chapter two: Electronics, Sabotage, and Surveillance

Figure 11. Eavesdropper.

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing Government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it.

Abraham Lincoln

This chapter is designed to explain and discuss an aspect of revolution that for the most part everyone has forgotten —that being its constructive elements, rather than the blind "window-smashing" nihilism that everyone is accustomed to. This chapter deals with strategy and tactics. A revolution, to be successful, must be a balance between passion and practicality. Revolution must employ the maximum amount of planning and the minimum amount of violence and destruction. Riots, street violence, and demonstrations have little place in a real insurrection. It is much harder to create than to destroy, and a revolution must be created.

This chapter does not in any way deal with symbolic protest. I detest symbolic protest, as it is an outcry of weak, middle-of-the-road, liberal eunuchs. If an individual feels strongly enough about something to do something about it, then he shouldn't prostitute himself by doing something symbolic. He should get out and do something real. The age of demonstrations is over, or at least I hope it's over. It lasted much too long as it was. Three years ago the Provos in Holland realized this and completely changed their tactics. They moved from the realm of peaceful demonstrations to that of guerrilla theater, which included rolling ball bearings at mounted police; letting several thousand mice, with hammers and sickles painted on their backs, loose at the Queen's birthday party; and threatening to pollute Amsterdam's water supply with LSD, which happened to be legal at the time. Such measures are not revolutionary in themselves, but the reaction of the military and police to these actions causes a growth of revolutionary feeling.

In Prague, during the Russian takeover, there were a multitude of underground stations ready to broadcast, there was a completely organized revolutionary press, and many a cellar was converted into a factory to manufacture Molotov cocktails and other weapons. Now the question comes up: Why is the United States so far behind these countries? Or, to phrase it another way: Why are American anarchists and revolutionaries more intent on burning flags and draft cards, than on employing constructive nonsymbolic tactics, which are directed at positive change. I guess one of the answers, or maybe part of the answer, is the myth of the difficulties in running a government. This idea that running a representative government is difficult is bullshit. I agree it becomes difficult when conflicts of interest appear on the scene, but otherwise it's as simple as running anything else. American youth is frightened of the responsibility of building a new government, frightened of themselves, and frightened most of all by their own potential actions.

A friend of mine has often said that, when the youth in the South feels threatened by the government, then the revolution will really be under way. I have come to believe him, because in the South there is a great deal more feeling toward the community. In other words, the union of the rural community has not broken down, as it has in the North. In the North the young so-called revolutionaries are fighting for ideals, rather than realistic goals. A revolution was never fought, throughout history, for ideals. Revolutions were fought for much more concrete things: food, clothes, housing, and to relieve intolerable oppression. The real duty of a revolutionary is to create and expose intolerable oppression. The rural South, when it feels that these things are in peril, will react quickly and violently, as they will be fighting for their communities, just like the Black Panthers and Young Lords are fighting for their communities. The so-called "revolutionary" students in the colleges and universities are fighting for abstract ideals. I know of no one, outside of Patrick Henry, willing to die for an abstraction.

The way inflation is rising, and the manner in which the president and congress are handling it, can all but insure a major depression in the near future. This economic disaster will act as a unifying factor, in the sense that those same longshoremen and union personnel who are so alienated from the youth of today will find themselves fighting right next to youth for their very survival. The Black Plague in London was ended by the Fire of London.

Several groups are already attempting to cultivate bonds with unions, by supporting strikes and marching on picket lines. The only problem with these groups is that they don't understand that they will never get the support of the working class while they are shouting Marxist dogma and rhetoric.

In the last few months the newspapers have been full of news about the army and G.I.s' civil liberties. It never occurred to the newspapers that some of these men went into the army with a single purpose: to create an atmosphere which would invite mutiny and rebellion. The Bolsheviks did exactly the same thing in 1914 and 1915, for the easiest way to form a liberation army is to use someone else's, especially if it belongs to your enemy. Many bases have created underground newspapers and broadsides which show a relatively large degree of freedom of speech.

Many violent and nonviolent outside groups have already formed underground railroads to help resisters and deserters into safe countries. Because of an ingrained fear of standing up by oneself, it is obvious that, as the movement grows, so will the desirability of joining the movement, and its chances for success.

The government, with the army's help, of course, has fertilized the development of one of the largest undergrounds, in Viet Nam, simply by its oppressive laws regarding the use of marihuana. This oppressive act in itself has unified more servicemen than probably all the other acts of oppression put together. A government creates its own revolution. There can be no revolt without it.

> Freedom is not a commodity which is "given" to the enslaved upon demand. It is a precious reward, the shining trophy of struggle and sacrifice.
>
> Kwame Nkrumah, *I speak of Freedom*

Electronic bugging devices

One of the largest problems with any name that sounds the least bit technical is that it frightens people to death, and they steer completely clear of what they do not understand. The field of electronic eavesdropping is the simplest and one of the cheapest methods of espionage available to the movement at this point.

Any underground movement or truly revolutionary group must keep up with the technology of the times. It is useless to fight a battle with sticks and stones. There have been claims that World War III will not be fought with atomic weapons, but rather by computers millions of miles apart: The machine that blows its fuse first, loses. Electronics play a huge role in the American life style today and will play a tremendous part in any type of insurrection that is to take place.

It seems strange that private industry and practically all the governmental agencies (not only the FBI and CIA) have been employing these tiny devices for years with fantastic success, without the individuals in the underground getting hip to the fact that they could also be used against these corporations and agencies with the same degree of success. Information is a large part of any movement, as without it groups are literally stumbling around in the dark, and whatever is accomplished is pure luck.

When the time comes that the movement needs equipment and the urban struggle really takes shape, then the most obvious place to get this equipment is from the enemy. An electronic bug planted today will deliver the necessary information, when the time arrives. The location of the enemy is an extremely important thing to know, as the time will come when an entire army regiment will sweep through a community, and remove many so-called suspects for "questioning and detainment." Just as with Auschwitz, the army will provide liberal lawyers, who will become safely indignant, and scream, "I'll get this situation straightened out, just as soon as I can find out who's in charge."

Any kind of sabotage or ambush activity will be absolutely pointless without some sort of information as to the enemy's action and movement. This cannot be seen today as clearly as it will be seen in the future, as the newspapers are still allowed a token degree of freedom.

> Much to our surprise, we found that a large number of Federal agencies used wiretapping despite Federal laws, State laws, and agency regulations.
>
> . . . There are miniature microphones, some smaller than a thin dime. They can be hidden in any variety of ways. There are microphones that can be attached to a spike, and driven through the wall of one apartment to the plaster wall of the next. There are tube mikes which are built into the walls of a building when it is constructed. These gadgets are widely used by private detectives and industrial and labor spies. Surprising as it may seem, *they are in no way illegal under federal law.*
>
> . . . Bugging conference rooms where taxpayers are interviewed, often with their attorneys, is another trick employed by the Internal Revenue Service to catch suspected tax cheats.
>
> Senator Edward V. Long, February 2, 1966

There are several types of electronic eavesdropping or bugging devices, and I will handle each in turn. The most common form of bug is wiretapping or the monitoring of phone conversations. This is the simplest thing for any governmental agency to do, as in most cases it only takes one phone call and the officials receive complete cooperation from the phone company itself. This is a warning to all those who rap a lot over the phone; *no one is so small as not to be noticed.* If what you have to say over the phone

cannot be said to a cop, better keep it to yourself.

