

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

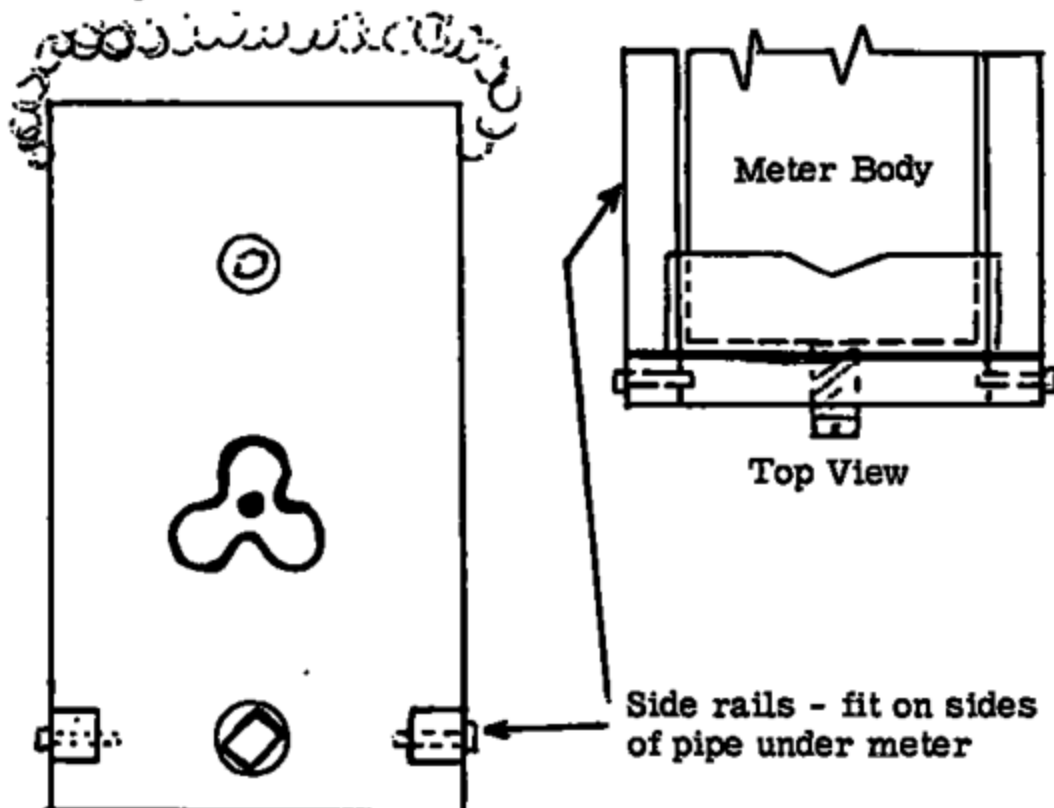
by Jim Phelps, with technical info by Alexander Mundy

Twass 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

Meter Body

Top View

Side rails - fit on sides
of pipe under meter

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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WHEN THE SHIT HITS THE FAN!

by **TOM EDISON**

All right TAPPERS, the shit has hit the fan! It's time we clear the air about TAP. When we first opened up our office, it was our expectation that NYC area readers would come to the TAP office to exchange information and help us to put out issues. While there have been a number of regular "irregulars" who have helped, by and large, the volunteer help at TAP has been pretty piss poor. As a result, Mr. Phelps and myself have had to assume complete editorial responsibilities. You old time subscribers will remember that TAP was published irregularly, sometimes as much as six months between issues, and the mail answering can best be described as slower than whale shit!

When the office opened in August 1975, we spent the first two months just trying to get rid of the huge mound of mail that was piled high on our desk. By the end of September, we not only had all of the mail answered but had managed to put out the October issue of TAP. And for a whole year afterward we came out with an issue a month. The mail was also answered as fast as it came in. Not bad for two people who have full time outside jobs! And while I'm on the subject, let me just remind you that we are at the TAP office ONLY on Wednesdays from 4-7 PM. The mail is processed ONLY on Wednesdays.

Yes, dear NYC readers. It would have been so nice if you would have responded to our many pleas for help. We could have had a whole arsenal of resident experts who would have written some fantastic articles and columns. But you didn't, so tough shit! You had your chance and you blew it!

