

INSTRUCTION BOOK



COMMUNICATIONS
RECEIVER
51J-4

GUARANTEE

The equipment described herein is sold under the following guarantee:

Collins agrees to repair or replace, without charge, any equipment, parts, or accessories which are defective as to design, workmanship or material, and which are returned to Collins at its factory, transportation prepaid, provided

- (a) Notice of the claimed defect is given Collins within one (1) year from date of delivery and goods are returned in accordance with Collins instructions.
- (b) Equipment, accessories, tubes, and batteries not manufactured by Collins or from Collins designs are subject to only such adjustments as Collins may obtain from the supplier thereof.
- (c) No equipment or accessory shall be deemed to be defective if, due to exposure or excessive moisture in the atmosphere or otherwise after delivery, it shall fail to operate in a normal or proper manner.

Collins further guarantees that any radio transmitter described herein will deliver full radio frequency power output at the antenna lead when connected to a suitable load, but such guarantee shall not be construed as a guarantee of any definite coverage or range of said apparatus.

The guarantee of these paragraphs is void if equipment is altered or repaired by others than Collins or its authorized service center.

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ADDRESS:

Collins Radio Company
Service Division
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

INFORMATION NEEDED:

- (A) Type number, name and serial number of equipment
- (B) Date of delivery of equipment
- (C) Date placed in service
- (D) Number of hours of service
- (E) Nature of trouble
- (F) Cause of trouble if known
- (G) Part number (9 or 10 digit number) and name of part thought to be causing trouble
- (H) Item or symbol number of same obtained from parts list or schematic
- (I) Collins number (and name) of unit subassemblies involved in trouble
- (J) Remarks

HOW TO ORDER REPLACEMENT PARTS. When ordering replacement parts, you should direct your order as indicated below and furnish the following information insofar as applicable. To enable us to give you better replacement service, please be sure to give us complete information.

ADDRESS:

Collins Radio Company
Service Division
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

INFORMATION NEEDED:

- (A) Quantity required
- (B) Collins part number (9 or 10 digit number) and description
- (C) Item or symbol number obtained from parts list or schematic
- (D) Collins type number, name and serial number of principal equipment
- (E) Unit subassembly number (where applicable)

ADDENDUM
TO
51J-4 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER
INSTRUCTION BOOK (520-5014-00)

This addendum is to the ninth edition of the instruction book, dated 15 September 1961.

The following change increases the audio output level from the receiver.
Mark the indicated changes in your instruction book.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Page 6-11 | Change R-155 value to 1800 ohms and the part number to 745-1363-00. |
| Page 7-7/7-8 | Schematic diagram, near right end of diagram, change value of V112 cathode resistor R-155 to 1800 ohms. |

15 February 1962

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER

51J-4

INSTRUCTION BOOK

9th EDITION, 15 SEPTEMBER 1961

520-5014-00

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1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, U.S.A.

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Section 1
GENERAL DESCRIPTION

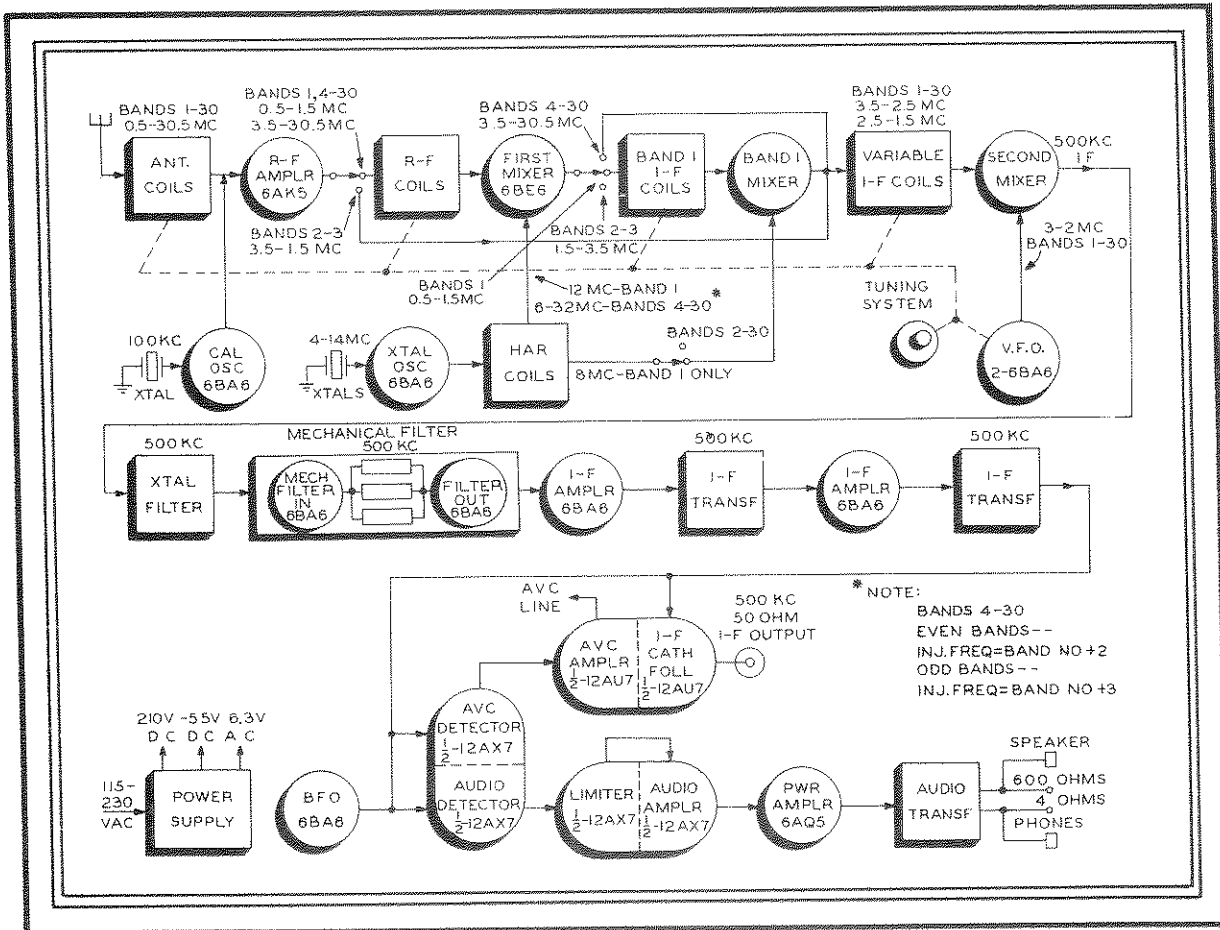
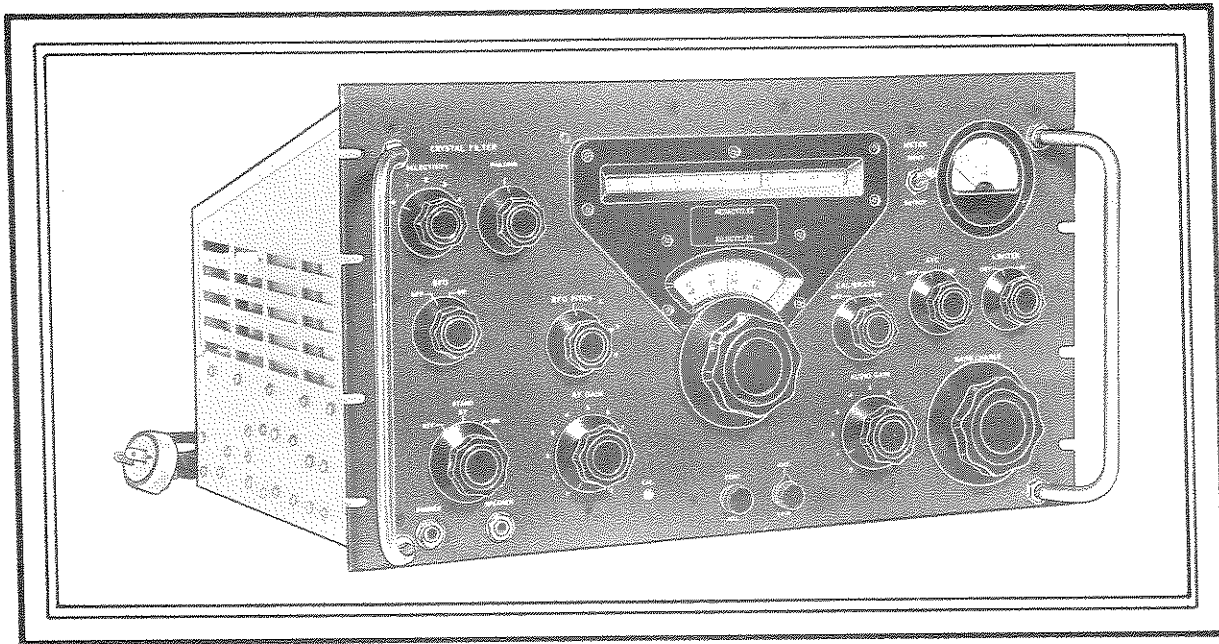


Figure 1-1. 51J-4 Receiver, Front View and Block Diagram

SECTION I GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1.1. GENERAL.

1.1.1. PURPOSE OF BOOK. - This instruction book has been prepared to assist in the installation, operation and maintenance of the Collins Model 51J Radio Communications Receiver.

1.1.2. PURPOSE OF EQUIPMENT. - Collins 51J-4 Receiver is designed for communication applications where stability and dial accuracy of the highest order are the prime requisites. Under normal operating conditions, the receiver operates in the range of 540 kc to 30.5 mc with a total setting error and drift of less than 1 kc at any frequency within its range. The receiver is designed for amplitude-modulated and continuous wave reception, although its accuracy and stability make it suitable for many applications where it is desired to receive or set definite frequencies without searching or making frequent adjustments. This receiver incorporates the new mechanical filter in the intermediate frequency range to obtain the desirable rectangular-shaped passband.

1.1.3. DESCRIPTION.

(a) MECHANICAL. - The 51J-4 Receiver is available in two styles. One is a panel and shelf assembly suitable for mounting in a standard rack cabinet. Over-all panel dimensions are: width, 19 inches; height, 10-1/2 inches; and depth behind panel, 13-1/2 inches. A dust cover that fits over the top of the chassis is removable from the rear. The other assembly is in a cabinet suitable for table-mounting. Outside cabinet dimensions are: width, 21-1/8 inches; height, 12-3/8 inches and depth, 13-1/8 inches. Available on special order is a speaker that matches this cabinet. The speaker's dimensions are: width, 13 inches; height, 11 inches; depth, 7 inches. The speaker, the cabinet of the table-mounting assembly, and the front panel of the rack-mounting receiver are finished in St. James Gray wrinkle.

The following controls are located on the front panel:

| | |
|------------|------------------|
| R-F GAIN | CRYSTAL FILTER |
| AUDIO GAIN | PHASING |
| BFO ON-OFF | OFF-ON-STANDBY |
| CALIBRATE | MEGACYCLE TUNING |
| ON-OFF | (BAND SWITCH) |
| BFO PITCH | KILOCYCLE TUNING |
| AVC ON-OFF | ZERO ADJ |

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| LIMITER OUT-IN | METER OUTPUT-INPUT |
| ANT. TRIM | CAL (100 K-C ADJUST- |
| CRYSTAL FILTER | MENTS) |
| SELECTIVITY | FILTER SELECTOR |

The operating range of 540 kc to 30.5 mc is covered by 30 one-megacycle bands that are selected by the band switch knob and indicated by a slide rule dial having graduations of one-tenth megacycle (100-kc) intervals. The main tuning control covers each of these megacycle ranges with 10 turns of a 100 division dial calibrated at one-kilocycle intervals. The receiver's frequency stability is consistent with this finely divided calibration even at the highest frequencies.

A four-ohm headphone jack and a 600-ohm speaker jack are provided on the front panel. The antenna connector, 50-ohm i-f output connector, breakin relay terminals and four-ohm and 600-ohm audio output terminals are provided on the rear. A heavy duty a-c power cord extends from the rear of the chassis.

(b) ELECTRICAL. - When advantageous, the Model 51J-4 Communications Receiver uses single, double, or triple conversion in tuning the entire frequency spectrum of 540 kc to 30.5 mc. Nineteen tubes, three of which are dual, are employed in the receiver. With the exception of the rectifier tube, all are of the miniature type.

The receiver r-f circuits tune from .5 to 30.5 mc, thus Band 1 is referred to as covering the range .5 to 1.5 mc. However, the lower end of the operating range is considered to be 540 kc rather than 500 kc because of the questionable operation in the extreme low end of the band where frequencies approach the receiver i-f frequency of 500 kc. Limited operation at the extreme low end is possible with somewhat reduced performance.

The frequency range of the 51J-4 Receiver, .5 to 30.5 mc, is divided into 30 one-megacycle bands by a system of switches and coils which form the r-f amplifier and first mixer circuits. Band changing consists of moving powdered iron "slugs" into the coils in one megacycle steps until inductance limits of the coils are reached, then changing coils and repeating. Injection voltage for the first mixer is obtained from the fundamental or harmonic output of an oscillator, the frequency of which is controlled

Section 1
GENERAL DESCRIPTION

by one of ten quartz crystals selected by the MEGACYCLE band switch. The main tuning control is a vernier dial calibrated in 100 one-kilocycle divisions. This control operates through a differential mechanism to move the band change "slugs" in the coils enough to cover the range between the one-megacycle band change steps. Thus the Band Switch selects coils and crystals and also roughly positions the tuning slugs. At the same time one of the two ranges (1.5 to 2.5 mc or 2.5 to 3.5 mc) of the variable i-f channel is selected and tuned along with the r-f coils.

The crystal frequencies for the first mixer injection are so chosen that the frequency produced by the first mixer will always fall in the 1.5 to 2.5 mc or 2.5 to 3.5 mc range of the variable i-f channel.

