

A. The Execution of Kurt Steiner

text: Neil Chapman

sound: Carl Lindh, Ola Ståhl

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scene 01 The patent office holds the published application for a mechanism that its author claims transmits radio signals. While the invention's function is easily named, its method is unusual and not related to those on which our familiar transmitters and receivers are based. Two discs mounted with overlapping radii spin on uneven axes, coming into contact intermittently. 'Misaligned high-hat cymbals' is what they are like, the description proposes, but larger. The dimensions given on a diagram specify that the two discs together add up to the size of 'a man's outstretched arms'. Other parts are described too as the patent application requires. But even for someone familiar with technical descriptions and able to read circuit diagrams, on the basis of the published application alone it is difficult to understand how the device works. A further explanation would be needed. To put it this way is to speak with some irony because in fact the document has been written precisely to be insufficient for a reader's reconstruction of the device, while at the same time answering the patent office's requirements with perfect sufficiency.

A. THE EXECUTION OF KURT STEINER /
B. YOU'RE DOING SOME DANGEROUS WORK, KURT STEINER
Neil Chapman, Ola Ståhl & Carl Lindh

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I N E D I T M O D E
P R E S S

Ystadvägen 13, 21430 Malmö, Sweden
www.ineditmode.com, editors@ineditmode.com

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