



Exploding The Phone

db948

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Bibliographic Cover Sheet

Title **FBI File 100-NY-180103: Technological American Party (TAP)**

Date 1974-01-00

Author(s) FBI

Abstract New York FBI file 100-NY-180103 (seemingly also 100-NY-179649) concerning TAP and YIPL

Keywords TAP; YIPL; Technological American Party; Youth International Party Line

Notes Provides slight additional information relative to db374; it is not clear to Phil why this is a separate file than 100-NY-179649. I initially thought perhaps this was an HQ file but no, it's actually a NY file per the FOIPA cover letter. Weird.

See also db0374

Source FBI via FOIA

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

December 8, 2009

Subject: FILE NUMBER 100-NY-180103
FOIPA No. 1137957- 000

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:

Table with 3 columns: Section 552, Section 552a, and various exemption codes like (b)(1), (b)(7)(A), (d)(5), etc.

12 page(s) were reviewed and 12 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 Policy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001. Your appeal must be received by OIP within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request 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", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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

Enclosure(s)

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.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. NYfile 100-179649

New York, New York

Technological American Party

A preliminary inquiry has been initiated concerning the captioned organization for the purpose of determining if it is engaged in activities which could involve violations of Title 18, United States Code 2383 (Rebellion or Insurrection), 2384 (Seditious Conspiracy), and 2385 (Advocating Overthrow of the Government).

NY T-1 made available on January 9, 1974, a copy of the October, 1973 issue of "TAP", which is self-described therein as "Published for informational purposes only by the Technological American Party", and as "The newsletter that advocates violence", with address as "TAP, Room 504, 152 W. 42 St., N.Y. N.Y., 10036".

NY T-2 made available on December 7, 1973, a copy of the October, 1973 issue of "TAP", which is self-identified therein as "Published for informational purposes only by the Technological American Party" (TAP), and as "The newsletter that advocates violence". The address of TAP is reflected therein as Room 504, 152 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, 10036. Attached thereto was a mimeographed page, reflecting the following information:

Sources whose identities are concealed herein have furnished reliable information in the past, except where otherwise noted.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (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.

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____

100 - 180103 - 1

Technological American Party

"What The Hell Is TAP?"

"TAP, The Technological American Party, is the newsletter of the Phone Phreaks. The latest developments on how to rip off the Phone Company are explored every issue, usually 10 per year. The technology involved runs from advanced to beginner, and many ideas are submitted by and for non-technical people. At this time we are expanding into other technological frontiers like exposing how people rip off Gas and Electric Service, building pirate radio stations, and getting more than your money's worth from vending machines. The reader, meaning you, is the source of all information. You submit research, questions, articles and get more back. We offer a free info exchange called Destructory Assistance for people who want to barter with information they have collected. We trade info on what you request for your equal amount of info on the same or other subjects, if we have it, of course. A list of subjects in our DA files is available on request. We stock all back issues for 50¢ each, including 25¢ fact sheets on certain subjects. And we are adding easy beginner courses in all types of right-on technology, at a very reasonable price. All information is available free for people who honestly cannot afford it, and we are able to do this in part because our readers do not try to rip us off and because of contributions, the largest of which was \$10, which help to pay for those who cannot. We are a legal organization engaged in the First Amendment act of publishing information, and of course the organization TAP does not advocate illegal activities, though this is contrary to American Businesses. You have every right to subscribe to TAP under an assumed name if you wish, or to a friend's, relative's, or business address to avoid illegal harrassment by AT&T and others. More TAP readers means more information so subscribe your friends now. Send check or money order only (no cash) to TAP Room 504, 152 W. 42 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10036. \$2 / year."

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An item appears at the bottom of Page one of the October, 1973 issue of "TAP", reflecting the following: "Defense Fund. Please send whatever you can afford to prevent Abbie and his friends from being sent to jail for life (no parole for 15 years), because cocaine is classified as heroin (though it is non-addictive and shunned by junkies). Send your support to Abbie Hoffman and Friends Legal Defense, 640 Broadway, N.Y., N.Y. 10012. Please don't send cash. Thanks."