Exceptions to the operation just described are bands 1, 2, and 3. Band 1 (.5 to 1.5 mc) uses an intermediate mixer between the first mixer and the variable i-f coils. This mixer accepts frequencies in the range 10.5 to 11.5 mc from the first mixer. A 12-mc signal developed by the crystal controlled oscillator is applied to the first mixer to determine these frequencies. The crystal controlled oscillator also applies an 8-mc voltage to the intermediate frequency mixer to produce a signal within the range of the variable frequency i-f coils which tune the 2.5 to 3.5 mc spectrum. Bands 2 and 3, which

cover 1.5 to 2.5 mc and 2.5 to 3.5 mc respectively, are identical in span to each band of the variable i-f coils and thus feed through to the second mixer without utilizing the first mixer.

Following the variable i-f and the second mixer are the crystal filter and a four stage fixed intermediate frequency amplifier containing mechanical filters. Conversion to the fixed i-f of 500 kc is accomplished by injecting a 2 to 3 mc signal from a Collins 70E-15 oscillator to produce a difference of 500 kc from the frequency existing in either band of the variable i-f amplifier. Tuning of the 70E-15 oscillator is done by the "kilocycle" tuning control in step with all other circuits.

Stability of the 70E-15 oscillator is assured by temperature-compensated components operating in a sealed and moisture-proof housing.

Separate rectifiers are used to produce automatic volume control and audio voltages. D-c amplification of the automatic volume control voltage is provided to obtain essentially uniform input to the detector. Audio power output is held within 3.5 db over signal input voltage ranges of five to 125,000 microvolts at the antenna terminals. A series type noise limiter clips modulation at 50-85 percent. This allows good reception in the presence of strong noise pulses.

1.1.4 EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED. - The following table lists the equipment supplied.

| TYPE | DESCRIPTION | COLLINS PART NUMBER |
|-------|--|---------------------|
| 51J-4 | Radio receiver complete with tubes, dust cover for rack mounting, and one mechanical filter to be selected from list below. | 522-0144-096 |
| | OR | |
| 51J-4 | Radio receiver mounted in cabinet complete with tubes, dust cover, and one mechanical filter to be selected from list below. | 522-0144-086 |
| | Instruction Book for 51J-4 | 520-5014-00 |

1.1.5 ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE. - The following table lists the accessory equipment available for the 51J-4.

| TYPE | DESCRIPTION | COLLINS PART NUMBER |
|----------|---|---------------------|
| 270G-3 | Matching speaker (desk mounted) | 522-0149-00 |
| 271B-3 | Dual speaker (rack mounted) Panel space required is 7 inches. | 522-8123-004 |
| 271B-4 | Single speaker (rack mounted) Panel space required is 7 inches. | 522-8350-002 |
| | Cabinet for 51J-4 complete with mounting hardware. | 505-5959-003 |
| | Set of spare tubes for 51J-4 | 541-1619-002 |
| F500B-08 | 800-cycle plug-in filter for 51J-4 | 526-9007-00 |
| F500B-14 | 1400 cycle plug-in filter for 51J-4 | 526-9030-00 |
| F500B-31 | 3100 cycle plug-in filter for 51J-4 | 526-9008-00 |
| F500B-60 | 6000 cycle plug-in filter for 51J-4 | 526-9009-00 |
| | Headphones, 600 ohm | 273-0003-00 |

1.2. VACUUM TUBE TABLE.

The following table lists the tubes employed in the circuits just described.

| SYMBOL DESIGNATION | TUBE TYPE | FUNCTION |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|
| V101 | 6AK5 | Radio-frequency amplifier |
| V102 | 6BE6 | First mixer |
| V103 | 6BE6 | Band 1 mixer |
| V104 | 6BA6 | Calibration oscillator |
| V105 | 6AK5 | High-frequency crystal oscillator |
| V106 | 6BE6 | Second mixer |
| V301 | 6BA6 | First 500 kc i-f amplifier |
| V302 | 6BA6 | Second 500 kc i-f amplifier |
| V108 | 6BA6 | Third 500 kc i-f amplifier |
| V109 | 6BA6 | Fourth 500 kc i-f amplifier |
| V110 | 12AX7 | Detector and AVC rectifier |
| V111 | 12AU7 | AVC amplifier and i-f output cathode follower |
| V112 | 12AX7 | Noise limiter and first audio amplifier |
| V113 | 6AQ5 | Audio power amplifier |
| V114 | 6BA6 | Beat-frequency oscillator |
| V115 | 5V4 | Power rectifier |
| V116 | 0A2 | Voltage regulator |
| V001 | 6BA6 | Variable-frequency oscillator |
| V002 | 6BA6 | Oscillator isolation amplifier |

1.3. REFERENCE DATA.

OPERATING RANGE: 540 kc to 30.5 mc
 TYPE OF RECEPTION: AM, CW or MCW
 CALIBRATION: Direct reading in megacycles and kilocycles
 TUNING: Linear tuning with uniform bandspread
 FREQUENCY STABILITY: Dial calibration at room temperature is within 300 cps if the nearest 100 kc calibration point is used to adjust the fiducial.
 TEMPERATURE RANGE: -20°C to +60°C
 SENSITIVITY: Band 1 - Less than 15 uv gives 10 db s/n
 Bands 2 to 30 - Less than 5 uv gives 10 db s/n
 SELECTIVITY: A complete chart of selectivity characteristics is given in paragraph 5.3.7. of this book.
 SPURIOUS FREQUENCY RESPONSE: Down at least 40 db
 AUTOMATIC VOLUME CONTROL: Less than 8 db increase in audio power output with an increase in r-f signal from 5 to 500,000 uv
 S-METER: Meter calibrated in 20, 40, 60 db above AVC threshold and -10 to +6 db audio level with 6 mw as reference
 NOISE LIMITER: Series type ahead of the first audio stage
 AUDIO POWER OUTPUT: Band 1 - at least 0.5 watt for 15 uv signal
 Bands 2 to 30 - at least 0.5 watt for 5 uv signal
 AUDIO FREQUENCY RESPONSE (Overall): ±3 db from 200 to 2500 cps when 6 kc filter is used
 AUDIO DISTORTION: Less than 10 percent at 0.5 watt output
 AUDIO OUTPUT IMPEDANCE: 4 and 600 ohms
 I-F OUTPUT IMPEDANCE: 50 ohms
 R-F INPUT IMPEDANCE: Designed to operate into a high impedance whip or single-ended antenna
 POWER REQUIREMENTS: 85 watts at 115 volts 45/70 cps. Same power required when reconnected for 230 volt 45/70 cps operation
 DIMENSIONS: Panel - 10-1/2 inches high, 19 inches wide, notches for standard rack mounting
 WEIGHT: 43 pounds

SECTION II INSTALLATION

2.1. UNPACKING.

2.1.1. PROCEDURE. - Collins 51J-4 receiving equipment is packed in a number of heavy cartons. Refer to the packing slip for a list of all equipment supplied on the order. Open cartons carefully to avoid damaging the contents. Remove the packing material, and carefully lift the units out of the cartons. Search all packing material for small parcels. Extra pilot light bulbs and fuses are supplied with each equipment. Inspect each unit for loose screws and bolts. Make sure that all controls such as switches and dials work properly. All claims for damage should be filed promptly with the transportation company. If a claim is to be filed, the original packing case and material must be preserved.

2.2. INSTALLATION.

2.2.1. GENERAL. - The receiver should be mounted in a standard rack. Outline and mounting dimensions are given in figure 2-1. The front panel is slotted for mounting at 1-1/2, 3-3/4, 6-3/4 and 9 inches from the bottom. Panel height is 10-1/2 inches and panel width is 19 inches.

When choosing a position for the receiver, give consideration to convenience of power, antenna and ground connections, to placement of cables and to convenience in servicing the equipment. Rear panel connections are shown in figure 2-2.

2.2.2. ANTENNA CONNECTION. - Connect a cable from a high impedance whip or a single-ended antenna to antenna jack J101 on rear panel. If the receiver is to be operated near a powerful transmitter, the r-f input circuit should be protected by connecting break-in relay K101 to operate when the transmitter is radiating. Break-in relay connections are described in paragraph 2.2.5. below.

2.2.3. AUDIO OUTPUT CONNECTIONS. - Two audio output jacks are located on the front panel. One is designated PHONES and the other SPEAKER, their output impedances being 4 and 600 ohms respectively. An audio output terminal strip is provided on the rear panel. Terminal G is a ground

connection and terminals 4 and 600 are audio outputs of 4 and 600 ohms impedance respectively. Terminal 600 is connected in parallel with the PHONES jack, and terminal 4 is connected in parallel with the SPEAKER jack. Use these output jacks and terminals as required.

2.2.4. I-F OUTPUT CONNECTION. - A 100-200 millivolt, 50 ohm 500 kc i-f output is available at coaxial jack J104 on the rear panel.

2.2.5. REMOTE STANDBY CONNECTIONS. - Break-in relay connections are available at terminal strip E101 at the rear of the chassis. Terminals are marked 1, 2 and 3. Terminal 1 is connected to receiver ground. Terminals 2 and 3 are connected to the break-in relay coil, which is rated at 12 v d-c nominal and 135 ohms d-c resistance. During operation, terminals 2 and 3 are usually connected in series with a source of voltage and a set of normally open contacts on the carrier control relay of a transmitter in order to silence the receiver during transmission. When the break-in relay coil is energized, one pair of contacts shorts the antenna to ground; another pair, connected in series with a section of the OFF-STANDBY-ON switch, removes plate voltage from the three i-f amplifier stages. In STANDBY position, the OFF-STANDBY-ON switch also removes plate voltage from the i-f stages. See figure 2-3.

2.2.6. POWER CONNECTION. - Make power connection by using the rubber - covered cord that is permanently attached at the rear of the chassis. This cord is six feet long and is equipped with a standard a-c plug. The power source must supply 85 watts at 115 volts, 45/70 cps. If 230 volt operation is desired, reconnect transformer T108 by removing the jumpers between terminals 2 and 4 and between 1 and 3; then connect a jumper between terminals 2 and 3.

2.2.7. TUBES. - Before turning on the equipment for the first time inspect the tubes. Be sure that they are in their correct positions, and that they are firmly seated in their sockets.

