

DECEMBER 1984

Australia \$1.80, New Zealand \$2.20, Malaysia \$5.50 **£1.00**

TELEVISION

SERVICING·PROJECTS·VIDEO·DEVELOPMENTS

Servicing the Sony KV1612UB



Video Cameras • Vintage TV

VCR Clinic • TV Fault Finding

Replacing GCSs with Transistors

DX-TV • Teletalk on Colour

Scrambling for French TV

MANOR SUPPLIES

NEW MKV PAL COLOUR TEST GENERATOR FOR TV & VCR.

TEST DEMONSTRATIONS AT 172 WEST END LANE



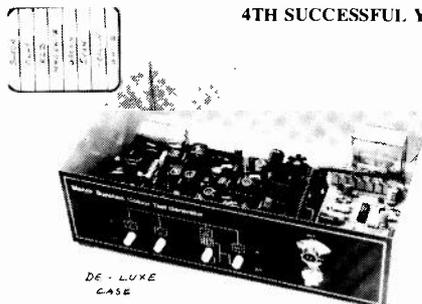
- ★ 40 different patterns and variations.
- ★ Broadcast transmission accuracy (fully interlaced sync pulses with correct picture blanking).
- ★ EBU colour bars, BBC colour bars, whole rasters & split bars (specially useful for VCR service), white, yellow, cyan, green, magenta, red, blue and black.
- ★ Chequerboard.
- ★ Mono outputs with border castellations, cross hatch, grey scale, vertical lines, horizontal lines and dots. UHF modulator output plugs straight into receiver aerial socket.
- ★ Additional video output for CCTV & VCR.
- ★ Facilities for sound output.
- ★ Easy to build kit, standard parts. Only 2 adjustments. No special test equipment required.
- ★ Mains operated with stabilised power supply.
- ★ All kits fully guaranteed with back-up service.
- ★ Also available with VHF Modulator.

Price of Kit **£70.00**
 De Luxe Case (10" x 6" x 2 1/2") **£7.40**
 Optional Sound Module (6MHz or 5.5MHz) **£3.90**
 Built & Tested in De Luxe Case including Sound Module **£105.00**

SPECIAL TEST REPORT 'TELEVISION' DEC. 1982

Post/Packing £2.50
 Add VAT 15% TO ALL PRICES

PAL COLOUR BAR GENERATOR (Mk4) 4TH SUCCESSFUL YEAR



- ★ Output at UHF, applied to receiver aerial socket.
- ★ In addition to colour bars R-Y, B-Y etc.
- ★ Cross-hatch, grey scale, peak white and black level.
- ★ Push button controls, battery or mains operated.
- ★ Simple design, only five i.c.s on colour bar P.C.B.

PRICE OF MK 4 COLOUR BAR GENERATOR KIT **£30.00**. DELUXE CASE **£7.40**. BATT HOLDERS **£2.80**. MAINS SUPPLY KIT **£4.20** (Combined P&P **£2.20**).

MK 4 DE LUXE (BATTERY) BUILT & TESTED **£58.00 + £2.20 P & P**.
 MK 4 DE LUXE (MAINS) BUILT & TESTED **£68.00 + £2.20 P & P**.
 VHF MODULATOR (CH 1 to 4) FOR OVERSEAS **£5.75**.
 EASILY ADAPTED FOR VIDEO OUTPUT & C.C.T.V.
 (ADD VAT 15% TO ALL PRICES)

TELETEXT EXTERNAL ADAPTOR KIT (Less case) with cable remote control **£120.00**

THORN TX10, PHILIPS G11 Mullard Teletext Decoder + Interface panels suitable for either the above **£50.00**
 Additional Prestel units including line coupler **£50.00** p.p. £2.50

Goods available if in stock immediately over shop counter (Mail order between 3 days and 1 week from receipt of order).

TV SERVICE SPARES

BACKED BY TWENTY YEARS EXPERIENCE & STAFF OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS

LOPTS, TRIPLERS, PANELS, TUNERS, SELECTORS ETC.

SPECIAL OFFER NEW VALVES

Branded makes, PCF80, PY88, PFL200, PCL84 FOUR for **£2.00** p.p. 80p.
 THORN TX10 Teletext Interface Panels for Mullard Decoders **£2.50** p.p. 80p.

THORN TX10 Facia Control Panel incl. Infra Red Remote Control receiver **£7.50** p.p. £1.50.

THORN TX10 type Remote & Tuning Control Panel **£9.40** p.p. £1.50.
 THORN TX10 Series Facia Control Panel with 8 position Channel Selector **£5.00** p.p. £1.50.

PHILIPS UHF Modulator (Audio & Video Input) **£15.00** p.p. £1.00.

SAW FILTER IF AMPLIFIER PLUS TUNER complete and tested for T.V. Sound & Vision. **£28.50** p.p. £1.20.

THORN TX9, TX10 Saw Filter IF Panel. **£8.50** p.p. 80p.

PAL DECODER KIT for RGB Monitors **£27.00** p.p. £1.00.

SPECIAL OFFER TEXAS XM11 Teletext Decoder New & Tested at reduced price. **£40.00** p.p. £1.60.

TELETEXT 23 Button De-Luxe Handset with 5 yds Cable. **£6.80** p.p. £1.20.

XM11 Stab. Power Supply. **£3.80** p.p. £1.20.

CROSS HATCH UNIT KIT, Aerial Input type, incl. T.V. sync. and UHF Modulator. Battery Operated, also gives Peak White & Black Levels, can be used for any set. **£12.00** p.p. 80p. (Alum. Case **£2.55**, De Luxe Case **£6.80** p.p. £1.40.)

ADDITIONAL GREY SCALE Kit **£2.90** p.p. 45p.

UHF SIGNAL STRENGTH METER KIT **£20.00** (VHF version also available). Alum. Case **£2.55**, De Luxe Case **£7.40** p.p. £1.80.

CRT TESTER & REACTIVATOR PROJECT KIT For Colour & Mono **£28.00** p.p. £2.80.

BUSH Z718 BC6100 series IF Panel **£5.00** p.p. 90p.

BUSH A816 IF Panel (Surplus) **£1.65** p.p. 90p.

DECCA 80 Series IF, Frame, T.B. **£5.00** p.p. £1.40.

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GEC 2110 PANELS Frame **£8.50**, Preset (Touch Tune) Control **£5.00**, Convergence **£5.00**, p.p. £1.80.

GEC "20AX" Series Switch Mode Power Supply **£5.00** p.p. £1.80.

PYE 691-7 CDA Panels. Makers tested stock. **£6.00** p.p. £1.45.

THORN TX9 Panels ex factory for small spares, Includes I.C.s & Semiconductors etc. **£5.00** p.p. £2.00.

THORN TX9 Panels salvaged ex factory for spares incl. LOPT & Mains Transformers. **£10.00** p.p. £2.80.

THORN TX9 Panels ex factory salvaged complete cond. **£20.00** p.p. £2.80.

THORN TX10 T.B. Panels salvaged ex factory. **£15.00** p.p. £3.00.

THORN TX10 IF/Decoder Panels salvaged ex factory. **£15.00** p.p. £2.00.

THORN 3000/3500 Power supply P.C.B. **£3.50** p.p. £1.00.

THORN 8000/8500 IF/Decoder Panels salvaged **£3.20** p.p. £1.80.

THORN 8000/8500 Frame T.B. Panels salvaged/spares **£2.50** p.p. £1.40.

THORN 9000 Series Control & Receiver Unit **£6.80** p.p. £1.80.

THORN 9000 IF/Decoder Panels Salvaged. **£5.00** p.p. £1.60.

THORN 9000 Series. Long panel facia unit incl. 6 Position Channel Selector & Loudspeaker **£6.00** p.p. £2.00.

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G9 Scan Panel, Basic PCB in Fibreglass **£14.50** p.p. £1.80.

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GRUNDIG 8630 Series Varicap Tuners **£5.00** p.p. £1.00.

VARICAP, U321, U322, ELC1043/5 **£6.80** p.p. 80p. Makers Varicap Controls PYE CT200 4PSN **£7.50**, BUSH 4PSN **£4.80**, DECCA 4PSN **£5.80**, 6PSN **£6.80** p.p. 80p, etc.

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UHF/625 TUNERS, many different types in stock. DECCA Bradford 5 position, MULLARD 4 position **£2.50**, JAP Rotary **£4.80** p.p. £1.80.

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KB VC..... **£2.80**

R.B.M. A823..... **£4.90**

R.B.M. Z179..... **£9.80**

R.B.M. T20, T22..... **£9.80**

R.B.M. T20, T22 Bobbin..... **£5.60**

DECCA Bradford (state Mod No)..... **£8.80**

DECCA 80, 100..... **£8.80**

GEC 2028, 2040, 2100..... **£5.80**

GEC 2110 series..... **£10.60**

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ITT CVC25, CVC30 series..... **£8.80**

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PYE 725 (90P) 731 to 741..... **£9.20**

PHILIPS G8..... **£8.80**

PHILIPS G9..... **£10.80**

PHILIPS 570, 571..... **£6.80**

PHILIPS KT3..... **£12.50**

THORN 3000/3500 SCAN, EHT..... **£6.90**

THORN 8000/8500/8800..... **£12.90**

THORN 9000 to 9600..... **£12.90**

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TRIPLERS Full range available. Mono & Colour.

Special Offer: Thorn 8000 (2 lead) EHT Tray **£2.80** p.p. 80p.

TRANSDUCTORS suitable for G8, A823, Bradford etc. **£1.50** p.p. 60p.

6.3V CRT Boost Transformers for Colour & Mono **£5.40** p.p. £1.20.

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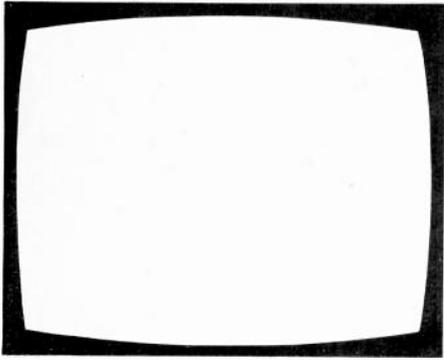
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TELEVISION

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1984

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QUERIES

We regret that we cannot answer technical queries over the telephone nor supply service sheets. We will endeavour to assist readers who have queries relating to articles published in *Television*, but we cannot offer advice on modifications to our published designs nor comment on alternative ways of using them. All correspondents expecting a reply should enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Requests for advice on dealing with servicing problems should be directed to our Queries Service. For details see our regular feature "Service Bureau". Send to the address given above (see "correspondence").

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MAINS DROPPERS

DECCA 20	2.48	30FL2	1.70	EF183	99	PCF800	1.38	PL508	2.90	THER- MISTORS
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DECCA 56R/68R	1.40	DY86/7	66	EH90	1.02	PCF802	1.12		5.30	VA1040 75
R.B.M. A823 56R/68R	9.40	EC81	1.08	EL34	3.50	PCF805	1.80	PY88	81	VA8650 55
R.B.M. 161	82	EC82	98	EL84	1.05	PCF806	1.30	PY500A	2.30	VA1039 35
GEC 2000/2018	70	EC83	1.07	EY86/7	68	PCF808	1.63	PY801	69	GEC Dual
GEC 27840	64	EC84	98	EY500A	1.50	PCH200	1.45	UCLH1	1.25	Posistor 1.68
PYE 713/15 3R5/15/45R	1.80	EC85	98	EZ80/1	56	PCL82	1.20	UCL83	2.82	GEC
PYE 725 56R/27R	1.84	EC88	1.35	GY501	1.45	PCL84	1.20	UY85	1.35	2040 Dual
PHILIPS 210/5050 30R/125R/2485	1.04	ECF80	80	GZ34	3.50	PCL86	92	PL802T	4.00	(CK1)
		ECF82	88	KT66	8.50	PCL805	1.09	40KD6	3.30	
		ECF81	1.60	KT88	12.00	PD500	2.93	21LU8	5.00	
		ECH81	1.66	PC92	3.00	PFL200	1.86	17D4A4	1.60	
PHILIPS 210/5051 -/118R/148R	93	ECH84	1.86	PC92	3.00	PFL200	1.86	17D4A4	1.60	
PHILIPS GB/5081 47R Section	50	ECL80	84	PC97	1.85	PL36	1.87	3AT2B	5.00	
PHILIPS GB/5083 2R2/68R	95	ECL82	1.30	PCC85	85	PL81	94	12BY7A	3.75	
THORN 1400	1.20	ECL86	1.99	PCC805	1.40	PL83	1.43	12HG7	3.20	
THORN 1500	1.38	EF80	95	PCF80	1.00	PL84	84			
THORN 1600	1.77	EF86	1.96	PCF200	1.35	PL504	1.65			

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DY802	98	EF184	1.09	PCF801	1.13	PL509/19		VA1104 75
DY86/7	66	EH90	1.02	PCF802	1.12		5.30	VA1040 75
EC81	1.08	EL34	3.50	PCF805	1.80	PY88	81	VA8650 55
EC82	98	EL84	1.05	PCF806	1.30	PY500A	2.30	VA1039 35
EC83	1.07	EY86/7	68	PCF808	1.63	PY801	69	GEC Dual
EC84	98	EY500A	1.50	PCH200	1.45	UCLH1	1.25	Posistor 1.68
EC85	98	EZ80/1	56	PCL82	1.20	UCL83	2.82	GEC
EC88	1.35	GY501	1.45	PCL84	1.20	UY85	1.35	2040 Dual
ECF80	80	GZ34	3.50	PCL86	92	PL802T	4.00	(CK1)
ECF82	88	KT66	8.50	PCL805	1.09	40KD6	3.30	
ECF81	1.60	KT88	12.00	PD500	2.93	21LU8	5.00	
ECH81	1.66	PC92	3.00	PFL200	1.86	17D4A4	1.60	
ECH84	1.86	PC92	3.00	PFL200	1.86	17D4A4	1.60	
ECL80	84	PC97	1.85	PL36	1.87	3AT2B	5.00	
ECL82	1.30	PCC85	85	PL81	94	12BY7A	3.75	
ECL86	1.99	PCC805	1.40	PL83	1.43	12HG7	3.20	
EF80	95	PCF80	1.00	PL84	84			
EF86	1.96	PCF200	1.35	PL504	1.65			

THERMAL CUT OUT

THORN 3000 2A Metal	1.60
GEC 2040 Metal	2.50
THORN 8000 Plastic	2.35

L.E.D.'s

5mm Red, Green, Yellow	14
T1 3 Amber	22
T1 3mm Red, Green, Yellow	14
Flashing Red COX21	62
COX22	66
3 Colour VJ18P	76
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5mm	4

CRYSTALS & FILTERS

6MHz	74
5.5MHz	74
4.3MHz	1.30
8.8MHz	1.30
9.94MHz	6.00
10.692MHz	6.00

MULTITURN POTS

100K	55
GEC TCE	55
PHILIPS G8	55
DECCA, RANK	55

DISC CERAMIC CAPS

8kV (12kV)	
39pF, 200pF	40p
150pF, 220pF	
180pF, 250pF	
63V/100V	
A range of pref. values 22pF-4700pF	8p

POLYESTER CAPS

250V 0.01mF	12p
0.1mF	
0.22mF	
400V 0.01mF	12p
0.1mF	
0.22mF	

TANTALUM CAPACITORS

6.3V	47mF	42
	100mF	90
16V	10mF	28
	22mF	22
	47mF	1.03
25V	22mF	46
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	0.22mF	13
	0.47mF	13
	1mF	17
	2.2mF	13
	4.7mF	26
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3W/5R-6RB-10R-15R-20R	
50R-100R-200R-500R	60

METRIC CONVERGENCE POTS

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5R-10R-15R-20R-50R	60

'4000 B' SERIES CMOS

4001B	21	4002B	1.04	4007B	22	4511B	76	4539B	77	79L24	72
4002B	21	4003B	80	4073B	22	4515B	1.88	4543B	1.12	I.C. SOCKETS	
4008B	72	4038B	99	4075B	22	4516B	1.88	4551B	96	DIL to DIL	
4011B	21	4040B	72	4076B	80	4518B	76	4556B	48	8 way	22
4012B	21	4042B	58	4077B	22	4519B	64	4560B	1.76	16 way	32
4013B	30	4043B	71	4078B	22	4520B	76	4561B	74	22 way	32
4014B	74	4044B	71	4078B	22	4521B	1.68	4566B	1.20	24 way	34
4015B	76	4046B	96	4093B	43	4522B	88	4580B	3.60	38 way	45
4016B	31	4047B	70	4094B	1.56	4526B	88	4581B	1.84	40 way	84
4017B	66	4049UB	32	4099B	1.20	4527B	1.20	4582B	8.00	DIL to QUIL	
4018B	72	4050B	32	4160B	72	4528B	88	4583B	1.00	14 way	32
4020B	76	4051B	72	4161B	72	4528B	1.04	4584B	40	16 way	34
4021B	70	4052B	72	4162B	72	4530B	62	4585B	88	18 way	37
4022B	70	4053B	72	4163B	72	4531B	72	4597B	1.84	18 way	34
4023B	21	4060B	96	4502B	72	4532B	1.00	4598B	2.40	QUIL to QUIL	
4024B	50	4066B	43	4505B	1.88	4536B	2.64	4599B	2.00	14 way	32
4025B	21	4068B	22	4510B	76	4538B	1.04		16 way	36	

LINE OUTPUT TRANS.

