stated that it was just a "normal" conversation similar to any he would have with other "phone freaks". He said that he did not know from where [redacted] was placing the telephone calls.

Interviewed on 10/24/72 at [redacted] California File # Los Angeles 87-36042  
by SA [redacted] SA [redacted] /lab Date dictated 10/26/72

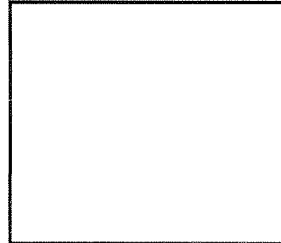
b6  
b7c

[redacted] stated that he did not doubt that [redacted] was identical with [redacted] however, [redacted] usually used his true name when placing telephone calls.

b2  
b6  
b7C

[redacted] was described by [redacted] as follows:

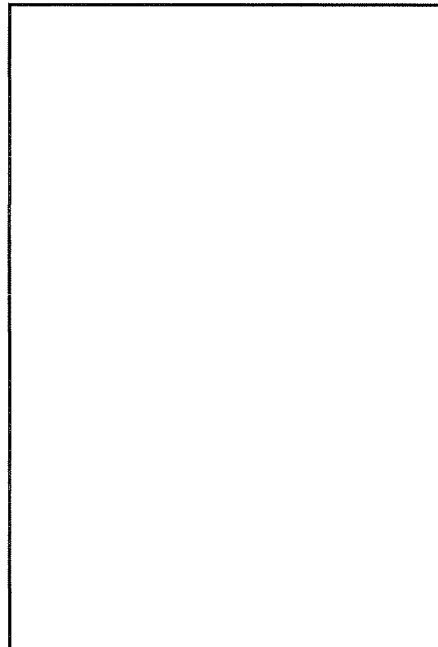
Race  
Sex  
Age  
Height  
Weight  
Complexion  
Hair



[redacted] described [redacted] (last name unknown) who was with [redacted] when he visited [redacted] as a tall white male, approximately [redacted] years of age, with blond hair.

From observation and information obtained the following description of [redacted] is provided:

Name  
Sex  
Race  
Height  
Weight  
Hair  
Eyes  
Date of Birth  
Place of Birth  
Social Security  
Account Number  
Address  
  
Telephone number  
  
Employment



SF 87-33313  
FAG:mjl

On October 19, 1972, Assistant United States Attorney PAUL J. FITZPATRICK advised that a continuance of the [ ] trial would be requested. FITZPATRICK added that a new date of November 28, 1972, would be requested. Mr. FITZPATRICK added that when a trial date has been set by the court, new subpoenas will be issued to be served on witnesses previously served requesting them to testify in United States District Court.

b6  
b7c

Mr. FITZPATRICK advised that he has been informed by the clerk of the United States District Court that the [ ] trial, which had been continued to November 28, 1972, will be re-scheduled to a later date. Mr. FITZPATRICK, on November 13, 1972, advised that a date for the [ ] trial has not as yet been set.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 21 1972

TELETYPE

Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Baker	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Cleveland	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Dalbey	_____
Mr. Gebhardt	_____
Mr. Jenkins	_____
Mr. Marshall	_____
Mr. Miller, E.S.	_____
Mr. Purvis	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Kinley	_____
Mr. Armstrong	_____
Ms. Herwig	_____
Mrs. Neenan	_____

NR 009 SF PLAIN

7:53 PM NITEL 11/21/72 MCC

TO ACTING DIRECTOR (87-121189)

NEW YORK (87-68137) (P)

FROM SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313) (P) 1P

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED] AKA [REDACTED] ITSP - FBW.

RE SAN FRANCISCO NITEL, OCTOBER TWENTY LAST.

AUSA PAUL J. FITZPATRICK, SAN FRANCISCO, ADVISED THIS DATE  
THAT TRIAL FOR DRAPER HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR [REDACTED]  
NEXT USDO [REDACTED] CALIF. MR. FITZPATRICK REQUESTS THAT  
SA [REDACTED] APPEAR FOR PRETRIAL CONFERENCE IN SAN FRANCISCO AT  
NINE AM, NOVEMBER TWENTYSEVEN NEXT. FITZPATRICK ALSO REQUESTS  
THAT SA [REDACTED] NYO, WHO ARRESTED [REDACTED] AND OBSERVED  
HIM ATTEMPT TO CONCEAL "BLUE BOX" ACTIVATING DEVICE ON HIS TRUCK  
AT TIME OF ARREST, ALSO APPEAR AT PRETRIAL CONFERENCE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NEXT UACB.