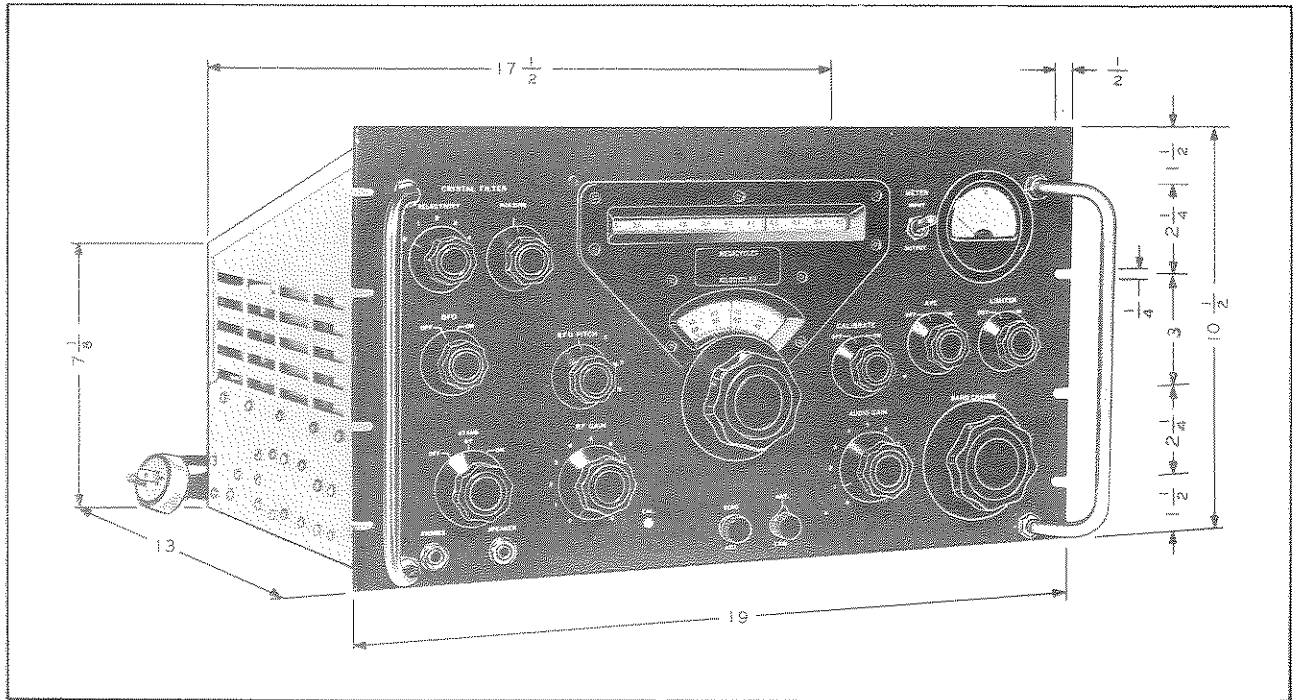


Figure 2-1. 51J-4 Mounting Dimensions

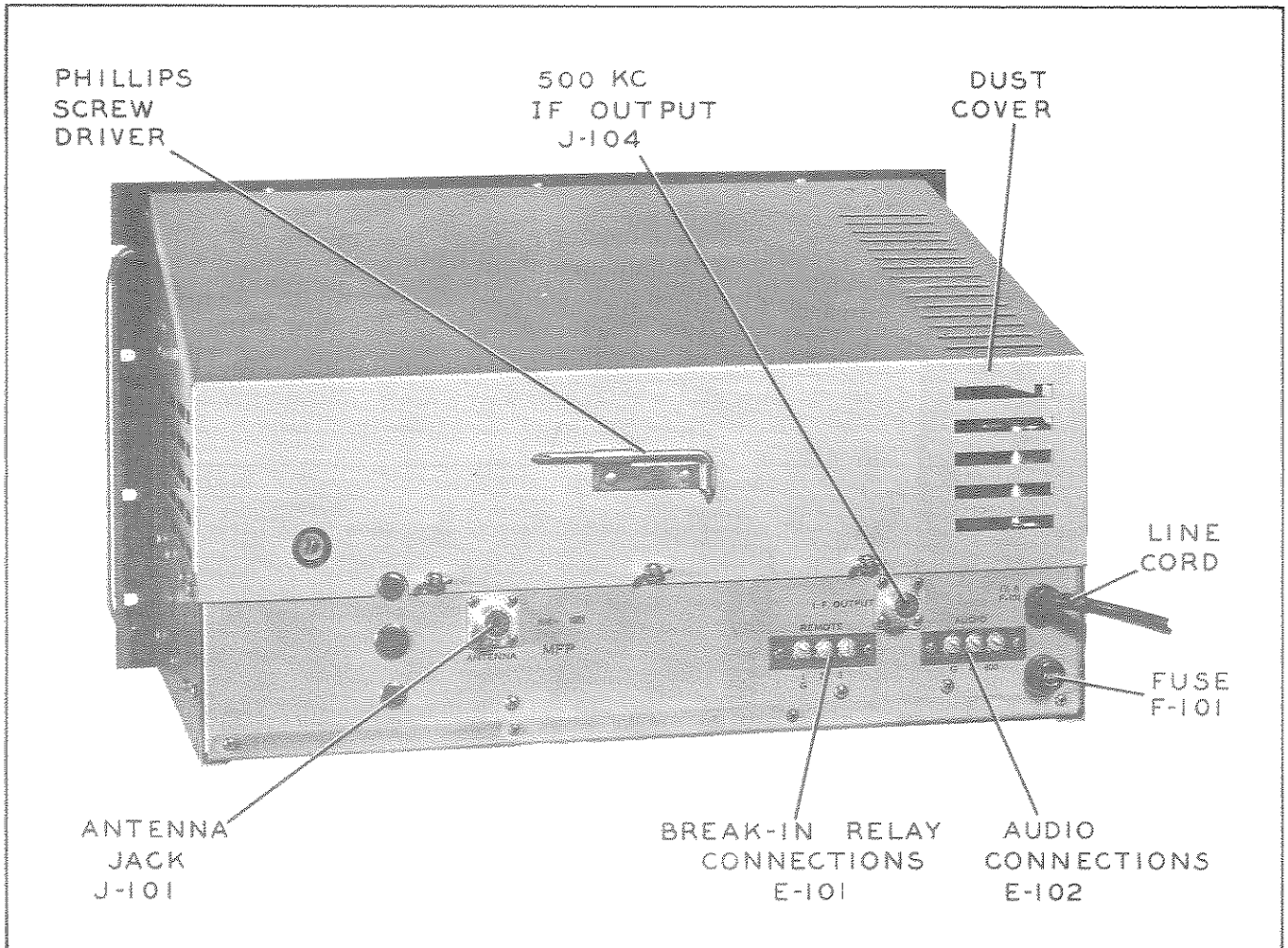


Figure 2-2. 51J-4 Rear Connections

Section 2
INSTALLATION

2.2.8. FUSE. - The fuse is located on the rear of the chassis. It can be removed for inspection by turning the cap of the fuse post to the left and pulling

straight up until the cap and fuse come free. This fuse should be the slow-blow type, with a rating of 1.5 amperes.

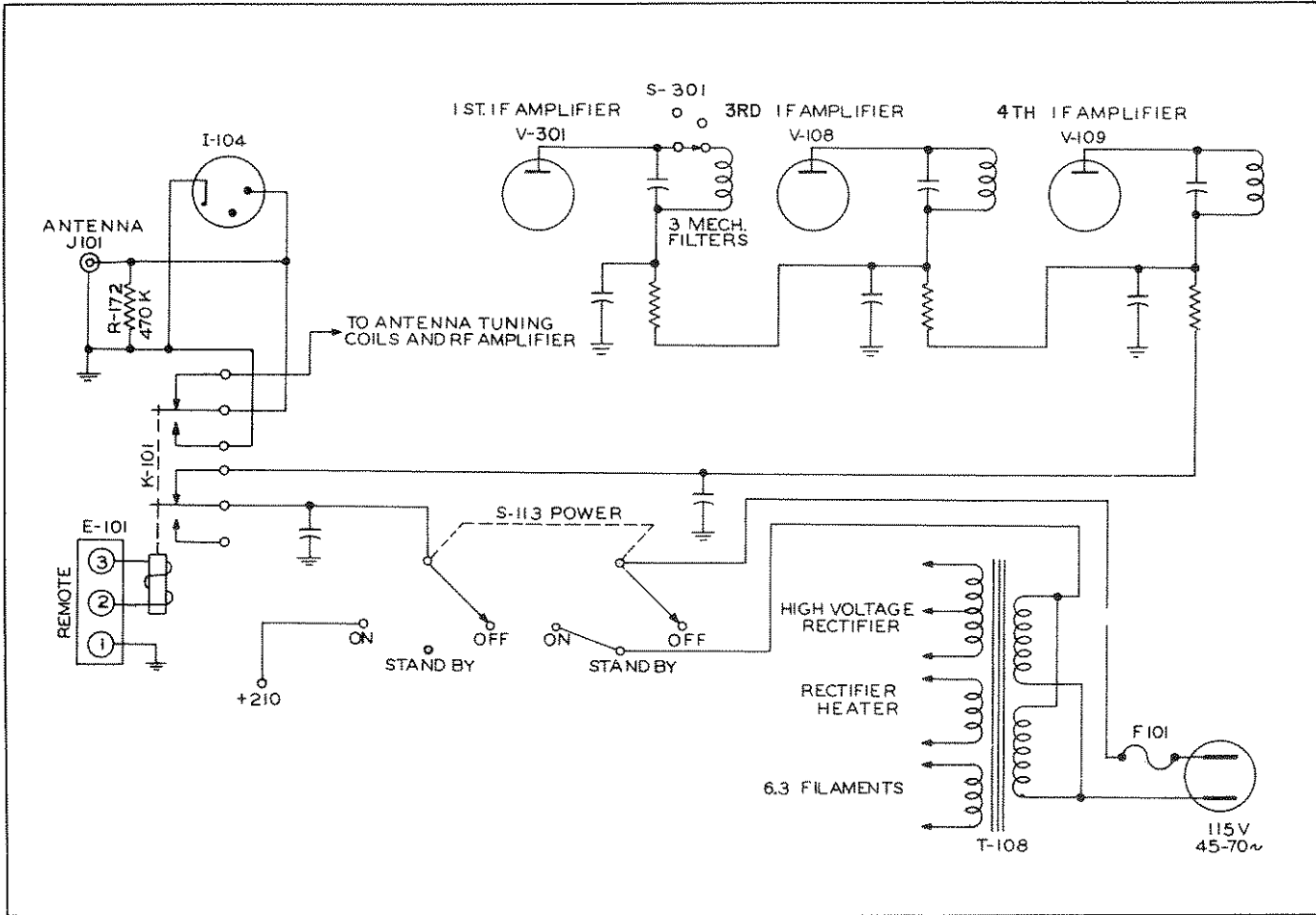


Figure 2-3. 51J-4 On-Off-Standby Functions and Remote Operation Relay Circuit

SECTION III ADJUSTMENT AND OPERATION

3.1. ADJUSTMENT.

3.1.1. GENERAL. - Other than zeroing the S meter no preoperational adjustments are necessary. Should the S meter require zeroing, turn the receiver ON, BFO OFF, AVC ON, and the 100 KC CRYSTAL OFF; then turn the RF GAIN fully clockwise. Short the antenna terminals; then turn the meter zeroing control until the S meter reads zero. Refer to figure 5-1 for location of this control.

3.2. OPERATION.

3.2.1. FUNCTION OF CONTROLS. - Operation of the 51J-4 Receiver is exceedingly simple if the functioning of the controls is understood. The following paragraphs explain the functions of the controls on the receiver's front panel.

(a) OFF-STANDBY-ON. - In the OFF position, this control opens the primary power circuit to turn the equipment completely off. In the STANDBY position the power transformer is excited, thus producing filament voltage for all stages and plate voltage for all except three i-f amplifier stages. In the ON position the receiver is completely operative.

(b) RF GAIN. - The RF GAIN control is located in the grid return circuit of the avc controlled tubes and is operative at all times. It varies the amount of fixed bias placed upon the grids of these tubes.

(c) AUDIO GAIN. - The AUDIO GAIN control is located in the grid circuit of the first audio amplifier and is operative at all times. It varies the amount of a-f signal applied to the grid of this tube, and thereby controls the amount of audio power produced by the receiver.

(d) BAND CHANGE. - Any one of the 30 bands may be selected by 1/2 revolution intervals by means of this knob. A stiff detent accurately positions the controlled switches on each band.

(e) MEGACYCLE. - The MEGACYCLE scale is on the slide-rule type dial. It is calibrated in ten 100 kc divisions, each of which equals one full turn

of the circular KILOCYCLE dial. The 1.5 to 2.5 mc and 2.5 to 3.5 mc bands are printed in red, indicating that the red scale on the KILOCYCLE dial must be used when operating on these bands. The pointer on the MEGACYCLE dial is operated by the KILOCYCLE control while the scale is changed by operation of the BAND CHANGE control.

(f) KILOCYCLE. - The KILOCYCLE dial is the main tuning control on the 51J-4 receiver. Each division on its circular face represents one kilocycle. One full turn of the dial tunes the receiver through 100 kilocycles, or one division of the MEGACYCLE scale. To read the tuning dials, merely combine the figures of the MEGACYCLE dial with those of the KILOCYCLE dial, thus arriving at the frequency in kilocycles. For example, a reading of 14.1 on the MEGACYCLE dial and of 78 on the KILOCYCLE dial indicates a frequency of 14178 kc. The KILOCYCLE scale for the 1.5 to 2.5 and 2.5 to 3.5 mc bands is in reverse order to the scale for the rest of the bands, and is printed in red similar to corresponding scales on the MEGACYCLE dial.

(g) ZERO ADJ. - The ZERO ADJ moves the indicator line on the KILOCYCLE control a few divisions in either direction for calibration purposes. The receiver may be calibrated against either any receivable station whose frequency is known or the internal calibration oscillator. This oscillator emits a harmonic every 100 kc in the tuning spectrum. An example of how the receiver may be calibrated using this oscillator follows. If the desired signal is about 14100 kc, turn the 100 KC CRYSTAL ON and the BFO ON with BFO PITCH control at panel mark. Next, using the KILOCYCLE knob, tune to zero beat with the 100 kc marker at 14100 kc. Then move the ZERO ADJ control until the hair line is exactly on 14100 kc. The dial reading in this region is now very accurate, and the receiver may be set within a few hundred cycles of the desired frequency.

A ten division scale (five divisions either side of center) is engraved on the lower edge of the escutcheon opening for the KILOCYCLE dial and is

Section 3
ADJUSTMENT AND OPERATION

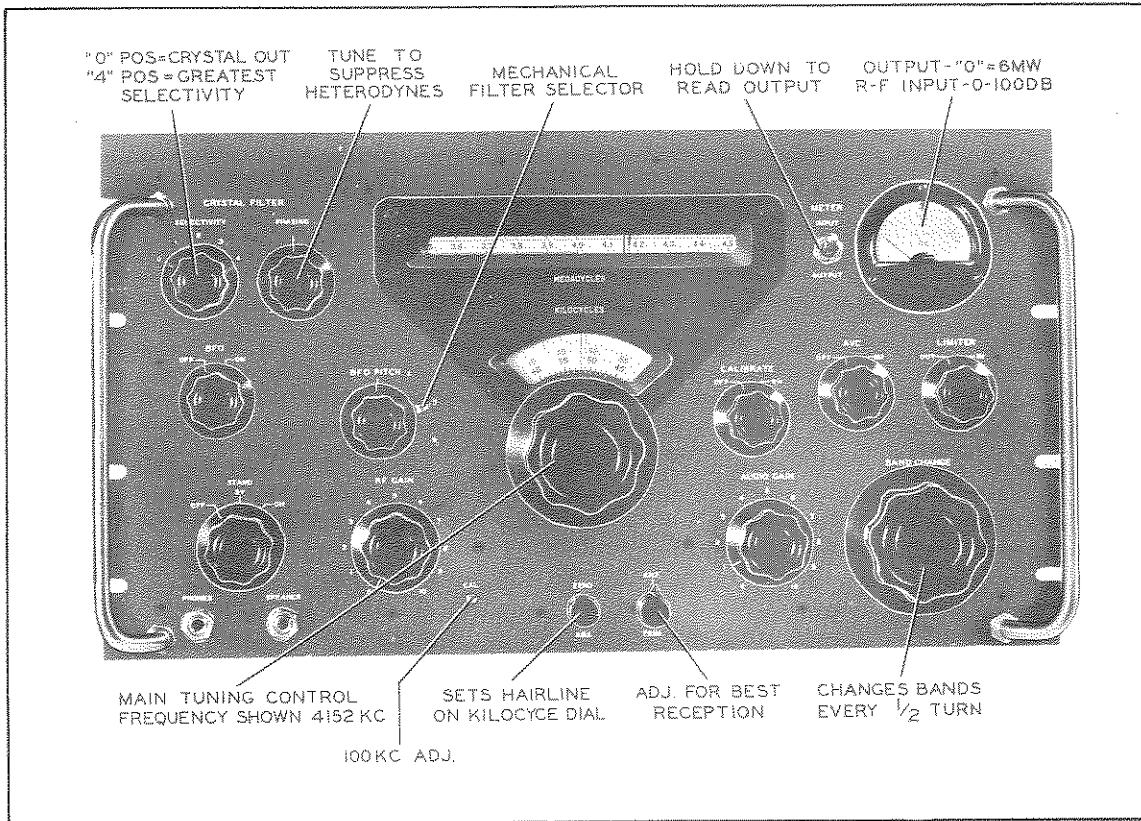


Figure 3-1. 51J-4 Operating Controls

used to log the calibrated position of the hair line on the various bands in lieu of recalibrating each time the band is used.

NOTE

WHEN READING THE FREQUENCY OF AN INCOMING SIGNAL, THE BFO PITCH CONTROL MUST BE LEFT IN THE SAME POSITION AS IT WAS WHEN THE RECEIVER WAS CALIBRATED.

(h) **METER INPUT-OUTPUT.** - The METER switch is a momentary spring-return type toggle switch. In the normal or INPUT position the meter is connected as an S meter. In the OUTPUT position, the meter is connected in the audio output circuit as a db meter.

