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VOLUME ONE, NUMBER ELEVEN

Exploring Caves in Travelnet

One fine summer day several years ago, a phone phreak discovered yet another interesting telephone number. What was it? A modem? A dialtone? A very special operator? No to all of the above—*this* was something truly amazing and unique. This was TRAVELNET.

Of course, he didn't know at the time what he had dialed into. But this is what he heard. Two rings, a tone that lasted for about half a second (it had about the same pitch of a Sprint tone), and then a voice! Not just a recording, not just a human asking what it was you wanted, but a *recording* asking you what it was you wanted! Sort of like hearing an answering machine for the first time. But this was no answering machine.

"Authorization number, please," a sensual, husky female voice asked. And since he was a rather clever guy, he hit his touch tone® keypad. Every time he entered a tone, he heard a short "booop," like an acknowledgement of some sort. After four of these "booops" the automated lady came back and said "eightteightsevenzero." But, alas, those were not the keys he hit. In semi-desperation, he hit another key. The female voice came back and said, "Please repeat, yes or no?" But what was the question? He quickly realized that she must have been somehow trying to confirm the entry of his numbers. But how do you convey the word "no" on a touch tone® keypad?

He went through the whole process again and wound up getting dumped into a recording that said (in an authoritative female voice), "The Travelnet number you dialed is incorrect; please check the number and dial again."

He called back. Again he tried entering numbers and tried to figure out why they wouldn't correspond. All of a sudden, his baby sister (who had been growing increasingly bored with a rattle in the next room), decided to let out the sort of scream that baby sisters are known for. What's important about this is that after the scream was over, our friend heard quite distinctly over the telephone lines: "booop."

"Wow," he said. "Booop," it repeated. It recognized speech! He called it back and started entering numbers with his voice. It worked! After four numbers were entered, it would repeat them back to him and he had the option of saying either "yes" or "no". If he said "yes" or remained silent, he had the opportunity to enter four more numbers. If he said "no" the machine would make every effort to find out what the number was by asking him twice just what it was he meant to say. There were a few simple rules—he had to enunciate clearly and say the word "zero" instead of "oh".

But what would this lady let him do if he guessed the right eight numbers? And how could he possibly get such a long number anyway. Would he have to call up the lady and slowly and patiently pronounce little words over and over? Since he knew that there were over 100,000,000 possible combinations and that no more than a thousand probably worked, he understood that it would take some thinking to satisfy the mechanical voice. He needed to find some good old-fashioned human incompetence. If the machine had trouble hearing him, or if he remained silent, it would eventually say, "Sorry, we're having difficulties." Then it would connect him to a human. He stuck on the line and when the operator answered, he asked her what number he had dialed. "This is General Motors Travelnet, sir," she replied. "I'm terribly sorry," he said. "I was trying to get the speaking clock." "That's okay," the operator said. "Goodbye."

So it was General Motors! This would be easy. He waited a day and called back. He got connected to another operator, who asked him what he wanted. "This is J.C. Steppeworth from Fort Wayne GMAC," he snarled. "And I've been having trouble using this confounded phone system." "Well, why don't you call the instruction number, sir?" She gave him the number. He called this number and heard a full demonstration on how to use the system. It was used to make phone calls, which he sort of suspected. After you enter your

eight-digit code, you enter a ten-digit phone number or, if dialing internally within General Motors, a seven-digit number. The recording even spoke a demo authorization code to get the point across. After hearing this, our friend wondered if he should try the demo code. "No," he decided, "They couldn't possibly be *that* stupid." He tried it anyway and guess what? The moment he confirmed the last number, the lovely voice asked a new question: "Destination code, please?" (In other words, the phone number you're trying to call.)

It was an extender—a long and short distance phone service. He proceeded to test it out, and he found that he could call virtually anywhere in the country for free. But who cares about free calls? He wanted to explore. And explore he did. He tried many things and learned many things. He found that he could avoid the lady's voice if he keypadded in the numbers before she could speak. This way the call would go through normally without any arguments on pronunciation. This allowed him to test many, many codes without much hassle. He found that by mixing up his working code a little, he was able to find many new ones. The simplicity was astounding. In a short time, he had found literally hundreds of codes. After this, he sat down one day and stared at his list of codes. All of a sudden, he realized something. Each group of four added up to either 9, 19, or 29—a sort of base-nine code. He wrote a short program and printed out all possible four-digit combinations that added up to these magic numbers. He was set for life.

