There is a cookie jar that contains a certain number of cookies. Three friends divide the cookies in the following way. First, Harold takes all of the cookies and places them into three equal piles with none left over. He then keeps one of the piles and puts the other two piles back into the jar. Next, Lucie takes the remaining cookies in the jar and places them into three equal piles with none left over. She then keeps one of the piles and puts the other two piles back into the jar. Finally, Livio takes the remaining cookies in the jar and places them into three equal piles, but there is one cookie left over. He then keeps the leftover cookie and one of the piles and puts the other two piles back into the jar.

If there are now 10 cookies in the jar, how many cookies were originally in the cookie jar?

More Info:
Check the CEMC at Home webpage on Thursday, May 14 for the solution to this problem. Alternatively, subscribe to Problem of the Week at the link below and have the solution emailed to you on Thursday, May 14.

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