(i) **BFO OFF-ON.** - In the ON position this control turns ON the beat frequency oscillator for CW reception. In the OFF position, it grounds the screen grid of the BFO tube.

(j) **BFO PITCH.** - The BFO pitch control varies the frequency of the beat frequency oscillator to change the pitch of the audio tone which is produced

by combining the BFO signal with the incoming signal. A range of about ± 3 kc minimum can be obtained with this control.

(k) **CALIBRATE OFF-ON.** - This switch is in the cathode circuit of 100 kc crystal oscillator tube V104 and turns the 100 kc oscillator ON or OFF. For an explanation of how to use the oscillator, see paragraph (g) above.

(l) **AVC OFF-ON.** - This switch turns AVC ON or OFF. In most cases AVC should be ON for both AM and CW reception, but may be turned OFF for CW reception if desired.

(m) **LIMITER OUT-IN.** - The noise limiter is useful for both AM and CW reception. When noise is not a problem, turn the LIMITER to OFF, as the distortion will be less in this position. When noise of the impulse type is being received, turn the LIMITER to ON. Adjustment of RF and AF gain controls is necessary for best CW noise limiting.

(n) **CRYSTAL FILTER.**

SELECTIVITY. - In position 0 of this control, the crystal filter is not used and selectivity is determined by the receiver's tuned circuits alone. In position 1 through 4, the crystal filter is in the

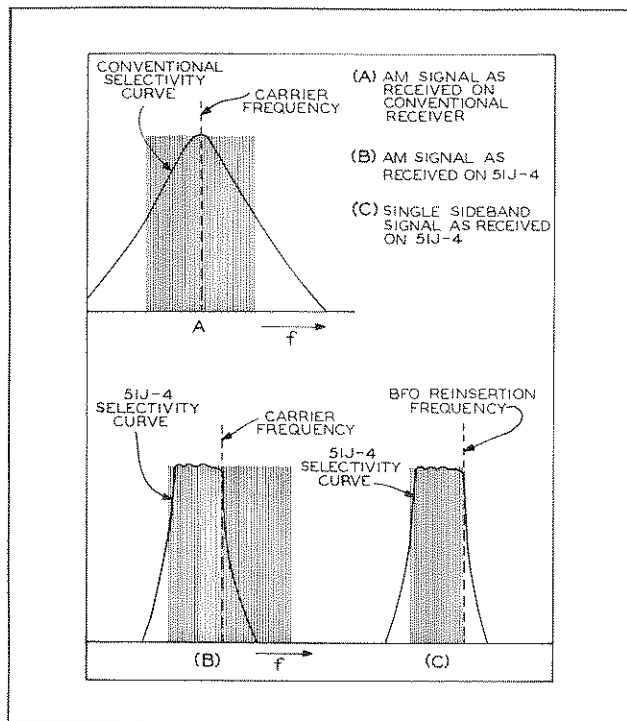


Figure 3-2. Tuning (A) a Conventional Receiver; (B) and (C) the 51J-4 using the 3KC Mechanical Filter

circuit, the selectivity being increased as position 4 is approached. Position 4 gives a bandwidth of about 200 cps at 6 db down.

PHASING. - The PHASING control is used to reject unwanted heterodynes. When positioned on the panel mark, the control is properly set for crystal phasing with no rejection notch. If a high frequency heterodyne is interfering with reception, move the control back and forth near the panel mark until the heterodyne is attenuated. If the heterodyne is of lower frequency, move the control farther to left or right of the panel mark. This control will attenuate heterodynes ranging from 1 to 3 kc.

(o) **METER.** - The tuning meter is calibrated in 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 db above AVC threshold when reading r-f input. When reading audio output, the meter is calibrated from -10 to +6 db, zero reference being 6 milliwatts into a 500 ohm load.

(p) **CAL.** - If supreme accuracy is desired, the frequency of the 100 kc oscillator should be checked against WWV or some other station whose frequency is known to be extremely accurate. This oscillator frequency may be varied through small limits by turning the CAL control with a screw driver. Additional range can be obtained by turning C169, located just behind the 100 kc crystal.

(q) **FILTER SELECTOR.** - If the receiver is equipped with the complete complement of three mechanical filters, position 1 selects the 1.4 kc filter, position 3 selects the 3.1 kc filter and position 6 selects the 6 kc filter.

3.2.2. TUNING AM SIGNALS.

Conventional tuning is employed when using the 6 kc mechanical filter, however, when using the 3 kc filter, the tuning techniques differ somewhat. Because of the flat top and almost vertical sides of the pass band of the 3 kc filter it is possible to tune either sideband of an AM station and reject the opposite sideband. Tuning "on the nose" results in loss of the high frequency audio components with, in most cases, a loss of intelligibility. Select the sideband that contains the least objectionable adjacent channel interference. See figure 3-2(B). When the 3 kc filter is employed, use the following procedure to tune AM signals:

(a) Set up for AM reception: Power ON; operate BAND CHANGE switch to desired band; BFO to OFF; LIMITER to OUT; selectivity to O; AVC to ON; select 3 kc mechanical filter; RF GAIN maximum-use AUDIO GAIN for volume control.

(b) Tune in AM station - move dial slowly.

(c) Adjust ANT. TRIM for maximum "S" meter reading - (one setting for each new band usually sufficient).

(d) Tune toward one side of the carrier being received until "S" meter reading drops sharply. Then carefully tune into the signal again until the "S" meter reading increases to its former value and the modulation is readable. The receiver is now tuned to one sideband plus the carrier of the AM station. If heterodyne interference is strong, tune to the other side of the signal and listen to the opposite sideband.

(e) If noise is severe, turn the LIMITER switch to IN.

(f) If heterodyne interference is bad on both sidebands, tune to the better sideband and turn the SELECTIVITY control to 1. Operate the CRYSTAL FILTER PHASING control over its entire range (90° either side of center position) to find the position at which the heterodyne is weakest. With any crystal filter there are some frequencies that cannot be phased out. In the 51J-4 these occur at between 800 and 1200 cps. Generally speaking, turning the SELECTIVITY control any higher in AM reception

Section 3
ADJUSTMENT AND OPERATION

will not give an over-all gain in results because of the loss in audio frequencies.

3.2.3. TUNING SINGLE-SIDEBAND SIGNALS.

The 51J-4 is used for single sideband reception in much the same manner as is any other communications receiver. The transmitted signals carrier must be reinserted at the receiver, of course, and in the 51J-4, this is done by turning on the BFO. Before attempting to receive single sideband signals, calibrate the BFO following the procedure in paragraph (a) below. After the BFO has once been calibrated it will only be necessary to recalibrate as component aging or extreme temperature variations cause the BFO frequency to shift.

(a) Calibrating the BFO. Calibrating the BFO makes it possible to set the receiver up for single sideband reception with minimum delay thereafter. It, in effect, establishes the correct point in the receivers passband at which the carrier is being reinserted. See figure 3-2(B). We calibrate for both upper and lower sideband operation.

(1) Set up for AM reception but do not turn on the crystal filter. (POWER ON; operate BAND CHANGE to desired band; BFO to OFF; AVC to ON; AUDIO GAIN maximum - use RF GAIN for volume control; use 3 kc filter).

(2) Turn the CALIBRATE switch to ON and tune to the exact center of the signal (the "S" meter is helpful here). Turn on the BFO. If the BFO is correctly adjusted the zero beat should occur at or very near the center position of the BFO PITCH knob. Turn the BFO off.

(3) It has been determined that for best results, the reinserted carrier (BFO signal) should be placed 18 to 20 db down on the filter skirt. The point to set the BFO can be found by the following method: Tune in a signal of approximately S-9 either from the calibrator at one of the calibrator check points or from a signal generator. Tune the receiver dial below the signal until the S-meter has dropped 3-S units (18 db). Turn the BFO switch to ON. Increase the audio gain and decrease the RF gain to prevent overloading. Zero beat the bfo with the front panel BFO PITCH control. Note the position of the BFO PITCH knob.

(4) Return the receiver controls for AM reception, tune the receiver dial above the input signal until the S-meter shows a decrease of 3-S units on this side of the filter curve. Again return to CW reception, zero beat the BFO PITCH and note the knob position.

(b) Set up for single-sideband reception: Power ON; operate BAND CHANGE to desired band; BFO to ON; LIMITER to OUT; SELECTIVITY to O; AVC to OFF; use 3 kc filter maximum - use RF GAIN for volume control.

(c) Adjust ANT. TRIM for maximum background noise.

(d) Tune to S. S. S. C. station with RF GAIN at low setting to prevent overload. (There is no avc now.)

(e) Turn the BFO PITCH control counterclockwise to the left hand position mark as determined in step (a).

(f) Very carefully adjust the main tuning dial until the S. S. S. C. signal becomes readable. This may take considerable patience the first few times because tuning to an S. S. S. C. station is more critical than tuning for AM signals. Do not adjust the BFO PITCH after it is once set - rather, make all tuning adjustments with the main tuning dial. If the signals cannot be made readable, set the BFO PITCH to the clockwise mark and again carefully adjust the main tuning dial.

(g) Advance the RF GAIN to suit.

(h) If heterodyne interference is severe, turn the SELECTIVITY control position 1 and adjust the crystal filter PHASING control to "notch out" the interfering signal, as described in paragraph 3.2.1. (n), of this section.

3.2.4. TUNING CW SIGNALS.

The extreme selectivity of the 51J-4 Receiver makes single-signal reception an inherent feature of the set. However, because of the selectivity, careful tuning and special techniques are in order. Best single-signal reception is with the BFO PITCH set to produce a 1000 cps peak note when using the 3 kc filter.

(a) Set up for CW reception: Power ON; operate BAND CHANGE to desired band; BFO to ON; SELECTIVITY to O; LIMITER to OUT; AVC to OUT; AUDIO GAIN maximum - use RF GAIN for volume control.

(b) Adjust BFO PITCH to approximately 1/4" off the index mark.

(c) Adjust ANT. TRIM for maximum background noise.

(d) Tune in a cw station. Carefully adjust the main tuning control for the loudest signal.

(e) Adjust the BFO PITCH control to the desired pitch.

(f) If interference is present try tuning to zero beat with the interference while at the same time retaining an audible beat note with the desired signal.

(g) If the results of step f. are unsatisfactory, turn the BFO PITCH control to the other side of center and repeat step f.

(h) If steps f. and g. do not produce satisfactory reception, plate the SELECTIVITY in positions 1-2-3 or 4, as required, and carefully retune the main tuning control. When greatest audio output is reached, move the PHASING control slowly out each side from center and try to phase out the interfering signal. If adjacent signals are no problem, leave the PHASING control in center position for minimum background hiss.

(i) Further selectivity can be gained by switching in the 1 kc filter on receivers so equipped. The tuning procedures are the same except that the BFO PITCH control must not be set so far out. When searching for signals it is usually better to use the 3 kc filter and have the crystal filter out, i. e. SELECTIVITY control in the 0 position.

3.2.5. FREQUENCY MEASURING.

For AM and single-sideband reception using the 3 kc filter the 51J-4 dial reading will not necessarily correspond to the carrier frequency of the station being received. Depending upon whether the upper or lower sideband is tuned, the actual carrier frequency will be approximately 1.5 kc lower or higher than the dial reading indicates. For CW reception, if the CW station is properly tuned, the

dial reading should correspond to the carrier frequency. More accurate frequency measuring procedures are outlined below.

(a) Calibration: Frequency readings will be more accurate if the calibrator is used to calibrate the dial before frequency measurements are made. To use the calibrator, set up for CW reception (paragraph 3.2.4. (a) of this section), tune to the 100-kc point nearest the frequency to be measured, set the BFO PITCH control to center position, and turn on the calibrator. Zero beat the calibrator signal, using the main tuning control. Adjust the ZERO ADJ knob so that the dial marker lines up with zero on the KILOCYCLE dial. Turn off the calibrator.

(b) To measure the carrier frequency of an AM station, turn the SELECTIVITY control to 4, tune the station for maximum "S" meter reading, and read the frequency on the tuning dial.

3.3. NOTES ON MECHANICAL FILTERS.

3.3.1. GENERAL. - Certain characteristics of the mechanical filter must be considered when choosing the filter best suited for the reception conditions of each signal.

(a) Selective fading may be more noticeable when receiving AM on just one sideband. If selective fading is bad but adjacent channel interference is not, choose the 6 kc filter and tune the signal at the center of the passband.

(b) When using the 3 kc filter and one sideband for reception, there is an inherent 6 db loss in detector sensitivity due to detecting only one sideband; however, 3 db is picked up because of using a narrower bandwidth. Thus there is a net loss of 3 db in sensitivity. On weak signals it may be better to choose the 6 kc filter and tune "on the nose" except in event of adjacent channel interference, in which case the 3 kc filter may still be the best choice.

SECTION IV CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

4.1. MECHANICAL DESCRIPTION.

4.1.1. BAND CHANGE. - Collins 51J-4 Receiver covers the frequency range of 0.5 to 30.5 mc in 30 bands: 0.5 to 1.5, 1.5 to 2.5, and so on up to 30.5 mc. Each band is one megacycle wide. Circuits affected by band changes are the r-f amplifier grid, first, second, and third mixer grids, crystal selector, and crystal harmonic tuning circuits. The third mixer is switched in only on band 1 (.5 to 1.5 mc). See figure 4-1.

Operations involved in the changing of bands consist of selecting the proper coils in these circuits by means of tap switches and changing the position of the r-f amplifier and first mixer slug tables. All stages are permeability tuned by powdered iron slugs. The r-f amplifier and first mixer slug tables change position a full megacycle in tuning each time a band is changed. This is true of all three slug tables, which tune L104 through L113. However, the tap switches select the proper set of coils for the frequency desired.

