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## HISTORY OF BRITISH PHREAKING

by Lex Luthor and The Legion of Doom.
In Britain, phreaking goes back to the early fifties, when the technique of "Toli A drop back" was discovered. Toll A was an exchange near St. Pauls which routed calls between London and the mearby non-London exchanges. The trick was to dial an unallocated number, and then depress the receiver—rest for ½ second. This flashing initiated the "clear forward" signal. leaving the caller with an open line to the Toli A exchange. He could then dial Oli, which forwarded him to the trunk exchange—at that time, the first long distance exchange in Britain—and follow it with the code for the distant exchange to which he would be connected at no extra charge.

from extrange a thin the code for the distant exchange to which he would be connected at no extra charge.

The signals needed to control the UK network were published in the Institution of Post Office Engineers Journal and reprinted in the Sunday Times 15 Oct. 1972. (NOTE: The British Post Office is the U.K. equivalent of Ma Bell.)

The system is called Signalling System No. 3 and it uses pairs of frequencies selected from 6 tones separated by 120Hz. With that info, the phreaks made "Bleepers" or as they are called here in the U.S., blue boxes. The British, hough, utilize different MF tones that the U.S., thus, your U.S. blue hox that you smuggled into the U.K. will not work, unless you change the frequencies. (In the same frequency (2280Hz) was used. For more info on that, try to get ahold of: Atkinson's "Telephony and Systems Technology".

Boxing in Foreign Lands

The following are timing and the frequencies for boxing in the U.K. and other foreign countries. Special thanks to Peter McIvers for the following info: Beitish "bleeper" boxes have the very same layout as U.S. blue boxes. The frequencies are different, though. They use two sets of frequencies: forward and backward. Forward signals are sent out by the bleeper hox. The backward signals may be ignored (it's sort of like using full duplex). The frequencies are as follows: 15.8.

Find 1380 1500 1620 1746 1860 1900 Hz

L/sta	199	700	Titen	-	1000	1140 100
Fwd		1500		1740	1860	
Bkwd			960			540 Hz
For example	, change the	:900Hz pa	otentiomete	ra in your	box to I	500Hz.: All
numbers 1-0 (						
are their code						
these is KP, o						
should carry						
+: -4H7 (as is	the British o	quipment).	Also, the I	VF system	is still in a	speration in
parts of the 1	D.K. This wo	ould encod	e all signals	I to linas	binary n	umbers: for
instance, a fiv	e is 0t01. The	re are six i	ntervalsper	digit, each S	Oms long	or a total of
300ms. First	is a start pul	lac of 2280	for 50ms.	Then, using	the exac	mple of five
(0101), there i	s a 50ms paus	e, a 50ms p	outse of 2280	). a 50ms pa	use, and a	:50ms pulsa
of 2280. Fina	ally, there is	a 50ms p	ause that si	gnals the e	nd of the	digit. The
frequency tol	erance on the	2280Hz is-	+/-0.3%; it i	sental-61	- ldBm.	An idle line
is signalled by						

France uses the same box codes as the U.S., with an additional 1900Hz acknowledgement signal, at -8.7 +/- 1dBm per frequency.

Spain uses a 2 out of 5 mf code (same frequencies as U.S.), with a 1700Hz

acknowledgement signal, at 48.7 \*/- 1d3m per frequency.

Spain uses a 2 out of 5 mf code (same frequencies as U.S.), with a 1700Hz acknowledge signal.

Other places using the IVF system are:
Australia: 2280Hz \*/-6Hz. 35ms/digit at -6dB.

Germany, France: same as Australia; only it uses 3000Hz, not 2280.

Switzerland: same as Australia; only it uses 3000Hz, not 2280.

Swedger: same as above, but at 2400Hz.

Spains some parts use IVF with 2500Hz.

Spains some parts use IVF with 2500Hz.

There is one other major system: the 2VF system. In this system, each digit is 35ms long. The number is encoded in binary as with the IVF system. Using the example of five (0/01). For k how the American 2VF system was sent;
2400 pulse, pause; 2040 pulse, pause, 2400 pulse, pause, 2540 pulse, pause. Did of its pause are all 35ms long for a total of 280ms per digit.