R.B.M. T20A	13.95	THORN 950 Mk II	4.25	PYE 169 (200/200/100/32)	3.40
R.B.M. A774 Mono	11.74	THORN 1400 3 SbcK	5.20	PHILIPS 320 (400/400/200V)	2.74
R.B.M. Z179	15.00	THORN 1500 3 SbcK	5.20	DECCA 30 (400/400/350V)	3.40
R.B.M. Z718 22"	19.50	THORN 1500 5 SbcK	5.29	DECCA 80 (400/350V)	3.97
PHILIPS 320	8.70	THORN 1600	4.95	OECCA 100 (800/250V)	10.00
PHILIPS 210/300 Mono	10.00	THORN 1600/3500	7.98	DECCA 1700 (200/200/400/350V)	4.83
PHILIPS G8	8.75	THORN 8000	5.28	PHILIPS G8 (600/300V)	2.30
PHILIPS G9	7.75	THORN 8500/8800	7.15	PHILIPS G9 (600/300V)	2.21
PHILIPS G11	13.50	THORN 9000	7.93	PHILIPS G11 (470/250V)	2.90
PYE 697 (Printed)	14.50	DECCA 1730/1830	4.48	PYE 691/7 (200/300/350V)	2.70
PYE 713/731	10.00	DECCA 30	6.76	PYE 731 (800/300V)	2.31
PYE 725 90°	10.50	DECCA 80	6.60	RBM A823 (200/2500/30V)	1.86
PYE 169	10.00	UNIVERSAL ITT or REMO	6.00	RBM A823 (600/300V)	2.53
DECCA 80/100	8.58	GEC 2100	7.40	RBM Z146 (300/300/350V)	3.85
DECCA 1700	9.00	GEC 2200 (20AX)	6.50	RR1 T20A (220/400V)	2.00
DECCA 1730	8.58	GEC 2040/2028	6.60	ITT CVCS/9 (200/200/75/25)	2.98
DECCA 2230	8.58	GEC 2110 Pre Jan '77	7.00	ITT CVC 20 (220/400V)	2.00
GEC 2110	16.75	GEC 2110 Post Jan '77	7.00	GEC 2110 (600/250V)	1.94
GEC 2040	9.50	PHILIPS G8 Short Focus Lead	6.75	GEC 2040 (1000/2000/35V)	1.19
ITT CVC 1-9	10.85	PHILIPS G8 Long Focus 550	6.75	GEC 2040 (300/300/150/100/50)	4.10
ITT CVC 25/30/32	8.65	PHILIPS G9	6.37	THORN 3500 (400/40V)	30
ITT CVC 20	8.60	Pye/Philips K3 Tripler	10.65	THORN 950 (100/300/100/16/275V)	1.83
THORN 3000 EHT	9.95	PYE 691/3	6.58	THORN 1	

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AC107	35	BC558	9	BF355	56	OT121	1.91
AC126	30	BCY72	13	BF362	68	AN240	1.90
AC127	32	BD115	45	BF363	72	AN240	3.84
AC128	32	BD116A	65	BF371	30	AN318	3.98
AC128K	40	BD124P	79	BF392	35	AN262	2.45
AC141K	39	BD131	50	BF422	34	AN301	5.15
AC142K	38	BD132	49	BF423	46	AN715Q	3.97
AC176	35	BD133	60	BF435	35	AN6340	7.85
AC176K	35	BD135	38	BF457	35	AN6341N	5.10
AC186	41	BD136	38	BF458	43	AN6344	7.85
AC187	38	BD137	38	BF459	43	BA521	2.80
AC187K	38	BD138	35	BF460	86	BA536	3.00
AC188	35	BD139	35	BF462	86	CA555	46
AC188K	39	BD140	44	BF469	46	CA556	84
AD143	82	BD144	1.70	BF470	66	CA741	25
AD161	54	BD150	60	BF597	10	CA748	45
AD162	54	BD159	65	BF597	54	CA3065	1.80
AD161/62 MP	1.15	BD166	52	BF598	54	HA1151	3.89
AF106	49	BD179	70	BF639	27	HA1322	2.65
AF114	89	BD182	1.20	BF640	30	HA1342	2.65
AF118	1.20	BD183	75	BF679	85	HA1342N	2.49
AF121	75	BD201	85	BF690	1.74	HA1366WR	2.80
AF124	48	BD202	91	BF742	39	HA1392	3.95
AF125	46	BD203	80	BF743	39	HA11219	2.49
AF126	46	BD204	99	BF743	60	HA11244	1.98
AF127	48	BD222	46	BFX29	40	LA4031P	3.21
AF139	58	BD223	56	BFX84	42	LA4032P	2.90
AF178	1.54	BD225	47	BFX85	30	LA4102	3.37
AF239	60	BD232	68	BFX86	30	LA4250	3.57
AL102	2.00	BD233	60	BFX88	46	LA4400	3.05
AU106	2.50	BD234	63	BFY50	30	LA4422	3.28
AU113	2.00	BD235	60	BFY51	30	LC7130	5.93
BC107	20	BD236	65	BFY52	24	LC7120	5.87
BC108	20	BD237	57	BFY90	95	LC7137	5.50
BC109	20	BD238	65	BR100	34	LM1011	3.25
BC114	12	BD243	85	BR101	45	LM1340T	75
BC115	17	BD244	85	BR103	83	LM1303N	2.63
BC116A	16	BD410	79	BR303	1.46	MB3712	1.95
BC117	30	BD434	94	BRC4443	94	MC1307	1.85
BC118	24	BD437	86	BRC4444	98	MC1310P	1.60
BC119	36	BD438	94	BRX46	40	MC1327	1.70
BC130	28	BD507	52	BRX39	56	MC1351P	2.93
BC140	32	BD508	55	BRX55	45	MC1330P	90
BC141	26	BD509	56	BRX56	57	MC1349	1.99
BC142	30	BD510	60	BSR59	1.80	MC1350	1.50
BC143	31	BD278A	81	BSV57B	89	MC1352	1.75
BC147	13	BD517	60	BSW67	68	MC1358P	1.50
BC148	9	BD520	75	BT100	1.65	MC1495L	3.00
BC149	12	BD535	82	BT101	1.20	MC1300Z	3.90
BC157	16	BD536	91	BT102/500	1.20	MC14011BCP	66
BC158	16	BD696A	1.49	BT106	1.60	MC14049UB	43
BC159	15	BD697	1.24	BT108	1.69	MC7742	1.35
BC160	25	BD695	1.39	BT109	99	MC7812	1.35
BC161	28	BD698	1.50	BT116	1.21	ML231	2.20
BC170B	15	BD707	95	BT119	3.66	ETTR6016	2.20
BC171	15	BDX32	2.10	BT120	3.66	ML232	2.20
BC172	15	BF115	38	BT151/800	1.20	ML236	5.35
BC173	12	BF117	36	BU104	2.00	ML237	2.50
BC174	10	BF125	26	BU105	1.58	ML238	6.00
BC177	27	BF127	47	BU108	1.80	ML239	2.50
BC178	26	BF154	23	BU124	1.90	ML290	4.12
BC182L	9	BF158	18	BU126	1.75	ML922	3.29
BC183L	12	BF160	27	BU204	1.50	ML926	2.85
BC184L	14	BF167	24	BU205	1.42	ML928	2.18
BC186	18	BF173	22	BU206	1.80	MM5387ANN	4.15
BC187	25	BF177	52	BU208	1.60	MM5402N	6.65
BC204	10	BF178	46	BU208A	1.65	MRF475	2.50
BC208	13	BF179	28	BU208D	2.20	MRF477	10.00
BC209	10	BF180	39	=BU800		MSN5807	7.87
BC212	9	BF181	39	BU208/02	2.10	MS1513L	2.80
BC212L	13	BF182	36	BU326A	1.75	MS1515L	3.20
BC213	13	BF183	29	BU407	1.70	SAA1025	4.40
BC214	10	BF184	36	BU426	3.07	SAA1124	4.50
BC237	14	BF185	36	BU500	2.30	SAA1250	3.94
BC238	14	BF194/394	16	BU526	2.46	SAA1251	4.90
BC251A	18	BF195	16	BU508	3.20	SAA5000	4.39
BC252	12	BF196	16	BU806	1.40	SAA5012	6.50
BC261	18	BF197	16	BU807	2.94	SAA5020	5.90
BC262	18	BF198	18	BUW84	1.45	SAA5030	5.90
BC300	50	BF199	21	BUW91A	3.84	SAA5050	8.25
BC301	53	BF200	35	BUX84	1.50	SAA3210	2.93
BC303	33	BF224	25	E1222		SAS5605	1.89
BC307	20	BF225	20	MCR101	45	SAS5705	1.89
BC308	25	BF241	25	MCR220	1.50	SAS660	3.25
BC323	99	BF256	55	ME0411	20	SAS670	3.25
BC327	18	BF257	28	MJE340	68	SAS580	2.90
BC328	18	BF258	25	MJE520	50	SAS590	2.90
BC337	18	BF259	35	MJ3000	1.98	SAS590	2.90
BC338	18	BF262	84	MPSA92	35	SL901B	5.50
BC461	30	BF263	75	MR814	45	SL917B	6.50
BC547	13	BF271	24	MR854	55	SL1310	1.80
BC548	13	BF273	24	MR475	2.46	SL1327Q	1.20
BCX32	30	BF274	24	MR479	2.60	SL1430	1.25
BC549	8	BF336	36	ON447	99	SL1432	3.36
BC550	7	BF337	41	ON448	99	SL76544	2.05
BC557	8	BF338	41	OTT12	1.91		

INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

AN214Q	3.91	SN76003N	2.49
AN240	3.84	= SN76013N	
AN318	3.98	SN76023N	2.00
AN262	2.45	SN76110N	1.15
AN301	5.15	SN76115N	2.27
AN715Q	3.97	SN76131N	2.00
AN6340	7.85	SN76226DN	2.00
AN6341N	5.10	SN76227N	1.18
AN6344	7.85	SN76533N	1.70
BA521	2.80	SN76033N	2.49
BA536	3.00	SN76544N	2.35
CA555	46	SN76650N	1.05
CA556	84	SN76660N	80
CA741	25	SN76666N	80
CA748	45	SN76530A	1.47
CA3065	1.80	STK015	6.25
HA1151	3.89	STK032	13.25
HA1322	2.65	STK043	11.05
HA1342	2.65	STK433	5.65
HA1342N	2.49	STK435	9.06
HA1366WR	2.80	STK436	5.50
HA1392	3.95	STK437	6.82
HA11219	2.49	STK459	8.20
HA11244	1.98	STK441	8.10
LA4031P	3.21	STK461=465	9.60
LA4032P	2.90	SW153	14.30
LA4102	3.37	TA7050P	95
LA4250	3.57	TA7051P	95
LA4400	3.05	TA7063P	2.20
LA4422	3.28	TA7074P	1.00
LC7130	5.93	TA7108P	3.43
LC7120	5.87	TA7120P	2.43
LC7137	5.50	TA7129AP	3.76
LM1011	3.25	TA7130P	1.93
LM1340T	75	TA7141P	95
LM1303N	2.63	TA7146P	4.67
MB3712	1.95	TA7193P	5.67
MC1307	1.85	TA7171P	1.85
MC1310P	1.60	TA7172P	1.85
MC1327	1.70	TA7173P	1.85
MC1351P	2.93	TA7176P	2.50
MC1330P	90	TA7202P	4.27
MC1349	1.99	TA7204P	3.77
MC1350	1.50	TA7205AP	3.72
MC1352	1.75	TA7208P	3.40
MC1358P	1.50	TA7210P	6.60
MC1495L	3.00	TA7222	2.42
MC1300Z	3.90	TA7223P	3.74
MC14011BCP	66	TA7227P	5.98
MC14049UB	43	TA7228P	5.98
MC7742	1.35	TA7310P	2.78
MC7812	1.35	TA7609P	4.39
ML231	2.20	TA7611AP	2.92
ETTR6016	2.20	TAA300	5.83
ML232	2.20	TAA310	2.50
ML236	5.35	TAA320	2.50
ML237	2.50	TAA550	55
ML238	6.00	TAA630	3.90
ML239	2.50	TAA8400S1	1.96
ML290	4.12	TAA661B	1.20
ML922	3.29	TBA120A	80
ML926	2.85	(A),(S),(AS),(SA)	
ML928	2.18	TBA120B	1.30
MM5387ANN	4.15	TBA120SB	97
MM5402N	6.65	TBA120T	1.35
MRF475	2.50	TBA120U	1.10
MRF477	10.00	TBA395	1.20
MSN5807	7.87	TBA396	80
MS1513L	2.80	TBA440N	2.75
MS1515L	3.20	(TBA1441)	
SAA1025	4.40	TBA440P	2.50
SAA1124	4.50	TBA4800	1.50
SAA1250	3.94	TBA510	3.00
SAA1251	4.90	TBA520(Q)	1.68
SAA5000	4.39	TBA530(Q)	1.38
SAA5012	6.50	TBA540	1.68
SAA5020	5.90	TBA550(Q)	1.58
SAA5030	5.90	TBA560Q	1.59
SAA5050	8.25	TBA570	1.79
SAA3210	2.93	TBA690	1.50
SAS5605	1.89	TBA641BX1	3.50
SAS5705	1.89	TBA673	2.45
SAS660	3.25	TBA700	2.12
SAS670	3.25	TBA720	2.64
SAS580	2.90	TBA750	2.98
SAS590	2.90	TBA800	1.62
SAS590	2.90	TBA810AS	1.10
SL901B	5.50	TBA820	1.70
SL917B	6.50	TBA820M	1.25
SL1310	1.80	TBA890	3.94
SL1327Q	1.20	TBA920(Q)	3.00
SL1430	1.25	TBA950(2K)	3.05
SL1432	3.36	TBA970	4.09
SL76544	2.05	TBA990	1.90
		TBA14406	2.44

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TCA160	2.50	UPC1178C	1.28
TCA760	2.30	UPC1180C	1.84
TCA270SQ	2.50	UPC1181H	1.62
TCA800	3.10	UPC1182H	2.95
TCA830	2.44	UPC1183H	1.38
TCA830S	1.75	UPC1185H	3.66
TCA900	2.20	UPC1188H	2.20
TCA910	2.20	UPC1190G	1.20
TCA940	1.95	UPC1197C	1.06
TDA440	2.20	UPC1198C	84
TDA1002	1.95	UPC1200V	1.18
TDA1003A	5.50	UPC1211V	2.70
TDA1004A	3.35	UPC1212V	1.34
TDA1006A	2.50	UPC1215V	1.66
TDA100			



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DECCA 100	7.35
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INTEGRATED CIRCUITS	TYPE	PRICE (£)	TYPE	PRICE (£)	TYPE	PRICE (£)	TYPE	PRICE (£)
LA4031	1.66	STK036	12.67	TBA800	.80	UPC1176C	2.15	
LA4031P	2.45	STK043	11.33	TBA810AS	1.15	UPC1177H	2.30	
AN103	1.95	LA4032	2.34	TBA820	1.40	UPC1178C	2.20	
AN214	2.25	LA4051	2.79	TBA890	2.95	UPC1180C	3.05	
AN240	2.20	LA4112	1.88	STK077	8.58	UPC1181H	2.20	
AN253	1.93	LA4102	1.97	STK078	8.45	UPC1182H	2.35	
AN315	1.66	LA4112	2.97	STK082	9.75	TBA990	1.65	
AN318	6.95	LA4201	2.95	STK086	12.89	TCA270S	1.30	
AN337	4.41	LA4400	2.80	STK415	9.66	TCA800	4.10	
AN360	1.45	LA4422	1.94	STK433	7.25	TCA940	1.55	
AN6332	6.97	LA4422	2.75	STK435	7.75	TDA1002A	1.50	
AN7110	1.93	LA4430	1.93	STK437	7.77	TDA1003A	2.80	
AN7114	2.33	LA4460	2.95	STK439	7.86	TDA1004A	2.70	
AN7115	2.37	LA4461	2.95	STK441	9.52	TDA1035	3.20	
AN7120	2.43	MB3712	2.30	STK443	11.33	TDA1044	3.10	
AN7140	2.10	MB3713	2.25	STK459	9.55	TDA1170	1.80	
AN7145	3.25	MB8719	5.20	STK461	9.95	TDA1412	.90	
AN7150	2.89	MC1327A	1.00	STK463	10.88	TDA2004A	4.35	
AN7151	2.89	MC1358P	1.60	STK501	8.98	TDA2020	2.95	
HA1137	2.89	MC1330P	.80	TA7072T	2.75	TDA2522	1.80	
HA1144	2.39	ML231B	1.95	TA7108P	2.10	TDA2523	2.25	
HA1151	1.97	ML232B	1.70	TA7120P	2.05	TDA2530	2.10	
HA1156	1.97	ML237	2.50	TA7129	3.00	TDA2532	2.20	
HA1166	2.65	ML238	4.22	TA7130P	1.20	TDA2540	1.95	
HA1197	2.30	SA11024	2.55	TA7139P	2.80	TDA2560	1.80	
HA1199	2.30	SA1125	4.70	TA7157P	3.00	TDA2581	1.70	
HA1202	1.75	SA11250	3.85	TA7171P	3.40	TDA2590	2.25	
HA1211	1.87	SA11251	5.20	TA7172P	3.40	TDA2591	2.70	
HA1306	2.97	SA5010	5.10	TA7176AP	2.90	TDA2593	2.30	
HA1319	2.99	SA5012	5.70	TA7193P	4.20	TDA2600	5.50	
HA1322	2.10	SA5560S	1.83	TA7202P	3.00	TDA2611A	1.50	
HA1325	2.30	SA5570S	1.90	TA7203P	3.00	TDA2640	2.30	
HA1338	2.78	SA5580	2.40	TA7204P	1.80	TDA3560	5.10	
HA1339	2.80	SA5590	2.40	TA7205AP	1.80	UPC41C	2.95	
HA1342A	2.33	SL901B	5.85	TA7208P	2.20	UPC554C	1.30	
HA1366	2.30	SL917B	6.95	TA7210P	5.60	UPC555H	0.70	
W/WVR	2.20	SN76003N	2.30	TA7222P	1.70	UPC566H3	2.10	
HA1368	2.30	SN76013N	2.30	TA7223P	3.15	UPC577H	3.00	
HA1371	2.97	SN76023N	2.30	TA7227	4.65	UPC585C	1.40	
HA1374	2.56	SN76110N	.90	TA7310P	1.70	UPC1009H	2.15	
HA1377	3.80	SN76226DN	1.45	TA7313P	2.10	UPC1017G	2.55	
HA1388	4.20	SN76227N	1.00	TA7550	.28	UPC1018C	1.50	
HA1397	4.15	SN76660N	.65	TBA120AS	.70	UPC1025H	3.30	
HA11211	2.43	STK0039	6.45	TBA120SB	.90	UPC1026C	1.40	
KIA7217	2.75	STK0040	5.95	TBA120U	1.00	UPC1028H	2.15	
HA11221	2.77	STK0050	7.50	TBA395	1.25	UPC1031H	2.85	
LA1201	1.88	STK011	7.35	TBA396	.85	UPC1032H	0.85	
LA1230	2.30	STK014	7.85	TBA520	1.30	UPC1035C	2.50	
LA1365	2.25	STK015	7.15	TBA530	1.00	UPC1042C	2.40	
LA2200	2.25	STK016	7.45	TBA540	1.27	UPC1043C	2.45	
LA3122	1.10	STK020	9.05	TBA550	1.40	UPC1156H	2.45	
LA3301	2.17	STK032	11.32	TBA560Q	1.60	UPC1168C	2.70	
LA3350	1.93	STK035	12.67	TBA750Q	2.45	UPC1170C	1.55	