Slug tables are driven from two sources: the main tuning knob and the BAND CHANGE knob. These two driving sources are connected to the slug tables through a differential gear mechanism. This is necessary since the coils for bands 4 to 7, 8 to 15, and 16 to 30 cover these tuning ranges with one complete excursion of the tuning slugs. For instance, the band 4 to 7 slug table tunes its associated coils through four megacycles; in one megacycle jumps when operated by the BAND CHANGE knob, and in complete coverage in between when operated by the tuning knob. An interesting feature of the differential gearing is its ability to combine the movements of the two driving sources so that the slug table is moved exactly one megacycle in each band change. The other slug tables operate similarly to the 4 to 7 table, except that the band 8 to 15 table tunes its associated coils through 8 mc, and the band 16 to 30 table tunes its associated coils through 15 mc. These three slug tables are moved simultaneously by means of separate cams.

Switch sections of the band switch are ganged with the BAND CHANGE knob through an over-travel coupler. This over-travel coupler drops the band switch at band 16 while the r-f slug tables continue to operate one position for each band as usual. Refer to figure 4-2. This mechanical diagram shows the gears and connecting shafts associated with band change and tuning. Shafts associated with changing bands are C, D, G, H, I, K, and the over-travel shaft. On band 1 radio frequency coils L101 and L110 are switched by means of the BAND CHANGE knob through the over-travel shaft and shaft G. On bands 2 and 3, the r-f coils are selected by the BAND CHANGE knob through the over-travel shaft and shafts G and K, variable i-f section coils, L116 through L119, being used as additional r-f coils on these bands. On bands 4 to 7, the coils are selected by the BAND CHANGE knob through the over-travel shaft and shaft G, and the position of the slug table is changed through shafts C and D. On these bands the same coils are used for each band. Band change is accomplished by moving the tuning slug in the coil an amount equal to one megacycle in frequency. The slug moves in the coil 0.250 inches for a one megacycle change. On bands 8 to 15, the r-f coils are changed by the over-travel shaft and shaft G, and the position of the slug table is changed one megacycle per band through shafts C and D. The movement of the slug table for a one megacycle change is 0.125 inches. On bands 16 to 30, the r-f coils are switched through the over-travel shaft and shaft G to position 16 where the band switch remains for bands 16 to 30 while the over-travel coupler allows shaft G to rotate through to the thirtieth band. The slugs in the r-f coils are driven through shafts C and D. The slugs travel 0.0625 inches during band change. During operation on any band between 4 and 30 the variable i-f channel is alternated from one variable i-f to the other by shafts G and K. Crystals are selected by operation of the BAND CHANGE knob through the 15-position Geneva system and shafts G, H, and I.

4.1.2. TUNING. - All r-f, mixer and variable i-f coils, as well as the variable frequency oscillator

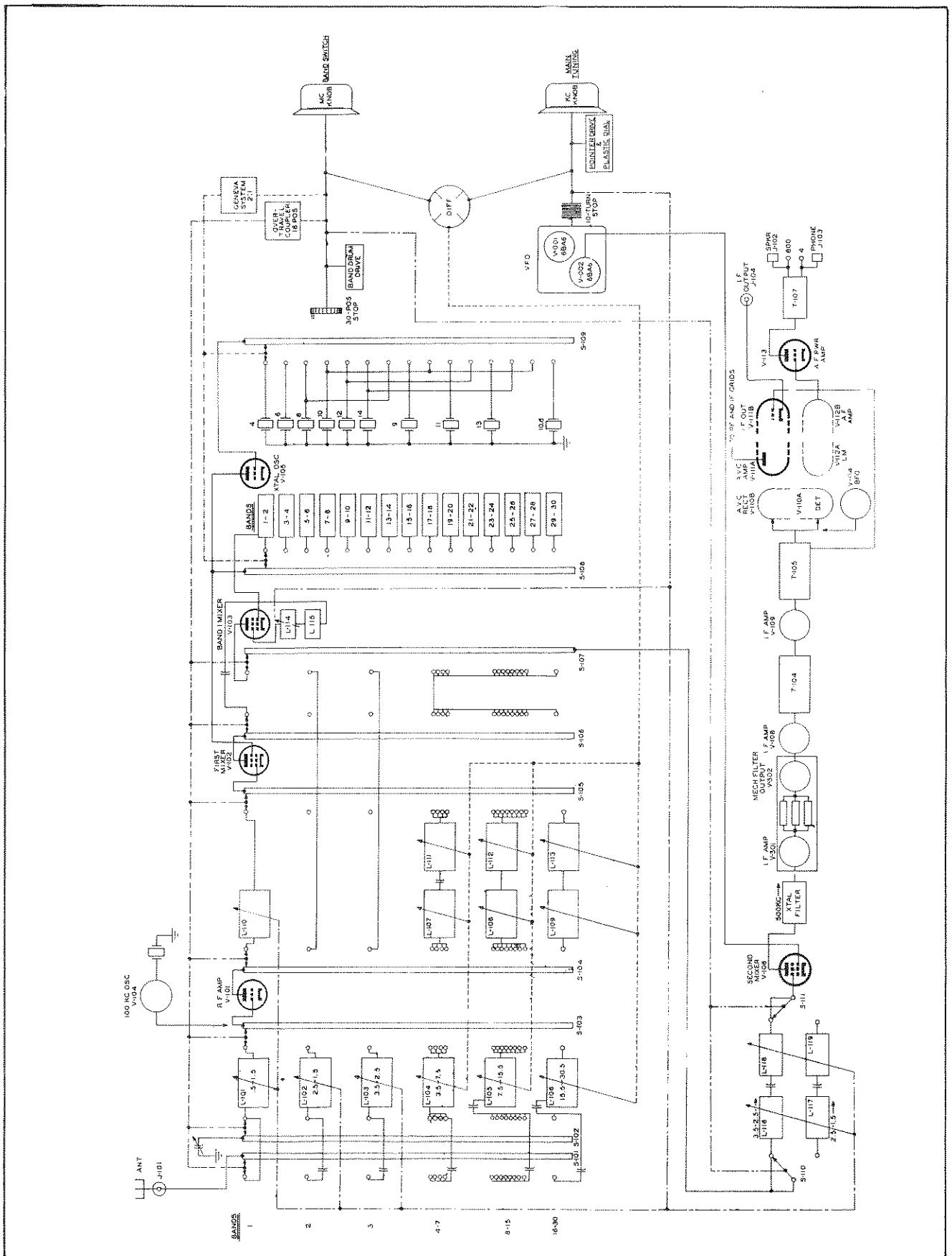


Figure 4-1. 51J-4 Band Change and Tuning System, Block Diagram

Section 4
CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

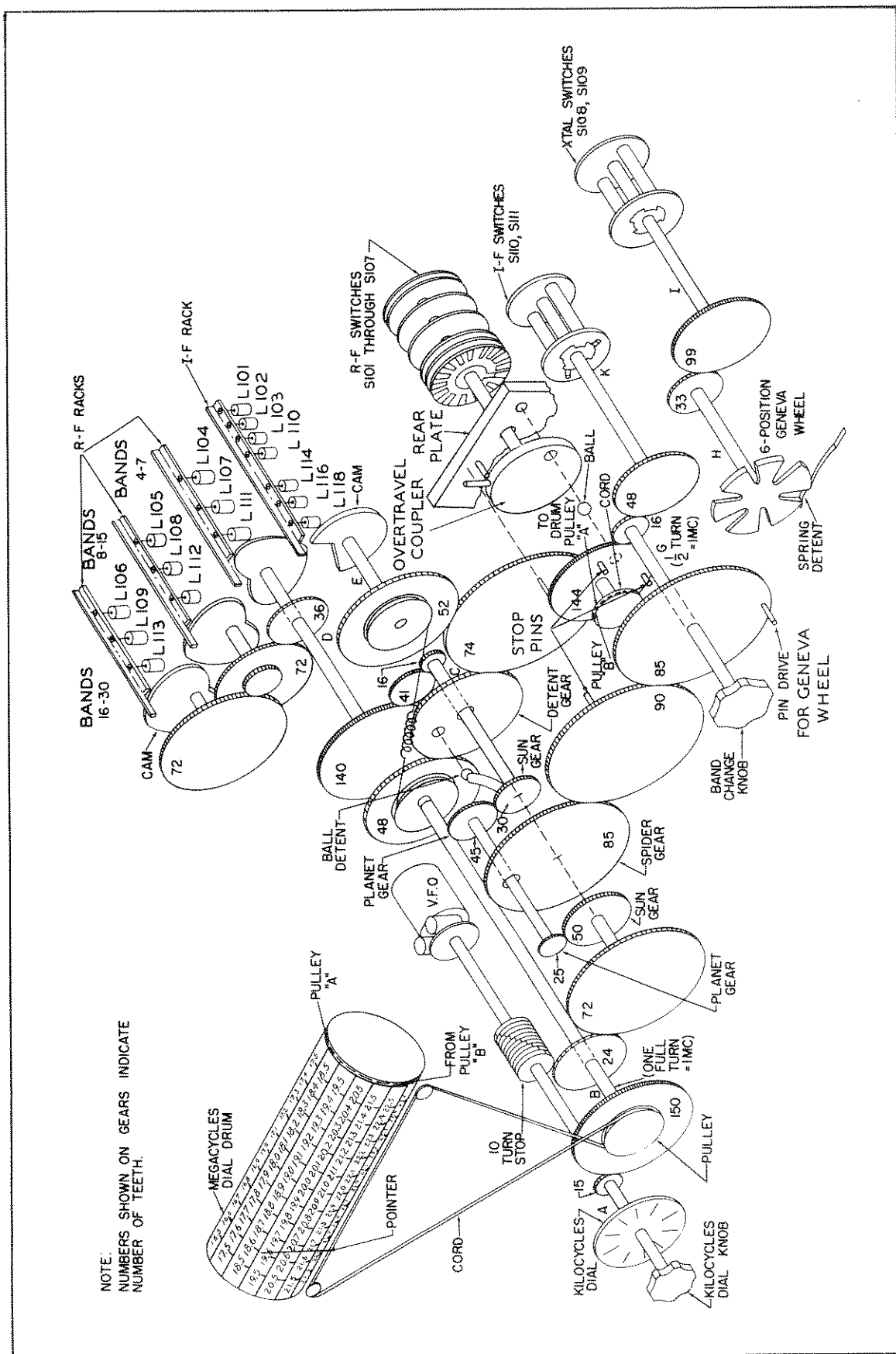


Figure 4-2. 51J-4 Mechanical Block Diagram

coil, are permeability-tuned by powdered iron cores. While tuning, these slugs move in and out of the coils at a rate determined by a cam or by a lead screw. Four slug racks or tables are used in the 51J-3 receiver to perform the function of tuning the r-f, mixer and variable i-f stages. The group of three slug tables in the rear portion of the chassis tunes the r-f and first mixer stages when the receiver is operating in the 3.5 to 30.5 mc frequency range (bands 4 to 30). The fourth slug table, located at the right hand edge of the receiver, tunes the r-f stage, the first mixer grid, the third mixer grid and the variable i-f coils when receiving in the range 0.5 to 1.5 mc. It tunes the r-f stage and variable i-f coils L116 and L118 when receiving in the range 1.5 to 2.5 and 2.5 to 3.5 mc. When receiving in the range 3.5 to 30.5 mc, this slug table tunes only the variable i-f coils L116 and L118. During tuning, positions of the slug tables are varied by a system of gears and cams; see figure 4-2. On band 1 (0.5 to 1.5 mc) coils L101 and L110 are tuned through this frequency range by the main tuning knob through shafts A, B, C and E. On bands 2 and 3 (2.5 to 1.5 and 3.5 to 2.5), tuning is done by the main tuning knob through the same shafts -- A, B, C and E. On band 4 to 7, the main tuning knob tunes coils L104, L107 and L111 over one-fourth of their tuning range through shafts A, B, C and D and the differential shafts. The BAND CHANGE knob moves this same rack through shafts G, C, D, and the differential in four steps. Each step is equal to one-fourth of the coils' tuning range and the shafts are positioned by means of the detent. Thus L104, L107, and L111 are tuned in one megacycle steps by the BAND CHANGE knob, and between these steps are tuned by the main tuning knob. On bands 8 to 15, coils L105, L108, and L112 are tuned through shafts A, B, C, D and the differential. Bands 16 to 30 are also tuned through shafts A, B, C, D and the differential. Each of the two variable frequency i-f channels covers one megacycle range and is tuned by means of the main tuning knob through shafts A, B and E. The proper channel is selected by the BAND CHANGE knob through shafts G and K.

4.1.3. FREQUENCY INDICATION. - The band on which the receiver is operating is indicated on the drum dial that is rotated by the BAND CHANGE knob through shaft G. The 100 kc divisions are indicated by a pointer on the slide rule dial. This pointer is driven from the main tuning knob through shaft A. Kilocycle divisions are indicated by the plastic dial mounted on shaft A. Two scales are necessary on this dial because bands 2 and 3 run in opposite directions. Mechanical stops are mounted on the control shafts to prevent overtravel.

4.2. ELECTRICAL DESCRIPTION.

4.2.1. GENERAL. - Collins 51J-4 Receiver is a complete coverage superheterodyne receiver capable of AM and CW reception in the frequency range of 0.5 to 30.5 megacycles. The set covers the tuning range in 30 bands, each band one megacycle wide. Various portions of the tuning spectrum use single, dual and triple conversion. Three stages of intermediate-frequency amplification and a crystal filter produce the desired degree of selectivity. The receiver also features a low impedance AVC, a good noise limiter, two stages of audio amplification and a 100 kc frequency spotter or calibrator.

The receiver employs dual conversion on most bands and single or triple on others in order to obtain full coverage economically with a minimum of image and other spurious responses on all bands. Band 1, 0.5 to 1.5 mc uses triple conversion, bands 2 and 3, 1.5 to 3.5 mc, use single conversion, and bands 4 to 30, 3.5 to 30.5 mc, use dual conversion. Each band is numbered on the band's center frequency. For instance, band 1 covers 0.5 to 1.5 mc, band 2 covers 1.5 to 2.5 mc, and so on.