He used the system to explore internal offices. If no area code was entered, every exchange put you in a different part of the country. One exchange, 999, simply dumped him into a feed from a Detroit radio station. One day, his Demon-dialer, which is basically a touch tone® generator with a memory, came across a re-order (a fast busy signal) that turned into a dialtone in twenty seconds. The connection wasn't great, but he found that he could make a direct call *anywhere*. He could dial overseas directly. He figured that he was at the switchboard of some office branch far away from where he originally called. He found out what the number was by calling a friend person-to-person collect, who then asked the operator for the number so that the "person" could call back when he returned. When he called up the number he was dialing from, they answered, "GMAC." So it was some distant office that he was making his calls out of, using a Travelnet code and an internal number to get there. It was so roundabout that he knew nobody would figure it out. In fact, several people that he called received calls from that office asking if they knew anybody who worked there that would call them at three in the morning. It was incredible! Even if a friend had *wanted* to frame him, it was doubtful that they would connect him with this distant city from which the call supposedly emanated. And the funny thing was that the company was probably placing a 24-hour armed guard on the building, thinking that someone was breaking in and making calls. Someone was, but in a way they could never figure out.

There's much more to the world of Travelnet, particularly on their internal network. And the same number works to this very day, which, by the way, is toll-free. But we've heard of cases where people have been trapped into paying for what they did and it's quite likely the system is heavily monitored.

A similar system called WIN was used by Westinghouse before they gave up in disgust after their lines were constantly tied up by phreakers and hackers. Honeywell makes the actual system and there are others in use around the country—one, we hear, for the state offices of Illinois, another for Ralston-Purina—the folks who blow up sewers in Louisville, KY.

As usual, nobody at Travelnet understood any of the questions we asked them and no one returned our calls. Maybe the lines were all tied up.

Fun With Fortress Fones

This article will focus primarily on the standard Western Electric single-slot coin telephone (aka fortress fone) which can be divided into 3 types:

- Dial-Tone First [DTF]
- Coin-First [CF] (i.e., it wants your money *before* you receive a dial tone)
- Dial Post-Pay Service [PP] (you pay after the party answers)

Depositing Coins (Slugs)

Once you have deposited your slug into a fortress, it is subjected to a gamut of tests.

The first obstacle for a slug is the magnetic trap. This will stop any light-weight magnetic slugs and coins. If it passes this, the slug is then classified as a nickel, dime, or quarter. Each slug is then checked for appropriate size and weight. If these tests are passed, it will then travel through a nickel, dime, or quarter magnet as appropriate. These magnets set up an eddy current effect which causes coins of the appropriate characteristics to slow down so they will follow the correct trajectory. If all goes well, the coin will follow the correct path (such as bouncing off of the nickel anvil) where it will hopefully fall into the narrow accepted coin channel.

The rather elaborate tests that are performed as the coin travels down the coin chute will stop most slugs and other undesirable coins, such as pennies, which must then be retrieved using the coin release lever.

If the slug miraculously survives the gamut, it will then strike the appropriate totalizer arm causing a ratchet wheel to rotate once for every 5 cent increment (e.g., a quarter will cause it to rotate 5 times).

The totalizer then causes the coin signal oscillator to readout a dual-frequency signal indicating the value deposited to ACTS (a computer) or the TSPS operator. These are the same tones used by phreaks in the infamous red boxes.

For a quarter, 5 beep tones are outpulsed at 12-17 pulses per second (PPS). A dime causes 2 beep tones at 5-8.5 PPS while a nickel causes one beep tone at 5-8.5 PPS. A beep consists of 2 tones: 2200 + 1700 Hz.

A relay in the fortress called the "B relay" (yes, there is also an "A relay") places a capacitor across the speech circuit during totalizer readout to prevent the "customer" from hearing the red box tones.

In older 3 slot phones, one bell (1050-1100 Hz.) for a nickel, two bells for a dime, and one gong (800 Hz.) for a quarter are used instead of the modern dual-frequency tones.

TSPS and ACTS

While fortresses are connected to the CO of the area, all transactions are handled via the Traffic Service Position System (TSPS). In areas that do not have ACTS, all calls that require operator assistance, such as calling card and collect, are automatically routed to a TSPS operator position.

