

Report From Merrie Olde England



MAR-APRIL 1977

No. 43

There is very little Credit Card fraud here, since some years ago numbers corresponding to actual phone numbers were abandoned. It used to be an amalgam of your number. Now the number must fit into a secret matrix the operators have. Thus fraud comes about only by people amalgamating two or more numbers using bits of each to form a "good" one. If you are off by just one digit, they know immediately and tell you so. All UK CC's start 44K which I think is international - the country code, then a "year" letter. US now is 1K, right? (1976). I have tried to figure out this matrix number but to no avail. Here are some examples of cards that are billed to the same phone number. Do not use or reveal them, DELETED but if you have any budding genius who would like to see if he can devise the matrix, then let him. I think it would be far too expensive to equip each operator console with a computer validation all at once, so this is probably the forthcoming US system. Has anyone had any experience of any comeback by security or anyone else as a result of making phony international calls using CC's?

When making international calls here, you call operator (Dial 100) who first checks to see that you are not on a pay phone and possibly verify your number as busy, then she calls the international operator and clicks off. International then takes your number and calls you back after setting up the call. So if you are at a center remote to her, she cannot verify your phone's status. If you had the # to call international direct, you could do it from a pay phone safely and have her think it is a domestic phone. If you had these #s then, they could be rather useful; certainly here, possibly in the US, too. (Typical British understatement)

When using fake CCs, some people in UK go to a pay phone, lift receiver (this gives you dial tone immediately here), dial any digit and leave receiver off its rest. Then they go to another pay phone, preferably some distance away but from which they can see the first one. Make the call, and when the operator asks for your number (which they always do here), give the number of the other box. If they check, they get busy tone - even if they check on their special interior phone circuits, they get the right condition; i.e., someone waiting on the line. If the Feds come, you have a grandstand view from a safe distance.

If the operator is going to call the Feds, she may:

1. Spend an abnormally long time putting you through.
2. Give you a ringing tone, the sort that never gets answered, to keep you there as long as possible.

Try #KPO4412468072ST for a recorded description of clap symptoms. The London (01) 246 xxxx exchange is the equivalent of Big Apple's 999 exchange. Do you have any interesting 999 #s? I only know Dial-a-Joke. If you have 1DDD then (44)12468015 and 8017 are not souped. They are only continental and US tones demo, tho.

When traveling from UK to Germany take plenty of shillings - 5p. pieces (worth 8¢) work as 1 DM (worth 50¢) in German slot machines.

METER JUMPING

In order to avoid any breaking of seals or disturbing of meters, as well as having a system that can be removed immediately when the power man calls, some UK power freaks do the following: Two neon screwdrivers are inserted where wires run in and wiggled about until they light. Copper wire on crocodile clips is run between them. The methods you have shown make getting caught too easy.

I'll be sending you what I have on computer crime.

PDP - 10 operator only commands would be very useful, please. I could send passwords, etc. but unless you had CCITT vol. 24 (or 21, not sure) modems, it would be of little use to you.

THE SILVER BOX

The "Silver Box" referred to by one of your correspondents is a 2280Hz tone interrupted at dial pulse speed (signalling system AC(9)). I imagine 2800Hz pulsing is used in US in exactly the same way. I sent you articles on how SF generators are so much easier to build, it's a pity you've not published more about them.

Here the problem is that for SF you need the secret internal P.O. trunk routings, which are completely different for each exchange. So either you need your local operator as a girl friend, or you randomly dial bleeps and ask people their number and build up lists that way.

One question more: In UK about 50% of coin boxes (pay phones) can be used to make ISD - International Subscriber Dialing - to the rest of Europe. The boxes can't handle the high metering rate to US. So if the machine would let you, they would be free. How then does the automatic international equipment validate and discriminate between pay phones and domestic phones (which can call US direct)? I thought the most likely answer is that the off hook resistance of pay phones is different and can be measured automatically. If so, would payphone or domestic phone resistance be higher? I realize I'm talking about foreign equipment but any thoughts you have would be appreciated.

You think Bell smells, well the PO stinks to high heaven! Calls over 30 miles (aren't you metric yet?) midmorning are L2 (about \$3.20) for ten minutes. Also 200 bits/minute (illegible) rental L 100 per annum, weigh 20lbs, and are based on 20 year old technology. All international charges are at least twice to three times as much as other countries. No "foreign" attachments allowed at all (except answering machines). Complete and total monopoly on all forms of communication - even modulated light and carrier pigeons. No CB, and to become a Ham you need to be a sucking electronic genius, and then there are so many restrictions, it isn't worth it. Celebrate your independence!

You're right about this being a Police State. You can't even breathe without permission from our Communist government. Police here can search anyone or any premises on whom or in which they "suspect" drugs, which gives them carte blanche.

The laws on currency exchange control are not even published. You can't even find out what they are; you can only get a "Yes" or "No" answer from the Treasury.

You're right; phones aren't everything. Thanks a million for the Libertarian stuff. It's exactly what I'm into politically. Until now I thought I was unique (I probably am, here). There's only one thing a government should do for its people, only one social service, and that's to keep 'em free.