TRANSISTORS	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE
BC548	10	BR100	18	BC558	10	BR101	32	
BC557	10	BR103	55	BD124P	70	BT106	1.15	
AC127	22	BD131	33	BT116	1.30	BU126	1.78	
AC128	22	BD132	33	BU205	1.42	BU208A	1.40	
AC187K	30	BD201	80	BU208	1.40	BU208/021.70	1.40	
AC188K	33	BD202	70	BU208A	1.40	BU326A	1.48	
AD149	70	BD203	70	BU407	1.12	BU500	1.80	
AD161	42	BD204	83	BU526	2.00	BU826	3.20	
AF127	36	BD222	50	BU826	3.20	R2008B	1.45	
AU110	3.10	BD232	37	R2010B	1.45	R2540	2.35	
AU113	4.60	BD233	37	R2540	2.35	TIP31C	46	
BC107	14	BD234	40	TIP31C	46	TIP32C	47	
BC108	14	BD235	40	TIP32C	47	TIP33B	80	
BC109	14	BD236	43	TIP33B	80	TIP41C	48	
BC141	26	BD237	40	TIP41C	48	TIP42C	48	
BC142	23	BD238	39	TIP42C	48	TIP2955	70	
BC143	25	BD410	50	TIP2955	70	TIP3055	55	
BC144	09	BD434	50	TIP3055	55	TV106/02	1.60	
BC148	09	BD437	70	2N3054	55	2N3055	50	
BC157	10	BD438	78	2N3055	50	2SC1172Y	78	
BC159	11	BD707	1.05	2SC1172Y	78	2SC2029	2.00	
BC160	22	BDX32	1.65	2SC2029	2.00	2SC2078	2.20	
BC172	22	BF194	12	2SC2078	2.20	2SC1969	2.45	
BC177	22	BF195	13	2SC1969	2.45	BF259	26	
BC182	10	BF197	11	BF259	26	BF337	28	
BC182L	11	BF198	14	BF337	28	BF338	30	
BC183L	11	BF214	15	BF338	30	BF458	30	
BC184L	11	BF256LC	25	BF458	30	BF459	36	
BC208	12	BF258	25	BF459	36	BFR90	1.60	
BC212L	10	BF259	26	BFR90	1.60	BFY51	22	
BC213L	10	BF337	28	BFY51	22			
BC214L	10	BF338	30					
BC237B	11	BF458	30					
BC337	11	BF459	36					
BC338	10	BFR90	1.60					
BC547	10	BFY51	22					

LINE O/P TR.	TYPE	PRICE	TYPE	PRICE	
RBM T20/22A	12.20	DECCA 2230	8.30	DECCA 80	8.58
RBM Z718 18/20/22	22.95	DECCA 100	8.58	DECCA 2230	8.30
PHILIPS G8	7.90	ITT CVC 20	7.75	DECCA 80	8.58
PHILIPS G9	8.75	ITT CVC 25/30/32	8.00	DECCA 100	8.58
PHILIPS G11	13.50	ANTI-SURGE FUSES		ITT CVC 20	7.75
THORN 1590/1	8.68	A/S20MM 80MA	2.75	ITT CVC 25/30/32	8.00
THORN 1690/1	9.68	100, 160, 200MA	1.70	TIP31C	46
THORN TX10	12.50	315, 400, 500, 630,		TIP32C	47
ITT CVC 1-9	9.60	800MA, 1A, 1.25, 1.6,		TIP33B	80
PYE 725 (90)	10.20			TIP41C	48
ITT CVC 1-9	9.60			TIP42C	48
DECCA 2230	8.30			TIP2955	70
R2008B	1.45			TIP3055	55
R2010B	1.45			TV106/02	1.60
R2540	2.35			2N3054	55
TIP31C	46			2N3055	50
TIP32C	47			2SC1172Y	78
TIP33B	80			2SC2029	2.00
TIP41C	48			2SC2078	2.20
TIP42C	48			2SC1969	2.45
TIP2955	70			BF259	26
TIP3055	55			BF337	28
TV106/02	1.60			BF338	30
2N3054	55			BF458	30
2N3055	50			BF459	36
2SC1172Y	78			BFR90	1.60
2SC2029	2.00			BFY51	22
2SC2078	2.20				
2SC1969	2.45				
BF259	26				
BF337	28				
BF338	30				
BF458	30				
BF459	36				
BFR90	1.60				
BFY51	22				

DIDDIES	
BY127	10
BY133	15
BY164	40
BY179	60
BY210/800	30
BY223	86
BY227M	23
BYX10	20
BYX55/600	26
OA90	07
1N4001-7	07
1N5401-8	12
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PHILIPS G9(220)63V	1.15
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RBMA823(2500/2500)30V	1.10
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THORN3500(1000)70V	.85
THORN9000(400)400V	2.75

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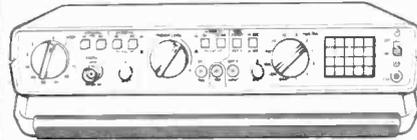
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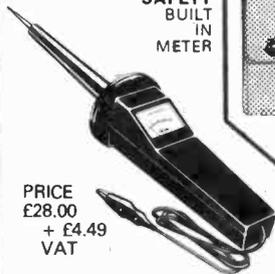
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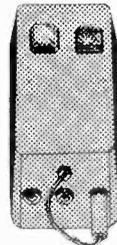
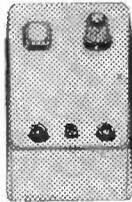
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SN76032N	2.90	TBA530/Q	1.30
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 AC Curr. M/A: 0.3, 3, 30, 300, 3000.
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 40 pin 0.34 3.10/10

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 (Tube) 1.60 Heat Sink Comp. 1.08
 Antistatic Spray 0.82 Additional P&P on Plastic Seal 0.88 above 30p

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 1W 2R2 to 10M (E24 Range) 2p each 15p/10 75p/100
 1W 10R to 2M2 (E19 Range) 7p each 65p/10 6.00/100
 2W 10R to 2M2 (E19 Range) 8p each 70p/10 6.00/100

RESISTOR KITS - each value individually packed
 1W pack 10 each value E12 - 10R to 1M 610 pieces 5.00
 1W pack 10 each value E12 - 10R to 1M 305 pieces 3.00
 1W pack 10 each value E12 - 2R2 to 2M2 730 pieces 6.00
 1W pack 5 each value E12 - 2R2 to 2M2 365 pieces 3.50
 1W pack 5 each value E12 - 2R2 to 1M 353 pieces 15.00
 2W pack 5 each value E6 - 10R to 2M2 317 pieces 18.00

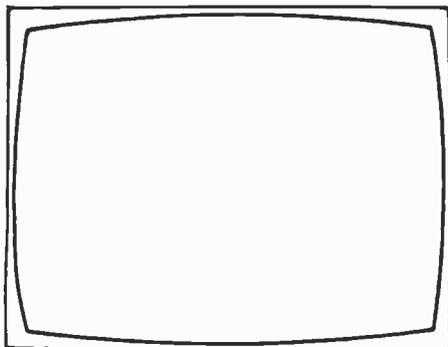
RESISTORS WIREWOUND - Generally 5%
 2.5W - 0.22 to 20R - Available in preferred values 0.20
 4W - 10R to 10K - Available in preferred values 0.21
 4W - 0.4R to 22K - Available in preferred values 0.25
 11W - 1R to 22K - Available in preferred values 0.25
 17W - 1R to 22K - Available in preferred values 0.37

VDRs, etc.

E295ZZ	0.17	0.28
O17	0.27	0.28
E298CD	0.56	0.25
/A258	1.70	0.25
E298ED	1.35	0.22
/A258	1.20	0.22
/A260	0.22	0.22
/A262	0.22	0.22
/A265	0.22	0.22
FP268	2.42	0.22
E298Z2	2.15	0.25
/05	7.06	0.25
/06	7.05	0.22
E299DD/P116	2.32	0.25
P354	all 0.23	0.23
E299DD	1.95	0.22
/P230	1.70	0.72
VA1015	1.50	0.92
VA1033/34/38	1.26	0.25
VA1055s/56s/60s	2.15	all 0.23
67s	all 0.23	0.23
VA1077	1.78	0.31
VA1091	0.29	0.29
VA1096/97	all 0.20	0.20
VA1103	0.32	0.32
VA1108	0.72	0.72
VA1108/09/10	1.12	all 0.24
VA8650	1.20	1.20
2322 564	0.2221	0.59

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ECC83	0.75	AC141	0.20	BC115	0.15	BC323	0.99	BD436	0.68	BF270	0.30
ECC84	0.65	AC141K	0.40	BC116	0.12	BC327	0.14	BD437	0.76	BF271	0.26
ECC85	0.90	AC142	0.26	BC117	0.22	BC328	0.14	BD438	0.18	BF273	0.18
ECC88	0.96	AC142K	0.48	BC118	0.17	BC337	0.12	BD439	0.68	BF274	0.32
ECC89	0.96	AC151	0.45	BC119	0.30	BC338	0.12	BD440	0.68	BF275	0.32
ECC91	0.75	AC152	0.45	BC120	0.12	BC350	0.14	BD441	0.68	BF276	0.32
ECC94	0.75	AC176K	0.46	BC142	0.42	BC440	0.30	BD509	0.58	BF337	0.26
ECC98	0.75	AC187	0.42	BC144	0.42	BC441	0.32	BD510	0.48	BF338	0.26
ECC99	0.96	AC187K	0.48	BC143	0.30	BC461	0.32	BD517	0.56	BF355	0.42
EF80	0.65	AC188K	0.44	BC147	0.08	BC547	0.12	BD520	0.66	BF363	0.82
EF86	1.60	AC188K	0.50	A or B	0.10	BC548	0.12	BD569	1.25	BF367	0.24
EF183	0.75	AC188K	0.50	A or B	0.10	BC550	0.18	BDX18	2.35	BF422	0.38
EF184	0.75	AD142	1.10	A or B	0.10	BC550C	0.18	BDX32	2.10	BF450	0.38
EH30	0.90	AD143	1.10	BC149	0.09	BC557	0.12	BF115	0.32	BF457	0.33
EH94	2.50	AD149	0.96	BC157	0.10	BC558	0.12	BF117	0.54	BF458	0.36
EL84	0.69	AD161	0.42	BC158	0.10	BCX34	0.27	BF119	0.82	BF459	0.44
EL509	0.85	AD161/AD162	0.82	BC159	0.10	BCY70	0.15	BF120	0.88	BF459	0.44
EM87	2.50	AF106	0.48	BC160	0.30	BCY71	0.16	BF123	0.40	BF471	0.22
EY86/87	0.67	AF106	0.48	BC161	0.30	BCY72	0.18	BF125	0.42	BF474	0.22
EY86/87	1.65	AF114	2.10	BC168B	0.12	BCZ10	1.68	BF127	0.38	BF475	0.30
PC88A	0.50	AF115	2.10	BC169C	0.10	BCZ11	1.45	BF152	0.16	BF476	0.32
PC88B	0.65	AF116	2.10	BC170	0.14	BD124P	0.80	BF154	0.23	BF477	0.32
PC88C	0.74	AF117	2.10	BC171	0.12	BC130Y	0.68	BF157	0.40	BF478	0.32
PC8189	0.85	AF118	0.62	BC171	0.10	BD131	0.34	BF158	0.22	BF479	0.32
PC8190	0.75	AF121	0.62	BC171	0.10	BD132	0.34	BF159	0.24	BF480	0.32
PC8191	1.25	AF124	0.48	A or B	0						



TELEVISION

Cable TV – bordering on farce

The cable TV situation in the UK is becoming a greater shambles by the day. We were given to believe, by those who produced the Information Technology Advisory Panel report on cable TV back in January 1982, that by now the cable layers would be busy ripping up the roads while people would be falling over themselves in the scramble to get connected up to the new multi-channel cables. It's all turned out rather differently. So differently that many of the firms that promoted the idea of "recabling Britain" are now falling over each other in the scramble to get out and forget the whole thing as fast as possible.

As mentioned on a later page, the two largest cable operators in the UK, BET (Rediffusion) and ERG (Visionhire), are in the process of pulling out. For many years Rediffusion virtually was cable TV in the UK. The company started with audio cable distribution in 1928, adding TV to the network in 1951. Its service is available to about six per cent of households in the UK and it has 600,000 subscribers. There are 128 Rediffusion networks, 53 of which are reasonably large scale. Thirty one of the larger networks have been converted to provide a four-channel service (channels other than the broadcast ones). But Rediffusion is reputed to be losing around £3 million a year on its UK cable networks. The company operates in several overseas countries and has much technical expertise. It obtained only one of the initial batch of eleven new cable franchises awarded last year. Visionhire entered the cable field in 1978 when it bought networks with 240,000 subscribers. All but ten of the networks have been closed down in recent times and the company failed to win any of the new franchises. Both BET and ERG have decided that the economics of cable no longer make commercial sense over any acceptable time span for business investment. Rediffusion is being sold off while Visionhire is closing down and will make no applications for future franchises.

Whether BET came to its decision to sell unaided or was forced into it by others' refusal to provide financial backing is not clear. Thirty million was required to establish the Guildford network but the sum couldn't be raised. Of the eleven cable franchises awarded last year, only Thorn-EMI's Swindon network has actually started operations, though it will take some time, and an investment of £16 million or so, before all 53,000 households in the area can be offered the service. Most of the other franchise holders seem to have put their schemes into mothballs, some after failing to obtain any financial backing whatever from the city.

The government has come in for some criticism over all this – for failing to act promptly and for changing the financial conditions with the last budget. This is perhaps a little unfair. That famous ITAP report did after all place great emphasis on the fact that "recabling" the UK would require no public assistance and could be done with readily available private sector finance. In fact a lot of the blame for what's gone wrong can be attributed to that ITAP report, which put forward a number of reasons for encouraging cable operations without providing a coherent overall view of what cabling was to be about or for. Was it to be a cheap and cheerful addition to existing off-air services? Or the start of a much more sophisticated information network? Or a bit of both? No one seemed too sure, perhaps with good reason. A complex information network, computers and all, could have ended up as an expensive white elephant. One feels that the ITAP emphasised the information network aspect because it lent prestige to the idea of cable. In retrospect it would probably have been better to encourage cheap and cheerful entertainment to start with, moving on to the computer network approach at a later date when the usefulness of such a service would have been easier to assess.

The government seems to have been particularly badly advised on the subject of cable. But some criticism nevertheless seems justified. Firstly on the financial aspects. The cable companies could before the last budget take advantage of tax allowances to offset their initial investments in installing the networks. The aim of the government's change however was to encourage investment that made money sense rather than tax sense. Cable was always doubtful without tax concessions. Criticism over dilatoriness on the other hand is probably more justified. Compare the haste with which the Hunt committee was set up and ordered to report on cable in 1982 with what's happened since. The Cable and Broadcasting Act was not passed until July 1984, confirmation of the initial franchises was delayed, and the Cable Authority which is to supervise the whole thing has still to be established – at present it has a chairman but no members.

One of the strangest aspects of the whole fandango is the emergence of Robert Maxwell as almost a monopoly in cable TV. Having bought (assuming the sale is approved) Rediffusion's cable interests, which bring with them a 14 per cent interest in Ten – The Movie Channel, Robert Maxwell has been having talks with Merseyside Cablevision and Clyde Cablevision. Thorn-EMI Cable Television's managing director Peter Gosling commented "it's very encouraging to see that someone like him is prepared to invest in the future of cable". That may be so, but surely the original intention was not monopoly tendencies in the cable field. Why Robert Maxwell should be so interested in cable is hard to say. But if you were to back cable TV with powerful press support (Maxwell now owns the Mirror newspaper group) the whole thing could possibly be made worthwhile. Just think – a bingo channel maybe?

All this is surely far from what was originally intended. Whatever was envisaged at the start of the great "recabling Britain" saga – and it was always rather vague – the result so far has been a shambles bordering on farce.

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QUERY SERVICE CHARGE

We regret the need to increase the charge made for replying to readers' servicing queries to £1.50 (inc. VAT) from this month. The service is a non-profit one for the benefit of readers but it's essential to cover some of the cost of running it.

READERS' PCB SERVICE

The readers' PCB service will continue in operation until further notice. For details of the boards available see page 389, May 1984. Enquiries should be sent to: Readers' PCB Services Ltd. (TV), Fleet House, Welbeck Street, Whitwell, Worksop, Notts.

ADDRESS PLEASE

Would Freddie Archer, who wrote on the Philips N1700 in the October issue, please send us his new address.

CORRECTIONS

Frowds Ltd.'s post code is PO6 3TJ, not as given on this page last month. Robert Barwick's VCR lock patent application was taken out on November 4th 1983, not 1984 (Teletopics last month).

RGB-Linear Interface Circuit

K. M. Curtis, B.Sc. (Hons)

The advent of microcomputers has brought with it a need to be able to demonstrate software to large audiences. Most microcomputers are equipped with a u.h.f. modulator so that they can be connected to a standard domestic or projection TV set. Modulating a computer's characters/graphics then demodulating them introduces distortion however. This, combined with the fact that most projection television systems have a relatively narrow frequency response, makes them unsuitable for displaying 80-column text. Some microcomputers come with a 1V peak-to-peak composite video output that can be directly plugged into many projection receivers.

Most microcomputers provide either RGB-linear (RML 380Z etc.) or RGB-TTL (BBC etc.) outputs. With both of these there are four separate signals. In the case of RGB-linear there are three analogue R, G and B signals that vary between 0V and 1V and a composite sync signal. RGB-TTL differs in that the RGB signals are at either 0V = off or 5V = on.

Our problem at the Computing Studies Unit, University of Leicester, arose when we wanted to demonstrate software using a Panasonic TC6200G/H/A projection receiver. We decided to interface the RML 380Z microcomputer's RGB-linear outputs with the projection set's RGB output stages. The RGB-linear input signals need to be amplified 4.5 times to drive the output stages. We decided to use two common-emitter stages for the purpose, each with a gain of 2.25 (see Fig. 1). The reason for this was the good frequency response and low cost. A final emitter-follower was incorporated in each RGB amplifier to supply the current drive required. VR2 sets

the bias at the output.

The RML 380Z's composite sync output is handled by a single 2N2222A transistor (see Fig. 2) which is driven into saturation by the sync pulses, providing a pulse output with sharp rising and falling edges.

The outputs from the three emitter-followers are fed to pin 4 on L(R), L(G) and L(B). The sync output is connected to pin 2 on board D2.

The system has been used successfully for over three years.

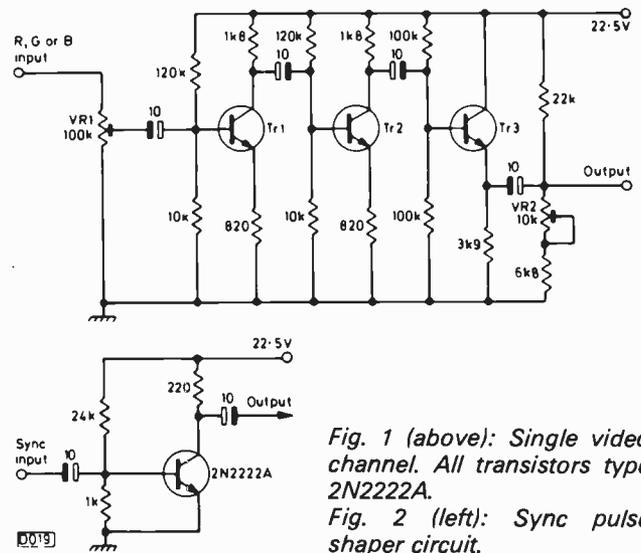


Fig. 1 (above): Single video channel. All transistors type 2N2222A.

