Phone machine malfunction cited as cause of blaze

EDISON — A telephone answering machine malfunction was to blame for a fire that damaged a Kounto Boulevard apartment yesterday morning.

The blaze was reported at 10:45 a.m. by Vhit said the blaze, which broke out shortly after 9 a.m., destroyed the wood-paneled, automatic telephone answering machine, shorted out and ignited wires leading to the dwelling.

The chief said the fire was confined to a apartment when the machine was switched, some papers and a portion of the wall behind the table.

Although the blaze caused some smoke damage to the living room of the apartment, no extensive damage or injury resulted.

Albert Gittens, who rents Apt. 2-C at 1147 9th Ave., said that the fire started at 9:30 a.m. and was caused by a short circuit.

Members of Raritan Engine Company No. 2 and the Edison Patrol Fire Department responded to the 9-0-0 a.m. call, which was brought under control within minutes of the fireman's arrival.

Dear Tap,

For any Paper Trippers out there who are trying to keep a clean and solid non deplume, some advice: If you are thinking of using credit for your new mementos, beware of TRM credit. They are The Credit Bureau. Although they won't admit it in their public printed policy, they do know of your past present and employment. This could lead to your undoing should you ever want to submerge for a while with your alias intact.

The above tidbit also holds true for every people who are trying to get credit. The point is to be sure that you give practically the same information anywhere that you apply for credit.

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Dear Tap,

I am particularly interested in Black Boxes and I have several questions about them. First, how can one detect a true black box in the first place? And second, once you've detected one, how can you prove that the voice on the line is the suspect in question? (Even capture of the device would be helpful, if possible.)

I believe in issue 36 or 39 there was a reproduction of an ad for a 2000 Hz & Black Box detector. It was a real ingenious little gadget that you could use to detect the presence of an AC signal in the absence of a certain amount of DC current. It also stated that the device could be placed in series or parallel if the detector was wired in series it states that it can detect 2000 Hz and bypassing the black box therefore it can only detect 2000 Hz tones. In order to detect the black box it must be placed in series. This must be necessary to measure current flow while picking up the audio.

Can you also name any other devices that may have a significant dc resistance which may alter your voltage or current flow. I am also interested in Black Boxes and have several questions about them. First, how can one detect a true black box in the first place? And second, once you've detected one, how can you prove that the voice on the line is the suspect in question? (Even capture of the device would be helpful, if possible.)

I have been experimenting with this method right now and am keeping records of each test. I am also monitoring my voltage and currents weekly with precision digital equipment. If anyone else out there is interested perhaps we can compare results and devise some new testing methods. I am also interested in AC current meter to measure the actual current passing at each frequency also if anyone has any information on the impedance of detection devices or how they are coupled please send it in and we can figure out a way to detect its presence on the line.

Tom,
THE BLUE BOX & THE BROWN BOX  
-- BY Ted Vail & Mark Hallinger

It seems like there are so many colored boxes around today, so here is a short survey of the box types.

BLUE - Uses the user the sound of a low-level tone to

RED - Used for the first time on a pay phone, thus reducing toll charges to 5¢.

BLACK - Causes bell equipment to think call was
demand dialled, while allowing conversation.

See "Blue Box" below.

GREEN - Uses a tone generator that makes conversation possible while making Bell think

YELLEW - A radio 1000 Hz generator. See "Multi-

BROWN - A dual-tone Tone with 100 and 133 Hz. If B

GENERAL CENTER'S HQDA(DAAG-PAD-1)ASHINGTON, 2

WAVE FORMS. We are designing ours now, similar to

TAP 636. Plans will be sent in but 1# you get one

FREQUENCY of 1000000/[(N*1)]. where N is the

MANUFACTURER of the box. It's available from your

US Patent 4,065,133 describes a Blue Box
detector. Doesn't look too good or sound good, but it

The Blue Box capability you might as well something to do with the

BROWN BOX is the most powerful box known

WHITE - Equivalent to a Touch-Tone pads or

GRAY - A simple 2600 hz, yenerator. See "mute"

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EQUIPMENT OF the call. It is possible to send the coin return

In early articles by Nick, finally published in

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This column will attempt to bring out interesting developments in the world of telephone technology. If areas the TAP has not explored and I intend to open up these areas. Maybe the problems I find useful this information. Remember there is a "you" in these areas before they realize that we can do it.

Welson Jr., who is the head of the AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION gasoline-rationing task force, noted as saying that the "task of consolidating a natural vehicle user the millions of coupons that would be the currency of rationing could overwhelm the D.P. A survey of the rationing agencies that this means is that any gas-rationing plan used will have huge loopholes for clever people. Read THE BLACK BAG OWNERS HANDBOOK—FALSE FACE for this means is that any gas-rationing plan used. It will only have huge loopholes for clever people. Read THE BLACK BAG OWNERS HANDBOOK—FALSE FACE for this means is that any gas-rationing plan used it will only have huge loopholes for clever people. Read THE BLACK BAG OWNERS HANDBOOK—FALSE FACE for this means is that any gas-rationing plan used it will only have huge loopholes for clever people. Read THE BLACK BAG OWNERS HANDBOOK—FALSE FACE for this means is that any gas-rationing plan used it will only have huge loopholes for clever people. Read THE BLACK BAG OWNERS HANDBOOK—FALSE FACE for this means is that any gas-rationing plan used it will only have huge loopholes for clever people. Read THE BLACK BAG OWNERS HANDBOOK—FALSE FACE for this means is that any gas-rationing plan used.