On June 17, 1966, State Senator Mario Umana of Massachusetts, Chairman of the Massachusetts Commission on Electronic Eavesdropping Devices, told a committee on eavesdropping that the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company was running a system with which it monitored *every* telephone line in Boston over a period of more than a year.

All this may seem very complicated and technical, but in reality bugging a telephone is so simple that many schoolboys do it illegally as a joke on their parents or friends. There are many recipes for homemade phone taps, but most of these are not really effective, and store-bought products are much more efficient and very cheap.

The easiest way to install a tap is to connect a second extension to an already-present phone. This is a very primitive and outdated method today, as when you pick up the receiver there will be a click, and the phone company will register an overload on that account. A simple way to get around this is to buy a "byphone," which will allow you to listen to the phone conversation without picking up the receiver and overloading the phone line. Byphones are sold at Continental Telephone Supply for about $10. This device is installed by placing it in the slot behind any standard desk phone, and listening to the conversation by use of the earphone. It is not necessary to lift the arm of the extension phone. (See Figure 12.)

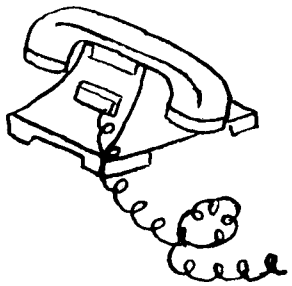

Figure 12. The byphone.

Maybe even simpler than the last tap is the induction-pickup method for monitoring phone conversations. An inductive pickup is nothing more than a household nail wrapped with tightly coiled wire and placed alongside the telephone lines. This homemade method can be effective, but, as with the first method, I strongly recommend a store-bought device. They usually run about $3 to $5. Most are simply connected to the bottom of the phone, with the wire leading from the pickup to your headset well concealed, either in the woodwork or some equally unobtrusive place.

In this same class of induction-pickup probes is what is called the "sucker." This is nothing more than an induction-pickup probe in the form of a suction cup, which can be attached to any spot on the phone. The sucker is ideal for recording messages, as it can be hooked up directly with a tape recorder. The "suckers" sell for as little as 88 cents through certain mail-order firms listed at the end of the chapter.

The actual wiretapping, that is in the news so much, is really as simple as the bugs just mentioned, but it is a little more expensive. The "black box" is a line locator which enables a person to clip the lines he is interested in and, through a transformer, listen to or record the desired conversation. The best location for use of "black boxes" is at the telephone junction itself, but they can also be used anywhere along the phone line. Most individuals who employ these boxes usually make their own, as often they are nothing more than a transformer, alligator clips, and a set of headphones, but you can purchase them from R & S Research, Inc., Houston, Texas, for about $35.

The next form of telephone bug is the line transmitter, which transmits, by way of radio waves, the phone conversation you wish to listen to. The great advantage to this is that the person doing the tapping never has to enter the premises or tamper with the phone. Also, with its tiny size, it can be concealed almost anywhere along the phone line without too much difficulty. Most of these devices work on standard FM bands, and they broadcast anywhere from 200 feet to a quarter of a mile. I can think of few things as funny or irritating to the police department as finding out that their own phones were tapped and all their conversations were being broadcast over an entire community. These little telephone radio line transmitters can be bought from several mail order houses for $45 to $60, or the plans can be purchased for $2.98 from Tri-Tron, Dallas, Texas.

These are basically the cheapest and most efficient bugs, although there are many more sophisticated devices that do all sorts of incredible things. If you're rich and have a little knowledge of electronics, then the whole field of bugging is wide open for you, as all the major electronics companies are selling ready-made bugs that can be installed in seconds. One of the most popular of these ready-made bugs looks exactly like the transmitter in a regular phone. It can be installed in less than ten seconds, as the device

simply replaces the phone company's transmitter. These little mechanisms are so good that, in a lot of instances, they have even fooled the phone company. They run about $200 and are available from either Tri-Tron of Texas or from Continental Telephone in New York.

For the real dodos, pre-bugged telephones are available. The installation is nothing more than unplugging the old phone and replacing it with the new pre-bugged one. (Many professional phone tappers pose as telephone repair men.) These pre-bugged phones are sold mainly through mail order houses and run about $250.

The most sophisticated bug I have found available to the general public—and who the hell knows what the government has?—is what is called "The Infinity Transmitter." This is a device that allows the individual to dial any number, regardless of distance, and, through an electronic tone oscillator, deactivate the ring, thereby allowing the tapper to hear anything within earshot of the phone without the instrument being taken off the hook. These little wonders of our age sell for about $1,000, but I think some companies offer a discount.

What is really ironic is that people are only slowly realizing that telephone tapping is actually going on. I have spoken to some people who have just recently been busted for drugs, and they are genuinely confused. They just seem unable to understand why the cops chose their apartment to raid. If you deal dope on the phone and live in an area like Harlem or the Lower East Side, you're a fool and you deserve to get busted.

When I was living on St. Mark's Place with a friend, we had a feeling our phone was tapped, but had no proof until one day when my friend went to make a phone call. Somehow those mechanical geniuses had screwed up the tap, and we had a direct line to the desk sergeant at the 9th precinct. Needless to say, it caused many hours of amusement.

In the same class as telephone taps, and probably more dangerous, are the undercover cops and FBI men who infiltrate activist groups. It's really getting to the point where you don't know whom to trust. One point about an undercover cop in New York City, which does not apply to FBI men, is that most of them have beards but short hair. This is because the plain-clothes man is often transferred around the city and, if he managed to grow long hair, how would it look in Queens? On the other hand, FBI men are usually on the job for much longer periods of time and are able more fully to don their disguises. If you think you know a plain-clothes cop, do yourself a favor and stay clear of him and warn your friends about him. If you've got the guts, you can have a great deal of fun, since you know he's a pig, but he doesn't know that you know. The *East Village Other, The Rat,* and *The Berkeley Tribe* have all been very good over a period of time, in publishing pictures of undercover cops.

During the revolution in Ireland, the British used a very brutal and cruel form of terrorism to subdue the population. Although the idea of terrorism revolted the Irish Republican Army, they resorted to it as a last measure against the British, and it worked. There was an understanding in the Irish Republican Army that for every farmer who was killed by the British, two English civilians would die. For every farmhouse burned to the ground by the British, two Loyalists' houses would be burned. The British decided to stop their terrorist tactics.

The same type of terrorism is being practiced in every ghetto of this country today, and it is my firm belief that the only way to stop it is to show everyone what terrorism is all about, and that two can play at the same game.

Microphones

The choice of microphones for eavesdropping is an interesting one, as many different types are made, and certain ones will not be as effective as others. The microphone must be small enough to be hidden easily, and at the same time powerful enough to pick up whispers at 20 feet. These microphones can then be rigged up to voice-activated tape recorders, basic audio amplifiers, or any radio frequency transmitter.

There are several basic types of microphones, and all have disadvantages. Try to stay away from listening devices that depend on batteries for their power supply, as nearly always the batteries will die out at the important moment in the conversation. Probably the most important rule for bugging or telephone tapping is not to try to retrieve the bug after it is placed, as more buggers get caught this way than any other. Many professional tappers and buggers have learned that using two microphones instead of one is a good safeguard against one failing, but at the same time it increases the chances of someone discovering it.

The first and probably most common type of microphone is what is called the "carbon" button. These contain fine granules of carbon between thin plates of the dia-

phragm; as the sound strikes the diaphragm, this in turn compresses and decompresses the carbon, thus regulating the amounts of electricity passing through it (See Figure 13). These carbon buttons are used in telephones and in many microphones for cheaper tape recorders. There are a few disadvantages to this type of microphone; carbon buttons are not sensitive enough to pick up sounds over 15 feet away. They also require large amounts of power.

