

for sleep and service to get the receivers back on the beam for another night.

The first mobile transmitter was not installed here until 1937 because of the high price of over \$600 each for the only unit available. During the summer, while vacationing near Boston, the police department at Brookline, Massachusetts was visited, where a small ten watt AM unit designed for amateur use was being used. It was built by the Harvey Radio Laboratories of that city and was giving very satisfactory service. UHX-10R was the designation for the remote control unit.

One of these mobile transmitters was purchased for tests in Rochester. The tests proved so successful that additional units were purchased shortly after at a cost of \$160 each. They were crystal controlled and used a 6L6 tube as oscillator with a second 6L6 as an RF amplifier. Two 6N7 tubes were used to modulate the final 6L6 amplifier.

The mobile installations were full duplex. The transmitters used long whip antennas mounted on the rear of the cars for operating on 30.100 megacycles. The receivers operating on 2422 kilocycles used antennas mounted near the front of the cars. This system had certain advantages due to the full duplex operation. Some of the new systems in the larger departments are again installing full duplex operation and there appears to be a bright future for this type of installation.

The allocation of frequencies in the 152 to 162 megacycle band in the late forties resulted in a rapid change to the quieter and more reliable all-weather communication provided by FM in the very high frequencies. To list all the bugs and headaches involved in this early police radio equipment would require a book of its own and when an officer or dispatcher complains now of occasional noise and interference, it is sometimes hard to suppress a smile; if they could only listen to the old equipment for one hour on a stormy day they would never again complain. No one ever had it so good.

* * *

Public safety radio men are a very promising bunch of fellows. Like some politicians they promise, promise and promise but the material they promise seldom arrives. Am sorry to say that most of them appear to forget as easily as they promise but occasionally my life is made happier and my faith in the good brothers of APCO restored when one of Uncle Sam's couriers drops an envelope or packet in the box at the foot of the hill.

One of the best of these in recent

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This man is an expert in rocketry



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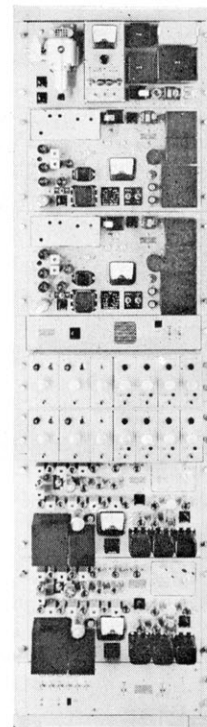
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