On band 1, where triple conversion is necessary, an intermediate mixer is employed between the first and second mixers used in the regular dual conversion scheme. The 0.5 to 1.5 mc carrier on band 1 is fed to the first mixer where it is beat against a 12 mc signal from the h-f crystal oscillator to produce an 11.5 to 10.5 mc signal. This signal is beat against an 8 mc signal in the intermediate mixer to produce the variable i-f or 3.5 to 2.5 mc. The variable i-f is then combined with 3 to 2 mc variable oscillator output to produce the fixed 500-kc if. On bands 2 and 3, the 1.5 to 3.5 mc carrier is fed directly to the second mixer where it is combined with the same variable oscillator output to produce the 500-kc fixed i-f. On bands 4 to 30 the regular dual conversion scheme is employed. On the even numbered bands the signal frequency is beat against the high frequency oscillator output to produce a variable i-f of 2.5 to 1.5 mc. On the odd numbered bands a variable i-f of 3.5 to 2.5 mc is produced. The variable i-f is then combined in the second mixer with the v.f.o. output to produce the 500-kc fixed i-f. The detailed operation of the various receiver circuits is outlined in the following paragraphs.

4.2.2. RADIO FREQUENCY AMPLIFICATION. - One stage of radio frequency amplification is used on all bands. See block diagram, figure 4-1. The circuit is a conventional r-f amplifier circuit employing a type 6AK5 miniature r-f pentode, V101.

Section 4
CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

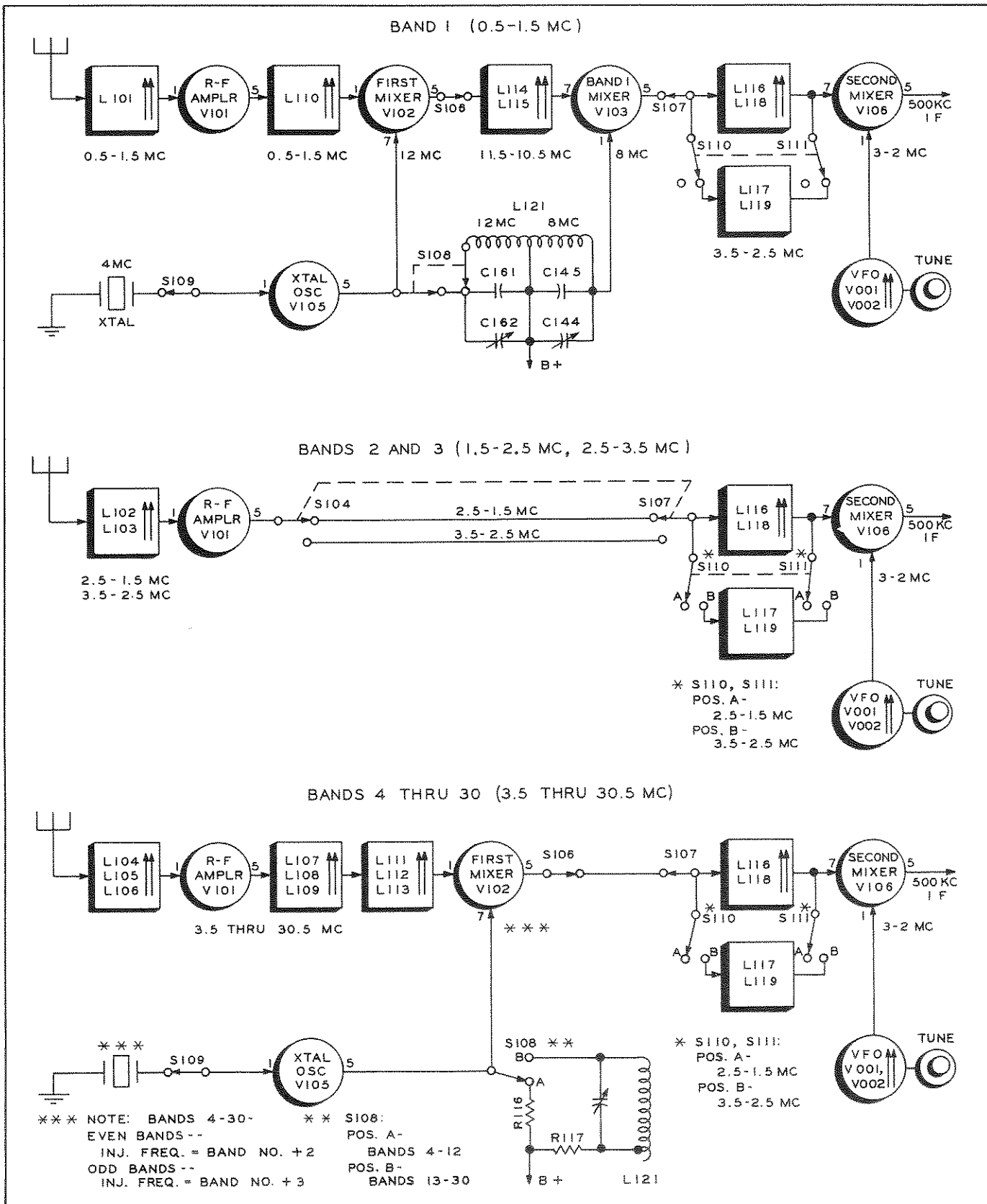


Figure 4-3. 51J-4 Frequency Conversion Circuits

This tube is used because of its low noise and good sensitivity characteristics at high frequencies.

The control grid of this stage is tuned on all bands, the tuned circuit being selected by r-f switch, S103. The antenna is capacitively coupled to the tuned circuits in the control grid through r-f switches, S101, and S102.

When operating in the American broadcast band (band 1), the plate circuit of the r-f amplifier is impedance-coupled to the grid circuit of the first mixer by resistor R105 and capacitor C117. On bands 2 and 3 the plate of the r-f amplifier tube is switched directly to the primary coils of the variable i-f tuner, where additional selectivity is obtained. Single conversion is used on these bands. When operated on bands 4 to 30, the plate circuit is tuned and capacitively coupled to a corresponding tuned circuit in the grid of the first mixer stage.

The r-f coils and associated trimmers in the plate circuit are selected by the BAND CHANGE knob and tuned through the various band ranges via the slug table arrangements. The r-f coils for bands 1, 2, and 3 are mounted on the variable i-f slug table which is at the extreme right hand edge of the receiver as viewed from the front. See figure 5-1. The coils for bands 4 to 30 are clustered at the rear of the chassis and are tuned by slugs mounted on the three r-f and mixer slug tables.

4.2.3. MIXER STAGES.

(a) FIRST MIXER. - The first mixer stage uses a type 6BE6 miniature pentagrid converter tube, V102. This stage is used on all bands except bands 2 and 3, where only one conversion stage is necessary.

The grid 1 circuit (pin 1) receives the r-f signal from the r-f amplifier stage. On band 1, this grid circuit is tuned by L110, C118, and C119, and impedance coupled to the plate of the r-f amplifier through C117 and R105. On bands 4 through 30, the circuit is tuned by the proper coil and trimmer groups selected by the r-f switch S104, and capacitively coupled to corresponding tuned circuits in the plate of the r-f amplifier stage.

The grid 3 (pin 7) input is obtained from the plate of the hfo (V105). On bands 4 through 30, the frequency of the heterodyning signal applied to this grid is such as to produce an output frequency which falls in one of the two variable i-f ranges, (2.5 to 1.5 mc or 3.5 to 2.5 mc), depending on which of the bands between 4 and 30 is being operated. On band

1, a 12-mc heterodyning signal is applied to this grid, the output of the stage then being in the range of 11.5 to 10.5 mc, which is again heterodyned in the Band 1 Mixer.

The plate output frequency of this stage is then shown to be in the variable i-f spectrum on bands 4 through 30, and the output applied directly to the tuned variable i-f coils. On band 1, the plate circuit is tuned to the range of 11.5 to 10.5 mc by components L114, L115, C139, and C140, and the output applied for further conversion to the Band 1 Mixer, V103.

(b) SECOND MIXER STAGE. - The second mixer stage, V106, also employs a 6BE6 miniature converter tube. Input to this stage is always either 3.5 to 2.5 mc or 2.5 to 1.5 mc from the variable i-f coils L116/L118 and L117/L119. The 3 to 2 mc output of the permeability tuned oscillator is fed into the second mixer tube at grid number one to heterodyne against the input signal to produce a 500 kc intermediate frequency. This mixer stage is always used for all bands.

(c) THIRD MIXER STAGE. - The third, or band 1, mixer stage is used only when receiving on band 1. A type 6BE6 miniature converter tube is used in this application also. Grid number 3 of this tube is excited by a 11.5 to 10.5 mc signal from the plate circuit of first mixer tube V102, and grid number one is excited by a heterodyning 8 mc signal from the crystal oscillator. The output of the third mixer is then 3.5 to 2.5 mc, which is then fed to the grid of the second mixer through the variable i-f coils. This, of course, takes place only when receiving on band 1 as this stage is not used on the other bands.

4.2.4. HIGH FREQUENCY OSCILLATOR. - The high frequency oscillator uses a 6AK5 miniature pentode tube in a piezoelectric oscillator circuit. No tuned coils are needed to make the circuit oscillate because in phase feedback voltage is produced across r-f choke L120. Ten quartz crystals are used to control the frequency of the oscillator output for the various bands. At the minimum, each crystal is used for two adjacent bands, i.e. 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 and so on, since the crystal switch S109 changes position only on odd-numbered bands. For instance, the 8 mc crystal used for bands 5 and 6 is also used for bands 13 and 14 by utilizing its second harmonic at 16 mc. In those instances where harmonic operation is used, a tuned circuit picks off the correct harmonic. This tuned circuit is in the plate circuit of the hfo, V105, and consists of the section of coil L121 in the hfo plate circuit and a number of tuning capacitors. The latter are selected by switch pie S108.

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The circuit consisting of the section of L121 in the grid circuit of the Band 1 Mixer and capacitors C144 and C145, is tuned to 8 mc and is used when operating on band 1 to furnish the Band 1 Mixer with an 8 mc heterodyning signal (second harmonic of the 4- mc crystal). At the same time, the other

section of L121 and associated trimmers is tuned to 12 mc (third harmonic of the 4-mc crystal) to furnish the first mixer with the required 12-mc heterodyning signal. A list of the crystals and the bands upon which they function is outlined as follows:

CIRCUIT FREQUENCY

| CRYSTAL FREQUENCY | RECEIVER FREQUENCY | BAND | INJECTION FREQUENCY |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|
| 4 | 0.5 to 1.5 | 1 | 8 and 12 |
| | 1.5 to 2.5 | 2 | None |
| 6 | 2.5 to 3.5 | 3 | None |
| | 3.5 to 4.5 | 4 | 6 |
| 8 | 4.5 to 5.5 | 5 | 8 |
| | 5.5 to 6.6 | 6 | 8 |
| | 12.5 to 13.5 | 13 | 16 |
| | 13.5 to 14.5 | 14 | 16 |
| 10 | 6.5 to 7.5 | 7 | 10 |
| | 7.5 to 8.5 | 8 | 10 |
| | 16.5 to 17.5 | 17 | 20 |
| | 17.5 to 18.5 | 18 | 20 |
| | 26.5 to 27.5 | 27 | 30 |
| | 27.5 to 28.5 | 28 | 30 |
| | 12 | 8.5 to 9.5 | 9 |
| 9.5 to 10.5 | | 10 | 12 |
| 20.5 to 21.5 | | 21 | 24 |
| 21.5 to 22.5 | | 22 | 24 |
| 14 | 10.5 to 11.5 | 11 | 14 |
| | 11.5 to 12.5 | 12 | 14 |
| | 24.5 to 25.5 | 25 | 28 |
| | 25.5 to 26.5 | 26 | 28 |
| 9 | 14.5 to 15.5 | 15 | 18 |
| | 15.5 to 16.5 | 16 | 18 |
| 11 | 18.5 to 19.5 | 19 | 22 |
| | 19.5 to 20.5 | 20 | 22 |
| 13 | 22.5 to 23.5 | 23 | 26 |
| | 23.5 to 24.5 | 24 | 26 |
| 10.67 | 28.5 to 29.5 | 29 | 32 |
| | 29.5 to 30.5 | 30 | 32 |

4.2.5. VARIABLE INTERMEDIATE FREQUENCY. -

The variable intermediate frequency section consists of two channels, one for a frequency 2.5 to 1.5 mc and the other for 3.5 to 2.5 mc. The 2.5 to 1.5 mc i-f is used on the even numbered bands which employ double conversion, and the 3.5 to 2.5 mc i-f is used on the odd numbered bands which employ double conversion. The 2.5 to 1.5 mc i-f is also used on band 2 as an additional tuned r-f circuit. The 3.5 to 2.5 variable i-f is used on band 3 as an additional tuned r-f circuit and on band 1, in the usual application, as a variable i-f for the odd numbered bands. Using two variable i-f channels in this manner cuts in half the number of crystals needed by the high frequency oscillator, since each crystal's fundamental frequency or useful harmonic is used for two bands. Inductors L116 and L118 form the lower frequency i-f coils (2.5 to 1.5) and are the coils in which the tuning slug travels. The 3.5 to 2.5 mc i-f is obtained by shunting L117 across L116, and L119 across L118 to lower the inductances of L116 and L118. Switch sections S110 and S111 alternately switch the shunting coils in and out as the BAND CHANGE knob is rotated. The variable i-f coils are in the grid of the second mixer stage.

4.2.6. VARIABLE FREQUENCY OSCILLATOR. -

The receiver circuits described so far have the function of receiving the spectrum in 1 megacycle bands that are presented to the grid of the second mixer. The scheme for obtaining high stability is completed by a method of heterodyning the signals to a lower, fixed intermediate frequency. In this application, a highly stabilized 3 to 2 mc permeability tuned oscillator, Model 70E-15, is employed to heterodyne against the 2.5 to 1.5 and the 3.5 to 2.5 mc output of the variable frequency i-f. The resulting 500 kc signal is amplified by the 500 kc i-f amplifier.

The coil in the oscillator is cam wound to produce extremely linear frequency change with linear movement of the tuning slug. The circuit is temperature-compensated and the components are sealed against changes in humidity. Ten turns of the oscillator lead screw produce a linear frequency change of one megacycle. The inductance of the oscillator coil is trimmed by an iron core series inductor, the value of which is adjusted at the factory and sealed. A type 6BA6 tube, V002, is used for isolation purposes following the oscillator tube and is an integral part of the oscillator. For stabilization purposes, the supply voltages for the oscillator unit are regulated by V116, a type OA2 tube.