In an effort to automate fortress service, a computer system known as Automated Coin Toll Service (ACTS) has been implemented in many areas. ACTS listens to the red box signals from the fones and takes appropriate action. It is ACTS which says, "Two dollars please. (pause) Please deposit two dollars for the next ten seconds..." and other variations. Also, if you talk for more than three minutes and then hang up, ACTS will call back and demand your money. ACTS is responsible for Automated Calling Card Service, too.

In addition, ACTS provides trouble diagnosis for craftspeople (repairmen specializing in fortresses). For example, there is a coin test which is great for tuning up red boxes. In many areas this test can be activated by dialing 09591230 at a fortress (thanks to Karl Marx for this information). Once activated it will request that you deposit various coins. It will then identify the coin and outpulse the appropriate red box signal. The coins are usually returned when you hang up.

To make sure that there is actually money in the fone, the CO initiates a "ground test" at various times to determine if a coin is actually in the fone. This is why you must deposit at least a nickel in order to use a red box!

Green Boxes

Paying the initial rate in order to use a red box (on certain fortresses) left a sour taste in many red boxer's mouths. Thus the *green* box was invented. The green box generates useful tones such as COIN COLLECT, COIN RETURN, and RINGBACK. These are the tones that ACTS or the TSPS operator would send to the CO when appropriate. Unfortunately, the green box cannot be used at a fortress station but it must be used by the *called* party.

Here are the tones:

COIN COLLECT	700 + 1100 Hz.
COIN RETURN	1100 + 1700 Hz.
RINGBACK	700 + 1700 Hz.

Before the called party sends any of these tones, an operator released signal should be sent to alert the MF detectors at the CO. This can be accomplished by sending 900 + 1500 Hz. or a single 2600 Hz. wink (90 ms) followed by a 60 ms gap and then the appropriate signal for at least 900 ms.

Also, do not forget that the initial rate is collected shortly before the 3 minute period is up.

Incidentally, once the above MF tones for collecting and returning coins reach the CO, they are converted into an appropriate DC pulse (-130 volts for return and +130 volts for collect). This pulse is then sent down the tip to the fortress. This causes the coin relay to either return or collect the coins.

The alleged "T-Network" takes advantage of this information. When a pulse for COIN COLLECT (+130 VDC) is sent down the line, it must be grounded somewhere. This is usually either the yellow or black wire. Thus, if the wires are exposed, these wires can be cut to prevent the pulse from being grounded. When the three minute initial period is almost up, make sure that the black and yellow wires are severed, then hang up, wait about 15 seconds in case of a second pulse, reconnect the wires, pick up the fone, hang up again, and if all goes well it should be *jackpot* time.

Physical Attack

A typical fortress weighs roughly 50 pounds with an empty coin box. Most of this is accounted for in the armor plating. Why all the security? Well, Bell attributes it to the following:

"Social changes during the 1960's made the multislot coin station a prime target for: vandalism, strong arm robbery, fraud, and theft of service. This brought about the introduction of the more rugged single slot coin station and a new environment for coin service." [see related story, page 1-63]

As for picking the lock, I will quote Mr. Phelps: "We often fantasize about 'picking the lock' or 'getting a master key'. Well, you can forget about it. I don't like to discourage people, but it will save you from wasting a lot of your time—time which can be put to better use (heh, heh)."

As for physical attack, the coin plate is secured on all four sides by hardened steel bolts which pass through two slots each. These bolts are in turn interlocked by the main lock.

One phreak I know did manage to take one of the "mothers" home (it was attached to a piece of plywood at a construction site; otherwise, the permanent ones are a bitch to detach from the wall!). It took him almost ten hours to open the coin box using a power drill, sledge hammers, and crow bars. It turned out to be empty...perhaps next time, he'll deposit a coin first to hear if it slushes down nicely or hits the empty bottom with a clunk.

Taking the fone offers a higher margin of success, although this may be difficult, often requiring brute force. There have been several cases of back axles being lost trying to take down a fone! A quick and dirty way to open the coin box is by using a shotgun. In Detroit, after ecologists cleaned out a municipal pond, they found 168 coin phones rifled.

In colder areas, such as Canada, some shrewd people tape up the fones using duct tape, pour in water, and come back the next day when the water will have frozen, thus expanding and cracking the fone open.

In one case, "unauthorized coin collectors" were caught when they brought \$6,000 in change to a bank and the bank became suspicious....