The "New York Post", a New York City daily newspaper, in its edition of August 29, 1974, Page one, described Abbie Hoffman as a founder of the Youth International Party (YIP), a radical group which staged demonstrations at the 1968 Democratic national political convention in Chicago, Illinois, and during the conventions of both major political parties during 1972. He was among eight individuals who were convicted in a Chicago conspiracy trial for crossing state lines to incite riot during the 1968 convention. Those convictions were later reversed by an appeals court. This article added that Hoffman was among four persons arrested by the New York City Police Department (NYCPD), on August 28, 1973, for felony sale of dangerous drugs.

The December 7, 1973 edition of the "New York Daily News", a New York City daily newspaper, reported that Abbie Hoffman was among four individuals who had been recently convicted in Chicago on charges of contempt of court four years after a 1969-1970 riot conspiracy trial. United States

Technological American Party

District Judge Edward T. Gignoux stated that no justification existed for imposing sentences upon the four.

Hoffman is currently out on bond awaiting trial for the August 28, 1973 charge.

The YIP, also known as the Yippies, is a loose-knit antiestablishment, violence prone youth organization formed in New York City in January, 1968. In May, 1972, a small faction calling itself the YIP-Zippies came into being, but currently does not exist as an organized faction of YIP.

NY T-3, who was in a position to provide reliable information, advised on January 21, 1974 that in June, 1971, [redacted] New York, applied for services through the Discreet Mail and Phone Service, Room 504, 152 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, to receive mail under the name "Youth International Party Lines". Approximately six months ago, [redacted] changed the name of the mail recipient to TAP. TAP does not utilize Discreet's telephone service. Since the beginning of the service, [redacted] has continued to pay the monthly charge of under five dollars on time. When the service was first opened, [redacted] paid the initial charges and deposit with small change from his pocket. [redacted] was described as a white male, with "hippy" attire and unkept features. NY T-3 stated that no information regarding possible correspondents with TAP and that no mailing list for "TAP" is available. NY T-3 advised that no information is available indicating that any other individual is associated with TAP or "TAP".

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On February 21, 1974, NY T-4 advised that the New York Telephone Company, New York, New York, is aware of the publication called "TAP". The New York Telephone Company is not conducting an investigation "TAP". NY T-3 reported that the legal department of the company had made inquiries regarding "TAP" because of information reflected therein which concerned the company. NY T-3 advised that the legal department of the New York Telephone Company, New York, New York, had gone as high as the New York State

Technological American Party

Attorney General's Office in Albany, but was advised by that agency that no action could be taken against "TAP" on legal grounds. NY T-4 stated that because of this reason no action has been taken by the company against "TAP".

NY T-5 reported on February 4, 1974, that the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, New York, New York, has no information regarding TAP, "TAP", [redacted] or [redacted]

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NY T-5 advised that American Telephone and Telegraph has had information regarding "phone freaks" and their operations over a period of several years. NY T-5 stated that information regarding the design, manufacture, and use of various devices, such as "black boxes" and "blue boxes", to avoid telephone toll charges has appeared in various publications readily available to the public during the past four of five years.

The records of the New York Department of Health, Queens, New York, as reviewed on March 4, 1974, reflect under Certificate of Birth [redacted] was born on [redacted] at Kew Gardens General Hospital, Queens, New York. His father was listed as [redacted] then aged 35, born in Bronx, New York, and employed as a salesman. The mother was reflected as [redacted] nee [redacted] then aged 31, born in Bronx, New York. The family then resided at [redacted].

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The records of the New York Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York, as reviewed in March, 1974, reflect that [redacted] born on [redacted] resides at [redacted] New York. He is described as a male, five feet, four inches tall, with brown hair.

