



# ***Exploding The Phone***

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Bibliographic Cover Sheet



Title           **Three Univ. Students Arrested For Defrauding Telephone Co.**

Publication    *Ithaca Sun*

Date            1964-02-17

Abstract       Three Cornell University students arrested while giving a demonstration of a blue box at a frat house. Refers to other Cornell students who were tried before the Men's Judiciary Board prior to Christmas 1963 for similar activities. Also refers to a similar case at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI).

Keywords      Hoyt A. Stearns, Jr; blue box; Cornell University; Ithaca, NY; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI)

Notes         Date is approximate and based on db1057; could be +/- a few days.

Source         Hoyt Stearns

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# Three Engineering Students Charged with Phone Fraud

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of the students was reportedly telephoning Palo Alto, Calif., when the detectives arrived.

It was explained that a caller would be able to bypass the telephone company's monitoring equipment by feeding impulses from the 12-tube device into the telephone mouthpiece.

Telephone company special agents were reluctant to give a detailed description of how the instrument works for fear of widespread imitation. Dayton W. Garlick of Albany, chief security agent, said such attempts were rare and took "a special talent."

Several weekend demonstrations saw about 150 toll calls go all over the country, according to District Attorney Richard B. Thaler '53.

Two other University students were tried before by the Men's Judiciary Board before Christmas vacation on similar charges. They were apprehended by telephone company officials and the Safety Division. The Ithaca police were aware of the case, but it was handled by the University.

The Faculty Committee on Student Conduct reviewed the

case after vacation and upheld the MJB decision for three terms of disciplinary probation for the two students involved.

He explained that the three students awaiting a second hearing were charged with a violation of section 967 of the New York State Penal Code. This section deals with persons defrauding the telephone and makes such an offense a misdemeanor. A misdemeanor is punishable by a maximum penalty of \$500 or one year in jail or both.

Another case occurred recently at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Garlick reported.

LOOK  
BACK

## Three Univ. Students Arrested For Defrauding Telephone Co.

### Machine Avoided Toll Charges

For the second time in two months University students have been caught in attempts to defraud the New York Telephone Co. by using devices of their own making to confuse the billing equipment on long distance calls.

Three engineering students were arraigned yesterday in City Court for telephone fraud. Their cases were adjourned until next week to allow them time to obtain counsel. The students were released on \$50 bail.

The three were arrested Saturday night when Ithaca Detective Sgt. Lew Cornelius led a group of policemen and telephone company agents to the Triangle fraternity.

They reported finding a group of about 40 students watching a demonstration involving an ordinary telephone and a home-made electronic instrument. One

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SUN Staff Photo By Joseph Jaffe

*Sgt. Cornelius demonstrates fraudulent machine*