At any rate, the main lock is an eight level tumbler located on the right side of the coin box. This lock has 390,625 possible positions (5⁸, since there are 8 tumblers each with 5 possible positions), thus it is highly pick resistant! The lock is held in place by 4 screws. If there is sufficient clearance to the right of the fone, it is conceivable to punch out the screws with a drill.

Miscellaneous

In a few areas (rural and Canada), post-pay service exists. With this type of service, the mouthpiece is cut off until the caller deposits money when the called party answers. This also allows for free calls to weather and other dial-it services, where it's not necessary for you to talk. In July, 2600 announced the "clear" box which consists of a telephone coil and a small amp. It is based on the principal that the receiver is also a weak transmitter and that by amplifying your signal you can talk via the transmitter thus avoiding costly telephone charges!

Most fortresses are found in the 9xxx area. Under former Bell areas, they usually start at 98xx (right below the 99xx official series) and move downward.

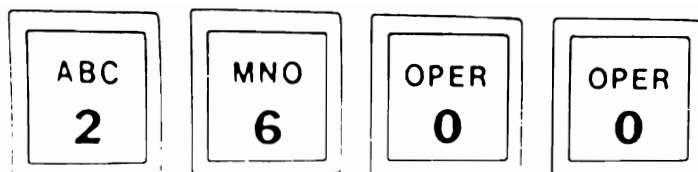
Since it's the line and not the fone that determines whether or not a deposit must be made, DTF and Charge-A-Call fones have been known to make great extensions!

Finally, fortress fones allow for a new hobby—instruction plate collecting. All that is required is a flat-head screwdriver and a pair of needle-nose pliers. After all, ten cent plates are definitely becoming a "rarity"!

Fortress Security

While a lonely fortress may seem the perfect target, beware! The Gestapo have been known to stake out fortresses for as long as 6 years according to the *Grass Roots Quarterly*. To avoid any problems, do not use the same fones repeatedly for boxing, calling cards, and other experiments. The telco knows how much money should be in the coin box and when it's not there they tend to get perturbed (read: pissed off).

(The above was excerpted from BIOC Agent 003's course in Basic Telecommunications, Part VI. Neither BIOC nor this magazine advocates doing anything illegal with regard to phones or any other type of machine. Further information available on dataline 9143591517.)



Computer Foul-ups Hurt Social Security

The New York Times

A House Committee has asserted that improper handling of a \$115 million computer contract had undermined the Government's ability to serve the millions of Americans who receive Social Security benefits.

The report that improprieties in the 1981 selection of the Paradyne Corporation, a Florida company, to build computer terminals had damaged the daily operations of the Social Security Administration came from the House Government Operations Committee, after two years of investigation.

After Paradyne provided the terminals, field offices of the Social Security Administration experienced "extraordinary levels of equipment failures and poor performance," according to researchers.

The report cited complaints from local Social Security offices all over the country. "The public is frustrated with us and we're frustrated with the system and snapping at each other," wrote the Fayetteville, NC manager on July 9, 1982. "Something has to be done immediately. The public will be after us with guns and knives shortly."

Phones in the Sky

2000 News Service

Last month, six airlines began a pay-telephone service that allows passengers to call anywhere in the United States. The cost is fairly phenomenal: \$7.50 for the first three minutes and \$1.25 for each additional minute.

The system (designed by Airfone Incorporated) uses radio waves to transmit calls to one of 37 ground receiving stations, which then transfer them to regular telephone lines.

To use the system, you insert any one of seven major credit cards into a wall-mounted console situated in the front of the plane. When the card has been validated, a cordless phone will be released, and you can return to your seat to dial away.

Another FBI Computer File

The New York Times

An advisory panel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has approved the testing of a computerized file that could allow criminal justice agencies all over the country to exchange the names of white-collar crime suspects and their associates.

An FBI staff paper presented to the panel said the file, the Economic Crime Index, would permit a "more efficient and effective field-wide coordination of major white-collar crime investigations, particularly those involving financial crimes."

Civil liberties experts, however, immediately challenged the project, contending that the widespread exchange of "raw investigative files" would be a dangerous threat to innocent Americans. They said that such networks should be limited to handling public information such as a person's arrest record.

The information would include the names of suspects, their addresses, Social Security numbers, passport numbers, bank account numbers, aliases, Selective Service numbers, driver's license numbers, automobile license numbers, and information about "associates."