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The 1973-1974 directory of the New York Telephone Company for Nassau County, New York, lists [redacted] as residing at [redacted] New York, with telephone number [redacted]

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Technological American Party

NY T-6 reported on March 12, 1974, that [redacted] was born on [redacted] is unmarried, resides at [redacted] New York, and is employed as an engineer [redacted] New York, New York.

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NY T-7 and NY T-8, other agencies conducting investigations of a security nature, reported on January 22 and 24, 1974, that TAP, "TAP", and [redacted] [redacted] are unknown to them.

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EXEMPTED FROM AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION
AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
EXEMPTION CODE 25X(1-human)
DATE 11-24-2009

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-179649) (C)

SUBJECT: TECHNOLOGICAL AMERICAN PARTY (TAP)
SUBVERSIVE MATTER
(OO:NY)

DATE:

Reference is made to Seattle letter to New York,
dated 1/10/74.

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Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are seven (7)
copies of an LHM, captioned as above, and seven (7) copies of
the October, 1973 issue of "TAP", self-described as a
publication of the captioned organization.

Referenced Seattle letter enclosed a copy of
the October, 1973 "TAP", requested New York to advise if
TAP is known to New York, and to provide a list of Washington
State recipients if available.

No additional information regarding TAP its
publication [redacted] or their [redacted]
possible association with the Youth International Party (YIP)
has been developed through informants and sources. No
additional issues of "TAP" have come to the attention of
New York other than the enclosed October, 1973 copy. New York
indices reflect no additional data identifiable with TAP,
"TAP", or [redacted]

New York indices were reviewed regarding the New
York Telephone Company, mentioned in the enclosed DHM. No
data identifiable with TAP, "TAP", [redacted]
was reflected in those references.

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- 3 - Bureau (Encls.14) (RM)
(1 - 100-448919) (INFO)
- 2 - Seattle (100-) (Encls.2) (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-162260) (YIP)
- 1 - New York (87-72692) (24) (INFO)
- 1 - New York

SEARCHED [initials] INDEXED [initials]
SERIALIZED [initials] FILED [initials]
OCT 1974
SUPERVISOR [initials] SECT [initials]

700-180103-2

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| SEARCHED [initials] | INDEXED [initials] |
| SERIALIZED [initials] | FILED [initials] |
| FBI-NEW YORK | |

JLG:lab
(8)



5010-110

CONSOLIDATED
BY [initials]

10/77

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

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NY 100-179649

Information available in New York reflects that data regarding the design, manufacture, and use of various devices to avoid telephone toll charges is readily available to the public and such information has appeared in various public publications during the past several years.

New York indices reflect three references to "Blue Box" and "Black Box" a device used to avoid telephone toll charges by "Phone Freaks". Review of these references reflects no data regarding TAP, "TAP", or [redacted] [redacted].

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New York indices reflect no information identifiable with Media Sound, or the following mentioned in the October 1973 copy of "TAP": Telephony, Phone Freaks, Answeroo, Head Crash, Red Box, Destructory Assistance United Telephone System, Hekiman Laboratory or [redacted] [redacted].

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Enclosed LHM reflects that "TAP" gave an address of the Abbie Hoffman and His Friends Legal Defense as 640 Broadway, New York, New York. The current Manhattan telephone directory lists the law firm of Lefcourt, Garfinkle, Crain, Cohn, Sanders, and Lefcourt at that address. That firm is representing ABBIE HOFFMAN regarding his December, 1973 arrest. Information available in New York reflects that that law firm has and is handling legal matters on behalf of additional individuals who have been associated with new left and related matters over a period of several years.

Investigation has developed no additional information reflecting that TAP is affiliated with the YIP. YIP and HOFFMAN have been characterized in the LHM.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100- 179649

New York submitted an FD-9 to the Bureau's Identification Division. That division has advised that no information identifiable with [redacted] is reflected in its records.