Fig. 2 (left): Sync pulse shaper circuit.

VCR Clinic

JVC HR7350

Star date: Aug 1984. Place: Newark Video Centre ... Beam the spares down Scotty!!!

Sorry, I got carried away again. Andy reckons that I should be! After a short holiday in Chroma (sorry, Cromer) for a much needed rest I returned to find a large pile of broken VCRs.

First a JVC HR7350 with an intermittent tape transport fault. Every third blue moon the pinch roller failed to operate, sometimes. In one fleeting moment I saw the solenoid drive pulse on the scope at a time when the pinch roller didn't move. Obviously an intermittent solenoid wasn't it? No it wasn't! The trouble with a fault like this is that one doesn't know one's got it wrong until the item in question has been replaced (after a struggle), the machine's been sent back to the customer after meticulously testing it for three days, and the call then comes to say it's happened again.

It's fairly well known that the UL switch slider in these machines is liable to stick because the grease has aged and hardened, thus preventing the drum motor switching off. A similar problem was the cause of the fault under investigation. In the front right-hand corner of the chassis

Reports from Steve Beeching, T. Eng.,
Derek Snelling and John Coombes

a sliding lever from the solenoid was found to be sticking on the grease, thus preventing solenoid operation from time to time.

S.B.

Sharp VC381 and VC9300

For poor fast forward, rewind and visual search within the warranty period I usually replace the idler pulleys, though they sometimes respond to cleaning with emery paper. One customer had the cheek to complain that visual search was too fast after I'd replaced the pulley. Sound warble can be due to the reel motor, the capstan motor or both.

S.B.

Sony C7

As this machine ages various common faults are appearing - there's also the well known rewind kit job. Lately I've encountered worn audio/sync heads, some audio and some sync. The capstan bearings are tending to squeak loudly; the only cure is to replace the motor, which is a bit of a bind. Failure of the power supply is now more often

due to electrolytics than to semiconductor devices: I suggest that replacement of all the high-voltage electrolytics is in order if one fails. Use only Sony replacements. **S.B.**

Sharp VC7300

The tape was looping after rewind. No messing about here, I replaced the take-up turntable, the main brake and idlers. It's more economical in the long run to replace all suspect items. **S.B.**

Toshiba V9600

In a few cases we've had head failure after 15 to 20 months. We also have a lot of trouble with upper cylinder wear. As with the earlier V5470, a mechanical overhaul can be very beneficial – Toshiba machines respond well to this, giving them many more years' life. **S.B.**

Toshiba V8600

There was no colour on playback – probably none on record either. The colour a.f.c. loop was working normally – all waveforms checked out – but there was no 685kHz input to the submixer as the divide-by-eight circuit wasn't functioning. It's in IC208 (MB14300). **S.B.**

The New Machines

To my mind Sony have dropped a bomb with their new hi-fi machine. It has mono sound on the linear audio track, making it non-compatible with SLC9 stereo tapes if the customer wants to upgrade. The machine of the autumn is

without doubt the JVC hi-fi (Ferguson will say that their's has the best sound Previn has ever heard and for once be right). I can say no more at this stage than six heads on the drum, no glass delay line in the luminance replay system, multi-speed playback and a host of other goodies that boldly go where no video has ever gone before... Beam me up Scotty!! It's getting too much: I have to work with this idiot. **S.B.**

Mitsubishi VCRs – Colour Trouble

Here's a fault that's becoming common on Mitsubishi VCRs. The symptom may be no colour on playback, no colour on record or both, and may be intermittent. The problem is that the various 4.43MHz oscillators need adjustment. A frequency counter is essential for this as they must be within 50Hz of the nominal figure. You'll usually find that at least one of them is over 200Hz out. The trouble seems to show up when the machines have had about eighteen months' use. **D.S.**

Sanyo VTC9300

A problem that's showing up on Sanyo VTC9300s is intermittent playback. The cause is dry-joints in the can that houses the head preamplifiers. It's on board W1 – the one on the left. **D.S.**

Toshiba V8600

A grainy picture/no test signal can be due to low supply to the r.f. converter as a result of the switching transistor Q661 (2SC2236Y) on the servo/logic panel being high-resistance. **J.C.**

TV Fault Notes

Michael Pitt

Philips K30 Chassis

One of the main chassis we deal with is the Philips K30. The arrival of the 30AX tube caused a lot of unnecessary worry, with lots of complaints about "coloured patches" around the edges – remember? I wonder how many engineers had to go out just to push the scan coil assembly back into its correct position? Things like that become routine after a while, and worth checking anyway.

An interesting fault we had recently with one of these sets was red static convergence errors. This caused havoc for a while as the merits of adjustmentless tubes were discussed. Then we noticed that one of the small metal shields just in front of the screw collar which locks the position of the scan coils had disappeared – though the locking substance used by Philips was in full view. The missing shield was retrieved from right inside the yoke and realigned back to the existing marks: hey, presto – instant convergence!

An old favourite that crops up occasionally to keep you awake is partial field collapse, generally the lower half: the usual cause is the field scan coupling capacitor C1521 (1,500µF).

Always check that the chopper's h.t. output (HT2) is 139V on this chassis. I've found it set anywhere between 125V and 146V, which can give you some pretty awkward moments.

The sync ran wild on another of these sets about ten

seconds after switching on. A replacement TDA2571AQ sync/line generator chip produced only a slight improvement and it was necessary to replace the four transistors on this panel (line/field generator module) to get a complete cure.

Philips KT3 Chassis

A loud "clack" woke up the department when a KT3 was switched on. On inspection we found that C1581 (0.033µF, 600V) which decouples the first anode supply was flashing across to the focus preset.

Decca 80 Chassis

The problem with a Decca set fitted with the 80 chassis and touch-button tuning was no channel change. We found that Tr713 on the little panel behind the buttons, associated with the AV button, was at fault. D300 on the timebase panel was also defective – replace it with a 1N4003 as in later production (not 1N4148).

Hitachi NP8CQ Chassis

Hitachi sets are another of our lines. A dead CBP222 (NP8CQ chassis) came along recently – not really dead,

the tube heaters were very intermittent. The cause was a dry-joint on pin 11 of the line output transformer. Another set fitted with this chassis produced an audible whine from the power supply and once again the heaters were out. Hitachi have a fault-finding guide to help with this problem: it points to a number of possible candidates. All too frequently however, as on this occasion, it's simply R717 (1 Ω) open-circuit. As a result there's no 12V rail. A fairly common fault with the remote control version of this chassis is that the set comes on in standby only. In this event investigate stand-by panel PC036, paying particular attention to the two 10V zener diodes, the two BC548 transistors and the 4.7 μ F and 22 μ F electrolytics. The 1000 μ F electrolytic may also need to be replaced.

Sanyo CT7118

It's not often that a Sanyo CTV comes my way nowadays. A CT7118 however had the EW fault that was so common with this model initially. D601/2 and R626 in the diode modulator circuit required replacement, also the

driver transistor's (Q752) emitter resistor R764. At switch on the collector of Q752 was at 48V, as a result of which R626 again died. A new Q752 (BD537) and R626 restored normal operation.

Mitsubishi on/off switches

Finally a moan. If you get called to a Mitsubishi set with an intermittent on/off button, be prepared to stay there a while. Not one of the easiest components to change, as it's right down in the bottom left-hand side. On Model CT2027TX you have to remove the remote control receiver panel then the huge mains transformer just to reach the required position to undo the screws holding the mains switch assembly in place. If you don't secure the mains transformer out of your way its sheer weight will encourage it to flip over and crash down on the main panel – the effect can be compared to hitting the board with an 11lb hammer. Care is essential here, which is o.k. in the workshop but not with the customer watching your every move.

N1700 Timer Modification

A. Bouskill

A major drawback remains after modifying the Philips N1700 for half-speed operation as described in the April 1983 issue of *Television*. This is the inability to make an unattended recording of more than two hours due to the timer i.c.'s limitations. A two-hour timer limit is inconvenient at normal speed: on long-play, with up to six hours' recording time available, it's restrictive to say the least.

Users of the N1700 will know that if the VCR is set to make an unattended recording and starts at the preset time, pressing the on/off button for a few seconds will return the machine to the untimed mode so that it will record to the end of the tape. This feature of the design is the basis of the modification to be described.

An examination of the timer board and a few measurements showed that to modify the timer itself would be complicated and, if the timer i.c. was damaged, probably expensive as well. Five colour-coded leads emerge from the timer board and go via a plug and socket to the timer connection subpanel (see Fig. 1). They are then linked via another plug and socket to the rest of the machine. Pin 3 of the timer plug goes high during a timed recording and this aspect of the design can be used to operate a relay.

The circuit adopted is shown in Fig. 2. When pin 3 of the timer plug goes high transistors Tr1 and Tr2 switch on. They form a Darlington pair that energises relay RL1. With RL1 energised, the normally-open contacts 1 and 2 close, short-circuiting the normally-open contacts of the N1700's on switch. Contacts 3 and 4 also close, connecting R2 across C1. The capacitor discharges slowly, and after a few seconds Tr1 and Tr2 switch off, releasing the relay. D1 protects the transistors against the relay coil's back e.m.f.

To install the modification, remove the cassette lift then the top cover (bearing in mind that it's a tight fit). Take off the top half of the cabinet by removing the four cross-headed screws in the corners and then a fifth screw, visible when the record key is depressed, in the front centre of the cabinet. When the right-hand side panel is hinged vertically the timer connection subpanel can be seen, held

by a single screw.

Build the modification circuit on a piece of Veroboard approximately 50 x 25mm, with two 75mm long wires to connect to pins 1 and 3 on the subpanel. Use two longer wires (approximately 500mm) to connect contacts 1 and 2 of RL1 to the N1700's on switch, in parallel with the existing wires which in the modified machines are white and blue/white tracer. Use two wires about 150mm long to connect the 12V supply at pin 4 of the timer connection subpanel via a single-pole switch to the modification panel. Label this switch "timer override" and mount it on the front panel between the tuner buttons and the timer control panel, where the plastic is thin and accessible to the rear. The modification panel can be fitted to the base of the VCR, close to the fixing screw for the timer connection subpanel, by means of a stiff wire soldered to the Veroboard copper and trapped under a convenient screw.

The cost of this modification shouldn't exceed £2.00. It will greatly extend the machine's flexibility – this is worth doing since these VCRs are basically very reliable. The prototype has worked well for some months now. Use a small double-pole relay with two sets of normally-open contacts and a coil with a resistance of more than 180 Ω .

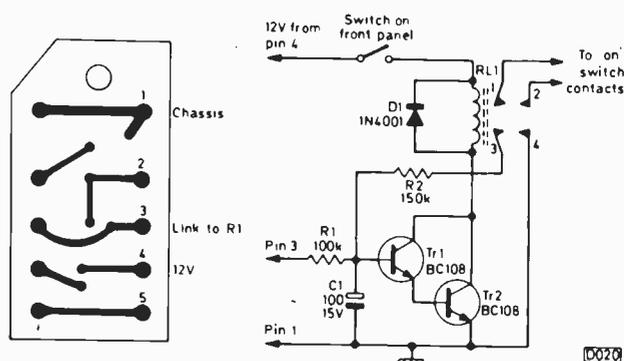


Fig. 1 (left): Timer connection subpanel.
Fig. 2 (right): Relay circuit adopted.

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AC141K	39	BC182LB	12	BCX34	11	BF184	30	BFR90	1.74	OT121	2.08
AC142K	38	BC183L	12	BD115	49	BF185	30	BFR91	2.08	R1038	80
AC153	39	BC184L	13	BD131	30	BF194	16	BF242	30	R1039	80
AC176	33	BC187	24	BD132	46	BF195	16	BF243	30	R2008B	1.40
AC176K	33	BC204	15	BD133	59	BF196	16	BF250	30	R2030	70
AC128K	93	BC208	9	BD139	36	BF197	15	BF251	34	R2265	1.30
AC188	38	BC212L	9	BD140	38	BF198	15	BF252	34	R2305	80
AD142	1.18	BC213L	10	BD144	1.70	BF199	15	BRC116	1.50	R2322	50
AD143	1.08	BC237	12	BD150	50	BF223	18	BRC1693	1.43	R2443	25
AD149	98	BC238B	8	BD163	98	BF224	19	BU105	1.00	RCA16445	30
AD161	32	BC238L	8	BD201	74	BF228	20	BU126	1.05	RCA16599	1.25
AD162	32	BC250A	15	BD203	78	BF240	9	BU207	1.05	RCA16600	1.40
AD263	1.05	BC251	8	BD204	99	BF241	21	BU208	1.15	RCA16799	1.13
AF127	45	BC252A	20	BD222	48	BF255	10	BU208A	1.15	RCA16800	1.42
AF139	38	BC294	37	BD225	52	BF256S	20	BU326A	1.30	RCA16802	1.38
AF239	41	BC301	32	BD232	50	BF257	28	BU408	1.70	S1299	2.25
BC107	15	BC303	31	BD233	60	BF259	28	BU408	2.75	S2800	1.25
BC108	15	BC307	10	BD234	60	BF271	28	BU500	2.30	S800A/B	3.50
BC109	15	BC308	8	BD237	55	BF272	25	BU525	2.46	T8050V	1.30
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BC148	12	BC466	10	BD677G	1.35	BF453	53	MJ3001	2.21	TP30	42
BC149	12	BC460	40	BD707	95	BF458	37	MJE182	47	TP31	35
BC153	16	BC463	22	BD708	95	BF459	40	MJE340	50	TP32	43
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BC154YL	16	BC547	12	BDY20	1.09	BF556B	15	MJE565	1.40	TP41	42
BC157	12	BC548	12	BDY82	99	BF596	15	MJE3055	1.50	TP42	45
BC158	12	BC549	8	BF137	20	BF694	16	NKT241W	8	TP110	61
BC159	15	BC557	10	BF153	20	BF757	62	NKT241G	8	TIS91	25
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BF173	29	BFR81	29	NKT453	1.65
BF179	32	BFR87	25	OT112	1.92
BF180	33	BFR90	1.74	OT121	2.08
BF181	30	BFR91	2.08	R1038	80
BF184	30	BF242	30	R1039	80
BF185	30	BF243	30	R2008B	1.40
BF194	16	BF250	30	R2030	70
BF195	16	BF251	34	R2265	1.30
BF196	16	BF252	34	R2305	80
BF197	15	BRC116	1.50	R2322	50
BF198	15	BRC1693	1.43	R2443	25
BF199	15	BU105	1.00	RCA16445	30
BF223	18	BU126	1.05	RCA16599	1.25
BF224	19	BU207	1.05	RCA16600	1.40
BF228	20	BU208	1.15	RCA16799	1.13
BF240	9	BU20			

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Switch on and check the voltage at the h.t fuse. 100V instead of 150V. I pulled out the BU208A's plug to disconnect it, at the same time wondering why the fuse hadn't failed if the load was excessive. The voltage remained low. Out with the panel and in with my spare one. Still 100V – and the line output stage was still inoperative. Either the fault was still there or my panel was faulty in exactly the same way. I didn't believe that. Check beam limiter voltages which were again wrong. There was a line coming off marked "only on some chassis" – remote control ones. This was such a set. So I pulled out the lower plug and the voltage immediately rose above 150V. I replaced the line output transistor plug and the set burst into life.

"It's on the remote control panel" I explained.

"Never use it" he said. Coward to the last I let him take the set away without investigating further – having cleaned off the e.h.t. cap etc.

The Final Drama

We'd sold this Fidelity CTV14S some months ago to a couple we knew. We'd sung its praises and here it was tripping like mad. "Put it right in no time" I assured them.

I checked the usual things (the TDA2581 chip and dry-joints in the power supply) but they were without fault. When the line output transistor was disconnected the tripping stopped, but the transistor itself was all right. The services provided by the line output transformer all declared their innocence, so we were left with the line output transformer itself. This was of the original type, round and black. I whipped a stock set out of its box. The LOPT was smaller and white with the focus and first anode presets on it (these were on the tube base board on the set we'd sold).

"I'll have to phone for one. Won't keep you long. I'll give you a ring."

The husband was back a couple of days later, looking a bit peeved. "It's not come in yet" I explained. Just at that moment it arrived. "Oh good" he said. "I can wait for it then."

"Well, er, if you wish" I said dubiously. How right I was. The replacement transformer was of the same type as the one in the stock set, white with knobs on. It came with a small subpanel and a note giving instructions on the modifications required. So I suggested he popped off for an hour or so unless he wanted to stay and see me suffer. He said he didn't mind and elected to watch.

It's no easy job to remove the original type and I could hear him sighing as I struggled. Eventually it was out and the new one went in – much better. The original focus and first anode controls had to be removed from the tube panel and the leads from the new transformer fitted directly, but it was done at last.

Now was the time to test it. What if I'd been wrong? What if the set still tripped? Not giving a sign of my inner turmoil, I smiled and switched on. There was the usual grump and on it came. A pig looked at me from the screen and winked. I winked back.

"Well done" said Mr. Savage. "How much do they pay you for doing that?"

"They don't. They only supply the parts. The labour is one of love."

"Oh well. I suppose it comes out of the profit you make when you sell the set."

"Yes sir, all seven pounds fifty of it."

I could see that he didn't believe me but it's true, give or take a penny or two. I suppose I should buy in larger quantities to get larger discounts. Never mind, I was never cut out for business.

Vintage TV: The View Master

Chas E. Miller

For several years after World War 2 home constructors of TV sets relied extensively on ex-services equipment – in particular the Pye radar i.f. strip, which operated at a frequency close to that of the Alexandra Palace transmitter, and the VCR97 electrostatic c.r.t. The latter had a screen diameter of about 6in., a length of just over 16in., and a green fluorescent screen, so it could hardly be called ideal for domestic viewing! Nevertheless it found its way into innumerable amateur sets of the late 40s. As a matter of fact I've one on the desk as I write this, complete with its Mumetal shield!

It was obvious that something better was needed, and in 1949 a group of component manufacturers sponsored the design of a set that was to be made available in kit form and would be up to the standards of contemporary commercial models – in fact it excelled them in some respects. The result was the View Master, designed by W.I. Flack. Constructional details were sold in a packet for 5/- and the various parts were available from the sponsoring firms. Considering the general complexity of most commercial receivers at that time, W.I. Flack's design was little less than inspired and fully realised his hope that it would result in "a television set that embodies all the latest technical developments and when finished will be a credit to the constructor's workmanship and skill,

one he'll be proud to own".