Other countries are still using a similar high/low pair with the same timings. Some parts of Enly use the IVF system with 2040Hz; some use the 2VF system with 2040 and 2900Hz pulses. With the 2VF system, all frequencies should be within 2Hz.

Also, here are some specs for American phone equipment:

Did Toner 350+40Hz, -175 to -14.5 dBm/lone.

Off-Hook (ROH): 1400+2050+2450+2500(1) on/off 5 times per second.

Busy, 480+620Hz; slow busy; 0.5 \*/-0.05 sec = I period (about twice a second), at -82.5 to -22.5 dBm/lone.

Call Walthier 440Hz, -0.1 second.

sec on, 4 sec off. Call Waiting: 440Hz, on 1 second.

Recorder Conner\* 1.01: 14 1047, beeps every 15 seconds.
Multiparty Line Ring: same frequency and modulation as ring, but I see on, 2 see off (twice as fast).

Titum the Sca

In the early days of British phreaking, the Cambridge University Titan computer was used to record and circulate numbers found by the exhaustive dialing of local networks. These numbers were used to create a chain of links from disting of local networks. These numbers were used to create a chain of tinks from local exchange to local exchange across the country, bypassing the trunk circuits. Because the internal routing codes in the U.K. network are not the same as those disted by the caller, the phreaks had to discover them by 'probe and listen' techniques, more commonly known in the U.S. as scanning. What they did was put in likely signals and fisten to find out if they succeeded. The results of scanning were circulated to other phreaks. Discovering each other took time at first, but eventually the phreaks became organized. The "TAP" of Britain was called "Undercurrents" which enable British phreaks to share the info on new numbers.

were circulated to other phreass. Discovering each other took mest artist, over eventually the phreaks became organized. The "TAP" of Britain was called "Undercurrents" which enable British phreaks to share the info on new numbers, one-pinemen, etc.

To understand what the British phreaks idd, think of the phone network in three layers of lines; local, trunk, and international in the U.K., Subscriber Trunk Disling (STD), is the mechanism which takes a cell from the local lines and (ingitimatehy) elevates it to a trunk or international level. The U.K. phreaks figured that a call at trunk level can be routed through any number of exchanges, provided that the right routing codes were found and used correctly. They also had to discover how to get from local to trunk level either without being changed (which they did with a bleeper box) or without using (STD). Chaining has already been mentioned but it requires long strings of digits and speech gals more and more faint as the chain grows, just like it does when you stack trunks back and forth across the U.S. The way the security reps snagged the phreaks was to put a simple-printermeter" or pen register, as we call it, on the suspect a line, which shows every degrid dided from the subscriber's line.

The British prefer to get onto the trunks rather than chaining. One way was to discover where local calls use the trunks between neighboring exchanges, start a call, and stay on the trunk instead of returning to the local level on reaching the distant withch. This again required exhansitive disting and made more work for Titam; it also revealed "fiddler", which were inserted by Post Office Engineers. What fiddling means is that the engineers rewired the exchanges for their own benefit. The equipment is modified to give access to a trunk without being charged, an operation which is pretty easy in Step by Step (SxS) electromochanical exchanges, which were installed in Britain even in the 1970's.

A famous British "fiddler" revealed in the early 1970's worked by disting 17. scientists conducting experiments or programmers and engineers testing programs and systems. The judge appeared to agree, and even asked them for phreaking endes to use from his local exchange!

## **MORE ON TRASHING**

## What to look for, how to act, where to go

by The Kid & Co. and The Shadow

An inspection of your local Teleo office trash receptacles can reveal a wealth of documents of great interest to a telecommunications hobbiest. The fone company doesn't expect anyone except maybe burns to paw through their refuse, and therefore often disposes some interesting materials. In all the installations we have investigated, the Company doesn't shred or incinerate anything. Most sites have their garbage in trash bags convenient for removal and leisurely inspection at home.

A case in point. The authors of this article have been engaged in trashing for about three months, finding quite informative info, but when we escorted two phriends from the city on an expedition, we didn't know the most efficient methods. They came out to the boondocks of New Jersey to inspect the wealth of AT&T and Bell installations in the region. They were quite expert at trashing, having more experience in the art, so we merely watched and copied their technique.

