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

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 25¢ 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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In my "Odds & Ends" last month I told how to use your MF Red Box but I failed to mention a very important point. You will recall that Pa Bell is now having operators check a determination of bills at the coin relay and get at least one one "beep" and then "beep" on the balance with your Red Box. It is now more important than ever to have your Red Box on frequency. If the operator hears a tone difference she'll know you're boxing. Also, you should know if the pay phone you're using has the new MF tone generator set on one or two tones. It's doubtful if the operators know which pay phones are single tone and which are MF tones but if you use a new MF Red Box on a single tone pay phone the operator must be able to make you know you're boxing if you deposit a plug to get one real "official Bell" beep and then beep the balance with MF tones. To determine if the corner pay phone is single or MF tone have a friend call from the pay phone and Black Box the call. Now have him deposit coins. He won't hear anything because the earpiece is shut down but he will hear the beeps and can easily tell if they're single or MF tone. And because you're boxing the call he'll get all deposited coins back if the corner pay phone is single or MF tone have a friend call from the pay phone and Black Box the call. Now have him deposit coins. He won't hear anything because the earpiece is shut down but he will hear the beeps and can easily tell if they're single or MF tone. And because you're boxing the call he'll get all deposited coins back.

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The device is connected between the two diodes but please note that only answering devices equipped with A & Al terminals can be connected this way. Only the better machines have these terminals clearly marked. On the cheapo equipment they are either not available or hidden. Check out the schematic diagram that usually comes with the answering device and you may be able to find these two unused terminals.

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Here's some more good news. Litton Industries has recently sued Pa Bell for $50 million in damages charging Bell of monopolizing the manufacture, distribution, resale, and leasing of terminal equipment. Good luck Litton!

And speaking of Bell, the Snoop Detector, Ballantine Books, publisher of "The Monopoly You Have Right Now" is still in business! As usual, Bell's argument is pure BS. Stuff your bill, how about $60 for a piece of plastic, go ahead!

Wake up people! Don't be afraid to experiment with your phone. Remember, playing with your phone is half the fun of having the damn thing in the first place!

There has been much propaganda by Pa Bell recently on the need for their interface coupling device required to connect any non-Bell equipment to your phone line. As usual, Bell's argument is pure BS! Your telephone does not have to work for your money, need for their interface coupling device required to connect any non-Bell equipment to your phone line. No sparks, flame, smoke, or fireworks—just a dial tone! Wake up people! Don't believe them.

Congratulations to all recent Jr. High, Sr. High, and college grads. Have a fun filled summer and remember, don't get caught! We'll see you in the Fall with our "Back To School" issue.

S-1 UPDATE

S-1, the first book in the "Moonlight" series, is available now. You can order a copy by sending $1.25 to TAP, 106 2nd Ave., New York, NY 10012. This is a Bell book.

If you wish to receive copies of "The Monopoly You Have Right Now" by Bell, you can write to TAP at the above address.

Send a check or money order to TAP for $1.25 for a copy of "The Monopoly You Have Right Now." We will send you a copy of the book upon receipt of payment.

Thank you for your interest in "The Monopoly You Have Right Now." We hope you enjoy the book and are encouraged to read it for yourself. If you have any questions or comments about the book, please feel free to write to us at TAP, 106 2nd Ave., New York, NY 10012.
ASK MR. PHELPS

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, but the following is directed at everyone else out there, before they are caught in "The Baby Trap." Read this excellent book by Ellen Feck 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; they won't thank you - you might even produce another Alexander Portnoy. The number of children being born with birth defects is spectacular (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, frameman or switchman testing. 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 good 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 aesthetic possibility is the A. J. Weherman 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 archaeologist who digs into celebrities' 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.

IDiot of the month

SHAPE HALL

Frank B. walking around with his chest stuck out to here. On December 15 an early Christmas gift in the form of an 8 lb. 4 oz. bundle of joy was delivered. They have named her Andrea Lorretta. This makes it the fifth child for the B. 8%, four girls and one boy.

20% of the Local's members are out of work, including this idea, so he and his brood now have another one! Remember that every Bowery bum and 8th Avenue hooker was once an innocent, newborn "bundle of joy." What went wrong?

FANTASIA is Back!

Cr should be, on its annual visit, by the time you read this. If you've seen it, you understand my enthusiasm. If you've never seen it, DO IT!

Seeing it straight is like seeing it in black and white. I'm certainly not about to encourage anyone to break the law (wh me?), but if you're planning on taking another trip, or are considering losing your psychopharmacological virginity, there are few better times and places that I can think of. Enjoy!

A BOY AND HIS DOG

is not a Walt Disney film. I read the novella by Harlan Ellison years ago and was delighted to see it appear as a movie. It is "an R rated, rather kinky tale of survival," I will not reveal the ending. Being familiar with it, I was able to savor the audience's reactions. Thank you, Harlan. Thank you for all of your stories.

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 Seidhitz, 27, used a computer terminal attached to his telephone line to tap the FEA central computer banks and extract 33 rolls of printouts containing the agency's top-secret computer program.

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

From The News Tribune