According to Jerry Berman, legislative counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, the project "is extraordinarily troublesome, because it is not intended to exchange public record information such as when someone is arrested or when an arrest warrant has been obtained for someone who is believed to have committed a crime. Instead, the FBI will be passing around information that will include many unproven allegations and casual gossip, the dissemination of which presents a major threat to the privacy of all Americans."

Berman noted that information available on the proposal did not define what was meant by white-collar crime or "an associate." He said, "An associate of a white-collar criminal might be a casual friend you met at a party or, in the case of a suspected bank officer, all the members of the bank's board of governors."

Use of Wiretaps at Record Pace

Long Island Newsday

The use of wiretaps by federal law-enforcement agencies has been steadily increasing, with a record number expected this year as the FBI becomes more involved with narcotics investigations, according to Justice Department sources.

American University law professor Herman Schwartz, who monitors the use of surveillance, thinks there are not enough safeguards in the

use of wiretaps. "I think there is an enormous intrusion into people's privacy," he said, citing recent FBI public-corruption probes. "Now they are reaching into the lives of a number of innocent people because of the types of crimes they are going after," he said.

For each wiretap installed, an average of 1,107 conversations were overheard involving 147 persons, according to the 1983 court report. In that year, the cost of installing federal wiretaps averaged \$65,000 each, for a total cost of more than \$13 million. But critics claim that figure is too low because it doesn't calculate the legal work involved. All wiretaps have to be court-authorized.

The rapid increase in the number of wiretaps, which sources said already has topped last year's total of 208, probably will surpass the 1971 record (285) set by the Nixon administration. Use of wiretaps dropped soon after President Jimmy Carter took office, with an all-time low set in 1977. The use of electronic surveillance started to climb again in 1981 after President Ronald Reagan took office.

818 Here to Stay

Combined News Sources

After three years of warnings and nine months of what the telephone companies called a "permissive dialing period," 1.5 million Los Angeles area residents have been split off from 3.7 million neighbors as the area received its first new dialing code in nearly 40 years.

Callers to downtown Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, Hollywood, and the trendy beach communities of Malibu and Santa Monica can continue to use the old 213 code. But anyone calling San Fernando Valley and the suburban San Gabriel Valley now have to dial 818.

Alfred Kness, a computer equipment salesman who was making rounds through the downtown area, pulled out a thick booklet full of clients' business cards and said, "It's so exciting now. I never know who I'm going to reach on the first try - a customer or that nice mechanical lady from the phone company. It stinks."

One We Somehow Missed

A Local Paper in Upstate New York

JANUARY 27, 1984 Two 18-year-old Stony Point (New York) "rustlers" have been named as the outlaws who lassoed a Letchworth telephone booth to their car and dragged it two miles through the dust before being arrested by state troopers. Both of the accused were charged with grand larceny, possession of burglar tools, and criminal mischief.

A witness reported seeing two men tie up the outdoor booth at about 3:35 a.m., pull it from its moorings in a concrete slab and drag it along the highway. "They were tracked by following the scratch marks on the highway," a state policeman said.

The troopers found the booth a good two miles from its point of origin. A security officer from the New York Telephone Company said the booth cost \$1,385, the coin machine \$400, the wire that led out of it another \$46, and the concrete slab it was pulled from was worth another \$278. He said the machine, with an estimated \$50 in change still in the coin box, was "totaled."

"We're going to be looking for restitution," the company representative said.

In Addition...

Combined News Sources

- Attorney Melvin Belli has filed suit in Santa Ana, CA against TRW Inc., accusing the nation's largest credit rating firm of "dangerous and unethical" practices that exposed credit histories to computer pirates. This is the first of many similar lawsuits Belli intends to file nationwide.

- MCI says its customers now can call Belgium, Argentina, Brazil, East Germany, Greece, and the United Arab Emirates. (Presumably, the MCI trademark, i.e. I.O.U.D echoes, will continue to flourish with this expansion.) MCI has negotiated agreements that will allow the start of direct overseas phone service next year to England and three other (as of yet unnamed) foreign nations.

- New York's chief judge has proposed having a computer help select guardians and conservators in an effort to combat the appearance that appointments may be handed out as political favors. Under the system, each time a judge needed to make an appointment, the computer would randomly select five names from which he could choose. The chief judge would establish statewide standards for placement of names on the lists. Hackers, though, would probably bypass these standards.