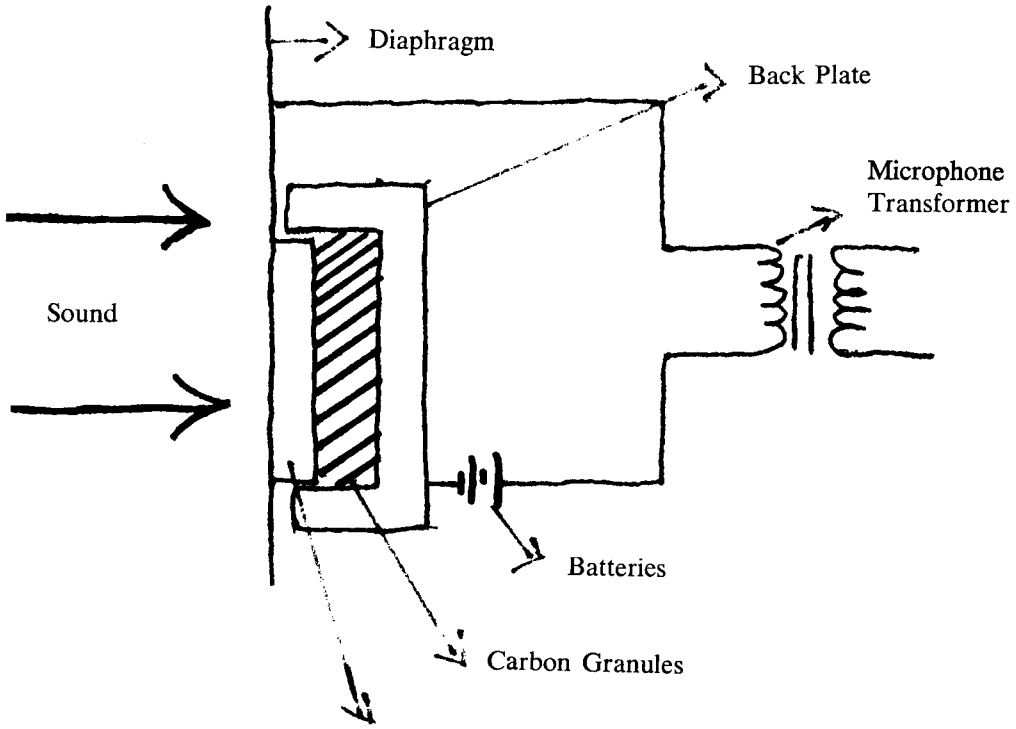

Figure 13. The carbon button.

The second type of microphone device is called the Crystal Microphone, because it employs the use of certain crystals. This is a good type of microphone because it does not need external voltage, as the crystal when subjected to pressure creates its own voltage. They are also pretty sensitive, but should be hooked up to an amplifier. The only real disadvantage in this type is that they are relatively unstable when used out of doors, and even indoor temperature changes can render them useless. They can, on the other hand, be bought for as little as 50 cents through certain mail order firms.

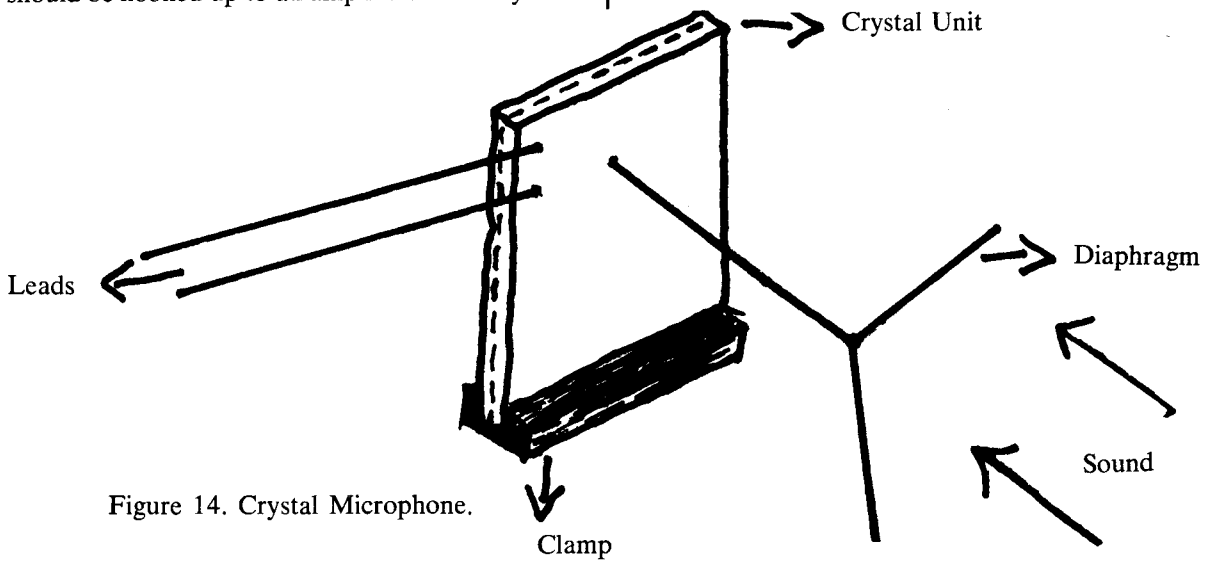

Figure 14. Crystal Microphone.

The third type of microphone is the "dynamic microphone," which is probably the most efficient and stable. It is nothing more than a loudspeaker operating in reverse. It is a rugged microphone and is sensitive, but it usually needs additional amplification.

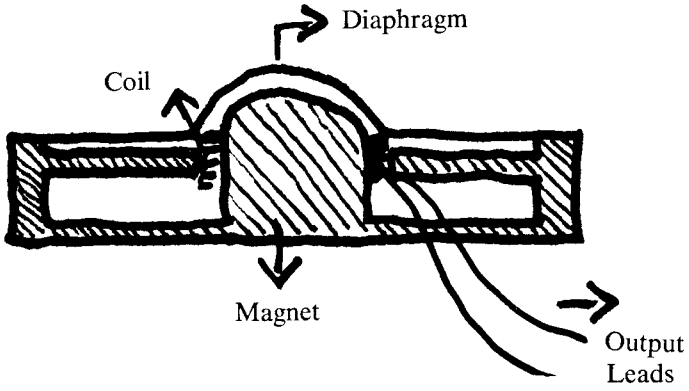

Figure 15. Dynamic Microphone.

There are too many different types of mikes manufactured to go into all of them, but the ones most suitable for bugging and espionage work will be discussed here. Some of the most popular ones are listed and pictured in the Continental catalogue. There is the sugar cube mike, which looks like a sugar cube. There are mikes that resemble ball-point pens. There are buttonhole mikes, which appear to be nothing more than a button. There are mikes manufactured within the mechanisms of watches. There are even entire units, consisting of microphone, amplifier, and recorder that are small enough to fit in a cigarette pack. The best bet is to shop around the catalogues with your various needs in mind. Undoubtedly you will find something that will meet your requirements.