Since Mr. Phelps and I are now forced to do all the work, we are making a few new policy changes. Effective immediately:

1. TAP will no longer be published regularly. We will print when Mr. Phelps & I damn well please to print!
2. Two issues will be mailed at one time. Bulk subscribers will have their two issues stapled together. First class subscribers will have their two issues in the envelope as usual. This will mean you will have a longer wait between issues. TOUGH!!!
3. All info requests MUST be accompanied by a self addressed stamped envelope. If we have the info, you'll get it. If we don't, we'll return your envelope with either a note stating that we don't have the info or a note telling you where you might find what you're looking for. Be REASONABLE with your info requests. Some of you seem to feel that we're a branch of AT&T and have access to all kinds of TELCO info! We rely heavily on reader supplied info and if you send us nothing, you get nothing in return. We don't print our "We Need Info On" column for the hell of it! Anyone who reads our info requests, has the requested info, and does not sent it to us can KISS MY ASS!!!
4. ALL subscription renewals MUST be accompanied by either your mailing label or a photo-copy of it. For YOUR security, we do NOT keep a copy of our mailing list at the office. If you send in your mailing label with your renewal, I can process your renewal immediately and then destroy the label. If you dummies insist on renewing without your mailing labels, your name and address will probably be kicked around the office for quite a while before processing. I am now personally handling all new subs and renewals and if you renew without a mailing label, don't bitch to me later on about your fucked up renewal. I don't wanna hear it!
5. Some of you cheap fuckers are sending us rubber checks that are bouncing higher than the Twin Towers so from now on ALL personal checks MUST clear your bank before we process your order. This could result in a delay of a few months so if you want immediate action on your order, please send either a money order or a cashier's check.
6. And finally a note to all our readers who sent us "Love" letters demanding to know where the hell their issues of TAP were. We did not run off to Argentina with your damn lousy \$4 sub! We're overworked and understaffed and we have made the mistake of spoiling you by publishing an issue a month for the past year. You expect too much from two people!

As I stated in my last "UP YOURS" column, I welcome columns and articles by readers. This issue we have articles by Joe Greyhound of New Jersey and Ted Vail of Illinois. I would appreciate it if you would let us know your opinions on these two new writers. If you would like to write an article or column for TAP, let us hear from you. If you do submit an article, please write legibly. We will edit and correct if necessary and then return it to you for final typing. All articles submitted become the property of TAP and cannot be returned. Address all opinions, articles, and columns to TAP c/o Tom Edison, Room 418, 152 West 42nd Street, N. Y. 10036.

THE BIG BUST by TED VAIL

The Big Bust is yours. Let's face it, sooner or later you're going to be busted, especially if you carelessly engage in illegal activities, so plan ahead.

If you are even considering an illegal act with a trustworthy friend, get airtight alibis and practice them. I've assumed that you've got accomplices, because a solo crime, without even one "stooge" (lookout) is rather difficult. Make alibis as independent of your friends' agreement with them as possible. "I was with him" is shit if he breaks down.

Practice. You cannot get good at BSing a pig unless you practice. One of you play piggy, and one of you play good guy. An important thing to practice, so you'll remember when the time comes, is to keep your cool under pressure. DON'T get scared and blab.

Organize your group so that no one knows any more than is necessary about anyone or anything else. In military circles this is called a "need to know".

Try always to appear fairly "straight" in front of the authorities. Dress neatly. If you are in school, try hard to get good grades, at least a B minus average. You cannot imagine how much this helps. In addition to the usual benefits associated with grades by teachers, etc. (which are true) there are other benefits: for instance, insurance rates are usually about 35 percent lower for B average students as they assume that good students don't have the time to goof off. The police and other authorities have an identical attitude. If you are employed, work good and hard. Not only does this make you more money and a good reputation, it advances you in the company. A company, especially a big, important one, will try to help you out of trouble if you are a good, conscientious employee, especially if you are in a high, important position. This will also reduce the risk of them firing you if you are busted. Look at Crunch's case, on page 1 of issue 39.

Once you get away with a crime, especially ripping off something, you are temporarily home free, for about 2 weeks, so make full use of this "cool" period. Don't trust anyone, especially your accomplices (as few as possible!) because they, having most intimate knowledge of your crime, can give the most damaging testimony.

If you have to hide stolen goods, avoid not only your home but any place that could be traceable to you.

If they ask you in for questioning, not arrest, be politely cooperative and tell them a lot. Yes, a lot about how honest you and anyone else they specifically ask about are, how you never do anything suspicious, how above-board your activities are, etc. Give as convincing and sincere sounding a story as possible. Sound indignant. Don't hedge.

If you are arrested, be quietly polite. Exercise your rights! Shut up! Talk only to a lawyer, and only under confidential conditions. The conference room is more likely than not bugged. DO NOT help the police in any way in an arrest.

Don't permit a search to get yourself temporarily released. (They might find something illegal which is totally unrelated to your crime.) Force them to get a warrant and get a copy of the warrant. This wastes their time, and contributes to a possible false arrest suit.

