

A VISIT FROM THE MEBCO MAN
(with apologies to Clement Clark Moore)

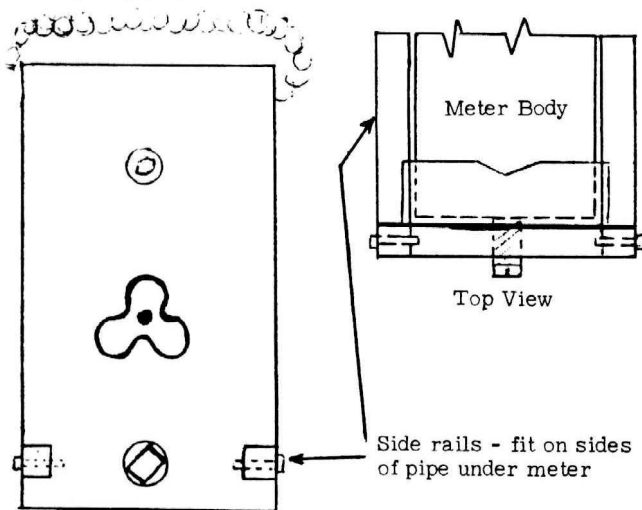
by Jim Phelps, with technical info by Alexander Mundy

Twas the day before Xmas, and all thru the ghetto
Not a junkie was stirring, not even a mugger,
Garbage was strewn in the streets without care,
With the assumption that the Sanitation Dept. eventually
would be there;
Hordes of unwanted and unneeded children were packed all
uncomfortably in the tenements,
While visions of ripoffs danced in their heads;
Ma and I had just turned on for a long winter's high,
When out on the street there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the waterbed to see what was the matter.
Unlocked the gates and pushed up the sash.
What should appear but a panel truck of Mebco Industries
With a little old driver, so fat and lethargic,
I knew in a moment he must work for the city (indirectly).
A box full of tools he took out of the truck,
He looked like a burglar ready to make a buck.
He spoke not a word but went straight to his work,
Removed the cover of the parking meter,
And replaced the lock (which someone had driven a 2" nail
into).
He trudged back to his truck, and I heard him exclaim
Ere he drove out of sight, "If only I had the inner key."
(see #35)

1 Well, maybe one or two.

You wanted it should rhyme? You think I'm Muhammad Ali?

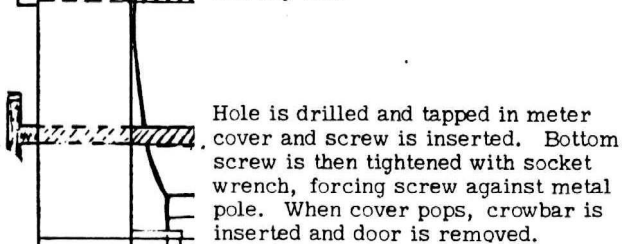
Chain which fits around
top of meter



Front View



into key hole



Hole is drilled and tapped in meter cover and screw is inserted. Bottom screw is then tightened with socket wrench, forcing screw against metal pole. When cover pops, crowbar is inserted and door is removed.

Right Side View



DEC 1976 NO. 41

HO, HO, HO!
MERRY XMAS!

Santa Claus has apparently infiltrated the Postal "Service" and gave us a present. This Currier lithograph stamp is so erasable it's incredible! Other stamps were the 1776 Revolution stamps out this summer and still available. But save your erasers! Coat stamps heavily with Elmer's Glue-All before mailing (See #38). JP



MORE TECHNOFREAKS WANTED

We (Tom and Jim) are delighted by the response to our request that you let us know your special skills and interests. We'll assume it's ok to discreetly pass your name on to selected individuals for mutual benefit. So far we've heard from 9 computer programmers, 8 electronic technicians, 7 locksmiths, 6 electrical engineers, 5 chemists and demolition experts, 4 private pilots, 3 Professional Engineers, 2 MDs, and a lineman in a pear tree. Let's hear from YOU!

Dear People:

If anyone would like to purchase a set of DB plans cooperatively, I'm willing to put as much as \$30. into it. If you don't wish to coordinate the purchase (duplicating, etc.), have people write to me using this address. I'm willing to do the work involved.

D. B.
Box 517
Lanesboro, MA 01237
(413) 443-1449

I just got Bell for \$1K in a suit for cutting down my trees, which weren't anywhere near their wires. They settled out of court, dammit! Please pass that word: they're scared to death that people will make them stop the tree chopping shit and put their wires underground where they belong. And they don't trim - they CUT! Like they won't be bothered by growies for the next twenty-five years.

Tex

I saw in the last issue you want PCBs for TAP projects. I have written you before offering to do this. If you are serious, please send me the correct schematics. I own a major audio engineering concern and therefore a complete PCB shop as well as equipment for making hybrid ICs.