So that the set's receiver section could be aligned by an amateur enthusiast without the aid of a signal generator, a t.r.f. design was chosen. The valves used were the well known (one might almost say notorious) EF50s. For the benefit of younger readers, these were among the first all-glass valves designed for h.f. amplification and were widely used in wartime radar equipment. They were not particularly small – somewhat larger than the latter-day PL508 – and were permanently fitted with a metal screening can that extended right round the base pins as well. The pins were a little too short for comfort, and much of the criticism levelled at the EF50 was due to poor base connections. For applications where expense was unimportant the valves were supplied with gold-plated pins to help alleviate the problem. On the good side the valve's mutual conductance was high for the period, at 6.5mA/V. Depending on circuit application, it could be controlled by applying between 0V and –6V to the control grid or 0V to –55V to the suppressor grid. Another advantage so far as the home constructor was concerned was the fact that services equivalents (ARP35, VR91) could be obtained from surplus stores at a fraction of the price.

Three EF50s were used to amplify the vision signal

prior to detection, the first being common to the sound signal as well. The detector was one half of an EB91 double diode whose second half acted as the sync separator. Another EF50 was used as the video amplifier (see Fig. 1). As an example of Mr. Flack's attention to detail, a negative bias supply was provided for the valve's control grid to avoid the loss of gain that would have occurred with a cathode bias resistor. As a result, the stage gain was just over 30, only slightly below the theoretical maximum. The shunt peaking coil L10 was adjustable to increase the response at 2.7MHz by some 6dB. Interference suppression was provided by a Westinghouse miniature metal rectifier (MR5) and capacitor connected across the video amplifier's anode load. This clipped signals above peak white. Since there was inevitably some peak white clipping and the rectifier's capacitance degraded the video response, the recommendation was to omit the interference suppression network where there was little interference or the signal strength was high.

The simple diode sync separator V4b was driven into conduction by the positive-going sync pulses at its anode, developing the sync pulse output across its load resistor R20. The diode's heavy conduction charged C18 whose time-constant with R21 resulted in the diode remaining cut off until the arrival of the next sync pulse.

The sound receiver was a simple three-valve affair – EF50 r.f. amplifier, EBC33 detector/amplifier and EL33 output. Sound interference was again undertaken by a Westector metal rectifier – hardly surprising as Westinghouse was one of the firms involved!

Timebases

Both timebases used thyratron generators driving pentode output valves but, wonder of wonders, the line output stage was right up to the moment with flyback e.h.t. and a boost diode (the boost voltage was 320V). As Mr. Flack pointed out, this reduced the line output stage consumption to 20W as opposed to the 32W a straight class A amplifier output stage would have consumed. The boost and e.h.t. diodes were both Westinghouse metal rectifiers, though provision was made for using an EY51 e.h.t. rectifier instead if wished.

Power Supply

The power supply was very simple, with a transformer to supply the heaters and a Westinghouse 14A86 metal rectifier plus choke-capacitor filter to provide the 285V h.t. line. The only complications were a network to

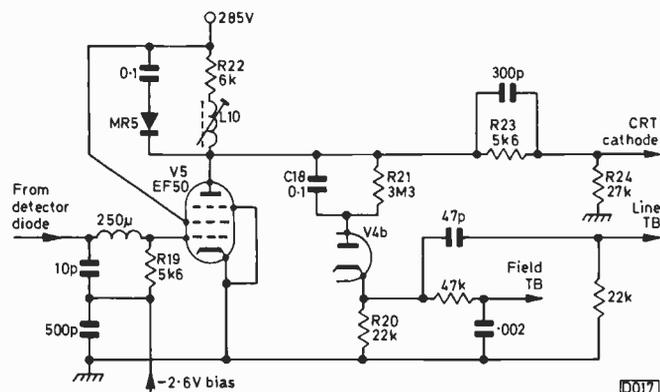


Fig. 1: The View Master's video output stage and the diode sync separator circuit.

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provide the negative bias for the video output stage and a neon tell-tale to guard against live-chassis operation – it gave instant indication that the mains plug should be reversed.

Getting it Together

Several alternative c.r.t.s were available for use with the set: 9 or 12in. tubes could be used, from the Ferranti, GEC, Mazda or Mullard ranges. Focusing was by means of a permanent magnet, a much better idea than the electromagnetic system then prevalent (this usually required frequent adjustment during the course of an evening's viewing). Cabinets of either the table or console type could be bought in flat kit form for home assembly.

When correctly assembled and aligned the View Master's performance was first rate. This was as well, since it was in no way a cheap proposition for the constructor, even though the individual items sound remarkably cheap at a first glance at the price list. The receiver chassis for example, of 24 s.w.g. tin plate, was supplied by the Whiteley Electrical Radio Co. Ltd. with eight valveholders, insulating bushes, screens and all screws at an inclusive price of £1 2s 6d. The larger timebase chassis with its four valveholders cost the same – but I could just have afforded both for one week's wages at the time! A complete set of 59 capacitors, made by the Telegraph Condenser Co. (for whom Mr. Flack was a senior engineer) cost £7 complete with fixing clips. The Morganite resistor kit retailed at £1 15s 11d while the Plessey line output transformer was priced at £1 1s 3d. My copy of the original construction manual has an annotated shopping list by an unknown hand totalling £55 7s 11½d, of which the major items were the tube (£11 6s 5d), the valves (£10 10s 0d) and the cabinet (£6 17s 6d).

Despite omission of the cost of the constructor's time, this total was a lot more than the price of some contemporary commercial sets. The 9in. GEC model BT2147 and 12in. Model BT5144 cost £36 17s 5d and £48 0s 4d respectively for example. But then, as the instruction manual said, "the satisfaction and thrill of being able to say 'I built it and it works' is the great incentive."

Firms Involved

The firms associated with the View Master project were Belling and Lee, Bulgin, Colvern, Ediswan, Morganite Resistors, T.C.C., Wearite, Westinghouse and Whiteley Electrical. Assistance was provided by Cossor, Ferranti, GEC, Mazda and Mullard.

Taming the Sony KV1810UB

Bernard Pruden, B.Sc., A.M.I.E.E.

There can be few service engineers who don't greet the request to repair a Sony KV1810UB with some trepidation. The cause of this is the tendency of the expensive gate-controlled switch devices (GCSs) used in the chopper circuit and line output stage to commit hara-kiri for no obvious reason. The main cause of the problem relates to GCS characteristics. The GCS is basically a thyristor that can be turned on and off by applying positive and negative pulses respectively to its gate. Troubles usually begin when there is a momentary interruption of gate drive to either or both of these two GCSs. Such a seemingly trivial fault may leave either or both GCSs on for a long enough time to destroy the two devices well before mains fuse F601 blows. Repair by GCS replacement is likely to lead to further expensive failures at switch on or perhaps hours or days later unless the underlying cause is found. If the fault is intermittent this can be a difficult and frustrating task, with large numbers of components being replaced in an attempt to eliminate the fault.

When my own KV1810UB (Mk.I) ate its third pair of GCSs I set about designing a modification to eliminate these troublesome devices. The modification replaces the two main GCSs used in the chassis (Q603 chopper, Q510 line output) with modern high-voltage silicon transistors. Use of transistors in these positions ensures that any drive interruption will leave them in the off condition. This will stop the set working, but won't result in destruction of the transistors.

The modification involves some minor mechanical changes to mount the different case styles of the transistors. In addition, as the transistors require a greater current drive than the GCSs, modifications to the drive circuits are necessary. These include replacement of the chopper and line drive transformers (T603 and T502 respectively). The cost of the components for the modification is less than the cost of two GCSs. This assumes the use of new components: if driver transformers from scrapped chassis are used, which is quite feasible, the cost is significantly reduced. The suggested modifications could save many a KV1810UB from being declared beyond economic repair.

Modified Chopper Circuit

Fig. 1 shows the modified chopper circuit. The changes are confined to board PR, its heatsink and surrounding metalwork. Note that new or modified items are asterisked and have reference numbers starting "16". The transistor selected for the chopper position is the BU426A, which is in a plastic TO218 package. It lends itself to being conveniently mounted in approximately the same position as Q603 which it replaces. The increased drive current is provided by a BFX85 transistor (Q1601) plus heatsink in the driver position and a driver transformer (T1600) of the type used in the Thorn 3500 chassis. It's also preferable to use a crowbar over-voltage protection circuit if the set hasn't already been modified in this way.

To carry out the modification, proceed as follows. Remove Q603 (SG6533 or equivalent), D607 (HF-1Z)

and R619 (15 Ω) from board PR. Make a small bracket to mount the replacement driver transformer T1600 on the PR board's metal frame (see Fig. 2). The replacement transformer's spring clip has to be dismantled to accept the bracket, then reassembled. Mount the bracket and transformer as shown, using two suitable self-tapping screws. Fig. 2 also shows how to mount the BU426A (Q1600), using one of the bush clearance holes vacated by Q603. Take care to use heatsink compound on the mica washer and the high-voltage type of insulating bush, which requires a 6mm clearance hole. Incorporate a solder tag on the transistor mounting screw, on the copper side of the board. Connect the BU426A to the pads vacated by Q603 - emitter to cathode, base to gate and collector to anode. Connect Q1601 (BFX85) directly in place of Q604 and fit it with a short corrugated heatsink. Connect R1602 (3.9 Ω , 4W) in place of D607 on the copper side of the board. This completes the chopper circuit modifications.

Crowbar Circuit

The suggested over-voltage protection circuit shown in Fig. 1 can be built on a piece of Veroboard approximately 60mm x 40mm and mounted, using two suitable self-tapping screws, on the PR board's surrounding metalwork, alongside the ETC board. The layout is not critical. On the PR board itself, cut the track joining R607 and R610. Remove R607, replacing it with R1600 (10 Ω , 17W). Connect R1601 (2.2 Ω , 4W) between R1600 and R610, effectively bridging the track cut just mentioned. All these components should be mounted on the copper side of the board. This change ensures reliable operation of the crowbar thyristor THY1. Disconnect the supply end of R608 and reconnect it to the junction of R1600 and R1601. As Fig. 1 shows, this point should also be connected to the crowbar thyristor. This ensures that in the event of R1600 going open-circuit the start-up circuit is disabled, thus protecting R608 and Q602 on the PR board.

The voltage sensing input connection is made to pin 19 on the PR board. Don't make the connection at this stage however.

Modified Line Output Stage

The modified line output circuit is shown in Fig. 3 and is confined to the VH board and associated heatsink. The type of line output transistor chosen is the BU208A. Base drive for the transistor is obtained from the modified driver stage, which uses a BD131 transistor (Q1500) and the driver transformer from the Rank A823 chassis (use one secondary winding only).

Since the BU208A has a different outline from the GCS it replaces, it's mounted in a different position on the VH board heatsink - see Fig. 4. This diagram also shows the mounting positions for the BD131 (Q1500) and the new driver transformer.

Carry out the modification as follows. First remove the following components from the VH board: driver transis-

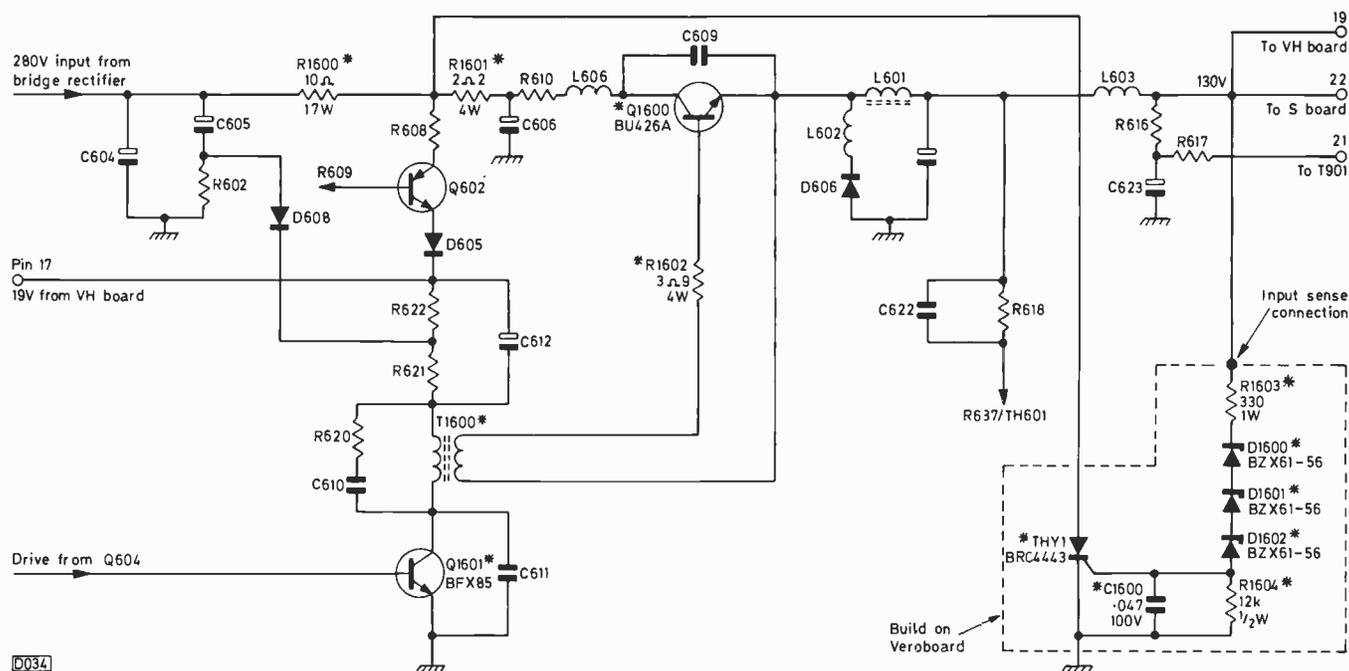


Fig. 1: Modified chopper circuit. Asterisks indicate new or modified items.

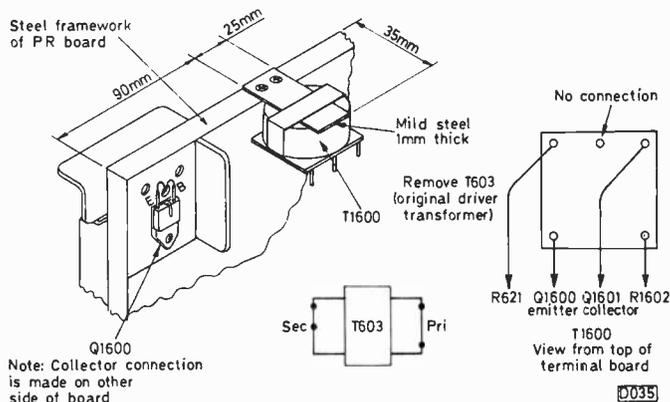


Fig. 2: PR board - physical details.

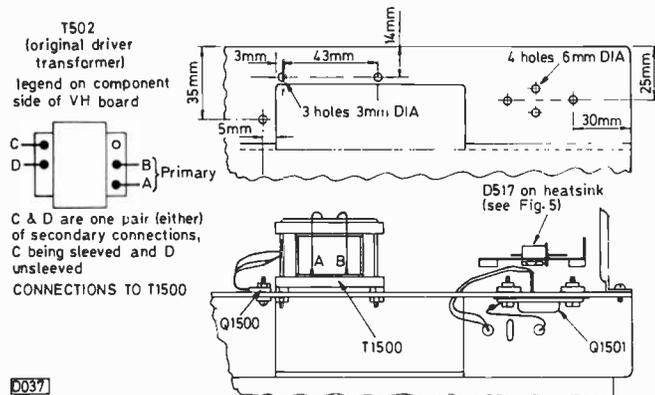


Fig. 4: VH board - physical details.

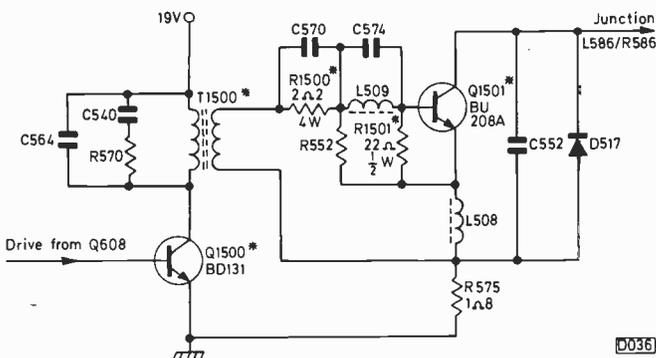


Fig. 3: Modified line output circuit.

tor Q509 (2SC1475); driver transformer T502; D585 (SIB01-02); R597 (56Ω, 2W); GCS Q510 (SG6533 or equivalent). Note that D585 may be marked as D582 on the copper side of the board. Also remove the field output transistors Q503 and Q504 (2SC867) and the efficiency diode D517 (TD15) with its heatsink - do this carefully as these items have to be replaced later.

The VH board heatsink can now be removed. Make holes to mount the BU208A as shown in Fig. 4: using a TO3 mica washer as a marking template, drill the transistor fixing holes for the high-voltage type of insulating bush, as used for the BU426A. Then drill the mounting

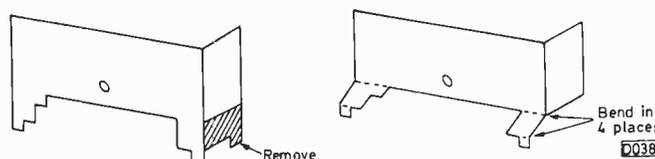


Fig. 5: D517 heatsink modification.

holes for the BD131 and the new line driver transformer in the approximate positions shown. Mount the BD131, BU208A and the transformer on the heatsink - remember to use heatsink compound with the transistors, and make sure that the heatsink surfaces in the area beneath the mica washer are free from burrs. Incorporate a solder tag for the collector connection to the BD131 - on the top face of the transistor.

Mount the following components on the VH board itself: R1500 (2.2Ω, 4W) in place of D585 and R1501 (22Ω, 0.5W) across the gate-cathode junction of Q510 (now the base-emitter junction of Q1501). These two items should be mounted on the copper side of the VH board.

Modify D517's heatsink as shown in Fig. 5 and replace this assembly on the board. This modification ensures adequate clearance between Q1501's base-emitter pins and D517.