END

RES FBI WASH CLR

REC-2

87-121189-13

EX-117

3 NOV 27 1972

54 DEC 1 1972

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (87-121189)

DATE: 11/14/72

ATTN: IDENT. DIVISION (LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION)

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313) P

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] aka .

ITSP - FBW

OO: SAN FRANCISCO

b6  
b7C

Re San Francisco nitel to Bureau, dated 10/12/72.

Enclosed for the Bureau are [REDACTED]  
initialed "RB," dated 10/3/72.

The enclosed latent fingerprints were obtained by the San Jose PD at the request of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, San Jose, California, during the investigation by the telephone company of a person or persons unknown who are attempting to modify the FMC Corporation's telephone system regarding the makeup of their service regarding conference calls.

Investigation into this matter has developed captioned Subject as a possible suspect and the enclosed latent prints [REDACTED]

b2  
b7E

The Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to compare enclosed latent fingerprints with fingerprints of [REDACTED] California, arrested [REDACTED] California, by Buagents and advise San Francisco for dissemination to local authorities, [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

Latent Fingerprint Section is requested to return enclosures to San Francisco for return to local authorities.

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 5) (REG)
  - 2 - San Francisco
- JPM:rap  
(4)

*Sealed*  
**ENCLOSURE**

**EX-117**

REC-69

87-121189-14

*Ans'd*  
*Exp. RR*  
*11/30/72*

21 NOV 17 1972

*[Handwritten signature]*

SPECIMENS DETACHED IN LFPS



5010-108-01

87-121189

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537



## REPORT

of the

## IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

## LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION

EX-117

REC-69

YOUR FILE NO.

87-33313

FBI FILE NO.

87-121189-14

LATENT CASE NO.

A-62741

November 30, 1972

TO: SAC, San Francisco

b6  
b7cRE: [REDACTED] AKA;  
ITSP; FBWREFERENCE: Letter 11/14/72  
EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: San Francisco  
SPECIMENS: [REDACTED] lifts[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] No latent prints of  
value appear on remaining lifts.[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] No palm prints  
available Identification Division files for [REDACTED]

Specimens enclosed.

Enc. [REDACTED]

ELR:rr  
(4)

MAILED 21

NOV 30 1972

FBI

Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bates \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Campbell \_\_\_\_\_  
 Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cleveland \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
 Marshall \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miller, E.S. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ponder \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
 Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Kinley \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Armstrong \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ms. Herwig \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mrs. Neenan \_\_\_\_\_

4 DEC 7 1972

1972

L. Patrick Gray, III, Acting Director

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

MAIL ROOM ☒TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION WORK SHEET

Recorded: 11/20/72 11:00 a.m. jep Reference No: 87-33313  
Received: 11/20/72 FBI File No: 87-121189  
Answer to: SAC, San Francisco Latent Case No: A-62741

14

Examination requested by: Addressee

Copy to:

RE: [redacted] AKA;  
ITSP FBW

Date of reference communication: Letter 11/14/72.

Specimen [redacted] Transparent lifts (marked [redacted] on 2 FPS)  
Named Subject: [redacted] cards

b6  
b7C

Also  
ELP: RR  
11/30/72

(No Prev. Lat.)

Result of examination:

Examination by: [redacted]  
Evidence noted by: [redacted]

Examination completed

9:15 AM  
Time

11-22-72  
Date

Dictated

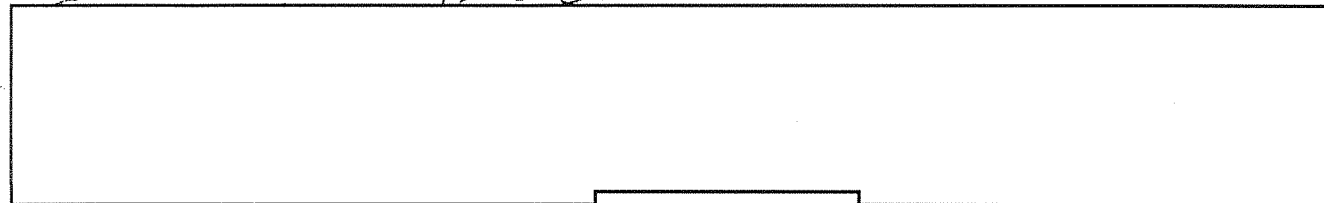
11-22-72  
Date

ER

ER

[Signature]

11/22 EER



No pampers here for



b6  
b7C

Specimens enclosed.



