



NO. 24

DECEMBER 1973

HELP IS NEEDED

We need info on the following subjects for future articles in TAP.

Automatic Blue Boxes- With info about where they're necessary.

Vending Machines- Locks, getting stuff, etc.

Locks- New code books, picking Medeco, Sargent Keso, tricks, etc.

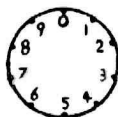
Radio- Setting up your own station, transmitter schematics and building jammers, info on pirate station legal hassles.

Burglar Alarms- Such as Holmes and other central station alarms, bypassing, electronic keys and picking, etc.

Also, Magnets, Overseas Phreaking, and Chemistry.

Dear TAP-

Your advice on turning back Con Ed meters by hand is great- been doing it for years. However, you should mention that when turning the dials back, one should be very careful not to touch or even slightly rub the face of the meter. The black ink used to form:



smudges very easily on the white background-They must use a special ink to get that effect. Also the white background stains easily from the slightest touch. Smudges put the meter reader on notice that the meter has been tampered with.

The seal on the meter can be replaced so it will look untouched if you use common sense in cutting it (Any one know how?). But if there are smudges the meter reader closely examines the seal, which he wouldn't ordinarily do, and then puts Con Ed hip to the game. This happened to me once and I don't know their next step since I moved (for other reasons) right after Con Ed put in a new unsmudged meter with a new seal. But that is the only way Con Ed ever caught on in about 5 years. You should advise participants to be careful not to get caught since sect. 165.15-5 of N. Y. penal law states "with intent to avoid payment... for a charge... measured by a meter he tampers with such device or related equipment or in any manner attempts to prevent the meter or device from performing its measuring function..." is a class A misdemeanor and with a legal aid lawyer you'll do the maximum sentence of a year.

Also in any payphone, a 1/4" brass washer works for a dime- not by putting tape over the holes which rarely works but simply by spitting on the washer, both sides. It takes some practice until you learn just how wet to get the washer; you may have to drop it in the slot a few times. Use a 1/4" brass washer- not a #14, which is the same diameter, but has a bigger hole. I have never yet used a phone that didn't work on these. Works best on phones with lever coin returns- knob return phones must be tried a few times.

Keep up the good work. Fuck them all.

S. - If you wrap some drano in aluminum foil then drop it in water, hydrogen is produced. Don't know what concentration is explosive, but it has possibilities- dropped in a toilet, quantities of explosive gas are produced.

-NY-

The New Year season makes us feel
Full of joy, zest, and zeal

The joy we feel when we explode

The 1974 Credit Card Code!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
N	X	Z	A	G	S	Q	F	U	J

To use this code, add the city code and then the code letter to a phone number of the desired corporation. The letter is determined by the 5th digit of the phone number. Example- Litton Industries in Los Angeles is 273-7860, Area Code 213. The code for Los Angeles is 184, and the 5th digit is 8. The Credit Card Number is 273-7260-184 F. How people make calls is outlined in the Credit Card Fact Sheet.

Dear TAP,

I have noticed that all the envelopes I have received from TAP have been opened. Twice they were resealed with a lot of glue, and once the envelope was just taped up loosely, after being opened at the top. It seems someone has made it their duty to monitor private mail. Is this legal? Maybe some of your readers have had this same problem.

The number of the American Embassy in Moscow is 252-0011. To test Blue Boxes, dial KP 402 009 ST, then dial KP 11 + digits + ST, up to 10 digits. The computer will read back the numbers you dial correctly. 901-725-9021 is a test # with the sound of a train.

-TEXAS-

Ed. Note: For two years we have had problems with our mail, as you all know. But getting it intercepted by Bell is another story. In 1972, one reader reported that Bell security men knocked on the door and asked if they were the same person whose initials had appeared under a certain letter in YIPL. They said, "We know you receive YIPL" (now TAP, of course). Another reader overheard Bell security calling their employer and saying, "He receives a newsletter called YIPL, which is part of a national conspiracy of about 600 people". And we recently learned that in a bust, a Bell man was carrying an issue of TAP addressed to the bustee, THE ONE ISSUE THAT THEY DIDN'T RECEIVE. This is totally illegal without court order, and we are sure that some of the above cases weren't ordered by any court. We are examining several possibilities at this end, but any of you can pick up a few bucks if you have a witness to evidence of mail tampering without a court order, and institute a suit against your local pigs. If any of you know of direct evidence liking Bell or Post Office officials with mail tampering, let us know about it.