Our first hit of the night was of an AT&T Information Systems office building. We gathered a large mass of manuals and binders. Then we moved onward to hit AT&T Communications, the local business office, our central office, and another Bell site. After a successful session, we decided to call it a night.

We sorted the piles of garbage for things of merit. Our phriends garnered the majority of the really interesting items, but we salvaged several things of worth. This sorting session was conducted in the center of town, to the amusement of passers-by. It was interesting to explain to friends that passed by what we were doing. We BS'ed an inquisitive young lady into thinking that we were a local group of Boy Scouts cleaning the area as a project for our Eagle Scout badge. Following the tendency of the masses to follow falsehoods, she complimented us on how clean the town looked, for she had been out of the country for the last couple of months. Just remember when "creatively explaining" to sound confident, and to have your compatriots shut their mouths. A couple of times we almost contradicted each other as everyone got into the flow of falsehoods.

Numerous things of interest can be found in Bell trash. Ones that are of use to anyone are binders and notebooks with the Bell logo on them, good for impressing friends. Also, supplies of Bell letterhead are good for scaring phriends. Documents of more interest to phreaks can also be found. Cosmos printouts abound in any CO trash. In house telephone directories list employees of Bell, good to try social engineering on. Manuals also have merit for the phreak. Maintenance reports, trunk outages reports, line reports, network control analysis (NCA), TSPS documents, and lists of abbreviations used by the fone company can be found. The latter is of great importance as it allows one to decipher the cryptic documents. Bell seems to love ridiculous and mysterious abbreviations and anacronyms.

#### "Looking for Notebooks"

The expert trasher must be willing to physically enter the dumpster. Only reaching in for easily obtainable objects misses heavy manuals that tend to sink to the bottom. Huge bulky printouts, directories, and obese manuals as well as binders settle out of reach. Also, once in the dumpster, inquisitive security can't see you.

Speaking of security, what are the dangers of trashing? Well,

we don't know, having never been caught at it. The basic fact which protects the trasher is the ludicrousness of someone stealing your garbage. Probably the most they can get you for is trespassing, and most of the time they'll probably just throw you off the property. Good excuses for being around the dumpsters are that you are passing through on a shortcut, that a ball or frisboe has flown in, or that you are looking for notebooks for school.

A good way to avoid unnecessary surveillance by Telco employees is to trash late at night, after most have gone home. Weekends, especially Sunday nights, leave the sites deserted, except for security or janitorial staff. Before starting on a trashing run, be sure to reconnoiter the area, and to find out the schedule of garbage collection. That way you can hit the trash at the fullest and most profitable time.

One thing that simplifies trashing runs is the use of a car. A car will allow one to hit trash sites farther afield, as well as assisting in the removal of bags and boxes of trash to sort at your kisure. Trash sorting really shouldn't be done on site as it increases the possible time for discovery by security. Removing garbage by foot invites stares and limits the amount that can be removed. The car should drop off the trashers and return about a half hour later, depending on the amount of trash there. Before dropping them off, be sure to investigate if there is any trash in the first place for, as past experience has shown, they tend to get quite angered when they have spent the last hour staring at an empty trash container.

The on-site trashers should be willing to hop into the dumpster. As we mentioned, this maximizes the amount of trash that can be reached. They should rip open any bags, shoving the uninteresting ones to the rear and bottom of the container, while bringing new ones to the forefront. Boxes in the trash should be used to carry the documents into the trunk of the car for leisurely sorting. This should be done with a minimum of noise and light, if flashlights are to be used. The trashers shouldn't attempt to take the best stuff, just to grab as much as looks interesting.

At the appointed time, the car should return and pick up the trashers. Boxes should be stuffed in the trunk as quickly as possible. Smell won't be much of a problem, as all you are taking are papers. Occasionally a bag of coffee grinds smells up the works, but you, at all costs, should avoid cafeteria dumpsters as the rotting food really recks, and contains little of value to the telecommunications hobbiest.