There are two other snooping devices which I feel must be mentioned—mainly because they remind me of the "media myth" of the cloak-and-dagger and round-bomb-type anarchist. The first is the notorious "Snake," which is

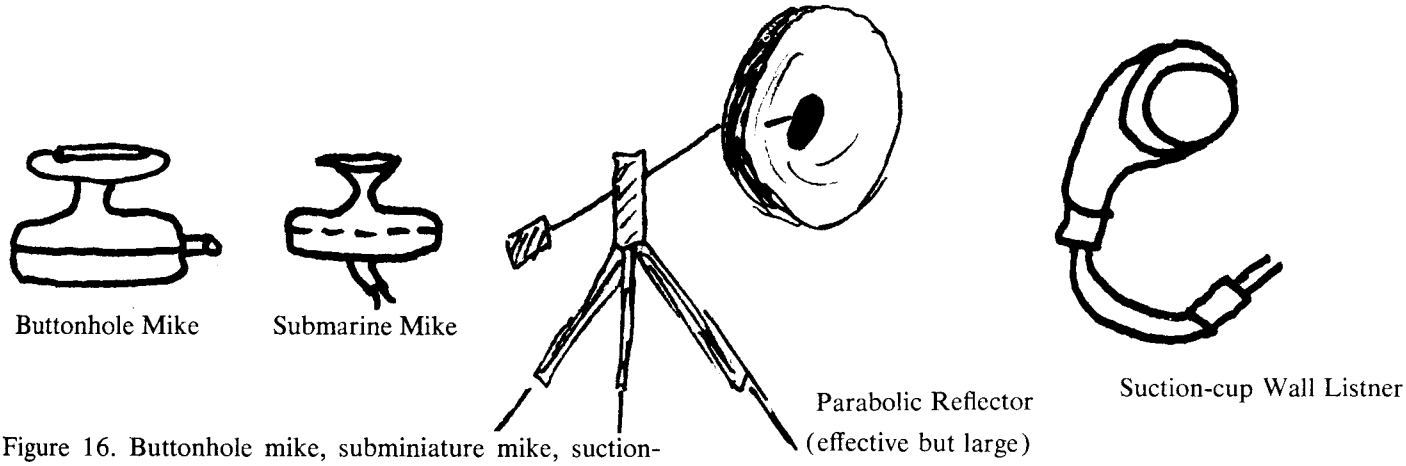

Figure 16. Buttonhole mike, subminiature mike, suction-cup wall listener, and the parabolic reflector.

the latest electronic device for keyhole listening. It is equipped with a long nose which can be easily put into any crack or keyhole, or even unreeled out a window. It can be obtained from Tri-Tron in Texas for about $40.

The other cloak-and-dagger listening device is what is called the "electronic stethoscope." This is probably the most popular of all room-to-room listening devices. It hears and penetrates through thick walls, carpets, floors, and can record entire conversations by plugging it into any tape recorder. There is virtually no way of detecting this type of gismo. They can be purchased from Consolidated Acoustics for as little as $13.00.

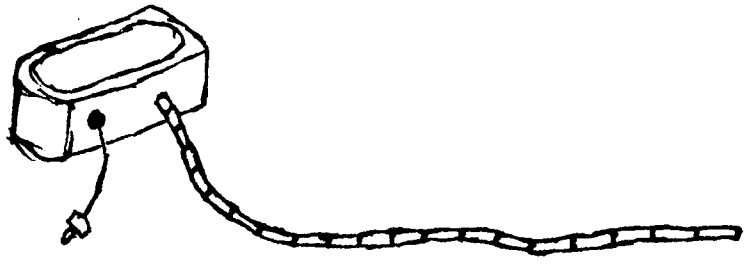

Figure 17. The snake.

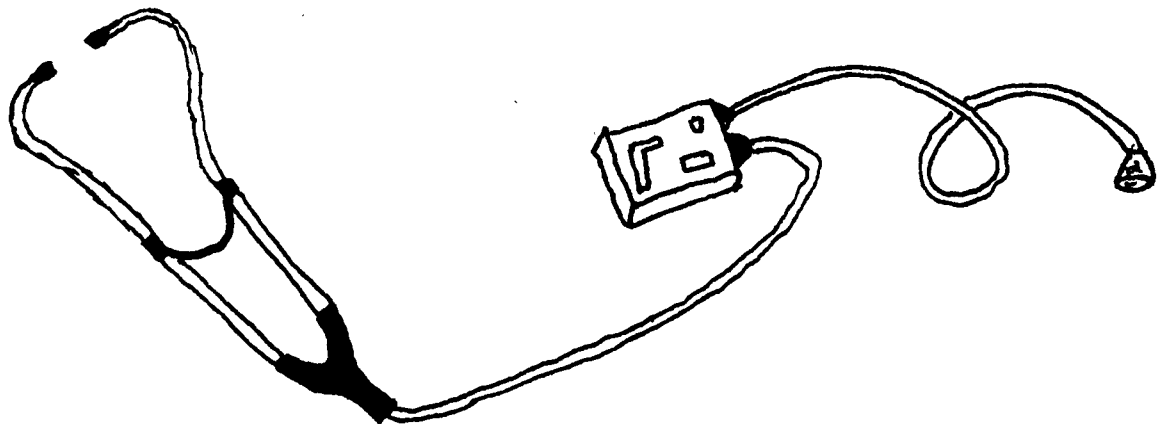

Figure 18. The electronic stethoscope.

Bumper beepers

Ever since the movie *Goldfinger,* where superspy James Bond follows supercriminal Goldfinger around Europe, everyone has been talking about "bumper beepers." These bumper beepers are ordinary bugging transmitters which, instead of sending out voices, send out beeps. Trailing automobiles becomes very easy, since the trailer can stay out of sight and rely on the beeping device to lead him. Most beepers are placed on the underside of cars, attached by either metal straps or strong magnets. The trailing car has a built-in receiver and is able to gauge the direction in which the subject car is going, the speed at which it is traveling, and the distance between the subject car and the trailer. The major difference in all these devices is the distance they cover. A medium-priced unit ($150) can usually transmit detectable beeps up to three or four miles. Continental Telephone (New York) puts out two models, both selling for $375. One is installed under the dashboard and transmits through the radio antenna, whereas the other one contains its own power source and is equipped with a powerful magnet so that it can quickly be attached to any part of the underneath of an auto. There are less expensive beepers from Fudalla & Associates (tail-A-beep for $75) and Miles Wireless Intercom, Ltd. (Car-Beeper for $150).

These beeper devices do have disadvantages, in that, however well they are hidden, a small wire must be left exposed to act as an antenna, unless you are able to use an already existing radio antenna. Also the time needed to install one of these devices is great and offers a real hazard. The best way to get one of these installed is to pay off a garage mechanic.

Voice-activated tape recorders

The most popular method of electronic espionage is telephone wiretapping. In the past this had some overwhelming disadvantages, which the voice-activated tape recorder has done away with. Any method of surveillance involves a great amount of wasted time. For several hours of continual listening, one may receive two or three minutes of useful conversation. In the past, this type of constant surveillance required that a man sit for hours on end, with headphones and a tape recorder, starting and stopping the machine. Now, this is no longer necessary, as "Vox" (the nickname of the fully automatic voice-activated tape recorder) will upon hearing a voice turn itself on, and at the termination of the conversation turn itself off. There are a few voice-activated machines on the market today. Probably the best of all is the Kinematrix's Voice-Matic, which incorporates an auto-timing device that allows the machine to distinguish between real silence and momentary lapses in conversation. This Voice-Matic sells for about $35 and should be obtainable through most of the mail order electronic supply companies listed in the back of this chapter.