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Dear TAP,
 Black Box Detection: depends on the kind of switching equipment you have in your C. O.: Identification: Step by Step: Dial your own number and listen after each digit. If it makes a distinct click or clicks after most of the digits you have SXS. If you get nothing except a distinct Klunk-Klunk sound after the last digit only, before you have a busy you have Crossbar, either no. 1 (the first kind Pa Bell created) or no. 4, the improved variety. If your busy signal sounds real musical rather than the normal harsher busy you probably have no. 1 ESS. Black boxes are considered safe only on no. 4 or possibly no. 1 crossbar. It can be used on SXS but for only very short periods, unless your C. O. switchroom is unattended at the time you use the box or if the C. O. doesn't have CPH alarms. The purpose of these is not to catch boxes (although it works for that) but to keep someone who called you from holding your line up in case they don't hang up. If the alarm comes in once in a while the switchman will just get up and knock down the connection (you'll be disconnected, and after a minute or more) but he'll get VERY suspicious if it happens too often and he may listen in. If he hears a conversation and the alarm says one person hung up, well... Some cheap offices don't have alarms, they're safe for boxing. To find out, call some business you can't stand in the same office (same prefix or first 3 digits) and after they hang up sit on the line. Make the call just before they close for the day, or they'll call the phone co. and have the connection knocked down. Or try a friend who doesn't mind his line being held up for half a day. After that time, if you're still holding the line up, either the office doesn't have alarms or it is unattended during that time. ESS is almost impossible to use any kind of box with; move to a different area. Or find a friend who works in the switchroom to re-program the computer to give you the neat extra cost features like call forwarding free!

California loop around numbers vary widely across the state, but in Southern California the pattern is XXX-1118 and XXX-1119 or XXX-0118 and 0119. Most charge, some are free when called from the same area code but charge outside that area code.

-CALIFORNIA-

SF CHRONICLE 12/16/73

Kidnapers Get Van, \$3000

Oakland police were still looking yesterday for a telephone company van stolen Wednesday afternoon by two men who kidnaped and robbed a woman phone booth collector of \$3000 in coin.

Sergeant Ed Subica said Nancy Alesi, 21, had just completed her rounds and was sitting in her Pacific Telephone Co. van in front of 5617 Foothill boulevard at 1:35 p.m. when a man with a gun suddenly appeared beside the van.

She told Subica the man pointed the gun through the window and ordered her to move over. As he got in behind the wheel, she said a second man entered the van from the passenger side.

With Mrs. Alesi between them, the two drove three blocks to 55th and H... avenues where they stopped and the driver got out.

A third man, who was apparently waiting for them there, handed a pair of bolt cutters to the driver, who then got back in the van and drove off again.

They returned to an area near where the holdup began and the driver got out again. This time he cut the

padlocks off the rear doors of the van, grabbed the money inside, then returned to the cab.

They drove to the Oakland Hills, where the two men took an additional \$21 from Mrs. Alesi and ordered her out of the van on Redwood road near Skyline boulevard. They left her there and drove away in the van.

Dear TAP,

A friend showed me an amazing catalog from American Colonial Armament, 1 Riverside Road, Riverside, Ill. 60546. In addition to a large selection of electronic bugs, bug detectors, surveillance units, and other electronic goodies, it contains weapons, police equipment, army surplus and books. Just about everything Abbie mentions in Steal This Book. It's a little right wingy in tone, but a real trip to read. Cost is \$2.00. Keep up the excellent work.

-OHIO-

Dear TAP,

Better tell people to turn off most if not all the power in the house when they pull the meter. When you put it back in, if there is a good load it could blow out. Just throw the main switch at the fuse box. There is a meter direct wired here that is working fine.

-FLORIDA-

Dear TAP,

Brainstorm! If you want to find out who owns a local #, call the business office and say "Service rep please, 329 residence (or whatever the exchange is, and whether business or residence)". The operator will switch you, and when the rep. answers, order an out-of-town directory. They'll ask you a number of questions, and then they'll ask for your phone # so that they can get your name and address. Give them the number you want to check, and then when the rep comes on and says, "Alright, Mr. Roberts, I'll handle your request", complete the call and then check the directory for which Mr. Roberts matches the number. This is a way to get around the telco ripoff of allowing law agencies to find who owns a number, but not Joe Public.

-TEXAS-

Abbie's case has gone to court with a motion to drop all charges on the grounds that cocaine is improperly classified as a narcotic with heroin. The judge complimented the defense on the extent of their research and documentation but refused the motion. His case goes to trial soon & money is desperately needed, so if you can help with a few bucks please send it to: Abbie Hoffman & Friends Defense Fund, 640 Broadway, N. Y., N. Y. 10012, don't send cash!

TAP has courses on Basic Electricity that are easily understood, no matter how little knowledge of Electronics you already have. You learn by building useful projects and experiments such as those in TAP. In fact, you should be able to build any project in TAP after 6 courses, which are 50¢ each (free if you can't afford it). 3 courses are available now, A-Basic Electricity, B-Alternating Current, and C-Basic Phones, with more coming soon. We urge you to send for them if you want a quick education in electricity.

If you want to meet other phreaks in your area, and are willing to be met, write to Meat. We'll accumulate a list of names and match you up with someone nearby as soon as possible, and notify you both.

T-shirts will be coming soon, but we don't have them yet. They'll look like choice no. 1 in Issue 22.

TAP, ROOM 504, 152 W. 42 ST., N.Y., N.Y. 10036