NEVER EVER inform on a friend, even if he signs sworn evidence against you! Personal scores can be settled later, heh, heh, and never forget that the police are trying to get you tied off at each other. They are the main enemy, not your (ex) friend. If the police find nothing to support an accusation, it makes the accuser(s) look like total jerks. This is an excellent form of quick retribution, and depending on the amount of money that you (and they) have, it could lead to a lawsuit for slander or something. Personally, I would be glad to be accused, falsely or otherwise, if I stood to gain \$5,000 above and beyond court costs. If you have successfully maintained the respectable image described earlier, the judge will be easily (cheaply) convinced that your reputation was seriously damaged. Of course, it helps to get a "not guilty" ruling in the criminal case.

CB BULL by Joe Greyhound



All Right!!! What's all the rockets and shit for? It's to celebrate the start of another fuckin year of TAP. WHAT?? That's no reason for rockets ya say? Well it's also to celebrate the beginning. I hope it ain't the end, of a new column. Who wants to buy a fuckin TAP when they got nothin 'bout CBs in it. THAT'S RIGHT, YOU GUESSED IT! All the shit on top is to get your attention, so you fuckin fone freaks'll read this new CB column.

In this column we're gonna tell you freaks, meter muffers, gas gofers, and, there gotta be CBers that read this shit, how to modify your CBs, and do other things dealing with CBs.

First off, we're gonna show ya how to put 22A in your sets. But lemme tell ya now. 22A is a cool channel and if you wanna mess around and goof off on a CB, DON'T DO IT ON 22A!!!! @?/?/?/?//, that means SHIT. 22A is mainly for CBers who want some good skip conditions. IF you're in my area and are goof'in off on 22A, I'll shove your CB up your ass. SO REMEMBER, DON'T MESS UP 22A!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

IN ALL CRYSTAL SETS, that have from between 23 and 46 crystals inside, 22A can be put in by buying a 27.235MHz crystal, and putting it in the 22A slot in your set.

IN ALL SYNTHESISED SETS, 22A is shorted out, since it is illegal to transmit on it. This is done mostly by cutting out parts of the wafer switch so contact isn't made on 22A. Sometimes just filling in these cuts with solder or a piece of thin copper sheet will give you 22A. If not, try the procedure below.

To put 22A in SYNTHESISED SETS ONLY you'll need some solid insulated wire, telephone wire works fine, a soldering iron, some good electronics solder, and a 4 pole double throw switch (4PDT).

Open your set and find the main crystal that's used for channels 1,2,3, and 4, and the crystal used for channels 21,22, shorted out 22A, and 23. After you've found them, unsolder'em, remember where they go, and put them aside. Know where you want the switch coming out of your set so you can cut the wires to the correct length. Cut 8 pieces of wire to this length and strip about 2/16 of an inch of insulation off one end and about 1/4" off the other. DO THIS TO ALL 8 WIRES! Put the wires aside.

Check the switch in fig.2 for the pin #s and read on. Solder one crystal to pins 5 and 6. Solder the other crystal to pins 7 and 8. If the crystals won't fit, use short pieces of wire. Next solder the 8 wires, one to each of the remaining pins. Join the following wires together as shown in fig.3.

Wires 1&11-2&12-9&3-10&4. OK, so far so good. Now solder the two sets of wires 9&3 - 10&4 to the holes in one of the empty crystal sockets of the set. In case you're a moron, ONE SET OF WIRES TO ONE HOLE OF THE SOCKET. Now solder wires 1&11 - 2&12 to the other empty socket like in Fig.3-4. Next mount the switch where you want it. Put the cover back and THAT'S ITTTTTTTT....!!!!!!

Flipping the switch will reverse the crystals. This will give you 22A when you flip the switch and the channel selector is on channel 3 and 3 only.

There is only so much one person can know. To make this column a success I need more info on CBs. So all you CBers send in info and column comments to: Joe Greyhound c/o TAP, 152 W. 42 ST, ROOM 418, NY 10036

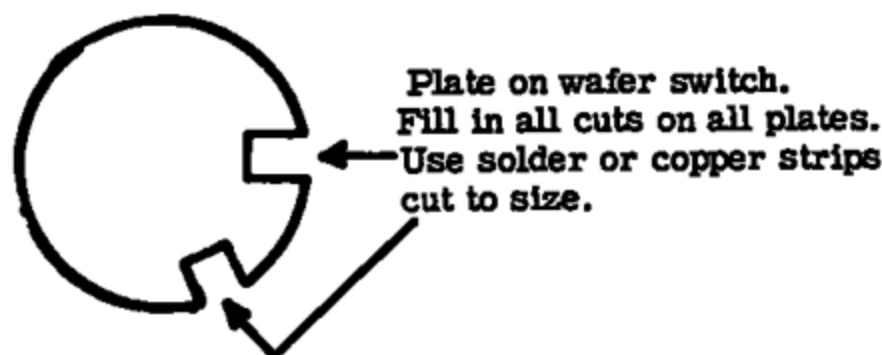


FIG. 1

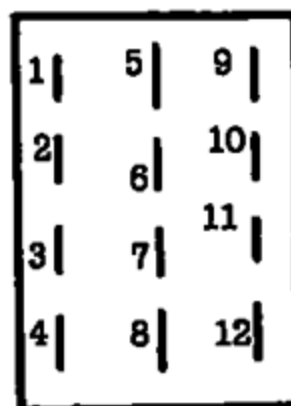


FIG. 2

Bottom of 4PDT switch showing numbered pins.