Reassemble the heatsink on the VH board, taking care

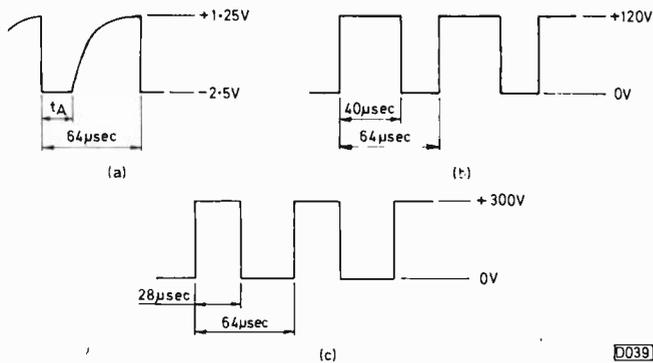


Fig. 6: (a) Chopper drive waveform – at secondary of the driver transformer. (b) Waveform at the emitter of Q1600 with 100V r.m.s. input. (c) Waveform at the emitter of Q1600 with 240 r.m.s. input.

to ensure that Q503 and Q504 are properly mounted and that the mica washers are in good order. Connect Q1500 directly in place of Q509, using sufficiently thin wire to pass through the holes in the board (1/0.4mm is suitable). Connect the replacement transformer directly to the connection pads vacated by the previous one (see Fig. 4). Connect Q1501 to the pads vacated by Q510, using 1/0.4mm wire as follows: emitter to the cathode connection, base to the gate connection, collector to the anode connection. Use additional sleeving over the wire from Q1501 where it passes through the heatsink to avoid any possibility of insulation breakdown.

The VH board can now be replaced in the chassis. Check for broken wires at pins 1 to 15 on the board – these single-strand wires are particularly prone to breakage during the above modification.

Setting up

Now to get the modified set working. The following procedure assumes that a variac and an oscilloscope with 10:1, 10M Ω probe are available.

Start with the chopper circuit.

- (1) Disconnect the wires from pins 19, 21 and 22 of board PR. This prevents the h.t. from the chopper circuit reaching the rest of the receiver. Do not connect the set to the mains supply.
- (2) Connect a 19V supply between chassis and pin 17 on the PR board (positive to pin 17), using a stabilised supply or two PP9 batteries (the former is preferable since the current drain is a substantial 280mA or so).
- (3) Connect the oscilloscope to monitor the chopper drive – earth probe to the emitter of Q1600, probe tip to the transformer side of R1602. The waveform should be as shown in Fig. 6(a). Adjust VR504 (line frequency) until the period of the displayed waveform is 64 μ sec. Time tA should then be approximately 18 μ sec.
- (4) Turn the h.t. control VR601 fully clockwise (as viewed from the copper side of the board) and temporarily connect pin 17 to the junction of R618/R637. This should have no effect on the waveform.
- (5) Turn VR601 slowly anticlockwise whilst monitoring the waveform. Ensure that at some point during the travel of VR601 time tA increases to approximately 40 μ sec with some increase in amplitude. This test provides a manual check on the ability of the control circuit to vary the mark-space ratio of the chopper drive.

Remove the temporary connection and set VR601 to mid-position.

- (6) Disconnect one end of D605. This will keep Q602 turned off during subsequent testing and prevent R608

overheating. Connect the set's mains input to a variac, set initially to zero volts. Connect a 240V, 150W lamp between pin 19 on board PR and chassis. Connect a multimeter between pin 19 and chassis, and the scope between the emitter of Q1600 and chassis.

Increase the input from the variac to approximately 100V r.m.s. The d.c. output should be about 70V and the waveform should be roughly as shown in Fig. 6(b). If all is well, continue to increase the input from the variac whilst monitoring the chopper output voltage. At about 200V r.m.s. from the variac the output should settle at around 130V and remain at this value after increasing the input to 240V r.m.s. The waveform displayed by the scope should approximate to Fig. 6(c). Check that adjusting VR601 from end to end varies the multimeter's reading by about 30-40V. Reset VR601 for 130V output at 240V r.m.s. input. Then set the variac to zero output and disconnect the scope.

- (7) With the lamp load still connected to pin 19, connect the overvoltage circuit's sense input to pin 19. Set the variac for 240V r.m.s. input and check that the voltage at pin 19 is 130V as before.

- (8) Momentarily short-circuit zener diode D1602. This should result in F601 blowing in spectacular fashion and the 130V rail dropping to zero. Disconnect the mains input, replace F601 and remove the short from D1602. Reconnect the mains input and check that the h.t. supply at pin 19 returns to 130V with 240V r.m.s. input.

Disconnect the lamp load and the multimeter. This completes the chopper circuit checks. Now to the line output stage.

- (9) Leave the 19V supply connected as during the chopper tests (no mains input). Connect the oscilloscope to check the waveform between the transformer side of R1500 and chassis. The waveform should be as shown in Fig. 7(a). If it's not correct, find out why not and take whatever action is necessary before proceeding further.
- (10) Connect an 82 Ω , 1W resistor between the positive side of the 19V supply and pin 7 on board VH. Measure the voltage between pin 7 and chassis with the multimeter. The reading should be approximately 14V. This test checks the impedance of the 130V input to board VH.
- (11) Connect the scope between the collector of Q1501 and chassis. The waveform should be as shown in Fig. 7(b).

If all's well it's time to connect the chopper and line output stages together.

- (12) Disconnect the scope and multimeter and remove the 82 Ω resistor. Reconnect the wires disconnected from pins 19, 21 and 22 on board PR. Connect a rectifier diode, e.g. 1N4001, in series with the external 19V supply, with the cathode end to pin 17. This diode ensures that the 19V supply generated in the line output stage and the external 19V supply don't interact.

- (13) Connect the mains input via the variac. Increase it from zero to 100V while monitoring pin 10 (200V supply) on board VH with the meter. The reading should be about 150V at 100V r.m.s. input. Slowly increase the input from the variac. The multimeter reading should increase and stabilise at approximately 200V from 200V r.m.s. input through to 240V r.m.s. Disconnect the meter.

- (14) Disconnect the 1N4001 diode and the external 19V supply. Reconnect D605 on board PR. Increase the input from the variac from zero. If the chopper start-up circuit is working, the 130V rail (pin 19 on board PR, monitored with the meter) should jump to about 20V with an r.m.s. input of 70V. Increase the input and ensure that the

voltage at pin 19 stabilises at 130V between 200V and 240V r.m.s. input.

The set should now be working satisfactorily and the variac can be disconnected. Check for overall satisfactory performance with the set connected directly to the mains supply. No adjustments other than those mentioned should be required as a result of the modifications.

The KV1810UB Mk. II

As noted earlier, the modifications described were carried out with the Mk. I version of the KV1810UB. Although we've not had an opportunity to try out the modifications with the Mk. II version, they should be applicable when due account is taken of Q510's slightly different drive circuitry. The following approach is suggested for anyone wishing to modify a Mk. II set.

Carry out the chopper modification as described above. With the line output stage, proceed as for the Mk. I but instead of removing R597 remove R556 and R574 (both 22Ω, 2W). This will result in a line output stage as shown in

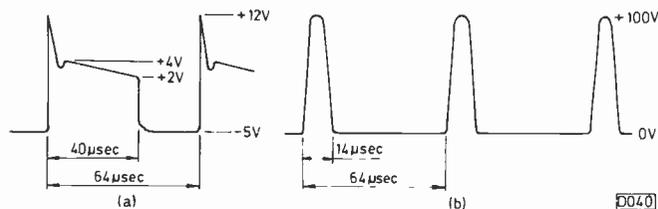


Fig. 7: (a) Line drive waveform – at secondary of the line driver transformer. (b) Waveform at the collector of Q1501 in the test condition.

Fig. 3 apart from the fact that L508 will not be present. This difference should have little effect on the operation of the circuit.

In conclusion, I hope that the modifications described will be of value to anyone wishing to extend the useful life of a Sony KV1810UB. The author's modified set has worked faultlessly for many months and can be used with confidence that if anything goes wrong it won't be the fault of a GCS – unless of course Q602 should fail. But then it can probably be replaced with a transistor . . .

Servicing the Sony KV1612UB

David Botto

We rather like the Sony KV1612UB: it's a well-made 16in. set that gives a good picture. Though the circuitry is quite complex it's arranged on just a few boards that, as usual with Sony sets, are identified by letters.

Panel Layout

After removing the casing you'll see the large D board, which contains the power supply and the complete line and field timebase circuitry, mounted horizontally at the bottom of the set. To the left, again mounted horizontally at the bottom, is the M2 board which contains the circuitry for the a.f.t., the remote control, mute, volume and the picture and colour control. At the left side (we're looking in from the rear) you'll see the vertically mounted A board. This contains the tuner, the i.f. strip and the decoder. Also on the left, towards the front, are two small horizontally mounted boards, one above the other. The smaller is the X board that carries the remote control receiver; the larger one is the M1 board which contains the channel selection circuit and presets. Slightly towards the right are two vertically mounted boards, H which carries the customer controls and M3 with the channel indicator and its drive circuit. The letter C is used for the tube base panel which houses the RGB output stages. There's also provision for a plug-in teletext board.

Power Supply

At first sight the power supply looks a lot like those used in earlier Sony models. There are some significant differences however. The circuit is shown in Fig. 1 from which it can be seen that the main elements are a series chopper, its driver, a pulse-width modulator, protection circuits and the mains rectifiers.

The 240V a.c. mains supply comes in at plug D1. It passes via the mains fuse F601 and filter circuit, also thermistor TH605, to the bridge rectifier D601/2/8/9 (all

U05Gs). A mylar polyethylene capacitor is connected across each side of the mains filter coil T601 – C601 and C602. We've been waiting for one of these to go short-circuit, but to date this hasn't happened!

The power switch S901 has an extra switch pole which is used to reset the remote control i.c. (IC002, M58485P) at switch on. This i.c. is on board M2 and is the heart of the remote control system. If it was not reset the receiver would switch on in the standby mode.

The a.c. mains input also goes to the degaussing circuit and to transformer T603 which drives a full-wave rectifier (D611/612). This produces 39V across the reservoir capacitor C623. The following regulator circuit (Q607, D613) provides a stabilised 13V supply for the remote control i.c. on board M2 and remote control receiver board X.

A 5V supply derived from the line output transformer is fed via connector D3 (pin 3) to boards M1–M3. Suspect R804 (1.2Ω, 0.25W carbon nonflammable) if this supply is missing.

Chopper Action

The chopper circuit is conventional and produces a regulated 110V supply. Q605 is the chopper transistor and L603 the series choke. Diode D606 conducts to maintain the current flow when the chopper transistor is off. The driver transistor Q604 receives its base drive from the astable multivibrator circuit Q602/3 which acts as the pulse-width modulator under the control of the error detector/amplifier transistor Q601.

Protection Arrangements

In the event of excessive h.t. current the voltage developed across R637 will be sufficient for Q608 and Q609 to switch on, shorting the base of Q602 to chassis. The chopper drive will thus be temporarily removed. In

the event of a short or serious overload the voltage developed across R651 will turn transistors Q651/2 on. These will latch on and stop the multivibrator, shutting the set down.

Dealing with a Dead Set

The problem when confronted with a dead set is whether the fault is in the power supply or elsewhere. The way to tackle this is to remove R513, R514, L501 and R563 from board D, thus rendering the line oscillator, driver and output stages and the field output stage inoperative. Connect a 240V, 100W bulb across the smoothing capacitor C621 and supply the set from a variac or a tapped mains transformer. Gradually increase the mains input to 240V. If the bulb lights at about half brilliance, the power pack is o.k. When you replace the choke and resistors, make sure you fit the right one in the right place or the results will be horrible!

Should the power pack prove to be faulty the first items to check are Q651/2 (a component tester will enable you to check these quickly). These transistors sometimes fail, removing the 110V supply. If necessary carry out further component checks in the following order: D651, C654, Q608, Q609, Q607, D613. Smoothing capacitor C621 changing value can give rise to all kinds of trouble, including excessive h.t. The chopper circuit transistors are very reliable. If necessary check them in the following order: Q605, Q604, Q601 – then D603.

The multivibrator circuit can be tested by disconnecting the set from the mains, connecting a scope via its 10:1 probe to the collector of Q602, and powering the circuit from an external 18V supply (two PP9 batteries or a very well smoothed supply) connected between the junction of R603/R609 and chassis. The waveform seen should be similar to that shown in Fig. 2. As the multivibrator is running free you might not get quite this waveform – the important thing is that it's there.

Fig. 3 shows the waveforms at the collector of Q604 and at the junction of coils L601/2/3 when the receiver is working correctly with a 240V a.c. mains supply.

The Timebases

If all's well with the power supply and R513/R514/R563/L501 have been replaced correctly there's probably a fault in the line timebase. It's possible that a fault on one of the other boards could be loading down the 110V line, but we've not had this happen yet.

The first item to check is the 2SD869 line output transistor. Then check the driver transistor's feed resistor R514 (2.2k Ω , 2W). If necessary check rectifier diodes D801, D802, D803, D811 (all type GH3F), the line oscillator transistor Q501 (2SA677) and the line driver transistor Q502 (2SC2230A).

A few failures have been experienced as a result of shorted turns in the line output transformer T801. The only reliable test is by substitution. Since the e.h.t. rectifier is encapsulated within the transformer, you'll need to remove the tube's e.h.t. connector. It helps a lot if you've got the correct tool – part number 3-702-436-01. Don't forget to short both the cap and the tube's anode to chassis: high voltage could be lurking there in waiting for you... Note that the tube's anode cap has two connections. Short them together and you'll have three nice pictures!

Line timebase waveforms are shown in Fig. 4.

Field timebase faults are uncommon. The coupling capacitors C555 (33 μ F, 25V) and C557 (330 μ F, 25V) can cause no or reduced field scan if they fail. We've not so far had any problems with the transistors used in the field timebase.

The Receiver Side

From serial number 523,001 some changes were made. Boards M1, M2, M3, C and D were altered though the circuitry remains the same. Modifications were made to the remote control unit and board A.

The first version of the remote control unit used a 6V battery supply: with the second version the supply is 4.5V. Version one contains two transistors (type FRB828B, 2SC945 or 2SC1364); the second version has a single 2SC1364 transistor. Both use the same M58484P encoder i.c. There's little to go wrong with these units. A scope (with 10:1 probe) and counter should show 6V and 6.2V peak-to-peak 480kHz signals at pins 2 and 3 of the i.c. The best and fastest check is to try the unit with a known good receiver.

On the remote control receiver board the scope and counter should show a 15V 480kHz waveform at pins 12 and 13 of IC002 (M58485P). The only problem we've had with this board is the tendency for transistor Q005 (2SA733 or 2SA1027R) to fail. This can have a couple of effects: the sound and picture can mute, or the set may go into the standby condition and refuse to come out.

We've not had any faults on boards X, M1 and M3.

In the earlier version of the set a U321 tuner followed by a couple of 2SC2009 i.f. preamplifier transistors were used on board A. The later version has a BT882 tuner followed by a single 2SC1128 i.f. preamplifier transistor. The earlier panel has a tuner a.g.c. drive transistor Q214 (2SC1128, 2SC1364 or equivalent) which can fail. In the later version the tuner a.g.c. drive is taken direct from pin 5 of the TDA1440G i.f. i.c. (IC201). These seem to be the only differences between the two versions of the panel.

If the fault is a raster but no picture and Q005 on board M2 is all right, the cause of the trouble could well be in the beam limiter circuit. Short the emitter of Q304 (2SC633A, 2SC1364 or equivalent) to chassis. If this restores the picture, the beam limiter circuit is at fault. Check Q304 first. Next suspect C318 (0.47 μ F, 50V), C319 (3.3 μ F, 50V) and then R802 (180k Ω , 0.5W – on board D).

If necessary check Q301 (2SA733), C305, C306 (both 470pF) and make sure that the video mute diode D304 (1S1555) is in order.

The decoder i.c. is a μ PC1365C (IC301). Don't be in a hurry to take it out – so far faults have always proved to lie elsewhere. We've found no simple way of disabling the colour killer – Sony didn't know either! – but it's quite easy to check the waveforms. With a colour-bar input signal, start at TP12 on board A where the composite video signal should be present. Next check at the collector of Q305. The waveform should be as shown in Fig. 5. The 4.43MHz reference signal should be present at pin 21 of IC301. Other waveforms are clearly shown on the official circuit diagram. If all is not well, suspect components associated with the i.c., starting with capacitors C320 (4.7 μ F, 25V) and C321 (3.3 μ F, 50V) which can give various strange effects when they fail.

Decoder adjustments are best left untouched. The only one that may, not all that often, need to be adjusted is the a.p.c. control RV303. To do this, solder a 100k Ω resistor from pin 13 of IC301 to chassis and a 10 μ F, 25V capacitor

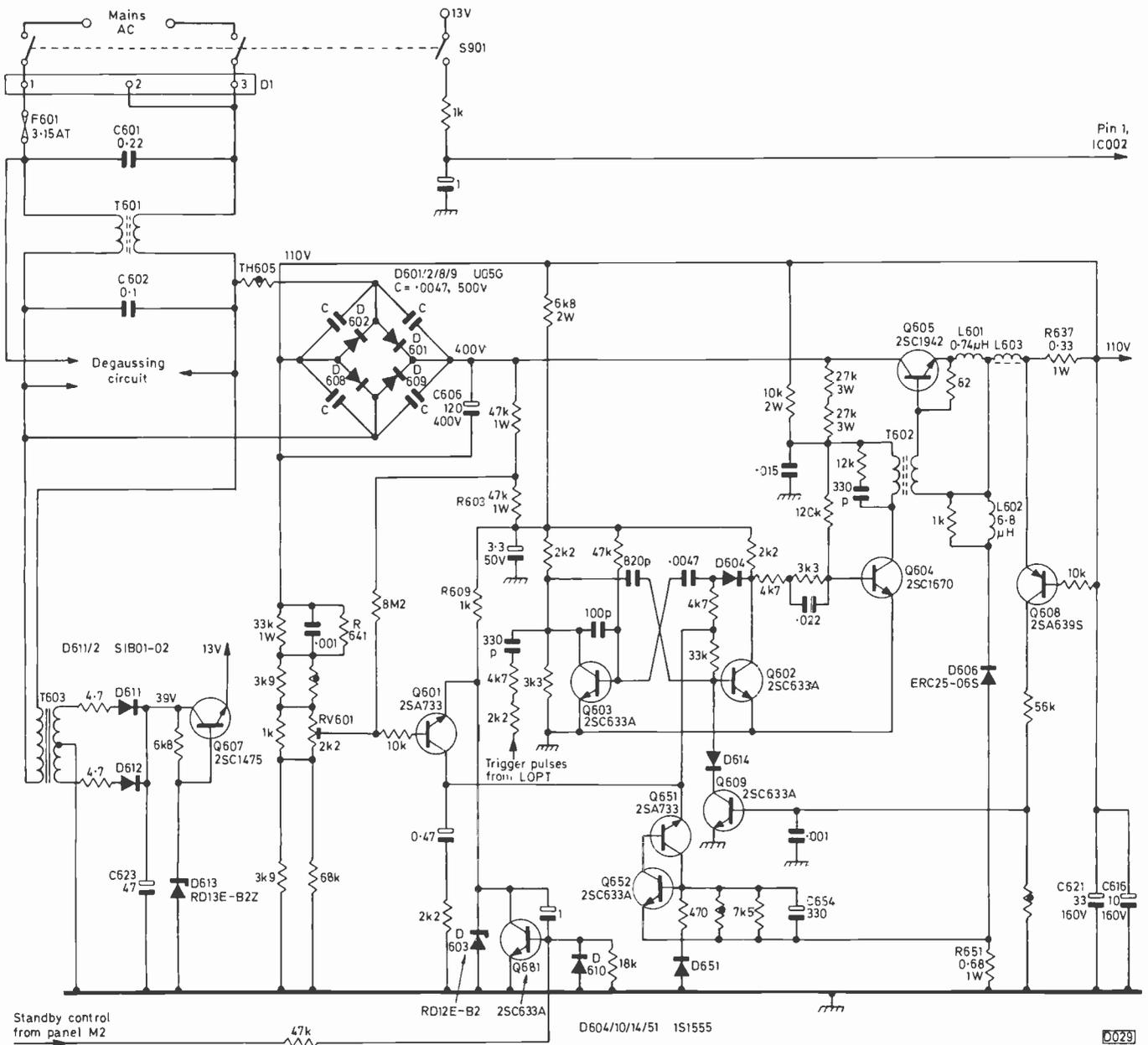


Fig. 1: Power supply circuitry, Sony Model KV1612UB.