The car should then drive off to a safe and secluded spot to sort the trash. The location should be well lit and have another dumpster handy to throw the real trash out permanently. The valuable stuff should be taken home and sorted according to type. By keeping all of the similar stuff together, patterns can be recognized. Here, abbreviation lists come in handy. The date and location where the trash is located helps to keep the junk organized.

A careful inspection of local Teleo trash receptacles can be informative and fun. Any real phreak should find out at the least what the switching equipment for his/her/its-area is.

Proper trashing technique is gained by experience, so climb on in! Well, happy trashing and have a phree day.











#### NSA Doesn't Feel Secure

The New York Times

The National Security Agency has told Congress that United States advantages in advanced technologies, including development of nuclear weapons, are threatened by the poor security of the nation's communications networks.

To protect information, the agency recommended that a single agency supervise the development of communication security procedures, the purchasing of telecommunications security equipment and carrying out personnel security procedures.

The National Security Agency is the largest and most secretive of the nation's intelligence agencies. Its chief responsibilities are to collect intelligence by cavesdropping on the electronic communications of other nations and to devise ways to prevent foreign countries from acquiring the confidential messages of the Defense Department and other security agencies.

Jerry F. Berman, legislative counsel to the American Civil Liberties Union, agreed that the swift development of computerized communications systems had made security a legitimate public concern.

"But what is disturbing about the proposal is that it comes from the N.S.A., a super-secret agency with a major foreign intelligence mission and the least accountability of any agency in the United States Government," Berman said.

"If any agency is competent, it is the N.S.A. The problem, however, is that they are not accountable and cannot be counted upon to weigh other interests, such as the privacy of all American citizens.

"If the N.S.A. were to get involved in procurement, for example,"
Berman added, "they could end up putting a net of security over large
parts of the academic community and industry. It might increase
security, but it also could reduce freedom and hinder the open
development of new forms of communications."

A list was not provided of the Government telecommunications networks that might come under the overall control of a centralized security agency if it was given a broadened mandate. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the General Services Administration, and the Federal Reserve operate national communication networks that would qualify as being among "the nation's automated information systems."

#### Another Hacker Story

Associated Press

A boy who allegedly bought rare comic books and other goods worth thousands of dollars by using a computer to get credit-card numbers is helping authorities trace other hackers across the country, Howard County [MD] police say.

He has cooperated with local police, FBI, and Secret Service investigators by providing information about illegal computer operating practices. The youth allegedly bought computer equipment and programs valued up to \$4,000 by using credit card numbers supplied by computer hackers from the Midwest. He ordered the goods by telephone and then picked them up after their delivery to unoccupied homes.

Police obtained a warrant to search the boy's house August 16 after talking with an informant. Found were programs that allowed him to patch into several long distance telephone companies illegally. Police say he apparently was able to call around the world and arrange conference calls using corporate telephone lines.

[Must have been a real genius...]

#### AT&T Faces Serious Money Problem

Assistated Press again

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company, despite service backlogs and increased competition, has moved closer in recent anonths to its maximum authorized profit margin for interstate long-distance telephone service.

A company spokesman said late last month that AT&T's rate or return, or profit margin, on long distance service was 12.36 percent after the first seven months of 1984. The maximum authorized margin

is 12.75 percent annually, based on A 1& i is investment in equipment.

Among long distance companies, only AT&T faces an Federal Communications Commission limit on profits. The commission last adjusted the margin in 1981 after more than a year of study, raising it from 11 percent. Should AT&T exceed it's margin, the F.C.C. can order rate cuts.

#### Private Directories Soon to be Available

The New York Ties

How valuable are the telephone directories of some of the nation's top banks, investment and accounting firms, insurance companies, and corporations—especially those that include not only direct office numbers for managers, but also home addresses and phone numbers and, in at least one instance, such data for summer homes?

Steven Olsen is counting on their being worth a great deal. His firm, Corporate Information Services, plans to sell copies of directories for such companies as the General Motors Corporation; the RCA Corporation; Chase Manhattan Bank; Goldman, Sachs & Company; Arthur Andersen & Company, and Booz, Allen & Hamilton, the management consulting firm.