Letters From All Over

Dear 2600:

I've been a subscriber to 2600 for some time now, and I enjoy the publication. You're doing a nice public service by illuminating the often neglected area of telephone technology and operations.

One way in which 2600 could do an even more interesting job is by printing a bibliography or list of references from time to time. What books, articles, and journals provide additional information about the telephone system? For example, one article covered ESS #5; there must be some articles, advertisements in trade publications, etc., that provide additional information.

I can give you a start which hopefully you and other readers can add to. Here are two books:

Notes on Long Distance Dialing, published by AT&T around 1971.

Telephone Accessories You Can Build, by J. Gilder, around 1975.

Many thanks. Keep up the fascinating work!!

Sincerely,

**Howard A. Karten
Randolph, MA**

Dear Mr. Karten:

You'll be happy to know that we've broken ground on a database for phreaker hacker required reading. Your two suggestions are the first entries. A couple of others that we were able to come up with off the tops of our heads:

The Phone Book by J. Edgar Hyde.

Notes on the Network by AT&T themselves. This one is reportedly *out of print* altogether!

Add to that *The Rise of the Computer State* by David Burnham, which we reviewed here a few months back and *The Puzzle Palace*, a fascinating work on the NSA.

We'll do our best to expand on this list, but we really need the help of our subscribers on this one. If you know of a good book or publication, send the name of it to us, or call us and tell us about it. An easy way to find material is to go to your local library and look in the card catalog under the subject: Telephone or Computer. There's bound to be something interesting nearly everywhere and if a lot of people do this, we'll have quite a list before we know it! (By the way, if you hit a card catalog, be sure to drop in your own card with our address on it so that our fame can continue to spread cheaply.)

Dear 2600:

I have been silver boxing on various directory assistances and have found that pressing a one starts a ringing. Is this just a test function or is it going somewhere?

Thanks,

**Fire Monger
Arlington, VA**

Dear Fire:

For the benefit of others, we'll briefly explain a silver box. Every touch tone® phone actually has the capacity for sixteen tones, not just twelve. A simple modification inside the phone accomplishes this. The extra tones (a vertical row to the right of the 3-6-9-# row) are labeled A-B-C-D. These tones are used primarily on Autovon, or Pa-Bell, the military phone network which can knock out civilian phone service at any time for its own purposes. (Look at the phones on the walls in *War Games*.) Such a modified phone is labeled a "silver box". But the tones don't really do all that much good to people outside the military, unless they've somehow tapped into a military phone system. This, however, is

impossible. Isn't it?

What most phreaks use silver boxes for are zapping long distance info. You would call XXX-555-1212 and then hold down the D key. The moment the information operator picks up, the D tone cuts her off and gives the caller a pulsing dial tone. Each number you hit at this point has a different effect. In some areas, hitting a 6 connects you to one end of a loop. (7 is the other end.) Another number gives you a carrier! We haven't heard of anybody who could do anything with it, though. And hitting a one usually gets a ringing somewhere. It almost always sounds exactly like the directory assistance ring for that area. We have never heard of anyone picking up on such a ring, so logic tells us that it's simply a test. If anyone knows otherwise, please let us know.

Incidentally, since it now costs 50¢ to call long distance information, silver boxing has experienced a slight lull.

Dear 2600:

In reply to October's issue *Getting Caught: Hacker's View*—I was in the reverse situation. I had turned in a close friend last spring. I was faced with a situation of turning him in or being an accomplice to fraud. Being in a spot like that, no one can make a decision to do *that* without always doubting yourself, choosing between being an accomplice or keeping a friendship is a place I wouldn't wish for my worst enemy. In dealing with the feds, one can't take everything as truth—they tell the guy who's busted one story (in hopes of making him crack) and tell the "informer" another story (in hopes of scaring them into saying things they wouldn't normally say). The people who read that in the October issue probably thought the person who turned this guy in was a rat, a fink, or a fed. What they may not realize is the other side of the story, the part where the "informer" gets cornered into telling what he knows, or sacrifice his freedom (end up in jail) if he doesn't tell. In my case, that's what happened. I was cornered and had to tell and provide evidence in order to keep my ass clean. The guy I turned in had fouled up the job and would've been caught without my telling, though him and his friends still think I'm a rat. What they may not realize is what they would've done if they were me. Would they have gone to jail to protect a friendship? Or would the friend you're protecting do the same for you if he were faced with turning you in or going to jail? The other point being that since he would've been caught anyway, I would've been subpoenaed to testify against him because he had involved me by using my property for the fraud. To tell a friend you're going to commit some fraud (or whatever) is not a crime, but using that person's property and by that, making them an accomplice, is.