Fig. 2: Waveform at the collector of Q602 with an 18V supply. The waveform can vary a lot – the important thing is that it's present.

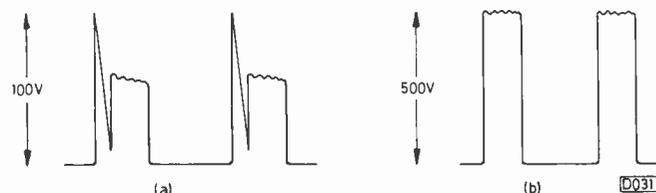


Fig. 3: (a) Waveform at the collector of Q604 with 240V input. (b) Waveform at the junction of L601/2/3.

from the junction of C335/6 to chassis. Set up RV303 on a colour transmission for a steady picture.

The RGB output transistors on panel C are of the reliable 2SC2278 type. Only very rarely does one fail,



Fig. 4: (a) Waveform at the collector of Q502. (b) Waveform at the collector of Q503 (measure with care).

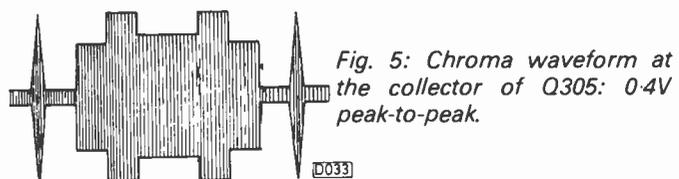


Fig. 5: Chroma waveform at the collector of Q305: 0.4V peak-to-peak.

giving the predominance or absence of one colour symptom.

If the sound has failed, check whether R230 (180Ω, 0.25W carbon nonflammable) has gone high-resistance.

Finally, it's best to use a digital meter for all measurements.

Video Servicing

Mike Phelan

This month we'll take a look at the principles involved in TV (or perhaps we should now say video) cameras – in particular the non-professional types intended for the consumer market. There are not many monochrome cameras in this category so we'll concentrate on colour ones. Apart from the electronics, the camera consists of a lens system to focus the image on the target, the tube itself (usually a vidicon type) and some sort of viewfinder.

The Lens

Taking these in order, the lens will be a high-grade optical component with the front element movable for focusing purposes. Most video camera lenses also have a zoom facility. This means that by operating a lever the positions of some of the elements in the lens system can be altered in the longitudinal direction so as to vary the effective focal length, i.e. the magnification. A typical range is $\times 6$.

With a photographic camera there are two ways of altering the amount of light that passes through the lens: the lens aperture and the length of time during which the shutter is open can both be varied. Since video is a continuous process there's no shutter and only the aperture can be varied. This is done by means of an iris diaphragm that's similar to that used in a still camera but has the option of automatic setting by means of a small servo motor. This is operated by a type of a.c.c. system that senses the mean signal level and adjusts the iris accordingly. Unfortunately the auto-iris tries to make the average picture content a medium grey. This is all right if the picture content averages out at this level, but at the extremes, e.g. snow scenes or night shots, it's not much good: these subjects need to end up at high and low average brightness respectively. Because of this there's always a manual override for the iris, with some sort of warning in the viewfinder to draw attention to under- or over-exposure. There's also occasionally an auto position giving "one stop above" for back-lit subjects etc.

The motor and reduction drive to operate the zoom are also attached to the lens assembly. As this has to be manually adjustable as well, some sort of a slipping clutch arrangement is used. Many lenses have a macro setting for focusing down to less than one inch, operated by turning the zoom ring beyond the end of its travel.

Some cameras, e.g. the Ferguson 3V06, have interchangeable lenses with a screw fitting known as a C mount. This means that the connections to the iris servo and zoom motor must be made by plug and socket and that care must be taken to cap the camera when the lens is out.

With artificial light it's necessary to take the colour temperature of the light into account. To put this simply, a tungsten bulb gives a redder (lower colour temperature) output than natural light. To correct for this a filter must be inserted in the light path. It can be fitted on to the front of the lens or built into the camera and operated by means of a knob. There may also be a semi-opaque filter to insert when the camera is not in use. The Grundig FAC1900

(Sony) camera has a four-position switch for different light sources, introducing both mechanical and electronic correction.

Precautions

Before we go any further, a word on the care of camera equipment. The most important "don't" is not to point the camera at a very bright scene (with or without the lens) for any length of time. Otherwise an impression that may be permanent will be made on the tube's target. Accidentally pointing the camera at the sun will almost certainly write off the tube.

Next lenses. I know that there are such things as lens tissues, brushes and all sorts of other paraphernalia around for cleaning lenses, but my advice is don't rub the surface of a lens with anything. O.K., you may pick up a few specks of dust on the surface. But if they won't blow off, leave them. The amount of light lost is infinitesimal – anything on the surface of the lens is completely out of focus and therefore invisible on the picture. Far worse is the pattern of fine scratches produced by rubbing the soft lens coating with a tissue. This scatters light, reduces the picture contrast and impairs definition. The resultant "soft-focus" effect may look great for still portraits but is of little use for anything else. Lenses are coated to reduce light scatter. The coating is soft and will also be etched by fingermarks. If you should be unfortunate in having a lens with a thumb print on it, don't dry to rub it out.

The kindest thing you can do for a camera lens is to buy it an ultra-violet filter. These are available to fit any front thread and will reduce haziness on distant summer shots. Much more importantly, the filter will protect the lens. It should be left on all the time therefore. The light loss is minimal and a UV filter is much cheaper than a lens!

The Tube

The next thing in the chain is the vidicon tube (see Fig. 1) which looks something like a long, thin valve. The usual size is $\frac{3}{4}$ in., so the deflection angle is very narrow. It's essential that the lens and tube are held in rigid mechanical alignment with each other – especially in the case of a colour camera. The tube is clamped in a Mumetal shield to provide magnetic screening, the shield being rigidly mounted on the diecast chassis. The deflection coils are inside the shield – due to the narrow scan angle they are cylindrical in shape. A couple of beam alignment magnets (like purity rings) are mounted on the tube's neck.

The vidicon has six grids (or anodes, if you like). The sixth is the mesh electrode which in operation is at about 1.5kV. It acts as the final beam accelerator. G3 and G5 form a converging lens with the focus electrode G4. G2 is at about 350V and G1 is held negative with respect to the cathode, the bias being adjustable.

The target, a layer of semiconductor material on a glass plate, closes the front of the tube: the minute signal is taken off via a metal ring connector. A stripe filter in front of the target produces colour signals. It also has an optical black portion at the bottom to provide a reference level during the field playback. In front of the stripe filter there's an optically flat glass faceplate.

Without going into detail on the theory of operation, what basically happens is that the beam scans the target and a signal corresponding to the light falling on each part of the scanned target is taken off at the ring connector. This signal enters the head preamplifier, which is mounted

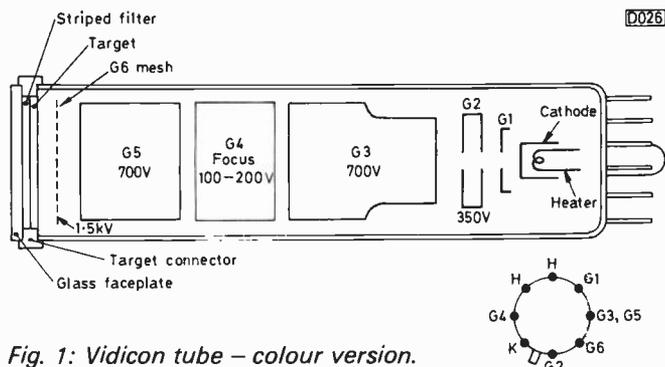


Fig. 1: Vidicon tube – colour version.

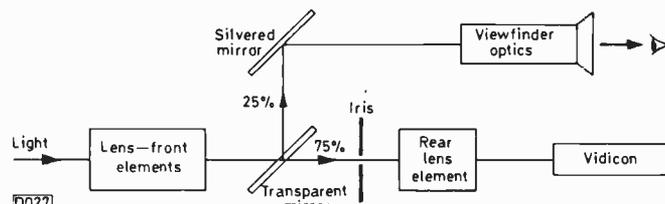


Fig. 2: Optical viewfinder arrangement.

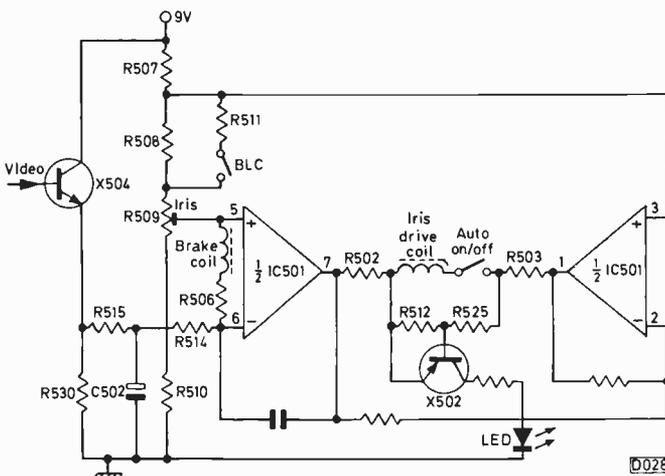


Fig. 3: The auto-iris circuit used in the Ferguson Model 3V20 colour camera.

in a screened box adjacent to the tube's shield in order to keep the input lead very short. The signal is thus amplified to a value suitable for passing to the later signal stages without loss or stray pickup.

Viewfinders

Viewfinders fall into two categories. At the lower end of the camera price range an optical viewfinder is used (see Fig. 2). About a quarter of the light from the scene is reflected into the viewfinder by an unsilvered mirror, leaving the remainder of the light to pass to the tube. A second mirror is required to turn the light path through a right angle for ease of viewing. Note that the light for the viewfinder is taken off prior to the iris to allow maximum viewfinder image brightness. This type of viewfinder is found on the Ferguson 3V17 and other similar cameras, especially monochrome ones.

The other type of viewfinder is the electronic type (EVF) – used on the Ferguson 3V06 and 3V20 for example. In effect it's a very small TV monitor with a c.r.t. screen about 1.5in. square. As the input is video (CVBS) there's no tuner, i.f. strip or sound channel. The timebases use very little power, so the unit is extremely compact. It's mounted separately on the 3V06: an extension lead

together with a remote start/stop control can thus be used – useful when filming in a situation where there's no access to the camera. In the 3V20 the EVF is built into the camera's body. To facilitate mounting, the EVF's c.r.t. is in some cameras aimed at a 45° mirror.

One advantage of the EVF is that with suitable switching the camera can receive a playback signal. A recorded section of the tape can thus be checked and if necessary retaken. For the same reason an earpiece to check the audio can be plugged into most cameras. The EVF screen can be used to display other information along with the picture. One of the most common arrangements is to have a horizontal white line whose position on the display varies with the iris setting – for correct exposure it should be about half way up. When the trigger is pulled the line shortens to prevent the picture being obscured.

Both types of viewfinder can incorporate LEDs to show various items of information. Three LEDs may show correct, over- or under-exposure; alternatively one LED may illuminate the whole display if there's insufficient light available (as with the Sharp XC30). There's usually an LED to show whether the VCR's battery is going low – this is often done by making one of the diodes flash rather than using an extra LED. On cameras with an optical viewfinder an indication that the tape is running is necessary – again a LED. On the Grundig/Sony 3000 it's duplicated on the front of the camera so that the subject knows he or she is "on the air"!

Before considering the main parts of the camera's electronics we'll look at the auto-iris and power zoom circuitry – these items have no connection with the rest of the circuitry.

Power Zoom

The power zoom circuit is simply a four-transistor bridge that drives the motor, opposite quadrants being switched on by the switches. The motor has a built-in reduction gearbox and the final pinion drives a toothed ring on the lens assembly. This ring is a friction fit so that manual zooming places no strain on the gear teeth.

Auto-iris Circuit

The auto-iris circuit can take various forms. On the 3V20 (see Fig. 3) the iris is controlled by a type of motor that resembles a moving-coil meter's movement. The moving parts are very light so little power is required – the motor is driven by an operational amplifier. This particular circuit is rather ingenious, as it eliminates the potentiometer that's usually driven by the servo motor in similar arrangements – this is a source of extra friction of course. The emitter-follower X504 is fed with a video signal whose amplitude depends, amongst other things, on the light passing through the lens. The voltage at pin 5 of IC501 is set by the preset iris control R509. R515/R514/C502 form a T-filter that removes instantaneous video level variations, giving the circuit a time-constant.

If the iris is closed and the ambient light level decreases the amplitude of the video signal will decrease. The voltage at pin 6 of IC501 falls and as a result the voltages at pins 7 and 2 increase, driving current through the motor in the direction required to open the iris. If the voltage at pin 2 rises above that at pin 3, pin 1 will fall to nearly chassis potential and the current through the drive coil will further increase. The system eventually finds a balance with the voltages at pins 5 and 6 equal. To prevent

hunting, a brake coil and limiting resistor (R506) are connected across pins 5 and 6 – while there's a voltage difference between the two pins, current flows through the coil and damps the movement of the iris motor.

If insufficient light is available the iris will open fully. The voltage at pin 6 will be low and current will continue to flow through the drive coil. The voltage developed across R512 will forward bias X502, illuminating the under-exposure LED. It will be apparent that this LED may flash momentarily each time the iris opens: these flashes are of very short duration however and of no consequence.

Next month we'll take a look at the rest of the electronics.

Letters

BAIRD'S STUDIOS

Thank you for Harold Peters' interesting article on pre-war TV. I feel I must make a correction about the Baird studios however. As I understand it, the flying spot of light technique was used in only the earliest studios, to increase the sensitivity of the "camera" by using large arrays of photocells and also to avoid frying the performer with the enormous amount of light that would otherwise have been necessary. By the time the Baird intermediate film technique came into use the studio lighting was of the conventional type, the scanning process taking place in the telecine unit. Apart from the fact that there would have been no point in scanning twice, it would have been impossible to record in this way using any conventional film process.

Antony P. Marsden, MBKS,
Poole, Dorset.

PRE-WAR TELEVISION

I found Harold Peters' article on pre-war TV (October issue) very interesting, particularly his recollections of the programmes: I hope there'll be no offence if I correct one or two technical points.

Baird's high-definition system of 1936 used 240 lines, not 202. I think Mr. Peters has confused the intermediate film system with the spotlight studio. In the former a cine camera was used to record the scene in a studio lit by conventional film lighting. The film, which incidentally was 17.5mm not 35mm, was then immediately processed and scanned in the manner described by Mr. Peters. In the spotlight studio the single performer sat in darkness except for a flying spot of light that came from an arc lamp via a Nipkow disc. The light reflected from the subject was picked up by sensitive photocells that produced a video signal directly. Both these systems were in use at Alexandra Palace in 1936-7 but they were clearly clumsy compared to the flexible Emitron cameras. It was this operational difference rather than considerations of picture quality that led to the Baird system being abandoned after only three months of regular service.

As Harold Peters correctly points out, the fact that the electron gun in the Emitron tube was mounted at an angle to the target resulted in the need to use keystone correction in the scanning waveforms. This correction could be preset however, rather after the manner of EW and NS

correction in a shadowmask tube, and was not the reason for the famous tilt and bend controls. These were needed because the Emitron tube was subject to spurious shading effects due to the clouds of secondary emission electrons that were released from the target by the high-velocity electron beam. These secondary emission electrons upset the charge distribution across the target and hence the average brightness of the picture. To provide correction, sawtooth (tilt) and parabolic (bend) waveforms were added to the video signal. As the effect was picture dependent, these controls had to be readjusted for every scene. The Emitron tube had a gamma of 0.5 which was ideal for transmission purposes: thus gamma correction wasn't necessary.

For anyone interested in this period of TV history Bruce Norman's recent book *Here's Looking at You*, published by the BBC, makes fascinating reading.
David Looser,
Ipswich.

HISTORICAL RECORD

I gather that other correspondents have dealt with various technical points arising from Harold Peters' article on pre-war TV. May I put the record straight on some historical matters?

(1) It was not the EMI team who developed radar in the UK, though many of them worked on it later, during the war, when two of the team — Alan Blumlein and C.O. Browne — were killed in an aircraft crash while flight-testing H2S. Credit for the early radar experiments is due to Sir Robert Watson-Watt, a scientific civil servant. The work was done at the Radio Research Station, Slough. Most of the electronic equipment for the early radar chains was manufactured by A.C. Cossor. It was originally called "RDF", later "radiolocation": it was finally agreed to adopt the American term "radar".

(2) The EMI team didn't develop the complete 405-line package. The original transmitters and aerials were contributed by the Marconi Company, with whom EMI formed Marconi-EMI in 1934. While the Ally Pally station took about 18 months to complete, the electronic TV system was the result of several years' work. The Emitron camera tube, though developed independently, owed something to Zworykin's work at RCA where electronic interlaced scanning was developed. The early work on v.h.f. television in Germany should not be overlooked — the intermediate film technique used by Baird was also developed in Germany. Baird used this for his "live" transmissions, but he also had a good telecine for transmitting film. In fact apart from more flicker his film transmission gave significantly better results than the original Marconi-EMI 405-line telecine.

(3) Finally the article was less than fair to the BBC in suggesting that they came near to backing the wrong horse. The BBC had been virtually forced by the PMG to transmit Baird's 30-line system and were much impressed by the EMI work as early as 1932. The decision to share the high-definition service between Baird and Marconi-EMI stemmed from the Selsdon Television Committee of 1934 and the subsequent Television Advisory Committee. Baird's pioneer work on low-definition TV and his later wartime work on high-definition colour deserve to be acknowledged but the 405-line fully-electronic system was what the UK needed in 1936 (though not in 1946) and that came from the EMI and later Marconi-EMI team: the BBC seems to have recognised early on that this would be

the final solution to their long and often bitter struggle with Baird lasting, with occasional lulls, from about 1927.

