QUESTION

What do you suppose old Alex really said when he spilled the acid on himself? Could it be that History's first phone call was an obscene one?!

Agent 038

(If you didn't understand it, we will explain it in a future issue.)

ULTIMATE RED BOX by Al Bell

Resistors - 1/4 watt, 10K
Op-Amp - 741CV (National, Signetics, etc.)
Capacitors are in mfd. Values above .5 mfd are electrolytic, 15 volts or more. Observe proper polarity in these units.
Diodes - Small-signal silicon, 1N914, 1N4001, or equivalent.
Pots - 50K, small 10 or 20 turn trimpots.
Timer- XR-2240 made by Exar.
Pushbuttons - Small, momentary, s.p.s.t.
Good units made by Aico, Grayhill and C&K.

This is the Ultra-new Red Box that uses the new Exar programmable counter-timer. This Red Box is different from all others in that it actually counts to 1, 2, or 5 as the case may be. The old versions, you may recall, would produce a time "window" that the user would adjust to allow the required number of pulses to fit in. This adjustment, if done carelessly, would allow 5 1/2 or 4 1/2 pulses on the 25Hz tone, for example. This circuit incorporates the new dual tones that are rapidly becoming the standard throughout the country, 1700 Hz and 2200 Hz.

The circuit is easy to build on perf-board, and cheap because the most expensive part, the XR-2240, costs under $3.00 at most mail-order electronics stores (the stores are listed in TAP Course B and Issue 29). To tune the two oscillators, disconnect one at a time by removing one end of its 15K resistor, and then tune the other oscillator for its proper frequency with a frequency counter or any of the methods outlined in Issues 7, 12, or 16. Do the same for the other oscillator. Of course, determining the pitch of an oscillator that's gating on and off is not easy, so for tuning connect the top of the 15K resistor right to V+ and a constant tone will result. More information on calibrating frequency sources will be given in upcoming articles.

The circuit runs quite well on a standard 9 volt battery or the small 8.2 volt cells now becoming popular. The speed at which the tones gate on and off is determined by the resistance to pin 13. In the schematic, the 5.6K resistor controls the 5 and 10 gating speed, while the 8.2K resistor determines the speed of the 25Hz tones. Of course, with this circuit the speeds can be changed and the number of pulses (1, 2 or 5) will remain exactly the same. Neat, huh?

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The device is connected to the two dividers but please note that your answering devices equipped with A & A Dial equipment can be connected to Bell's and IBM's standard equipment with an extra $5.00 charge. Check out the schematic diagram below for all the equipment you may be able to find these two units: Bell and EE. Your local Bell store will have a list of these units available.

In my "Odds & Ends" last month I told you how to use your Bell phone to call the operator or Bell's service personnel. One of the most important points you will want to remember is that Bell's new service is not available in all areas. Be sure you're located where this new service is offered.

The device is connected to the tw

Here's some more good news. Litton Industries has recently sued Bell for $550 in damages charging Bell with violation of the Bell Telephone Co. Act. Litton claims that Bell has been providing service to another company and that this service has been damaging to Litton's business. Litton is asking for $500 in damages and a permanent injunction against Bell's service.

I've been informed by readers that Bell is increasing their telephone rates. They've been told to expect a 5% increase in rates starting next month. This is the third rate increase in the past year and it's expected to affect all telephone users.

As for the independent telephone companies, they are still fighting back. Litton's latest move has not been well-received by the independent telephone companies. They feel that Litton's actions are just another attempt to dominate the market. They're determined to fight back and they're not going to give in easily.

A couple of months ago, I wrote about Bell's new service and how it could be used to advantage. Since then, Bell has increased their service and their rates. It's not clear yet how this will affect the independent telephone companies, but they're definitely not happy with Bell's actions. They're not going to give in easily and they're going to fight back. I'll keep you posted on this issue.
Q. My ex-husband has custody of our children and has an unlisted phone number. How can I find out his number? A. There are several ways which I will describe, but first you'll have to bear with me for a few paragraphs.

You realize, I am sure, that you are asking me to show you how to violate someone else's privacy. It is most unfortunate that people get into such situations. If you had it all to do over again, knowing how it might end up, would you have had the children? I realize that it is too late for you, so the following is directed at everyone else out there, before they are caught in "The Baby Trap!" Read this excellent book by Ellen Peck before you make a mistake you might regret for twenty years or more.

Why have children? There's a surplus of people so they're not needed; they're incredibly expensive and offer negligible return; they'll occupy all of your time; you won't thank you - you might even produce another Alexander Portnoy. The number of children being born with birth defects is significant (probably caused by all the chemicals we eat and breathe) so why play the game when the odds are so poor? You shoot craps with the DNA code, and if you lose, Big Brother says "Sorry, you are stuck with it!

As for parental urges, these can be satisfied by regular visits to friends with children. When you are satiated (fed up) with them, you can leave and revel in the fact that you can leave.

I want to make it perfectly clear (where have I heard that before?) that I do not condone your intended action and am describing the procedures only as an exercise. Just about all of the methods are illegal.

You haven't mentioned whether the subject lives in a house or an apartment, but the procedures are similar. Everyone should know one, or two, or more, enterprising Telco employees. It is a simple matter for him (or her) or even a skilled amateur to tap the phone and get the number from the operator. In the old days, before all operators (in this area, anyway) were TSPS operators ("Traffic Service Position System"), it was necessary to call a verification number. But now he simply dials the operator and says: "Operator, from whom?" With what number am I coming in on?" She has the number on a LED readout.

Another method (which is a Federal rap) would be to intercept his mail. If it remains in an accessible box all day, you could check it daily and steal his phone bill when it arrives. Or you might be able to see the number thru the envelope and not have to steal it. Unless you are on very terms with his mailman (Maybe I should say "Intimate terms") he probably won't want to be an accessory, or it would be simple.

If you are acquainted with a burglar, he could do his thing and note the number on the phone while he's there.

The least esthetically pleasing possibility is the A. J. Weberman bit. You've never heard of A. J.? Well, I don't think you've missed much. I heard him once on the radio and every other phrase was "Ya know?" He's sort of a modern archeologist who digs into celebrated garbage and reports his discoveries. If you get to the subject's garbage regularly, just before it is picked up, you might find a discarded portion of a bill, unless he is the kind of person who saves all old bills.

I would suggest that you come to some sort of an arrangement with him, but I don't want to sound like Dear Abby.

**ASK Mr. PHELPS**

**FEA computer tapped in theft**

**Baltimore (AP) - A computer programmer charged with what was described as the "white collar crime of the future," has been convicted of stealing classified information from the computer banks of the Federal Energy Administration.**

The government said Bertram Seidlitz, 31, used a computer terminal attached to his telephone to tap the FEA central computer banks and extract 39 rolls of printed output containing the agency's top-secret computer program.

U.S. Atty. Jarvis S. Finney said no computer-stored information was actually obtained from the computer banks of the Washington headquartered agency. But with the program, Seidlitz had free access to any FEA classified information, including sensitive data on offshore oil field leases and energy development plans.

From The News Tribune