To bring almost any bugging or listening device to life, the eavesdropper must employ the use of an AM or FM band receiver. This is nothing more than a normal radio tuned to one particular band. It is impossible for me to list here all the different types of receivers, as none of them is manufactured with the art of bugging in mind. Choose the

type of device that best suits the individual needs of the type of surveillance work you will be involved with.

After purchasing the type of unit that best meets your requirements, keeping in mind versatility, portability, and durability, take the receiver to a local radio or TV repair shop, and have them retune it for you. By retuning it, you will have less of a problem with other, more powerful, transmitters interfering with your desired frequency. Prices vary greatly—anywhere from about $40 for a do-it-yourself kit, to $300 for a pretty sophisticated receiver. It is not necessary to purchase the transmitter and the receiver at the same time, or even at the same outlet. In fact, I would recommend that it be done separately, as many governmental agencies are extremely interested in persons purchasing this type of equipment. One doesn't have to be paranoid, just very careful, and employ common sense in whatever operation is being performed.

Electronic bug detection

Electronic bug detection will probably be the most difficult aspect of this entire field, as you will be working on your own, without the aid of much useful information that can be gathered from the telephone company or other agencies. (Most telephone bugs, except the most sophisticated ones, can be detected by an overload on the phone line itself.) A good tool for bugging detection is a normal AM-FM radio receiver, portable, with a telescopic antenna. For application, extend the antenna in the room suspected of being bugged, and tune the receiver carefully from the bottom to the top, covering all the FM frequencies, at the same time talking to yourself continually. At one point, if a bug is present, you will be able to hear your voice through the receiver, although the voice may be indistinguishable, because of top-volume feedback. This feedback will always be a deafening continuous howl, scream, or high-pitched whistle. To learn the exact location of the bug, cut the volume of the receiver, and slowly move around the room. The feedback will increase in volume as you get closer to the bug. When a bug is discovered, there is a moment of confusion and fear in regard to its elimination. In one sense, destroying a bug is an admission of guilt, and can do nothing more than provoke the enemy to rebug in a more sophisticated manner. For that reason I would hesitate to remove a bug. Instead I would attempt to use it against the bugger himself, by feeding him false and misleading information.

In some cases, the bugger may have taken precautions against this type of detection and, by readjustment of his oscillating capacitor, he may be transmitting on a range below the sensitivity of your radio. In this case, employ your television set in the same manner as you did with your radio, using the ultrahigh frequency knob. As you move across the range of frequencies, keep your eyes on the picture, until you have found a pattern of dark wavy lines that move in relation to your own voice, coupled with top-volume feedback. The actual location of the bug is a little more difficult, unless your TV set is battery operated, but by use of several extension cords and slow movement this can be accomplished.

This feedback technique can also be used when the bugging involves CB (citizen band) walkie-talkie. One of the simplest methods of bugging is to tape down the transmitter button on a cheap walkie-talkie, and plant it where the conversation is to be held. The process of detection is exactly the same as above, except that, instead of using a radio or TV set, one uses a tunable citizen band receiver to check for feedback.

Although the previous "feedback technique" can be effective, it is time-consuming and not 100 percent efficient. For these reasons, electronic experts have invented and marketed a small meter, which detects transmitters. The interesting problem that these experts had to overcome was, with all the high-powered radio and TV stations transmitting, how would it be possible for an individual to detect a low-powered transmitter, such as a microphone? This was overcome by simply reversing the gauge. In other words, when the meter was "wide open," no signal was present. However, the closer the meter is taken to the transmitting device, the less of a reading the meter registers. These field-strength meters are available from most large electronic companies and range in price from about $10 to $200, depending on quality and strength.

A device similar to the "strength meter," which a Texas company has marketed, utilizes a small bulb, which blinks only in the presence of a bug. The true value of this device is that it is capable of separating normal radio waves (which do not affect it) from the dangerous radio signals emitted from a bug. It is available from Dee Company, Houston, Texas, for about $200.

If you're not electronically minded, or just not equipped to find the tap on your phone, Continental Telephone has a device that allows you, through the use of its meter,

to determine if the wire is tapped, and, if so, where it is located. Unfortunately this device (called "the Private Sentry") costs $250.

Electronic jamming

Most of the devices written about so far in this chapter are legal, with regulations placed on their application, but the very possession of certain jamming devices is illegal. These jamming devices basically destroy the effectiveness of a bug rather than locate it. The reason the Federal Communications Commission has put strict regulations on these is the effect they have on other means of communications, such as completely destroying AM radio reception, rendering TV sets useless, making communications on police band radios impossible, and even to some degree interfering with aircraft communications. To be truly effective as anti-bugging devices they must cover the whole spectrum of radio frequencies, which in turn will cause interference to other outside receivers and transmitters. For this reason control is of the essence. When determining what exactly you wish to jam, you must also determine the frequency to be used, so as not to interfere with other signals. If you decide to use a jamming device for an illegal purpose, you must at all costs maintain mobility. (Jamming from the back of a moving truck has been proven effective.) Mobility is necessary, because the FCC also employs detecting and locating devices for use against underground radio stations and unregulated jamming devices.

There are basically two types of jamming devices, the first of which is not manufactured commercially and would have to be built by the individual. This type is called "spark-gap device," and is more powerful than the other, covering a much greater distance. The second type is referred to as "the white noise device," and is manufactured by Continental Telephone, Dectron Industries, Inc., and Telsec, with a price range from about $150 to $350, depending on strength.

Electronic scramblers

Electronic scramblers are devices that simply act as anti-bug mechanisms by transforming normal speech patterns into unintelligible sounds. The most primitive method, outdated today, is recording a message on a tape recorder, and then transmitting it, either by playing it backward or at a different speed. Although this method may momentarily frustrate the bugger, if he has half a brain, it won't take him long to decode your message. The basic principle of scramblers, or any coding device, is to render the message useless to anyone except the desired recipient in control of the decoding device.

There are several types of electronic scramblers, all effective but all sharing the same disadvantage—price. The most inexpensive one I found in any catalogue ran about $500, but then anyone with a slight knowledge of burglary will not be put off by this obstacle. This most popular type is manufactured by Dectron, and is used as an extension to the telephone. The speech is garbled before it enters the mouthpiece of the phone, and decoded after it has left the receiver. A pair of these run just over $500, but the real disadvantage to these devices is that the individual code your devices are working with is retained in a vault by the company, so that anyone with access to that vault can break down your security.

The second device used for scrambling is manufactured by an English company, and it works on the principle of inverting the normal speech patterns. In other words, it makes low notes high, and high notes low. This offers the individual a little bit more security, as each person's speech frequency is as different as his fingerprints. Their major disadvantage is price. It sells for between $1,000 and $1,500.

The third type of scrambler is used only for radio transmission. This device can also be purchased through Dectron, for about the same price as mentioned before. The radio scrambler works on basically the same principle as all other scrambling devices, in that it inverts or disorders the frequency and pitch of the speech pattern while it is being transmitted, and then reverses the garble to render it understandable to the receiver.

Mail order and retail electronics outlets

I have listed below some of the major electronic mail order and retail outlets. Many companies that sell this type of equipment do so only to police officers, and require the purchaser to prove his relationship with some law enforcement agency. For that reason they have not been included. The companies listed are all involved in the manufacturing and/or sale of eavesdropping and surveillance equipment.