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The records of the Bureau of Criminal Identification, New York City Police Department, New York, N.Y., as caused to be reviewed in February, 1974, by SA AUGUST J. MICEK, and the records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, New York, New York, as reviewed on 1/21/74, by SC [redacted] reflect no information identifiable with TAP, "TAP", [redacted]

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The 1973-1974 Directory of the New York Telephone Company lists one, [redacted] NY, NY, with telephone number [redacted]. Also reflected is one [redacted] New York, New York, with telephone number [redacted]. The records of the New York Board of Elections, New York, New York, as reviewed on February 13, 1974, by SC [redacted] reflect no registration for any individual named [redacted] from [redacted] New York, New York, for the years 1968-1973.

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New York indices reflect no data identifiable with the subject's parents, [redacted].

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CSNY 1, who has knowledge of the background and ownership of numerous businesses in the New York City area, reported on 1/23/74, to SC [redacted] that no information regarding TAP, or "TAP" is available.

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SC [redacted] reviewed the records of the New York Department of Health, Queens, New York.

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The records of the New York Department of Motor Vehicles, Albany, New York, were reviewed via the Visual Display Unit by a NYO Radio Room Clerk.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-179649

Review of New York indices reflects that the Discreet Mail and Phone Service, Room 504, 152 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, was used as one of many other addresses by [redacted] aka, Passport and Visa Matter (Bufile 40-84717; NYfile 40-426, and by [redacted], False Identities (Bufile 100- [redacted]; NYfile 100-178845); Closed; Boston:OO.

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Recontact with [redacted] is not recommended in the captioned matter, due to information available regarding his background and activities, and due to information set forth herein regarding the nature of this investigation.

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One copy of the enclosed LHM is being disseminated to the Bureau and the New York files regarding YIP for information purposes.

New York is enclosing sufficient copies of the 10/73 issue of "TAP" for dissemination to the Bureau Laboratory for the possible interest of that division.

- 4 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-179649

NYfile 87-72692 was opened by New York in January, 1972, for investigation in view of information reflected in "TAP". Review of that matter (Closed) reflects no additional pertinent information regarding "TAP", or [redacted]

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In view of information developed during this investigation, and set forth herein and in the enclosed LHM for the Bureau, this matter is being placed in a closed status. New York will advise the Bureau regarding any additional information developed regarding "TAP" or TAP.

Set forth in the enclosed LHM and herein for the Bureau is information regarding [redacted] described as associated with "TAP", his background and identity. No additional information has been developed indicating that he has engaged in subversive activity. New York will advise the Bureau upon receipt of any additional data developed regarding that individual.

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Informants contacted with negative results regarding this matter are as follows:

(C) [redacted]

b1

[redacted]

Sources utilized in the enclosed LHM are as follows:

b2
b7D

Identity of Source

File & Serial Where Located

(C) NY T-2
Former [redacted] b1

100-162260-1B20 (2)

NY T-6
[redacted]

100-179649-18

NY T-4 reported on 2/21/74 that the Legal Department of the New York Telephone Company had been advised by the New York State Attorney General's office in Albany, New York that no legal action could be taken against "TAP" as such would constitute a violation of "freedom of the press", and that therefore, that company has taken no action in this matter. Interview of [redacted] by New York is not recommended at this time.

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NY 100-179649

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE -- NON-SYMBOL SOURCES

Identity of Source

File & Serial Where Located

NY T-1

[Redacted]

100-179649-1

NY T-3

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

in the enclosed LHM).

NY T-4

[Redacted]

100-179649-13

NY T-5

[Redacted]

100-179649-16

NY T-7

Intelligence Division,
Security Investigation Service
New York City Police Department

100-179649-14

NY T-8

Intelligence Division,
New York City Transit Police
Department, Brooklyn,
New York

100-179649-14

CAUTION: DETACH; DO NOT DISSEMINATE TO
RESIDENT AGENCIES