Signed,

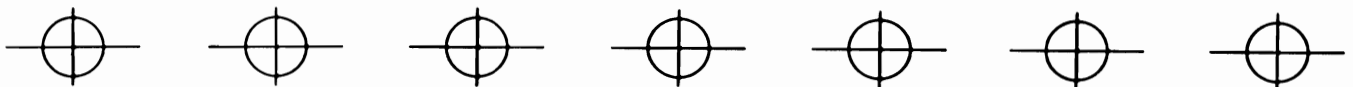
The Trojan Horse

Dear Trojan:

Thanks for writing and giving us an even more ignored side of the story. You may have opened up some eyes. Try letting your "friend" see this letter and he might realize that he wasn't the only one going through hell on a rubber raft.

Last month, we told you about the COMSEC Letter. It is no longer free. It now costs \$25. It is free, though, to members of the Communications Security Association (CSA). This is a new group for people interested in communications security. They will soon have a BBS, in addition to publications, seminars, and workshops. The dues are \$50 per year. For more info, write to CSA, 655 15th St., Suite 320, Washington, DC 20005 or call 202-639-4620.

We also found out about another magazine—Boot-Legger. It costs \$25 a year and their address is 3310 Holland Loop Road, Cave Junction, OR 97523.



For all those individuals who are willing to write or participate in the production of 2600, the following is a partial list of the types of things we would like to see, be they articles or clippings or raw data or something else. Remember, we are a community newsletter—the community being those who chance or choose to read or participate in 2600.

(articles can be in just about any format and any length. the only thing we ask is that they be reasonably legible.)

fact	fiction	transcripts	lists of #'s	computer dial-ups	bulletin boards
technical stuff	phone alterations	decoders	book reviews	software reviews	bbs reviews
sundries	govt documents	inside telco stuff	garbage	phone books	pictures
news articles	legislation	security companies	opinions	essays	japan's telco
any foreign telco	alternate telcos	big brother stuff	experiences	telco employees	viral programs
malicious hacking	malicious phreaking	social engineering	roots of telephony	switching systems	dictionary of terms
divestitures	telco policy	dial-it #'s	literature	political use of comp.	dissident use of comp.
infomania	ibm & south africa	credit card info	bank machines	cable tv	strange phones

**please do whatever you can so that 2600 will always be interesting. write to us or call us at the numbers on the front cover.
IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT IN LAST MONTH'S BLUE SURVEY CARDS, DO IT NOW!!!!!! THANKS.**

Alphabetical Listing of ICs and Carrier Identification Codes(CICs)

IC Name -----	ACNA -----	Old 2-Digit CIC -----	F.G. D 3-Digit CIC -----	F.G. B 3-Digit CIC -----
Allnet Communication Services, Inc.	ALN	44	444	044
ALTCOM Corporation	ALI	40	400	<--
Alternative Communications Company	ALT	34	234	<--
AmeriCall Systems of Louisville	ALU	06	006	<--
American Network, Inc.	PRH	53	053	<--
American Satellite Co.	ASC	56	369	<--
American Sharecom, Inc.	ASI	32	322	<--
American Telephone Exchange	ATE	50	050	<--
Argo Communications Corp.	ACC	45	456	<--
AT&T Communications	ATX	01	321	<--
Delta Communications, Inc.	DLT	30	233	<--
Eastern Telephone Systems, Inc.	ETS	54	054	<--
Express Telecom, Inc.	ETI	70	XXX	XXX
First Phone Corp.	FNE	42	442	<--
General Communication Inc.	GCN	77	077	<--
GTE SPRINT Communications	GSP	02	777	<--
HASP, Inc.	HAP	60	600	<--
Hawaiian Telephone Company	HWT	15	015	<--
Inteleplex Corporation	IPL	35	235	035
Interstate Communications, Inc.	ICI	87	087	<--
ISACOMM, Inc.	ISA	65	065	<--
Lehigh Valley Telcom, Inc.	LVT	51	051	<--
Lexitel Communications	LEX	66	666	066
Liberty Bell Communications, Inc.	LBC	76	776	<--
Long Distance Savers	LSI	36	036	<--
Long Distance Service (LDS), Inc.	LDS	84	084	<--
MCI International	MCX	13	???	<--
MCI Telecommunications Corporation	MCI	22	222	022
Mercury, Inc.	MEC	21	021	<--
Microtel, Inc.	MIC	78	789	<--
NCR Telecommunication Services Inc.	NCR	09	009	<--
Network I, Inc.	NEI	05	011	<--
Network Telecommunications	NTI	68	685	<--
Petricca Communications Systems	PEI	24	024	<--
RCI Corporation	RTC	03	211	003
Republic Telcom	RTT	26	026	<--
Satelco	SAN	80	800	<--
Satellite Business Systems	SBS	88	888	088
Schneider Communications	SCH	58	500	<--
Sears Communications Company	ALC	75	755	<--
Sorenson Telecommunications Company	STM	86	950	<--
Starnet Corporation	SNC	23	999	<--
TelaMarketing Communications, Inc.	TAM	07	007	<--
Telecom Systems, Inc.	TSS	89	889	<--
Telecommunications Systems, Inc.	TSI	52	852	<--
TeleDial America	TED	41	040	<--
Telesaver	TSR	28	221	<--