S.A.C. Electronics, 4818 West Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles 18, California

Baker Electronics Co., R.R. 3, Greencastle, Indiana (mail-order plans and kits only)

Dehart Electronics, P.O. Box 5232, Sarasota, Florida

Continental Telephone Supply Co., 17 W. 46th St., New York, N.Y. (fantastic catalogue)

Martel Electronics Sales, Inc., 2356 S. Cotner Ave., Los Angeles, California

R & S Research, Inc., 2049 Richmond Ave., Houston, Texas

Mittleman Manny, 136 Liberty St., New York, N.Y. (only custom devices—$400 and up)

Clifton, 11500 N.W. 7th Ave., Miami, Florida

Consolidated Acoustics, 1302 Washington St., Hoboken, N.J. (only listening devices)

Ekkottonics Co., P.O. Box 5334, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (cheap)

Dectron Industries, Inc., 13901 Saticoy St., Van Nuys, California (only anti-bugging equipment)

Dee Co., Box 7263, Houston, Texas 77008

Tri-Tron of Dallas, 330 Casa Linda Plaza, Dallas, Texas (discount bugging equipment)

Security Electronics, 11 East 43rd St., New York, N.Y.

Telephone Dynamics Corp., 1333 Newbridge Road, North Bellmore, N.Y. (only miniature microphones)

Simlar Electronics, Inc., 3476 N.W. 7th St., Miami, Florida

Tracer Systems, 256 Worth Ave., Palm Beach, Florida

The Federal Communications Commission and the Supreme Court have been uptight about wiretapping and eavesdropping for some time. They have both passed laws and made regulations concerning electronic surveillance. For these reasons, I would emphasize the utmost care and knowledge in the application of these devices. What is interesting is the actual wording of the law, where any interstate wiretap (interstate does not mean interstate, it applies to all tapping through some strange logic) except in a matter of security is against the FCC's regulations and is punishable by a fine of no more than $10,000 or five years in jail. The neat little exception made for security gives all of the government agencies, particularly the FBI and CIA, and all local police departments, free license to practice all and any forms of surveillance without any restrictions. Although certain cases have been dismissed in court cases because of "tainted" methods of collecting evidence, in reality if the government feels an individual is a security risk (for any reason) it can produce tapes in court that have been gathered by wiretapping, supposedly not as evidence, but the defendant goes to jail anyway.

America, at this point, is operating on a life-size Monopoly Board. Everyone who isn't in jail or going directly to jail is buying and selling thousands of pieces of paper, with absolute seriousness of purpose, unable to realize that there will be only one winner, and when he gets out of jail, he's going to kick all their asses.

Broadcasting free radio

In any underground, throughout history, a prime concern has been communications or propaganda. Propaganda, as a word, has ugly connotations, but in reality it means nothing more than the distribution of information. This country has begun to develop an underground network of communications, in the many small newspapers which have cropped up all over the country. Although there is a spark, there is also a monstrous lack of communications, once you get outside any of the large metropolitan areas. In preparation for writing this book, I had to do a great deal of reference work. In this reading I encompassed almost all extremities of the political spectrum, from far left to far right. These extremities are so alike, and could be so powerful if they ever got over their preconceived impressions of each other and started to communicate. This is the reason I feel the underground has to take propaganda one step further, from the printed page, to the radio broadcast.

> The radio is a factor of extraordinary importance. At moments when war fever is more or less palpitating in every one region or a country, the inspiring, burning word increases this fever and communicates it to every one of the future combatants. It explains, teaches, fires, and fixes the future positions of both friends and enemies. However, the radio should be ruled by the fundamental principle of popular propaganda, which is truth; it is preferable to tell the truth, small in its dimensions, than a large lie artfully embellished.
>
> Che Guevara, *Guerrilla Warfare*

Kwame Nkrumah, in his *Handbook of Revolutionary Warfare,* also stresses the use of radio propaganda. He breaks it down into two basic forms: The first and most important is the same as Che was writing about in the above

quotation, this being to communicate truth to people of the country about the struggle. Nkrumah takes this idea one step further, and says that really to communicate the underground must speak on many different levels, and this is a key point. How can an anarchist who has a right-wing background understand or relate to a left-wing anarchist, who uses Marxist terminology? This forces the underground to communicate with many different frames of reference. This hasn't happened in this country: Everyone from far left to the far right is hung up with dogmatic ideals, overused terminology, and is absolutely blind to practicality.

Nkrumah's second concept of propaganda is for the purpose of subverting the enemy.

> An indispensable preliminary to battle is to attack the mind of the enemy, to undermine the will to fight so that the result of the battle is decided before the fighting begins. The revolutionary army attacks an irresolute and demoralized army.
>
> —Nkrumah, *Handbook of Revolutionary Warfare*

This use of propaganda to discourage the enemy has also a great place in the struggle that is going on in this country today. It has been used to a small degree, with fantastic success, around military bases. There was a regiment of the National Guard that refused to go to Chicago during the National Democratic Convention. Underground newspapers and handbills have encouraged G.I.s to dissent and desert, and have shown them that it is possible. The effectiveness demonstrated by this demoralizing form of propaganda depicts nothing more than the real turmoil that exists. The successful effect of this communication has resulted from one aspect of its nature—that being its passionate regard for truth.

Printing a revolutionary newspaper is a great deal easier than forming an underground radio station. Although the government has strict restrictions on printed material, it is nothing like the regulations it places on radio and television broadcasting. The FCC runs the radio networks with an iron hand, with the ever present threat of revoking a license. For this reason, any radio station which is striving to be absolutely free must make the ultimate break with the FCC. This can be accomplished in two ways. The first and most dangerous, but at the same time the most effective, is by using high power equipment, jamming out other stations, from a mobile base of operations. The FCC has incredibly sophisticated equipment, and can locate any pirate radio station in a matter of minutes. For this reason, mobility is essential. Transmitting from the back of a disguised truck has been used successfully, although the movement of the truck while broadcasting must be constant, never repeating the same pattern, but at the same time keeping within the broadcast power area. This means of transmission is especially effective at gatherings, such as demonstrations and riots, to keep people informed as to the movement of the enemy. The best method of obtaining equipment is building your own, as to buy a large transmitter requires the individual to be licensed. Not only that, it's expensive. You can build your own from plans and equipment purchased through mail order, from most of the companies listed earlier in this chapter.

The second method for getting around the strict FCC regulations is legal. Under the FCC's low-power-transmission regulations, one can legally broadcast below 100 milowatts at any empty space on the AM or FM dial, without registering or being licensed. The disadvantages are obvious: One can only broadcast up to one mile. Even within that mile, interference from the high-powered commercial stations is present. And if enough people get into this form of broadcasting the FCC is going to make some sort of regulation against it. This method is not just theoretical, it has been implemented on the Lower East Side, by John Giorno and his Guerrilla Radio. He broadcast from the top of St. Mark's-in-the-Bowerie's bell tower at 1400 on the AM dial, and claims he did everything the FCC said he couldn't. I am sorry to say I did not hear the broadcast, as I was out of the one-mile area at the time.

Telephone and communications sabotage

Telephone sabotage can be applied on many levels. First I will explain what I am not going to write about. I feel there is no need for me to explain how to make free phone calls by telling the operator that you dialed the wrong number, just as I am not going to get into explaining how to use a number 14 washer with Scotch tape in a pay phone, or cheating on credit card calls, or spitting on a penny. These are all explained in *Fuck the System,* a pamphlet on living freely in New York City. The interest I have in telephone sabotage is purely communicational and commercial.