What is known about the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS)? It's located in Phoenix and is currently testing. It's known that this will be used with MCI, perhaps to free them from the public phone network.

Bell (AT&T and Western Electric) seems to be getting ready for the future. By using their new ESS system, with standardization of service, Bell will have a large advantage. All your phone numbers need to be converted regardless of phone company. This is known. With this "Black Box" approach, the local phone can be used to dial the number without any service. There is a free 90-day trial if you contact IT TAP, 2 Broadway, NY 10004. In any case, the TAP staff could just walk down the street and find out people with fax machines.

ITT has a new service for fax machines. Faxpax will allow your fax machine to fax messages regardless of speed. The article on this is very good. A problem is that it costs $2 a minute to call the local Faxpax. This opens up a world of possibilities. If you get a phone call, you can see if the number is in the system. This is good since the original service allows for about 4 phone calls per day. There will be a new 900 exchange in the near future. It will be used in place of 800 numbers for TV merchandising, etc. Details are few but it is known that there will be only one system in the US. A merchant's makes arrangements with Bell to set up the number and keep it up for a specified length of time. It will be used in place of thousands of dollars for keeping normal lines free but the phones would likely be handled by CALLER 504 per call.

Prof. John M. Carroll of the Univ. of Western Ontario is writing about automated systems. He tells us that the "counter-cult" group in L.A. that maintains a computer-based hit list of execs of "a computerized rigging of odds on horse racing." The incident for a full-page ad in COMPUTERWORLD. It seems like the Immigration Service (INS) is a little loose. Senator Richardson says, "I had found that security personnel at INS had never run test raids on their premises. I also failed to see test raids of spotted forgeries. We also had a walk-down of the officers." It is also known that the "large black market in forged documents" needs some papers?

Dear TAP,

This is just a note to let you know how much I enjoyed WATS-80. I would like THE MAGICIAN to get in touch with me through the TAP office. The info on SPRINT has been useful, will it be published? I've done a lot of scanning recently and want to add to SOLOs article that xxx-0000 indicates a band 1 prefix. Also if the same recording greets you at xxx-0000, try xxx-0060 to verify the band 6 prefix you found. Is anyone out there interested in swapping scanned numbers? TASERS are getting big here. Rumour has it that TAP will be publishing plans soon, well?

Upcoming projects from the think tank include a new box that allows the caller to put money in the phone and get it back. It is possible to use this from the called end with some changes. Look for plans in the winter issue.

Sept, 80 Popular Electronics turned me on to the ICL7660 voltage polarity converter chip. It should simplify paperless box by eliminating one of the bulky batteries. It also crossed my mind that a 4046 ic like this could be used for automatic shutoff, even on black box calls.

The Bell book "Notes On Distance Dialing" is extremely useful to the "telecommunications hobbyist" it contains reams of information on a wide variety of topics ranging from international telephone routing techniques to DCC, CCIS, etc. The last edition was priced at $12.50, but I believe a new edition is now out, and most likely costs more (Doesn't everything?). For more information on obtaining a copy, send a SASE to TAP.

A note of caution to those of you hacking on SPRINT and MCI. It is believed that Bell has set up all MCI and SPRINT local dialups as "Trap Numbers". This means that whenever you call the dialups, a trouble card is dropped (IE, a record is printed containing the CALLING number and time) at the Bell central office. These cards are usually ignored unless MCI or SPRINT detects a fraud (IE, Unauthorized use of a customers access code) then they can call Bell and almost immediately find out the calling phone number and mail the person. Thus dialing MCI or SPRINT from a PAY PHONE would seem to be the only safe way. (By the way, The above mentioned "trap numbers" is also how Bell goes after harassing phone callers (to private residences.) Also, remember MCI and SPRINT always have a record of the CALLED number. Thus if a customer complains that he is being harassed for calls that he did not make, MCI and SPRINT will contact the number called and try to find out who called them at the time in question. So only institutional switchboards, Business's with no record of your call and people with very "short memories" are "safe" to call through MCI and SPRINT.

PLEASE NOTE: We DO NOT encourage you to rip off MCI or SPRINT. We are in business attempting to provide an alternative lower cost long distance telephone service and are most certainly a step in the right direction!

Mad at IRAN? Well call up the militants at The United States embassy and tell them what you think. After 9:00 AM Iran time call:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Code</th>
<th>City Code</th>
<th>TAP Staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>988</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>825001</td>
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Any comments, questions etc. send to:
The Magician C/O TAP

"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts and I have never found enough to do something about it." — Mark Twain

Nick Haflinger