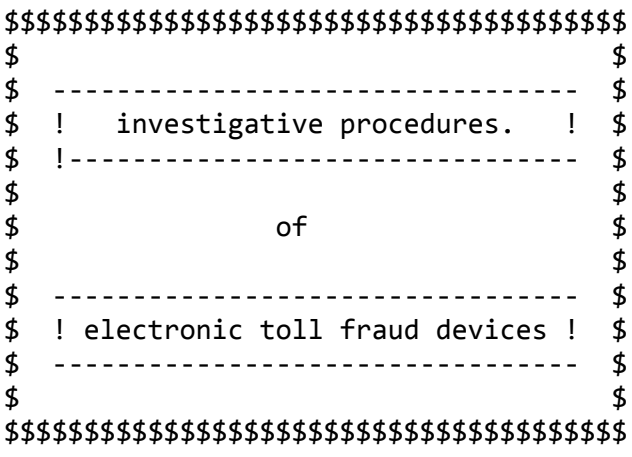

investigative procedures
---------- ----------

this section reviews the investiga tive procedures used by the security department of ma bell.

most of the discussion will concern blue box investigations because of the frequency of the blue box cases referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution.

the security department may initially discover evidence of etf activity. This may result from an analysis of calling patterns to particular numbers. Such analyses may reveal abnormal calling patterns which possibly are the result of etf activity
. Moreover, cases of suspected etf are referred to the security department from the various operating departments of bell, from other telephone companies , or from law enforcement officials. In some instances, detection and indenti- fication of a calling station origin- ating suspected blue box tones can be provided by use of a special non- monitoring test equipment.

if initial indications are that there is a substantial possibility that a blue box is being used on a particular line, the security department determines certain information about the line. The name of the subscriber to that line is identified, and an inventory is made of the line and station equipment being provided to him. A discreet background investigation (record) is conducted to establish the subscriber's identity. after this preliminary data is gathered , etf detection units are installed on the suspected line to establish "probable cause" for further investigation. If the "probable cause" equipment indicates repeated etf activity on the line, other equipment is then installed to document such activity.

the "probable cause" equipment ascertains the presence of multi-frequency tones on the subscribers end of the line which would not be present in normal usage. The "probable cause" device now being used by some bell central offices register each and every application of 2600hz tones in single-frequency (sf) signalling and/ or 2600hz tone followed by kp tones used in multi-frequency (mf) signalling . As previously stated, such tones should not normally be present on the line.

if "probable cause" is established, other detection, indentification and documentation equipment is installed. the primary equipment now being used is the dialed number recorder (dnr), coupled with an auxillary tape recorder. The dnr is activated when the suspect subscriber's phone goes "off-hook" andb prints on paper tape the following information concerning

the call: the date and time of the call
and the digits dialed over the suspects
line. Moreover, the dnr records on the
paper tape an indicator of the presence
of 2600hz tones on the line and the
presence of multi-frequency signalling
tones on the subscriber's line. The
auxiliary tape recorder is activated
only after the presence of 2600hz
tone on the line is detected by the dnr
(indicating the use of a blue box)
. Once the tape recorder is activated,
it records the tones being emitted by
the blue box, other signalling tones,
and the ringing cycle on the called end
. It also records a minimum amount of
ensuing conversation for the purpose of
(1) establishing that the fraudulent
call was consummated
(2) establishing the identity of the
fraudulent caller. The timing duration
of the tape recorder is pre-set. A time
of one-minute (including pulsing,
ringing and conversation) is the stand
ard setting; however, if the blue box
user is suspected of making overseas
calls, the timing may be set for 2
minutes because of the greater time
required by the blue box user to
complete the call. Upon termination of
the call, the dnr automatically prints
the time of termination and the date.
it should be pointed out that the
presence of 2600hz tones *plus* multi-
frequncy signalling tones on a
subscriber's line positively estab-
lishes that a blue box is being used to
place a fraudulent call because such
tones are not normally originated from
a subscribers line.

once the raw data described above is
gathered, the security department
collects and formulates the data into
legally admissable evidence of criminal
activity. Such evidence will establish:
(1) that a fraudulent call was placed
by means of an etf device,

(2) that conversation ensued,
(3) that the fraudulent call was placed
by an identified individual, and(4)
that such call was not billed to the
subscriber number from which the blue
box call originated. The evidence which
is then available consists of documents
and also of expert witness testimony by
telephone company personnel concerning
the contents of those documents, the
oper-
ation of the blue box, and the oper-
ation of the detection equipment.
(note- similar techniques are used in
the investigation of other forms of
etf.)

-=-

presentation of evidence to prosecutors
------------ -- -------- -- -----------

the evidence accumulated by the
security department is carefully review
ed by the legal department for the
purpose of determining whether suff-
icient evidence exists to warrent the
presentation of the evidence to law
enforcement officials. If the evidence
does warrent such action, it is pres-
ented under appropriate circumstances
to the proper law enforcement officials
. In all cases where prosecution is
recommended, a professionally invest-
igated and documented summary of the
case will be preparted and presented by
the security department to the
prosecutor's office. Each case
recommended for prosecution will be
prepared as completely as possible,
usually necessitating little or no
pre-trial investigation for the
prosecutor. The summary of the case
will include the following:

(a) a background of the case with
details of the defendant's activities

and a summary of all pertinent investigative steps and interviews conducted in the course of the investigation.
(b) identification of witnesses.

(c) synopsis of pertinent points to which each witness can testify.
(d) description of all documents and items of evidence and the suggested order of proof showing the chronology of events. The physical evidence presented will normally consist of one or more of the following: magnetic tapes from the auxilairy tape recorder, paper tapes from the dnr, worksheets and notes prepared in connection with the analysis of each fraudulent call, the suspect's toll billing records covering the period during which the fraudulent activity occured, computer printouts which established probably cause or a statement of the source of the "probable cause", and the telephone company records of equipment being provided to the suspect.

(e) upon request, the law applicable to the case.

other pertinent company records will be furnished under subpoena or demand of lawful authority. If an arrest or search warrent is sought, the security representitives will cooperate fully and furnish affidavits required to support the application for the warrents, nevertheless, upon request, such representatives will accompany the executing officers to assist in the identification of any suspected etf equipment found. The security representitive will also be available to suggest pertinent areas for interrogation of the persons suspected of engaging in the fraudulent activity.

(i hope that this will help most of you
who blue box and who commit other
various electronic toll fraud crimes to
avoid detection of using a dtf. Also it
would seem that they could get almost
no proof if you went to pay phones
instead of at your home.)