Commercial in the sense, that over the past few years my absolute hatred of vending machines and pay phones

has led me to break into almost every kind I could find. Parking meters are the easiest by far: All you need is a hammer and chisel or a large monkey wrench. Soda machines are almost as easy, but real delight comes from ripping a Kotex machine off the wall of a women's rest room, or sticking a small explosive charge in the coin slot of a pay toilet. I have never been able to break into a pay telephone—smash them, yes, put them out of order, but never able to open them up and remove the coins. This is for several reasons: One is the time element, as most public phones are easily seen, and the other is that all public phones are installed with amazing locks, which have completely baffled me.

To get back to the purpose of this section, I must emphasize the importance of breaking down the enemy's communications. This in turn results in confusion and chaos. Imagine, for a moment, a squad car without a means of communicating with its precinct, or an enemy aircraft with its radio jammed. This act of breaking down the enemy's lines of communications is not an end in itself, rather it is a tactic—a small, but extremely important, part of a total operation.

When considering communications, it is best to start from a primitive base and work up to more sophisticated tactics. The first and simplest method for rendering a telephone inoperative is only temporary. It entails calling the phone company and asking that a certain number be disconnected. This will work for individuals, but not for agencies or law enforcement organizations. An important factor in any form of telephone sabotage is the time aspect of verification—in other words, the amount of time it takes the phone company to trace a call. The phone company can tell right away if you are calling from a pay phone, so this should be avoided. Call from a private phone which you cannot be connected with, and limit your conversation to under ninety seconds. *Important:* Most law enforcement organizations, companies, corporations, and businesses have more than one phone line, and in most cases one or more will be unlisted.

A common misconception is that a person can render a phone useless by dialing a number and, before the party answers, leave the phone off the hook. This is not true, and doesn't work. Even if the caller doesn't hang up his phone, the receiver can get a dial tone by hanging up himself and holding the hook down for a little over thirty seconds. Although this method does not work in the city (I know because I have experimented with it), I have heard reports that it has been used in rural areas with varying degrees of success. I would suggest trying it out with a friend, to see if it is effective in your area.

The other truly effective method is the most dangerous. It entails the actual cutting of phone wires. This is much easier in a rural area where the phone lines are above the ground, and there are not so many of them. It should be noted that complete telephone communication with a small town or village can be broken in less than ten minutes. Probably the most important thing here is having a complete understanding of what you are doing, and using the correct tools. Phone lines do carry electrical charges and, without complete knowledge of what you are doing and without the correct tools, it would be very easy to electrocute yourself. In rural areas, the basic tools should be: rubber-soled shoes (sneakers); pliers with rubber grips; large heavy-duty wire or tin cutters, also with rubber grips; a pair of surgical rubber gloves; a small flashlight (operate at night); and a body strap to allow you free movement of your hands once at the top of the pole. *Important,* before attempting any telephone wire cutting, get hold of a copy of the telephone repairman's manual, and read it.

This same operation can be performed in urban areas, although the process is much more involved. In most urban areas the phone lines run beneath the street level, and they are usually incorporated into tunnels dug for the sewers. At this point it may seem simple but, in addition to the phone lines in the sewers, there are also all the high-voltage electric lines. If you cut into one of these, I don't care how well insulated you are, you'll fry. An urban saboteur should either be in possession of a detailed map of the phone lines, available at any municipal library, or carry a small electric line locator, so that he can find the right line to cut. The urban guerrilla, on this sort of mission, should carry all the tools the rural guerrilla would have, except he should exchange the body strap for a rubber-insulated hack saw, also add a crowbar. The hack saw is for the metal encasement that surrounds all phone and electric wires in the sewers. Access to the sewers is pretty easy, as most manholes will take you into an amazing complex of all different-sized tunnels, where you can get thoroughly lost, unless you have had the foresight to study a map of the sewers, also available from any municipal library. Know exactly where you are going, know all the obstacles that you may come in contact with, and have several routes of

escape planned, in case of an emergency. Needless to say, if you decide to go into the sewers, dress accordingly. It's cold, damp, infested with rodents, and dark, and many tunnels are partially full of water.

A word of caution about using explosives to sever phone lines: In the sewers, don't. In Paris in 1945, the French resistance decided that to aid the oncoming Allied troops, they would cut all lines of communication from the Nazi Headquarters and Berlin. This proved unsuccessful, for many reasons, but the important fact was that they did attempt to use explosives in the sewer system. A small charge was placed right on the phone lines, and detonated from a good distance away. The phone line was cut but, unknown to the resistance, so was a gas main, right next to lines. The result: phone lines cut, a large number of civilians dead, and a block and a half completely leveled. Not only was the area totally destroyed, it was flooded by the bursting of water mains which also shared the sewers with the phone wires.

One can use small explosive charges in rural areas, as the lines are above the ground.

I despise you.
I despise your order, your false-propped authority.
Hang me for it ! ! !

—Louis Lingg, 1898

Other forms of sabotage

A great deal of sabotage employs the use of explosive charges, but these methods will be discussed in a later chapter; here I will attempt to discuss nonexplosive sabotage operations. Sabotage plays a very important role in any form of warfare, especially in the guerrilla struggle. The urban areas are extremely conducive to the type of sabotage I will be dealing with in this section, as the distances are short between targets, and it is easier to create chaos and havoc when dealing with large numbers of people, in a relatively small area. This havoc and chaos that I have been talking about needs a definition, since I am using the terms in a different context than what they mean traditionally. Havoc and chaos are and should be the smallest part of the revolution. They take the smallest amount of time, and the maximum amount of planning. This time will be governed by a mob, driven not by fear, but by anger, and the passionate belief that they do what they do because they are the people, and more importantly they believe they have impunity. I do not speak of the tactics of nihilism, breaking windows and setting garbage cans on fire, for they accomplish nothing.

A few of the more active individuals in New York City placed a strong form of epoxy glue in all the keyholes of the stock market, on Wall Street. When this substance dried, it hardened into a material as tough as steel. The Stock Exchange opened three hours late, after locksmiths had been called in to remove the useless mechanisms. Epoxy glue is fantastic, and its uses are unlimited.

Since machines run the society we live in, it's only fair that an equal degree of destructive creativity be leveled against them. Computers, because of their very nature, are extremely easy to render inoperative. When paying bills by computer, always remember that you have the ultimate advantage of an open mind, and the ability to rationalize, whereas the machine is programmed to do one thing. A good method of sabotage is simply to punch a few extra holes in the IBM card. Most of the time the card will be rejected, and it will cost the company a few dollars to rectify the mistake. I have heard of people who have performed this operation, and have been issued several hundred dollars' worth of credit. This can be performed with impunity.

When I was working for a large New York corporation, I had to deal with a bank, every day. I realized, after a period of time, that the people who were working at the bank had lost their identities, and were nothing more than machines themselves. Well, this sort of psychological surrealistic science fiction really got me interested. I viewed myself as a saver of identities, as the Messiah of the Spirit of Individualism. I was brought to earth quickly. These people didn't want to be saved. I was going to turn them all on to acid, but then I decided that a better tactic would be to screw up the object of their emulation, the computer. On my daily deposit I placed a large quantity of Scotch tape. This resulted in the deposit slips, themselves, getting stuck in the bowels of the computer. It took the bank three or four hours to take the machine apart, and unjam the mechanism. In unjamming the machine they somehow altered the program, and it didn't work right for weeks. I never had the guts to return to the bank, but I hope the clerks lost their reverence for the divine, infallible machine.

Another form of sabotage is shoplifting. There is a big

difference between a common thief and a revolutionary: The revolutionary will steal from large corporations, and the common thief will steal from anyone. If you can ever get over the Protestant ethic, you will be able to see what I mean. Every revolutionary has his own method of stealing, and there are too many for me to get into, but I will try to state some basic common-sense tactics.