WJG  
NOV 28 1972  
WJG  
NOV 28 1972

SAC, San Francisco  
(87-33313)

[redacted] lifts

Bufile No.  
LC No.  
Date of Relet  
Examiner  
Noted by  
No. of Photo

87-121189  
A-62741  
11-14-72

[redacted]

b6  
b7C

[redacted]

Aka

ITSP FBW

[redacted]

[redacted]

Lat. prints

[redacted]

Lat palmprint.

87-121189  
Photos of LATs

2 photos  
1 sec-lw  
11-8-74

LC #

A-62741

[illegible]

Lift # 2

Marked in LFPS

Lift Marked #1  
IN LFPS

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SAN FRANCISCO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN SAN FRANCISCO	DATE 12/6/72	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 11/21-29/72
TITLE OF CASE [REDACTED] aka [REDACTED]		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY djm
		CHARACTER OF CASE ITSP - FBW	

b6  
b7c

REFERENCE: Report of SA [REDACTED], at San Francisco, 11/17/72.

-C-

## ENCLOSURE

TO BUREAU: One (1) final disposition report.

ADMINISTRATIVE: An information copy of this report is furnished the Los Angeles Office in view of their interest in this matter.

The blue box seized through the use of a search warrant will be furnished to the FBI Laboratory by separate communication.

An extra copy of this report is being furnished the Bureau for dissemination to FCC in view of their interest in Subject inasmuch as he holds a ham radio license.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
1			\$1,000					PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 3 - Bureau (87-121189)(Encl 1) 1 - USA, San Francisco 1 - Los Angeles (87-36042)(Info) 3 - New York (87-68137) (1 - USA, EDNY) 1 - San Francisco (87-33313)		87-121189-16 21 DEC 11 1972 REC-22 ST-11	

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency	FCC			
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.	12/18/72			
How Fwd.	by 0-14			
By	JPSm/NLM			

Notations

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

51 DEC 27 1972

A  
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, San Francisco  
1 - USA, EDNY

Report of: [REDACTED]

Office: San Francisco, California

Date: 12/6/72

Field Office File #: 87-33313

Bureau File #: 87-121189

Title: [REDACTED]

Character:

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY <sup>b6</sup>  
FRAUD BY WIRE <sup>b7C</sup>

Synopsis:

Subject reindicted before Federal Grand Jury, San Francisco, 11/28/72, 7 count indictment returned. On 11/29/72, in USDC, [REDACTED], California, court accepted Subject's plea of nolo contendere to one count charge violation USC Title 18, Section 1343. [REDACTED]

-C-

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

On November 21, 1972, Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) PAUL J. FITZPATRICK advised that the trial for [REDACTED] would be held on [REDACTED] in the United States District Court (USDC) at [REDACTED] California. Mr. FITZPATRICK further advised that he would request a superseding indictment charging [REDACTED] with a 7 count violation United States Code, Title 18, Section 1343.

DEC 22 2 10 PM '72

DATA PROCESSING  
SECTION

SF 87-33313  
FAG/djm

LEAD

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK: Will obtain a prosecutive opinion from the USA, Eastern District of New York, inasmuch as a possible ITSP - FBW violation exists in this district.

B\*  
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI (87-121189) DATE: 12/6/72  
(ATTN: FBI LAB, RADIO ENGINEERING SECTION)

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (87-33313) (C)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] aka  
[REDACTED]  
ITSP - FBW

Re Bureau letter to San Francisco, dated 6/8/72,  
and San Francisco report of SA [REDACTED] dated  
12/6/72.

*under separate cover*

Enclosed for the FBI Laboratory, Radio Engineering  
Section, as requested in referenced Bureau communication,  
is the "blue box" which was seized from Subject. The  
FBI Laboratory may retain enclosed specimen.

b6  
b7C



5010-108-01

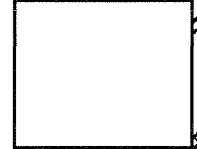
3 - Bureau (Encl 1) (RM) (1 pkg copy)  
2 - San Francisco  
FAG/djm #C7  
(4)

59 DEC 13 1972

DEC 10 1972

*Pkg Recd & returned  
PE Sect sub 12/11/72  
WZG*

87-121189-  
NOT RECORDED  
15 DEC 8 1972



*new B/well  
well*