Prospective buyers are told to write to a box number and ask for a catalog detailing what Mr. Olsen said would be a package of directories for 250 companies from around the world. They must then submit bids through the mail for his package. Bidders topping a minimum set by Mr. Olsen's company would receive the package, and, he said, "we're not talking small money. This is a valuable source of information to stockbrokers, executive recruiters, [computer hackers,] insurance and real estate brokers, and those engaged in direct-mail marketing or telemarketing. We're talking about the most powerful companies and some of the highest-salaried people in the world," he added.

Mr. Olsen, who said he got his idea while working as an editor for a computer publication [it wasn't us, we swear], showed off copies of in-house directories for Chase Manhattan and Goldman, Sachs during an interview. His plans drew a cool response from both companies.

Many other companies declined comment on the attempted sale of their directory information. The reaction among those that did ranged from outrage to hearty amusement.

"We only have copies of the directories," Mr. Olsen stressed, not the directories themselves. "So we're not in receipt of stolen properties, and I acquired them all legally."

But Mr. Olsen, who wants to sell other people's addresses and telephone numbers, declined for "reasons of security" to disclose the address or telephone number of his company. There was no listing for Corporate Information Services in telephone information for New York City, and the address to which inquiries about the auction are to be sent is a mailbox in a private postal drop company on lower Fifth Avenue. Mr. Olsen was reached through an answering service, whose number is not as closely guarded. [The folks at 2609 would be more than proud if some of our readers were able to find out this guy's phone number so we can display it on Page One!!!]

Mr. Olsen said that such secrecy was necessary "as protection against attempts to steal or destroy this valuable database." He said he was followed for a time and "had to take evasive action" last year after a newspaper published an article about the company.

Mr. Olsen also said that he had no copies of company directories that are copyrighted. Victor A. Kovner, a lawyer who is a copyright expert, said that if a company has copyrighted its directory and given notice in it, the book cannot be reproduced without permission.

Mr. Kovner said that if a company has not copyrighted its directory, then in most cases it could not prevent copies from being disseminated.

[To illustrate this point, we have published a picture of a directory on Page 5 that is not copyrighted. We suggest you look at it so you'll understand this article better. And as a public service to nearly everyone, we challenge Mr. Olsen to beat our price for "public" information, which is simply the cost of xeroxing and mailing it. We'll cheerily make available any documents (non-copyrighted, of course!) provided by contributors for a no-profit price. So send them on in!]

## A FRIEND IN HIGH PLACES YET ANOTHER TRUE STORY OF TELECOMMUNICATION FUN

Once upon a time there was a most unusual phone phreak and it was a phone phreak who didn't realize it. Her name was Joanne. She had a very remarkable position in that she was a telephone operator in an extremely small, rural, midwestern community. A friend of mine, who was a radio D.J., got a job in this small town. One night he had a few drinks after he got off work. He called this operator up and started talking to her for a while. She didn't hang up. In fact, she was quite cordial, quite nice, quite friendly. She said, "Would you like to call Dial-a-Record (in Australia)? Or Dial-the-Time in London? Or any other dial-it services? If there are any phone calls you'd like me to place for free, just let me know."

So Joanne proceeded to place a lot of long distance calls for the guy for free. He introduced me to her and said you can call Joanne for free by dialing a certain out-of-service number. She'd say, "What number did you dial, please?" And then she would quickly forward it to the other intercept operator in the nearby large city where she would tell the operator what number was dialed and then they'd put on the standard out-ofservice or number-changed recording. I'd say, "Hey Joanne, it's me, call me back!" And she would. And I'd talk to her all night long because I was a security guard at the time. We'd place long distance calls, conference calls like you wouldn't believe. One day she said that the switchboard was going to get phased out—a new TSPS switchboard was being installed in the large community and was going to serve all of the small communities in a four or five state area.

But Joanne continued to be a phone phreak and to this day she's working as a secretary for a senator in Washington, DC. She still does some pretty remarkable things, even though she's not an operator.

You might want to call up your local operator, provided you live in a small town, and just say hi sometime. I've done it on occasion and operators are usually fairly friendly, but far from phone phreaks. You might want to try this with directory assistance (they double as operators in smaller locales).

Who knows, you might find another Jeanne someplace. One never knows.