1. Operate in pairs with one person holding the employee's attention, the other stealing him blind.

2. As a revolutionary, your job is to rally popular support, not to alienate people. For this reason, do not steal from small stores.

3. Get into and out of the store as fast as possible. Do not spend a long time trying to hide the merchandise, or making sure no one's looking at you.

4. If you are caught, play along. In other words, be humble, and pretend to be nervous. Always apologize profusely, and even cry if you can. The chances are good the store won't have you arrested.

5. If you are caught and let go with a warning, never return to the same store.

6. Usually large department stores do not arrest shoplifters the first time, unless they are violent, or the merchandise is over a certain dollar value. Be careful all the same.

7. Circular mirrors are very popular with large stores, where blind corners are present. These can effectively be used against the employees by simply reversing their purpose. *Watch out for two-way mirrors.*

8. If you're going to get into shoplifting in a big way, check out all its aspects. A large store located near a big subway stop, (Times Square, Grand Central, or Penn Station) offers a great means of escape, especially in the rush hour, if a chase develops.

9. Never carry identification with you. Work out a system with a friend (see the last chapter) whereby he will be able to verify your false name and address.

10. Needless to say, never carry dope, weapons, or anything else illegal with you.

11. If caught for shoplifting or robbery never admit to being part of the movement. It will get you more time in jail.

Another extremely easy method of sabotage can be employed against motor vehicles. Law enforcement cars, jeeps, weapons carriers, all the way up to tanks, can be rendered useless by several simple operations. The first of these is the simplest, but it is only temporary. It entails removing an important part of the vehicle's mechanism, such as the distributor cap or battery. There is no doubt that this will work, and can be accomplished in a matter of seconds, but the vehicle can also be repaired in a matter of seconds, if the parts are available.

The second method, which is equally effective, and by no means temporary, can also be performed in a matter of seconds. It is accomplished by pouring several pounds of either sand or sugar into the vehicle's gas tank. This results in these foreign particles jamming and virtually destroying the motor. The sugar will crystallize in the fuel line and carburetor and effectively block the operation of the engine. The sand, on the other hand, will rip the inside of the engine to shreds. Both of these ingredients will stop the operation of a vehicle permanently, as repair would require a complete overhaul of the engine, which is usually impossible in combat situations.

The third method is total destruction of the vehicle, by burning or exploding. An important thing to keep in mind, before destroying anything, is the use it might have to the movement. To burn a car, just siphon some of the gasoline out of its tank, by means of a section of hollow tube, and pour it over the car. If the car is locked, smash the windows and soak the inside with gas also, then ignite.

A very important thing to remember in any form of subversive activity is to allow an escape route. Things are bound to go wrong, I don't care how many precautions a person takes there will be something he hasn't thought of. Cars are an excellent method of escape. Of course it helps a great deal when stealing a car, if the person has left his keys in the ignition, but, if not, there are other ways. Any auto repair manual can tell you how to jump the ignition, or "hot wire" a car. Volkswagens are extremely easy. Another trick which can be used with old Chevrolets (before 1964) is to catch a car with the ignition switch on "OFF." The keys can be extracted from the ignition of an old Chevie without locking it. The car's engine will be off, but it can be started by simply turning the receptacle for the key, and stepping on the gas pedal. I drove a car from New York to Florida without a key.

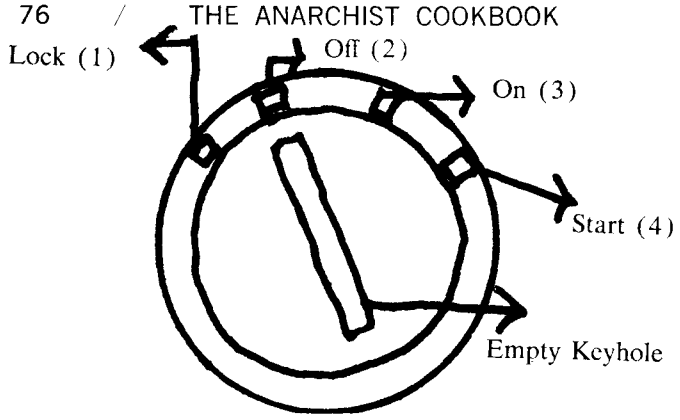

Figure 19. Keyhole for typical pre-1964 Chevie.

The car may be started without a key when it is left in any of the positions (2, 3, 4).

There are a few basic rules for sabotage and guerrilla activity in general:

1. Make sure the operation will be effective. Never waste time with either a violent or nonviolent operation which is ineffective.

2. Hit the enemy where they least expect it, and where it will hurt them the most.

3. Most sabotage should be carried out at night.

4. Timing must be perfect, as the longer the operation takes the greater the chances are of something going wrong.

5. Work only with people you trust. Many spies and informers will suggest plans that could only get you busted. Work in small groups, or cells, consisting of no more than four people.

6. All operations should be simple and fast, and several means of escape should be planned.

7. All weapons should be concealed, all explosives should be treated with the respect they deserve. (Check the chapter on explosives for correct handling.)

8. All groups must have a leader. He should be picked for his leadership qualities. He will make all major decisions.

9. The need for secrecy is obvious. Security and secrecy must be maintained without reservation.

10. Any member who breaks the code of the group must be executed, in full view of the other members.

The time has passed for demonstrators and pseudo-revolutionaries and students to occupy the political scene. The time is here for a mass uprising, incorporating all these elements, armed with single-minded deadly intolerance.

There is no justice in bureaucracy for the individual, for bureaucracy caters only to itself. The writers, artists, and poets of the revolution will have a job that has never before in history been so great, for they must create a value structure for the New World, for The New American. I stated in the introduction that this would not be in a contemporary sense a political book, and I feel that it is not, inasmuch as I have tried to avoid using the dogma that is so prevalent now. It seems acceptable today to scream for revolution, without any concept of what will follow it. This is just what the forces at large want, for who will follow a man who doesn't know where he's going?

To be successful, man must change himself, the individual must have a revolution within himself, for then and only then will he be able to change the world. There is no room for narrow-mindedness in the coming insurrection. Each man must break, with passionate understanding, the chains which chain him to himself. For if one man dies in indifference, the entire revolution dies with him. One cannot practice the same bureaucracy one is fighting against; the revolution is secondary, the system is secondary, politics is secondary, to the individual.

Effective sabotage, like the practical joke, must employ a grain of truth in a solution of deadly irony. This means that sabotage serves two basic purposes: first of all to weaken the enemy, and second of all to build the morale of the liberation army. Although revolution and sabotage are deadly serious, one should always retain his sense of humor and apply it if possible to the operations used. An example, which can be employed today with the draft system, is to use the weaknesses of the bureaucracy against itself.

When a young man is forced to go down to his local board and register for the draft, he is required to give only a small amount of information. To use this fact effectively against the Selective Service System, a large group of young men must go to a local board and register twice or three times under false names, in addition to their real registration. This will cause the bureaucracy of the Selective Service System to go berserk. They're already so uptight about people attempting to avoid the draft that they would really flip out if all of a sudden their records showed that several hundreds or thousands of people just didn't show up, and couldn't be traced. It would never enter their heads to think it might have been a put-on. An interesting theatrical twist to this same idea is to have everyone do his false registrations on the same day, so that many, many pre-induction physicals are due on the same day. Thus the full impact of the missing persons will hit the induction center at one time.