I'd very much like to get that printed circuit layout. How's it coming? (See #41)

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BULLSHIT! PART 2

by TOM EDISON

If you think my editorial in the December issue of TAP entitled "When The Shit Hits The Fan" was too rough on our readers, then you'll really shit in your pants when you read these new policy changes! Ordinarily, the rubber checks that some of you cheap bastards are sending us would be bad enough, but our bank has a handling charge that they pass along to us, so in addition to being ripped off on merchandise and postage (not to mention Elmer's Glue-All!), we're also forced to pay for your rubber check processing! When you start biting the hand that feeds you, it's time to revise our own "systems & practices". Effective immediately: When we get notified that your rubber check has bounced, we will send you a little note "politely" informing you of your "oversight". If at that time you decide that you do not want the ordered merchandise, all we ask is that you reimburse us for the check handling cost charged us by our bank. I think that this is fair and reasonable. If we do not hear from you within a reasonable amount of time, we will assume that you intentionally wanted to rip us off. We will then repay your "kindness" by giving your name and address to Bell Security, the FBI, the CIA, the IRS, the Post Office, the House UnAmerican Activities Committee, and any other appropriate government investigatory agency. This will ultimately result in many "fun filled" years ahead trying to clear your "good" name and reputation. All for a lousy \$4. An eye for an eye!

Please remember that for immediate processing of your order you must send either a money order or a cashier's check. All personal checks MUST clear your bank before we process your order. This could possibly cause your sub to start several months after we get your personal check, so if you do not want this delay, please send either a money order or a cashier's check.

I've received many recent requests for ringback, loop, and verification numbers for various cities. We have some but I'd like a hell of a lot more. You can help by sending me a list of all ringback, loop, and verification numbers for your area. I will compile a listing alphabetically by city and print up a table of numbers when I get a sufficient amount to warrant it. Let's get off your respective asses and send in this requested information. You can never tell when YOU might need some specific info. I hope that I get better reader response on this than I did when I requested readers to send me their off-hook line current. Only 23 readers responded! Priddy Piss Poor!

Dear TAP Folks

Re Xerox access keys: if you use a legit key, but make only one copy at a time and pull the key out after you push the "make copy" button, the counter in the key doesn't increment - altho the machine counter still does. This works on a Xerox 3100; I don't know about others.

Clance

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He Got Clean Away

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Fort Worth, Tex. (AP) — A 25-year-old prisoner has escaped by picking up a broom and sweeping his way out of the city's public-safety building.

Authorities said that the prisoner, Rex Daniel, had been arrested for investigation of auto theft and was about to be photographed and fingerprinted when he escaped.

The police said that a jail attendant had taken the suspect to the identification bureau and left him. The man grabbed the broom, slowly started tidying up the place and dusted off

"BEAT THE SYSTEM WITH THE SYSTEM"

Millions of TV watchers at 5 p.m. February 8 heard Jane Fonda laughingly explain how techno-subversion has been carried to the level of absurdity, as hard-to-track-down middle-class white-males outwit the telephone company. "While you are being worried about being caught in petty theft, the big boys practice bribery on a multi-national scale, crime in the suites to match crime in the streets."

The Privacy Commission will report by end of June... Telephone co has new \$23,000 box to invade our privacy; Libertarians, unite to throw off these chains!... A new book, The Science of Electronic Surveillance, (35 from AASD, P.O. Box 3154, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359), describes the bewildering variety of electronic invasion & counter-measures, the vast majority of police & national security wiretaps not covered by any wiretap legislation. a MUST book with reference bibliography & glossary... MAGNETIC REVOLUTION tactics might take advantage of fact that a permanent magnet, requiring no external power source, can instantaneously erase the magnetic computerized records of a business, bank or gov't agency. No technical counter-measure discovered yet according to Dept. of Commerce Technical Note #735 (July 1972). But magnetic field detectors installed at entry doorways to computer centers... New product ads in new magazines Securines, 210 Lyndhurst Road, Lyndhurst, Johannesburg 2001, South Africa, bimonthly, covers broad range of security subjects unique in South Africa... Use of Subliminal Techniques rumored used in movie The Exorcist in coming book Remote Control to be published by Quadrangle/New York Times... A new system of "explosives tagging" based on tiny grains of phosphors encapsulated in polyethylene plastic claimed to code explosives & provide almost any data desired... Research studies initiated by National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice is researching innovative approaches & concepts in architectural design & organization in Portland, Ore.

Excerpted from (among others) Counter Spy magazine. A year's bimonthly sub \$10. from Box 647, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044. by Agent 009

The January Playboy had a fascinating, frightening interview with "Mr. Death", a former C.I.A. agent. Your mission: read it and fill in the (deleted) blanks. Here's a start the chemical which is absorbed thru the skin is DMSO (dimethyl sulfoxide). J P

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Canada & Mexico stapled \$6. Foreign \$7.

IMPORTANT! Include mailing label or Xerox copy

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Back - Monopoly \$1.20

Courses - 50¢ each A - Basic Electricity B-A. C.

C - Basic Phone Operation D - Amplifiers

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