## LETTERS FROM THE OUTSIDE

Dear 2600:

Would you explain these terms to me? I don't know what they are:

phone loop
 WATS extender.

Also, what became of TAP?

Thanks

Dear AZ:

Phone loops are basically test circuits that the phone company uses for various purposes. They were never intended for use by the public. The way it works is simple. One caller dials number A. Another caller dials number B. When both of these people call these numbers at the same time, they become connected! Some loops make clicking or beeping sounds every few seconds which makes talking on them rather hard. But others are crystal clear connections. But while they may serve a purpose for the teleo, what possible use could they be for anyone else. Well, for one thing, in many cases there is no charge for calling a loop number since they fall within a series of test numbers the phone company uses. Loops are also a great way to have an anonymous conversation- it's an indirect connection to another person instead of a direct one, although it's far from impossible to be traced while using one. Finally, there's the old call-collect trick where one person calls up one end of a loop that is within his local calling area. A friend from far away calls the other end of the loop collect. When the connection is made between the two loops, the operator will think that somebody answered the phone and will ask them if they want to accept a collect call. The telephone company winds

up billing themselves for the call. Also, your phone number need never be known by the person "meeting" you on the loop, since he's not ever dialing your number. Loops have two ends—the silent end and the tone end. When a connection is established, the tone stops and conversation can begin. Loops are almost always found within the phone company test numbers (the 99XX suffix, in many cases). Loops are slowly but surely dying out, however.

An extender is very similar to a Sprint or MCI dialup, except that it's a number used exclusively by a particular business or organization for their phone calls. A WATS extender is one that is available on an 800 number. An employee calls up, hears the dial tone, enters a code, and dials away. There are many extenders around and many different types. Watch for an article soon detailing these.

As far as TAP, we sent a message to their MCI Mail account, and this is what their editor said:

"TAP is in hiatus. I was evicted from my apartment last week, put everything I could carry into storage, and left for California on vacation. When I get back to the East Coast, I'll be getting together issues 91 and 92. (While there is a possibility of getting the issues out while I'm out here, I will not put TAP out in California due to the restrictive state laws on proprietary information.)

MCI Mail is a viable way of asking me questions that require only short responses, but you should send me hard copy to TAP's maildrop address (RM 603, 147 West 42nd St., New York, NY 10036) because I seldom check my MCI Mail anywhere near a hard copy printer. MCI usually deletes my mail before I can call back in and pull it out on paper.

Hope this answers your question. Keep Smiling, Chesire."

DIRECTORY.

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#### New York Telephon

158 West Central Avenue Spring Valley, New York 10977 Phone (914) 425-9950

June 27, 1984

we have made several unsuccessful attempts to reach you by telephone to discuss an important matter concerning your telephone service in the New City area.

Our records indicate that you are not subscribing to Touch Tone Service but you are using a push button phone. It will be necessary for you to contact us no later than July 3rd so that we may convert your service to Touch Tone at the approxiate charges. If you fail to do so you will not be a ble to make outgoing calls from your push button set after July 8th due to our new call processing system; which went into effect on June 9th.

The new system is designed to handle more calls and process them faster. Also, it allows for sophisticated calling capabilities called Custom Calling Services. These services are "Call Waiting, Call Forwarding, Speed Calling, and Three Way Calling".

You may want to subscribe to these services when your convert to Touch Tone.

Please contact me befor July 3rd, so that I can make the necessary arrangements to connect you line to Touch Tone and avoid any interruption in your outgoing service.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) M.J. Coyne Representative

MC mL

OH NO! THIS PERSON'S CENTRAL OFFICE HAS SWITCHED OVER TO ESS OR THE EQUIVALENT, WHICH MEANS NO MORE FREE USE OF TOUCH TONES®. AND SOMEHOW (PROBABLY THROUGH THE USE OF FCC REGISTRATION NUMBERS) THE PHONE COMPANY FOUND OUT THAT THIS PERSON WAS USING A "PUSH-BUTTON". BY THE WAY, CHECK OUT THE MANY TYPOS IN THIS LETTER. WE COUNTED FIVE MAJOR SCREWUPS, AND THERE ARE PROBABLY MORE.

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