NOTE

A MECHANICAL SQUEAK MAY DEVELOP BETWEEN THE LEADSCREW AND CORE IN THE PERMEABILITY TUNED VFO. MATERIAL SELECTION AND THE LOADING NECESSARY TO INSURE UTMOST STABILITY TEND TO CAUSE THIS SQUEAK. HOWEVER, MATERIALS ARE SELECTED FOR THEIR ABILITY TO WORK WELL TOGETHER WITH SMALL WEAR AND THE SQUEAK IS HARMLESS.

4.2.7. CRYSTAL FILTER. - Selectivity of the 51J-4 Receiver is improved greatly by use of a crystal filter in the 500-kc i-f channel. The crystal filter circuit consists primarily of 500-kc i-f input transformer T101, a 500-kc crystal, and a high impedance tuned circuit T102, connected as shown in figure 4-4. When SELECTIVITY switch S114 is in position 0 the crystal is shorted and T101 is connected directly to T102. Thus there is no crystal filter action when S114 is in position 0; selectivity is determined by the receiver's tuned circuits alone. When S114 is in any other position, crystal filter action takes place--position 4 giving the greatest selectivity.

To analyze the operation of this circuit consider only the loop containing T101 secondary, crystal Y112, and tuned circuits T102. Assume that S114 is in position 1. See figure 4-5. The secondary of T101 is a low impedance coil with a grounded center tap. The primary of T101 is tuned to 500 kc. Consider crystal Y112 in series with T102 as a voltage divider, grid voltage to V301 being taken from the point between Y112 and T102. For an i-f of exactly 500 kc, impedance of the crystal is very low--of the order of 2000 to 4000 ohms, and the impedance of T102 is of the order of 100,000 ohms. Thus, at 500 kc practically all the voltage appearing across T101 secondary is fed to the grid of V301.

For frequencies a few kilocycles further away from 500 the impedance of the crystal increases greatly. When the crystal impedance equals that of T102, only one-half the voltage on T101 secondary appears on the grid of V301. As the crystal impedance becomes still greater, the voltage appearing on V301 grid decreases. This results in a narrower i-f response curve, or in greater selectivity, than that obtained without crystal filtering. Switching S114 to positions 2, 3, or 4 merely shunts T102 with resistance, which effectively lowers the impedance

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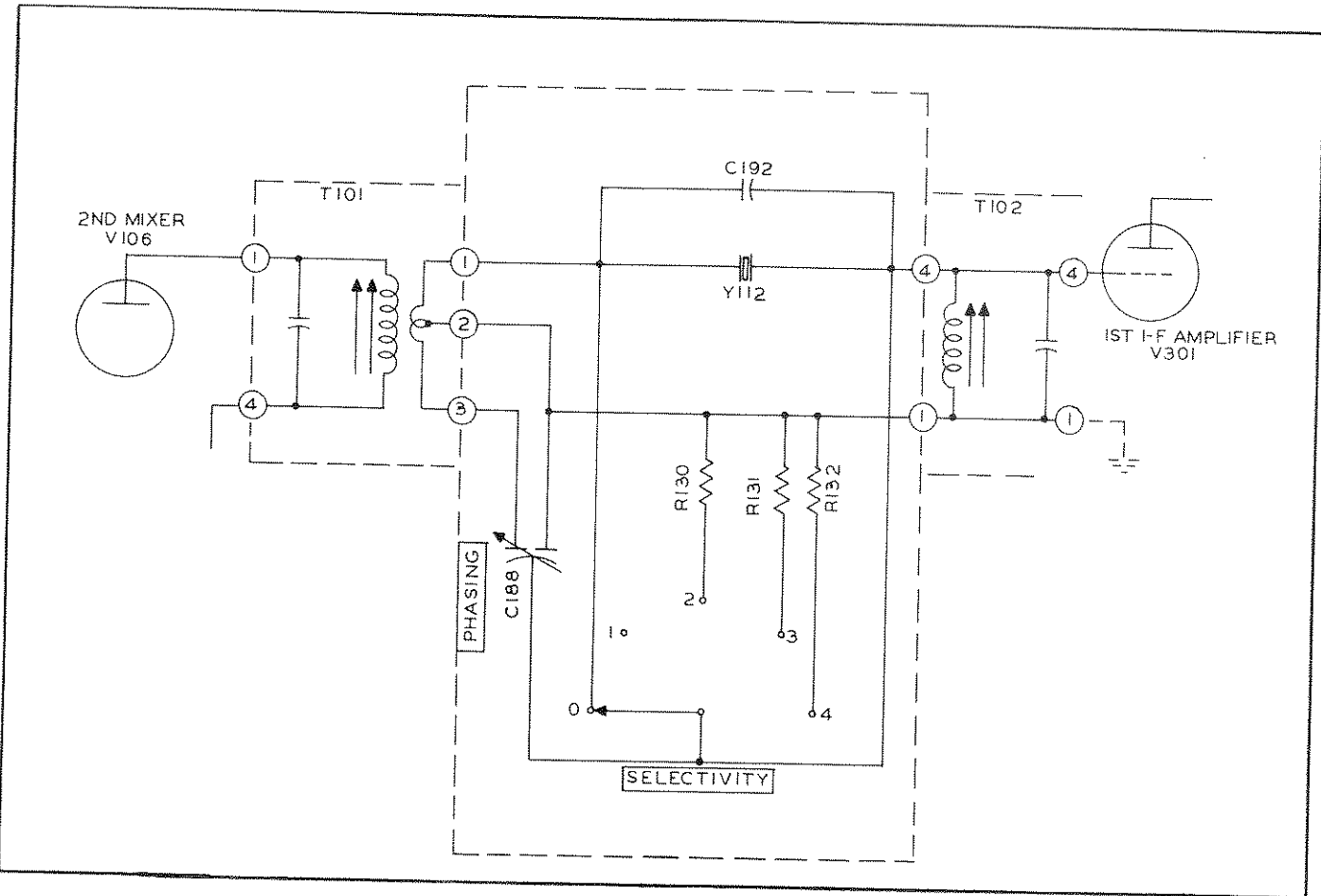


Figure 4-4. 51J-4 Crystal Filter

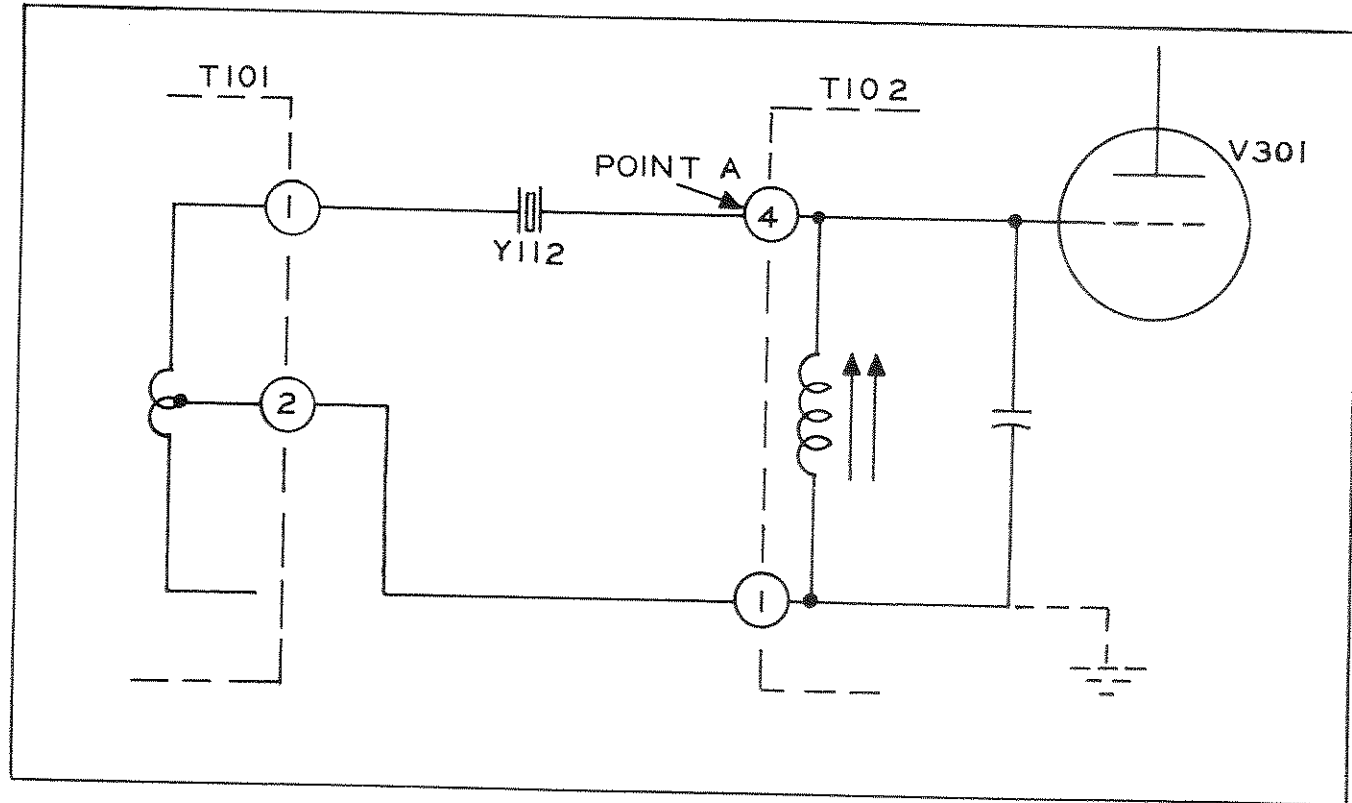


Figure 4-5. 51J-4 Crystal Filter - Simplified, Position "1"

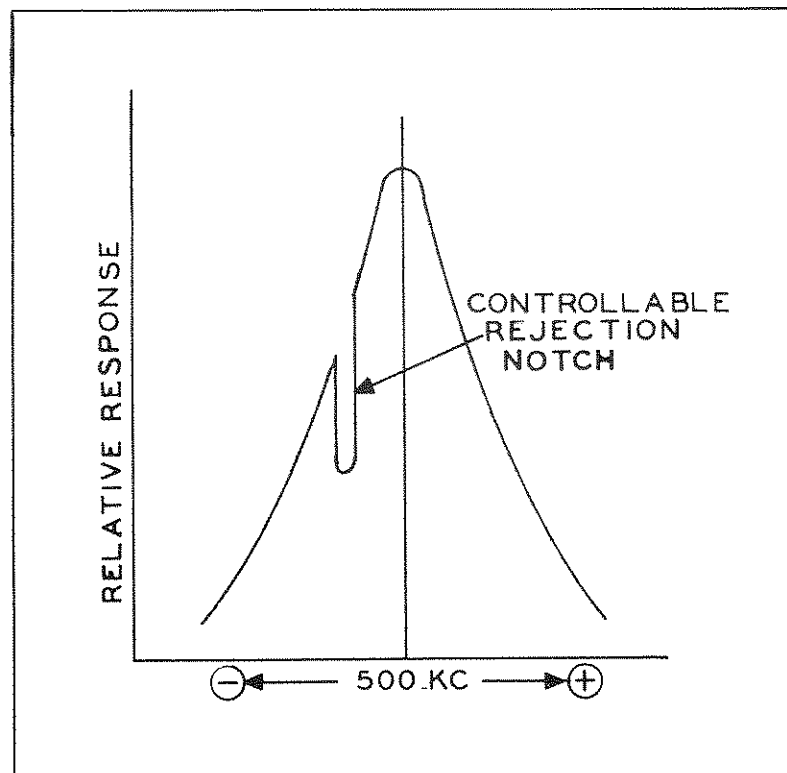


Figure 4-6. 51J-4 Crystal Phasing Rejection Notch

of T102 for those positions. This results in a more rapid decrease in V301 grid voltage as the i-f deviates to either side of 500 kc. Hence, as the effective impedance of T102 lowers, selectivity increases. In the sharpest position the bandwidth at 6 db down is from 200 to 300 cps.

The primary purpose of PHASING capacitor C188 is to produce a controllable rejection notch in the i-f response curve so that unwanted heterodynes may be tuned out. The section of C188 connected to the bottom end of T101 secondary provides a capacitive path around the crystal that balances out the shunt capacitance of the crystal in its holder and external capacitor C187. Varying C188 either side of the balance point varies the antiresonant frequency of the crystal circuit within 3 kc either side of 500. Since the impedance of the crystal circuit at antiresonance is extremely high, the crystal filter rejects signals at the antiresonant frequency. Thus at antiresonant frequency points, the phasing action gives a sharp dip in response and the selectivity curve takes on a notch as illustrated in figure 4-6.

In order to avoid detuning tuned circuit T102 when varying C188, a second section of C188 is shunted across T102. Since C188 has a split stator and a single rotor, the total shunt capacitance across T102

remains practically constant as the setting of C188 is varied.

4.2.8 SECOND INTERMEDIATE FREQUENCY. - The second intermediate frequency channel is fixed-tuned to 500 kc. It consists of the mechanical filter and four amplifier stages and employs 6BA6 tubes in all stages. Input tube V301 is excited by the crystal filter output coil T102. Permeability-tuned transformers, with output taps taken off the secondary coils near the ground end, are used in the amplifier portion. Both i-f amplifier stages and one tube in the mechanical filter are supplied with AVC voltage. Plate and fixed screen voltages are controlled by the ON-STANDBY-OFF switch and the remote operation relay, K101 on all 500 kc i-f tubes except V302. These voltages are removed to render the receiver inoperative during transmission periods.

4.2.9. DETECTOR. - The detector in the 51J-4 Receiver consists of one half of a 12AX7 dual triode tube, V110 (pin numbers 6, 7, and 8). The tube is used as a diode, with rectification taking place between the plate and cathode, the grid being connected to the plate. R150 and R151 serve as load resistors for the detector while C202 provides r-f filtering.