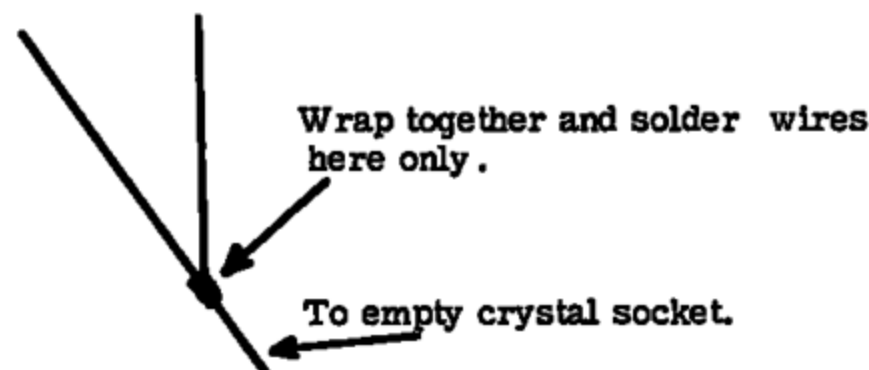


FIG. 3

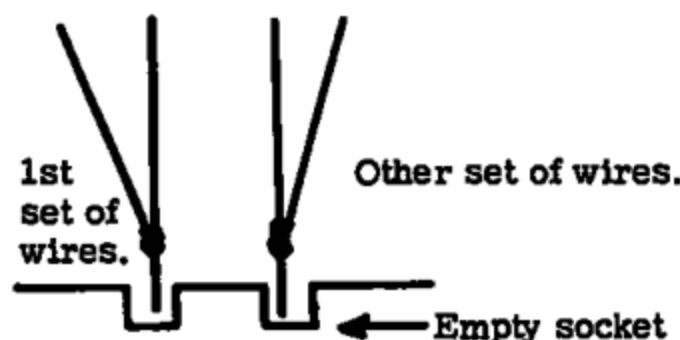


FIG. 4

Please excuse the typos that inevitably result when various people do the typing. I realize, of course, that I am thwarting Mr. Phelps in his ongoing and neverending search for the "PERFECT" issue of TAP, but I personally am more interested in content than correctness and I think you are too.

Telephone Company's Wacky Rules for Making A Call—86 Years Ago

"Onion eaters must stand at least 4 feet away from the phone when calling."
That was one of the main rules laid down by the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co. in 1890. In a list of rules to its subscribers, the phone company announced:

- "You are prohibited from using words longer than 12 syllables when calling (you could break our lines)."
- "Swearing is forbidden!"
- "Don't use our wires as a clothesline!"
- "The company will not correct grammatical errors made in transmission."

WE'RE NOT THE FIRST ANYMORE!

The first publication to publish the 1977 Credit Card Code was Outlaws!, c/o Yippies!, 1007 K St NW, Wash, DC. For all you folks who been a writin' in askin' fer it, here it is:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
L	P	W	R	V	Z	H	A	Q	M

LETTER MATCHES (7th) SEVENTH DIGIT

Hil

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 in 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 KE and interested in contributing to any electronic countermeasures projects you may have in mind. My specialty is logic design. How about publishing ideas for counter-culture (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.

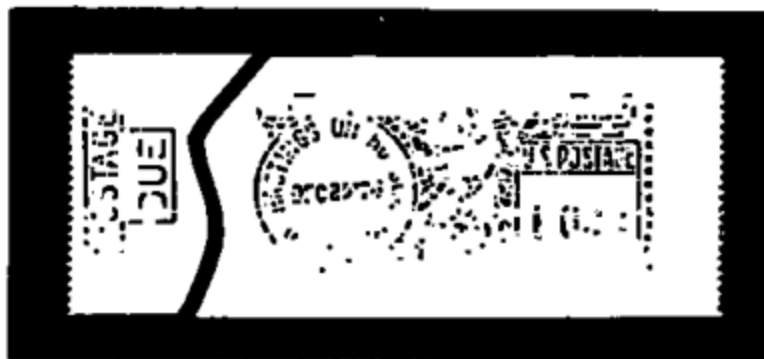
He also said that because inmates' mail goes out of the prison sealed, it was impossible to determine whether the plate had actually been used to make counterfeit food stamps.

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