

SAFE PICK.TXT

This is an excerpt from the BIG BROTHER GAME on opening safes via the "sound" method. Granted, this approach will not work on many safes, but keep in mind all the ones that it will... Of course, this is presented as A MATTER OF GENERAL INFORMATION and is by no means meant to be used for any purposes other than those of utmost legality.

Nick Fury

Some safes can be opened by sound, much as in the movies, but most that were manufactured, after the mid 60's are not susceptible to the following method:

A high gain amplifier is used. A small, direct-coupled amplifier can be purchased for about 5 dollars from the various electronic supply houses. A contact microphone (i.e. one that "hears" vibrations rather than actual sound) should be employed. BE SURE to use a matching transformer if the impedances do not match; and in a pinch, a crystal phone cartridge can be employed as a contact microphone.

Place the contact mic on the safe, near the dial. Now, turn the dial 5 times to the left to clear it. Now, turn back towards the right. On the first revolution, you should hear a distinct click as the cam and lever engage. Read the number. This will be the opening number, or the last number dialed to open the safe.

Continue turning to the right. You will hear an additional click during the next 4 or 5 turns. This indicates how many tumblers you are actually dealing with. Most safes will have 3, but some will have 4 or 5.

While you are determining the number of tumblers, disregard the drop-in click that occurs at the opening number on each turn.

Our turning the dial to the right 5 times also performs another duty; it clears the mechanism. This means that the dial has picked up all the tumblers and is moving them in rotation with the dial.

After our five turns to the right, we move the dial about 10 points BEYOND the opening number. If the opening number is 15, we would move to 25 and stop. Now we move back to the exact opening number.

This procedure puts the opening lever and cam in position to open the safe (although the tumblers are not lined up so it will not open) now at this point, you can rock the safe dial back and forth without actually turning it.

This rocking motion causes the lever to click against the tumblers (through

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the lever slot). This clicking can be heard by the manipulator in his ear phones. The whole secret here is the noise will vary depending on the number of tumblers the lever is clicking against. (Much like the difference in hitting three notes on the piano at the same time, or just hitting one.)

Should we have happened to line one of the tumbler slots under the lever, the sound will be that of the lever clicking only two tumblers (as the lever will fit into the slot of the lined up tumbler, creating no sound).

Each time we rock the dial to make the lever-tumbler combination click we (assuming that there was NO difference in the sound) move the dial back to the right where it picks up the tumblers and number to realign the lever-cam slot, and repeats the rocking motion.

When you hear a sound difference, (indicating that the tumbler slot is lined up) you turn the dial back to the right until the click indicating the cam has picked up the tumblers. Now immediately stop and read the number that is lined up when you hear this click.

This is one of the combination numbers.

Now continue to the right 2 digits past the last try and move the dial back to the opening number and repeat the procedure. Do this until you have all the combination numbers.

Now, we know the opening number is the final number, but we don't know what order the combination numbers are arranged, so you will have to try all 9 (assuming 3 combinations and one opening number) possible variations. One will open the safe.

Some times you will have to move the dial a couple of points beyond the opening number to get the cam to retract the bolt and open the lock.

Some locks open to the right, i.e.	R four turns	22
	L three turns	18
	R two turns	46
	L to opening	15

Some will be the opposite (L-R-L-R).

Most locks will open no matter which way it is turned, however, a rough guideling is:

Sargent....right
Diebold....right
Yale.....left
Mosler.....left

This sort of technique will not work on high quality modern safes as they

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employ nylon tumblers, sound baffles, and devices to prevent the lever from touching the tumblers until ready to open. Because of this, the good agent will have a couple of alternative methods in his repertoire.

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