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Title **Long-Distance Whistler Draws \$10 Fine**

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Abstract "A blind man who was accused of defrauding the telephone company by whistling into the phone and using electronic equipment to make long-distance calls free was fined \$10 Tuesday. [...]"

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Long-Distance Whistler Draws \$10 Fine

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A blind man who was accused of defrauding the telephone company by whistling into the phone and using electronic equipment to make long-distance calls free was fined \$10 Tuesday.

In addition, City Court

Judge Ray Churchill sentenced Josef C. Engressia Jr. to 60 days in jail but suspended the term.

Engressia was arrested last Wednesday after police with a search warrant found an electronic box that he was alleged to have used, along with the

voice whistles, to activate long-distance switchboards in a manner that circumvented billing equipment.

ENGRESSIA, who had said he had made calls around the world, pleaded innocent to charges of possessing illegal equipment and defrauding the

telephone company. Churchill found that there was insufficient evidence to order the youth held for grand jury action, and reduced the charges to two counts of malicious mischief.

Engressia, who holds a math degree from the Univer-

sity of South Florida, was caught making similar calls in Florida in 1968 and was warned by the telephone company to halt the practice.

Engressia, who lives on a \$97-a-month aid-to-the-blind check, with some assistance from his parents, said he had



JOSEF C.
ENGRESSIA JR.

... enters
innocent
plea.

come to Memphis in hopes of finding work with the telephone company.