I have a digital LORAN (long. and lat. calculator) and a digitally programmed scanner (lo, hi, and UHF). What is the smallest microprocessor I can use to program the scanner according to my position as determined by the LORAN?
Midnight Man

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Hi!

Excuse my writing on the graph paper, but I find that it makes copying of my letters almost impossible, when I use a tired ribbon.

Here is one of my favorite ripoffs. I do a lot of printed circuit work, and use a lot of layout material. If you drop a line to Bishop Graphics, Dept. 106, 20450 Plummer St, Chatsworth, CA 91311 on a letterhead, they will send you a catalog with samples and a card for your "associates" which can be used to get more catalogs with more samples and more cards, etc. etc. A good cheap way to get PC layout stuff, for just the price of a stamp. Agent 547

Dear Tom, -

I've been receiving my copies of TAP second-hand from my friend Mike Packard 13513-156. We have just run into a real roadblock though. The mail room officials here have decided that TAP might enable us to compromise the phone system and maybe obtain information we are not supposed to have.

We are very interested in phones, but our real interests lie in leased-line systems for security purposes, such as McCullough Loop metallic circuits and reversing relay w/ different forms of line security, etc.

Neither of us is very knowledgeable about electronics, but we are serious students, and really want to start corresponding with someone who has the practical knowledge we seek.

We have much info in various fields to trade. We are two of only 8 or 10 men here that can beat anything with tumblers - including TRTL - 30's, 60's, and TXTLS. Anyone with a similar interest will know exactly what we are talking about.

So write!

Jimmy Loyd Mead
PMB 86504-132
Box 1000
Leavenworth KS 66048

Dear Jim

I am an EE and interested in contributing to any electronic countermeasures projects you may have in mind. My specialty is logic design. How about publishing ideas for counterculture (anti-police, etc) electronic devices? We need a medium for information exchange, especially since the advent of LEAA. Now that lots of ordinary folks have microcomputers and such, we have the hardware potential to start battling the data processing might of government and industry. How about a source of codes and standards for police patrol car datasets?

They are boxes installed under the dash and connected to a 2-way radio (or maybe they have their own transceiver) used for accessing NCIC or local computers for vehicle checks, dispatches, etc. The one I've seen was made by Kustom Electronics, Chanute, KS (same outfit that makes Kustom amplifiers for you musicians, I think) and had a standard alphanumeric keyboard and a Burroughs self-scan display (32 character neon matrix readout). I understand they also will be available with a hard-copy printer (probably like the ones used in electronic cash registers). I'd assume the data is transmitted digitally. I don't know if it's scrambled or not. If we could find someone who has this information it would mean a simple direct line to police computers (expensive, but for those of us with access to free parts...) We need a contact in Law Enforcement Assistance Administration or somebody who has a contract for developing their fancy gadgets. Lots of this stuff is done with relatively simple codes and protocol because they figure crooks are all grade school dropouts and junkies.

It would be helpful if you'd publish ideas such as the above, so those of us too lazy to think 'em up ourselves might be encouraged.

I have a good friend who wrote the software for the Post Office computers and also worked on the TSPS console. He's not into sabotage but might have useful info if asked intelligent questions.

Sorry, didn't have any Elmer's.

Agent 947

Un - Due - ing Postage

Isn't it interesting that "postage due" stamps look just like regular P O issued stamps? All you need is a pair of scissors to remove the designation.

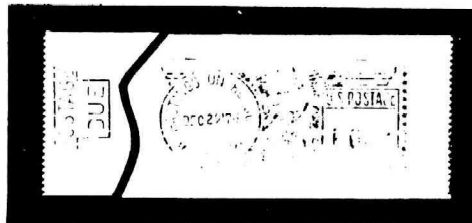
Edward Extract

Late calls should be free

A team of Federal Communications Commission investigators have recommended that telephone calls placed between 2:00 am and 6:00 am be free.

The team says that the phone company would be better off if it followed this policy. It is costing them more to keep track of these calls and bill the callers than they make. This is due to the low number of calls during this period.

They have also recommended that Western Electric and the Bell Company, both owned by American Telephone and Telegraph, be separated from AT and T.



A Plateful Of Trouble

An inmate at Trenton State Prison learned the printing trade in the prison print shop and promptly put it to criminal use; the prison superintendent said yesterday.

Superintendent Gary Hilton said federal authorities and prison officials are trying to find out which of more than 20 inmates was the one who made a printing plate to counterfeit food stamps.

"It appears to be an extremely good forgery," Hilton said.

The plate was found Monday by a guard making a routine search of the print shop, he said.

"It was in an envelope, among a variety of legitimate materials," Hilton said, explaining why authorities did not know which inmate had made it.

He also said that because inmates' mail goes out of the prison sealed, it was impossible to determine whether the plate had actually been used to make counterfeit food stamps.

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