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2-digit CIC is the XX portion of 950-10XX.
3 digit CIC (F.G. B) is the XXX portion of 950-1XXX.
3 digit CIC (F.G. D) is the XXX portion of 10XXX access code for areas that are equipped for equal access.
EXAMPLE: Intelplex is currently reachable on 2-digit CIC at 950-1035. Under 3-digit CIC (F.G. B), they are still reachable at 950-1035. In areas equipped for equal access, the caller would simply dial 10235 to be connected to Intelplex.

Alphabetical Listing of ICs and Carrier Identification Codes(CICs)

IC Name	ACNA	Old 2-Digit CIC	F.G. D 3-Digit CIC	F.G. B 3-Digit CIC
Telesphere Network, Inc.	TEN	55	555	<--
Teltec Savings Communications Company	TET	31	031	<--
Total-Tel USA, Inc.	TTU	08	081	<--
Transcall America, Inc.	TRS	82	824	082
TRT Telecommunications Corporation	TRT	12	120	<--
U.S. Telephone, Inc.	UTC	33	333	033
United States Transmission Systems, Inc.	UST	25	488	<--
Universal Network Communications Co.	UUL	04	004	<--
WestTel, Inc.	WES	85	085	<--
Western Union Telegraph Company	WUT	20	220	<--

prepared by: Numbering/Dialing Planning Group, Bellcore - Network Planning
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BOY DO WE LOVE THESE PEOPLE

The folks at 2600 received this letter over a month ago. Naturally, we were intrigued by the idea of somebody publishing MCI Mail records! Had someone figured out a way to crack the system? We tried to reach this David Boyd fellow but were very unsuccessful. Instead we wound up talking to a surly individual who told us that he was unable to turn our account back on because he had no credit record on us. He asked us *all kinds* of questions and we seemed to convince him that we were legitimate. After 47 unreturned phone calls, he finally got back to us and said he was reactivating our account.

What's hard to understand here is why MCI Mail had to pull this crap about our password being published, when obviously nothing of the sort had occurred. We received many calls this month from "non-legitimate" subscribers who had gotten the very same letter. While we can see MCI Mail's concern about abused accounts (which was their own stupid fault; they made it so damn easy—see page 1-38), we can't understand why they tried to go after us—we weren't ripping them off at all. While it's impossible to get solid proof, all evidence points to the fact that they didn't like the *content* of the messages we were getting, meaning that they browse through their subscribers' mail, to make sure they're talking about the right things.

As of this printing, the account is still inactive. We're sorry about all the mail that is continuing to pile up in there, but there's nothing at all we can do. Perhaps a few complaints/threats are in order from our many customers.

Dear Customer:

It has been brought to our attention that your password and username have been published. Because unauthorized users could therefore charge usage to your account, we are temporarily inactivating it for your protection.

Please call us at 800-424-6677 to register for a new password and username. Any messages in your inactivated account will be available under your new account.

During registration, you will be asked to provide a credit card number (AMEX, VISA or Mastercard) and your SSN. These numbers will be used for credit check purposes only.

We regret any inconvenience this may have caused, but hope you will appreciate our concern for the protection of your MCI Mail account.

Sincerely,

David Boyd

David Boyd