4.2.10. NOISE LIMITER. - A series type noise limiter is used in the 51J-4 Receiver. This limiter

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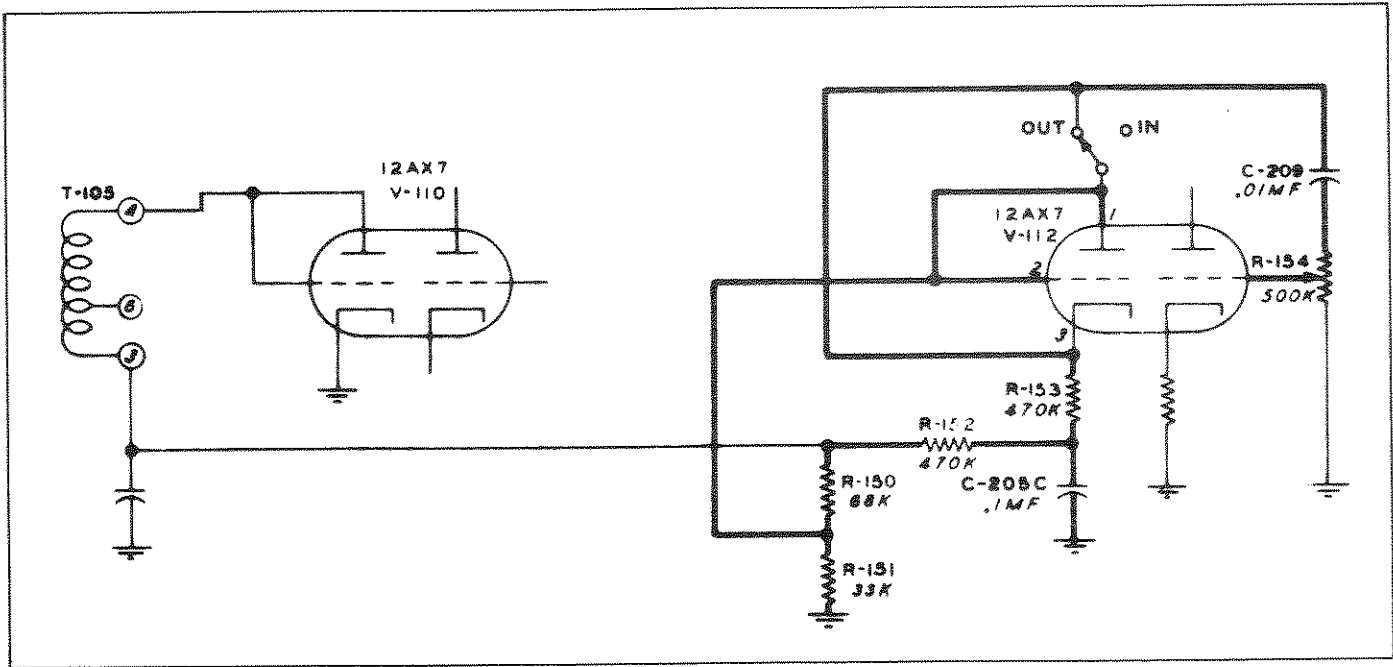


Figure 4-7. 51J-4 Noise Limiter Circuit

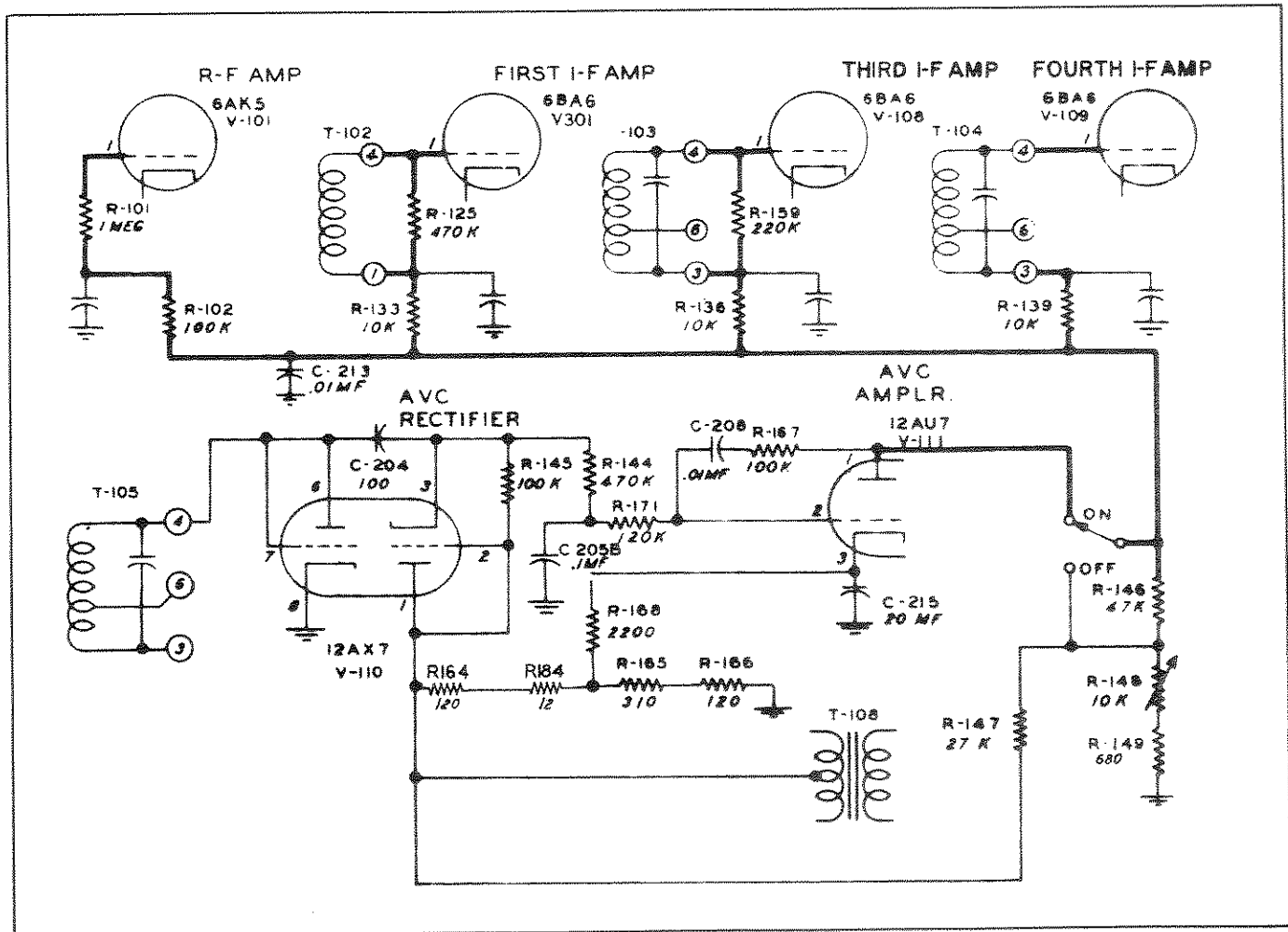


Figure 4-8. 51J-4 A. V. C. Circuit

employs one-half (pins 1, 2, and 3) of a type 12AX7 dual triode tube, V112. Refer to figure 4-7. Due to a-c loading of the second detector, heavy noise impulses are automatically clipped from the positive audio peaks in the detector. The noise appearing on the negative side of the audio cycle is clipped by the noise limiter. In operation, a negative voltage produced by rectification of the carrier is developed across capacitor C205C. This voltage cannot change rapidly due to the value of C205C and R152. This negative potential is placed upon the cathode of the noise limiter tube through R153. The cathode is then negative with respect to the plate of the noise limiter tube, due to voltage divider action of R150 and R151 and current flows. This current is modulated by the audio which then appears on the noise limiter cathode to which the grid of the audio amplifier section of V112 is connected. The noise limiter diode will conduct as long as the cathode is negative in respect to the plate. However, should a heavy noise impulse be received, the plate would be driven negative faster than the cathode could follow due to the time constant of R152 and C205C. If the plate is driven more negative than the cathode, the tube will cease to conduct and no audio will reach the grid of the following audio tube. The audio cannot reach the cathode of the limiter tube directly from the diode load because of the filtering action of R152 and C205C. The value of modulation at which the limiter clips can be adjusted by changing the value of some of the components in the circuit. In this receiver, limiting starts between 50% and 85% modulation. Switch S116 bypasses the signal around the noise limiter when receiving conditions do not require its used.

4. 2. 11. AUTOMATIC VOLUME CONTROL. - The problem of blocking that is created by strong signals or heavy static is eliminated by use of an amplified AVC system and a low impedance AVC line. Refer to figure 4-8. The second triode section of V110 is used as an AVC rectifier to produce control voltage for the AVC amplifier which uses one half of dual triode V111. The AVC voltage that is applied to grids of the controlled tubes is produced when plate current flowing through one-half of AVC amplifier tube V111 causes a voltage drop across resistor R146. Plate voltage for the amplifier half of V111 is obtained from the voltage drop across resistors R165 and R166, which are in series with the center tap of the power transformer to ground. However, V111 will not draw plate current when there is no signal input to the receiver because of approximately 11 volts of bias that is placed upon its grid by the voltage drop through R164. This bias voltage for V111 is taken from the end of R145 through which the

rectified carrier flows in opposition to the bias voltage. Thus, when the rectified carrier becomes strong enough to overcome the bias voltage on V111, V111 will draw plate current and produce a voltage drop across R146, thereby producing AVC voltage in proportion to the strength of the received signal. The bias on the grid of V111 is high enough to produce a delay in the generation of AVC voltage and thus allows the receiver to function at full sensitivity on weak signals. Resistor R144 and capacitor C205B form the time constant in the AVC circuit. R171, C208, and R167 are used in a degenerative circuit to prevent the AVC amplifier tube from responding to low audio frequencies. AVC is turned off by opening the plate circuit of AVC amplifier tube V111. Tubes controlled by AVC bias include the r-f amplifier V101, and the 500 kc i-f amplifier tubes, V301, V108 and V109.

4. 2. 12. AUDIO AMPLIFIER. - Two stages of audio amplification are employed in the 51J-4 Receiver. The first stage utilizes the second triode section of V112 in a resistance-coupled amplifier arrangement. A type 6AQ5 miniature pentode power amplifier tube is used in the audio output stage. This stage has fixed bias obtained from the voltage drop produced across R166 in the center tap lead of the high voltage transformer secondary. The secondary of the audio output transformer has both 600-ohm and 4-ohm outputs. Both the outputs are terminated on the rear of the chassis at terminal strip E102. Plug-in connections to both outputs are also made on the front panel.

4. 2. 13. 50 OHM I-F OUTPUT. - One-half of dual triode V111 supplies 50-ohm 500-kc i-f to coaxial connector J104 on the rear of the chassis. This section of V111 is used as a cathode follower. Excitation is obtained from the voltage drop across R178, which is connected in a series circuit across the secondary of i-f transformer T105.

4. 2. 14. 100 KC CALIBRATOR. - This calibrator is included with the receiver for use when extreme accuracy of calibration in the order of 200 cycles is desired. It is coupled to the grid r-f amplifier tube V101, and is made operable when CALIBRATOR ON-OFF switch S111 is turned on. The calibrator utilizes a 6BA6 tube in a piezoelectric circuit, a low drift 100 kc crystal between the control grid and screen, and a 5-25 uuf capacitor C169 between grid and ground. The capacitor permits the making of small frequency corrections that set the calibrator to zero beat with a primary frequency standard. Variable capacitor C224 on the front panel provides for fine adjustment of frequencies.

4.2.15. POWER SUPPLY. - The receiver is equipped with a power transformer that is connected for a 115-volt source. However, the transformer can be used on a 230 volt source by reconnecting the primary windings in series. The power supply is capable of producing 220 d-c volts at 125 ma. A two section choke input filter is used following a 5V4 high vacuum rectifier, a filter consists of a 3 henry input choke, a 5 henry output choke and two 35 mfd filter capacitors. B+ for the audio output is taken from the junction of the two chokes. The receiver's ON-OFF switch, and a 1.5 ampere, slow blow fuse are located in the primary circuit of the power supply. A 6.3 volts a-c are furnished for the tube filaments and dial lights from a winding on the power transformer.

4.2.16. BEAT FREQUENCY OSCILLATOR. - The bfo is a modified Hartley circuit employing electron coupling in a type 6BA6 pentode tube, V114. The output frequency is 500 ± 3 kc, which is beat against the 500-kc intermediate frequency in the detector stage to produce an audio tone. Pitch of the audio tone is varied by changing the frequency of oscillation in the bfo by means of the BFO PITCH control on the front panel. When the BFO-ON-OFF switch is in OFF position, the screen grid of the bfo stage is grounded.

4.2.17. MECHANICAL FILTER. - The mechanical filter uses the principle of magnetostriction to convert oscillating magnetic energy to mechanical vibration. The magnetostriction transducer input coil is resonated at 500 kc. A nickel wire within

this coil vibrates mechanically and transmits this mechanical energy to the first of a series of nickel alloy disks. The mechanical vibration of this first disk is coupled to succeeding disks by means of nickel-wire coupling elements. Biasing magnets at either end of the mechanical filter polarize the filter elements to prevent frequency doubling, in much the same manner as biasing magnets in a headphone prevent the headphone diaphragm from bending in the same direction for both halves of an a-c cycle. This mechanical vibration of the last disk is coupled to a magnetostriction transducer element identical to the one used at the input of the filter. By a reverse principle of magnetostriction, the mechanical vibration of the nickel-wire transducer core is converted to electrical impulses.

Each of the disks employed in the mechanical filter has a mechanically resonant Q exceeding 2,000. Six of these disks are overcoupled to produce a mechanically-shaped response curve with a flat top and straight, almost vertical sides. Thus, the filter passes a band of frequencies very little wider than the flat top of the selectivity curve. The 3.1 kc mechanical filter used in the 51J-4 passes a band of frequencies approximately 3 kc wide and centered on 500 kc, proving an i-f selectivity curve ideal for the reception of AM and single side-band signals. The 6-kc filter and the 3.1 kc filter are most used for voice reception and a mechanical filter having similar selectivity characteristics but having a bandpass of 1.4 kc is generally used in cw reception or in 'phone reception under conditions of extremely heavy QRM or QRN.