*Pat Hawker,
Dulwich.*

RADIOLYMPIA

I must be in the same age bracket as Harold Peters, for I too can remember the burning down of the Crystal Palace, though it was only a faint glow in the clear night sky to us at Herne Bay some 60 miles distant. Because of my enthusiasm for wireless my father took me to the pre-war Radiolympias. The 1937 one stands out in my memory as the first and last time that I saw a television set operating from the Town Gas supply. Hundreds of little bunsen burners heated thermocouples and the set showed what appeared to be an OB from Henley. In 1937 there were still thousands of houses in the London area with gas lighting only, so there may have been a market for such a device.

Harold Peters mentions the 1939 theatre show. In fact the show was being televised live from the theatre in 1937 — I still have my 1937 theatre programme, autographed by the stars of the show. The TV cameras were on the stage, supported on frames equipped with bicycle wheels, and the compère made jokes about the colour of the shirt he had to wear so that it would appear as a proper white in viewers' homes. There must have been public doubts about the reliability of the push-button tuners used on some radio sets at the time, as several manufacturers' displays had life testing machines punching away at the push-buttons in turn: as the radios were on, the sound kept changing from programme to programme, causing absolute bedlam around the stands.

The 1938 Radiolympia was more disciplined in that all receivers had to be tuned to the same programme. For a mischievous schoolboy this naturally took some of the fun from the show. I still have my Bulgin component catalogue from that show, price 3d, which I could just about afford. I didn't get to the 1939 show.

*W.R. Harris,
Potters Bar.*

TV AUDIO VALVES

Nick Lyons suggested in the October issue that the PCL86 is a less reliable valve than the PCL82. I can only say that during a period of six years servicing ITT and Decca hybrid colour sets I had to replace over fifty PCL82s while just two PCL86s failed. This might of course be due to the better design of the ITT audio circuit but certainly doesn't point to the PCL86 being unreliable.

*Derek Snelling,
Brownhills, Staffs.*

THE PLUGTOP MYSTERY

I've read with interest the various letters on the great plugtop mystery. Here's my solution. Think of the neon bulb. When it lights, it's the negative connection that "holds" the glow. If you consider the neutral and live plugtop connections as the leads of a neon bulb and whatever consumes the current as the neon gas you'll appreciate why it's the neutral plugtop connection that gets burnt.

*Lim Chin Siang,
Singapore.*

TELEVISION DECEMBER 1984

next month in

TELEVISION

● SIMPLE PATTERN GENERATOR

The heart of this pattern generator is a Ferranti ZNA234E i.c. which provides grey-scale, dot, crosshatch plus vertical and horizontal line outputs. The circuit used also enables black and peak white rasters to be selected. The PCB has been designed to fit into a compact Vero box with battery holder. Though originally intended for video circuit testing, a u.h.f. modulator will fit into the case to provide an r.f. output.

● THE VHS HI-FI SYSTEM

VHS and Betamax VCRs featuring hi-fi stereo sound have recently appeared on the market. The same basic system is used with both formats. Extra heads on the drum record the audio, on f.m. carriers, along helical tape tracks. Derek Snelling explains the system and the techniques involved.

● GOODBYE TO 405

January sees the close down of the 405-line network that's served us well for nearly fifty years — since the BBC started the world's first public high-definition service in 1936. Pat Hawker looks at the technical history and some of the things that never happened — you could have had two networks in Band III for example, with colour!

● SERVICING THE S-S INDESIT T24

The solid-state Indesit T24 was technically one of the most interesting sets sold — a sort of big brother to the T12. Mike Phelan describes common faults and some of the unusual circuitry — the line output transistor is emitter driven for example.

● CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!

Well the next issue will be published just before Christmas, so William Harrison decided to present a flashing light circuit using LEDs and a 12V supply.

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1N4005	0.07	2SC1398	0.51	74LS73	0.39	AN6552	0.52	BC187	0.18	BD225	0.44	BF194	0.15	BRX49	0.80	BYX56-800	0.25
1N4006	0.07	2SC1410	2.17	74LS74	0.39	AN7145	2.44	BC204	0.14	BD228	0.57	BF195	0.12	BRX56	0.38	BYX71-350	0.87
1N4007	0.07	2SC1413	3.88	74LS75	0.52	AN7150	2.02	BC207	0.12	BD229	0.63	BF196	0.15	BSR59	1.17	BYX71-600	0.65
1N4148	0.03	2SC1505	0.56	74LS86	0.49	AN7151	2.05	BC212	0.10	BD231	0.45	BF197	0.14	BSS38	0.30	BYX94	1.89
1N4448	0.12	2SC1578	6.57	74LS90	0.75	AN7156	2.85	BC212B	0.23	BD232	0.44	BF198	0.15	BSTBD1409	2.48	BYX96	0.18
1N5401	0.12	2SC1617	3.35	74LS92	0.75	AN7158	2.34	BC212L	0.89	BD234	0.38	BF199	0.15	BSTB01405	4.37	BZV15-C12	0.72
1N5402	0.13	2SC1670	2.84	74LS93	0.75	AN7218	1.49	BC212LB	0.23	BD235	0.43	BF200	0.33	BSTC0146	2.25	BZV15-C12R	0.72
1N5403	0.14	2SC1678	1.25	74LS95B	0.85	AP58076	4.25	BC213	0.89	BD236	0.45	BF216	0.32	BSTC0233	2.25	BZV15-C24	0.72
1N5404	0.15	2SC1810	1.20	7805 TO-220	0.63	AS5805	1.43	BC213L	0.89	BD237	0.38	BF218	0.32	BSTC0246	4.51	BZV15-C24R	0.72
1N5408	0.18	2SC1815	0.41	7805 TO-3	1.05	AU106	1.96	BC213LB	0.23	BD238	0.29	BF222	0.50	BSTC1233	3.91	BZV15-C30R	0.72
1N914	0.05	2SC1829	2.01	7806	0.86	AU110	1.96	BC214	0.89	BD239	0.44	BF224	0.15	BSTC3146	0.71	BZV61 Range	0.16
1S44	0.06	2SC1875	4.77	7808	0.54	AU113	2.15	BC214L	0.12	BD240	0.46	BF237	0.59	BSTCC0143	2.79	BZV70-C11	0.54
1S5012A	0.73	2SC1891	3.35	7812 TO-3	0.54	AY102	2.62	BC214LB	0.23	BD240D	0.37	BF240	0.15	BSTC0643	3.86	BZV70-C12	0.54
1S921	0.89	2SC1929	2.25	7812 TO-220	1.05	AY105K	1.89	BC225	0.24	BD241	0.45	BF241	0.15	BSV57B	2.86	BZV70-C15	0.54
2582	1.94	2SC1942	0.70	7815	0.55	AY106	1.98	BC237	0.89	BD242	0.45	BF244	0.23	BSW468	0.30	BZV70-C32	0.54
2N1302	0.24	2SC1946	4.11	7818	0.55	BA102	0.30	BC238	0.89	BD243	0.44	BF245A	0.18	BSX19	0.30	BZV70-C47	0.54
2N1303	0.34	2SC1953	1.75	7824	0.55	BA1310 (IC)	1.72	BC238A	0.11	BD243A	0.50	BF255	0.33	BSX20	0.30	BZV79 Range	0.89
2N2218	0.30	2SC1957	0.86	AC107	0.86	BA1320 (IC)	1.22	BC239B	0.86	BD244	0.44	BF256	0.25	BSX21	0.45	BZV88 Range	0.89
2N2219A	0.29	2SC1959	0.86	AC117	0.39	BA1330 (IC)	1.02	BC251A	0.15	BD244A	0.77	BF256LC	0.30	BSY52	0.45	BZV93-C12	0.99
2N2222	0.34	2SC1962	1.75	AC123K	0.39	BA145	0.17	BC252	0.12	BD245C	0.80	BF257	0.30	BSY79	0.46	BZV93-C18	0.99
2N2646	0.75	2SC1969	2.92	AC128	0.28	BA154	0.80	BC258	0.22	BD246C	0.74	BF258	0.29	BT100A	1.46	BZV93-C24	0.99
2N2904	0.32	2SC2027	2.67	AC138	0.80	BA155-01	0.12	BC261A	0.20	BD253	0.95	BF259	0.30	BT106	1.20	BZV93-C24R	0.99
2N2905	0.39	2SC2028	1.91	AC141	0.28	BA156	0.12	BC262	0.20	BD278A	0.80	BF262	0.51	BT108	1.31	BZV93-C30	0.99
2N2906	0.34	2SC2029	1.49	AC142K	0.39	BA157	0.17	BC287	0.45	BD317	1.96	BF263	0.51	BT109	1.31	BZV93-C47	0.99
2N3053	0.24	2SC2057	1.07	AC151	0.25	BA159	0.12	BC294	0.45	BD318	2.06	BF264	0.33	BT112	2.25	BZV93-C88	0.99
2N3054	0.90	2SC2073	1.40	AC153	0.30	BA182	0.17	BC301	0.36	BD375	0.38	BF271	0.38	BT113	2.25	BZV93-C7V5	0.99
2N3055	0.55	2SC2078	1.25	AC153K	0.36	BA222 (IC)	1.26	BC302	0.30	BD377	0.23	BF273	0.18	BT116	1.52	ZTK33	0.39
2N3055H	0.77	2SC2091	0.59	AC176	0.17	BA284/2	0.15	BC303	0.34	BD379	0.89	BF274	0.18	BT119	1.80	ZX18	2.47
2N3442	1.05	2SC2122A	4.85	AC176K	0.40	BA301 (IC)	0.92	BC307	0.89	BD380	0.89	BF324	0.16	BT120	1.80	CI06D	0.46
2N3702	0.12	2SC2141	1.89	AC179	0.25	BA302	0.90	BC307A	0.14	BD410	0.44	BF336	0.27	BT121	2.25	CI129	2.45
2N3703	0.12	2SC2186	1.35	AC183	0.85	BA311 (IC)	1.06	BC308	0.12	BD412	5.70	BF337	0.36	BT122	2.25	CA1310E	0.52
2N3704	0.12	2SC2216	0.82	AC186	0.30	BA312 (IC)	0.98	BC308A	0.89	BD418	0.76	BF338	0.36	BT123	1.80	CA3094	3.18
2N3705	0.12	2SC2233	2.20	AC186K	0.50	BA313 (IC)	1.20	BC309	0.15	BD433	0.33	BF355	0.36	BT125	2.25	CA3046	2.23
2N3706	0.12	2SC2271	3.84	AC187	0.35	BA316	0.87	BC317A	0.11	BD434	0.39	BF362	0.54	BT126	2.25	CA3060	1.50
2N3707	0.14	2SC2278	1.03	AC187-01	0.40	BA317	0.87	BC323	0.92	BD435	0.42	BF363	0.54	BT128	2.25	CA3065	1.17
2N3711	0.14	2SC2335-KIT	7.81	AC187K	0.39	BA318	0.80	BC327	0.15	BD436	0.42	BF371	0.45	BT129P	2.79	CA3069	3.35
2N3771	1.85	2SC2526	1.70	AC188	0.33	BA328 (IC)	0.80	BC328	0.10	BD437	0.81	BF391	0.36	BT129	2.25	CA3089E	1.30
2N3772	1.55	2SC2551	0.95	AC188-01	0.40	BA333 (IC)	1.24	BC337	0.80	BD438	0.44	BF393	0.90	BT151-800R	1.47	CA3090	1.25
2N3773	1.65	2SC2570	1.80	AC188K	0.39	BA401 (IC)	0.95	BC338	0.10	BD441	1.29	BF417	1.20	BT151 500R	1.25	CA3094	2.83
2N3819	0.28	2SC2570A	0.95	AC193K	0.58	BA511 (IC)	1.90	BC360	0.30	BD442	0.56	BF418	1.70	BT8018	2.20	CA3131EN	2.83
2N3823	1.06	2SC2644A	4.38	AC194K	0.59	BA521 (IC)	1.81	BC368	0.23	BD507	0.67	BF422	0.26	BT8218	2.20	CA3132EN	2.83
2N3904	0.58	2SC2671	1.99	AD140	0.96	BA532 (IC)	1.80	BC440	0.99	BD508	0.54	BF423	0.26	BT8024	4.82	CAH78022N	6.80
2N3908	0.56	2SC2728	0.95	AD142	0.96	BA536 (IC)	2.72	BC441	0.40	BD509	1.29	BF435	0.49	BT8124	4.44	CBF16848N-07	1.41
2N4101	1.10	2SC372	1.27	AD143	0.95	BA6304A (IC)	2.65	BC454	0.32	BD510	0.45	BF450	0.36	BT8214	5.44	CD4001	0.24
2N4240	3.00	2SC373	1.05	AD145	1.46	BA843 (IC)	3.80	BC455	0.32	BD518	1.36	BF451	0.26	BT8214	2.70	CD4002	0.24
2N4443	1.35	2SC383	1.20	AD149	0.81	BAV10	0.10	BC480	0.38	BD519	1.36	BF457	0.37	BU105	1.86	CD4008	0.96
2N4444	1.12	2SC388	0.45	AD161	0.30	BAV18	0.10	BC461	0.42	BD529	0.30	BF458	0.35	BU106	2.25	CD4011	0.23
2N4914	0.85	2SC41	1.99	AD162	0.30	BAV19	0.10	BC462	0.27	BD530	0.80	BF459	0.35	BU108	1.90	CD4012	0.24
2N5084	0.64	2SC458	0.55	AD262	0.95	BAV20	0.10	BC463	0.58	BD533	0.80	BF460	0.54	BU109S	1.90	CD4013	0.37
2N5293	0.45	2SC495	0.83	AF114	2.24	BAV21	0.17	BC464	0.58	BD534	0.36	BF469	0.27	BU110	2.52	CD4016	0.37
2N5294	0.45	2SC506	3.36	AF115	0.79	BAV12	0.10	BC465	0.58	BD535	0.44	BF470	0.28	BU111Y	3.78		

ECONOMIC DEVICES, REGISTERED OFFICE: 14, BEE LANE, FORD HOUSE, WOLVERHAMPTON WV10 6LF.

All goods should be delivered within 4 working days.

ESM532C	4.18	LM1303P/N	1.50	MPSU05	0.78	SAA5010	4.90	SN74190	1.81	T8029V	4.41	TBA395	1.35	TDA1230	2.93	TDA9503	2.80
ESM832C	4.18	LM1310P/N	1.25	MPSU10	0.78	SAA5012	4.90	SN7420N	0.30	T8032V	0.89	TBA395	1.80	TDA1235	3.52	TDA9513	2.40
ESM732C	4.18	LM3085N	0.77	MPSU55	0.90	SAA5020	5.25	SN7430	0.28	T8033V	0.73	TBA396	1.80	TDA1270	2.64	TE527	1.25
ETT0016	2.85	LM317CKC	1.30	MPSU66	0.30	SAA5030	5.25	SN7440N	0.24	T8035V	0.86	TBA400	2.17	TDA1327A	1.85	TE538	0.36
FTT8016	2.16	LM339N	0.80	MPSU80	1.20	SAA5040A	14.75	SN7473	0.52	T8036	0.44	TBA400P	1.55	TDA1327B	1.85	TE626	1.35
FRD500	5.25	LM3407	1.29	MR510	0.30	SAA5050	0.58	SN7474N	0.78	T8037	1.91	TBA480	1.42	TDA1330	1.80	TEA1002	3.15
FT3065	1.85	LM3407S	0.75	MR812	0.00	SAA661B	1.80	SN7490AN	0.53	T8041V	0.86	TBA480Q	1.67	TDA1365	6.35	TEA1009	0.96
GF758	0.82	LM340T12	0.75	MR914	0.46	SAA700	3.00	SN75110N	0.75	T8044V	0.86	TBA500PQ	1.95	TDA1412	0.95	TEA1020SP	5.34
GF759	1.82	LM3420S	0.75	MSSD7002	0.85	SAB1009B	4.53	SN76001ANQ	2.25	T8045	1.09	TBA510	4.55	TDA1420	1.48	TEA10707	0.46
GF761	0.70	LM342N	0.56	MVS240	0.52	SAB1046P	3.86	SN76003N	2.81	T8049S	1.10	TBA510S	6.39	TDA1470	2.83	TC106C	0.55
GH3F	1.85	LM3840N1	1.84	MVS480	0.30	SAB3011	7.34	SN76013N	3.63	T8052V	0.76	TBA520	1.67	TDA1512	2.20	TC106M	0.55
HA11211	2.30	LM567CN	1.30	MVS480-02	0.55	SAB3012	5.34	SN76013NDG	8.07	T8058	0.46	TBA520Q	1.35	TDA1670	3.85	TC116D	0.80
HA11215	4.00	LM748	1.85	ME545B	2.95	SAB3013	5.34	SN76023N	2.25	T8059	1.05	TBA530	0.86	TDA1770	5.06	TC44	0.85
HA11225	3.90	LM8360	2.70	ME545B	3.00	SAB3021	7.18	SN76023P	2.35	T800TV	1.09	TBA530Q	0.95	TDA1905	1.25	TC45	0.70
HA11226	7.56	LM8361	2.70	ME5534N	1.48	SAB3022B	12.34	SN76023N	1.84	T900CV	0.86	TBA540	0.98	TDA1908	2.95	TC47	0.70
HA11229	2.51	M1024	2.55	ME555	0.34	SAB3022B	11.18	SN76023N	2.33	T900SV	2.16	TBA540Q	1.15	TDA1910	2.38	TC47	0.96
HA11235	3.80	M1025	4.70	ME556	0.75	SAB3024	4.77	SN76105N	2.36	T9010V	0.87	TBA550	1.95	TDA1950	2.54	TC47	0.80
HA1124	4.70	M1124	2.54	ME5580N	3.16	SAB3209	4.75	SN76110N	1.13	T9011V	1.27	TBA550Q	2.25	TDA1950	2.54	TC47	0.80
HA11244	4.32	M1130	4.86	ME585N	1.20	SAB3210	2.93	SN76115AN	1.46	T9013V	5.81	TBA580C	0.86	TDA2002	1.20	TC47	0.86
HA1125	3.90	M191	5.74	ME8458N	3.80	SAB4209	12.75	SN76131	1.74	T9014V	1.52	TBA580CQ	1.15	TDA2002	1.05	TC47	0.73
HA11251	3.30	M193	18.55	ME848N	3.80	SAF1031	2.30	SN76226DN	1.20	T9016	0.92	TBA570	1.55	TDA2004	2.82	TC47	1.08
HA1137W	2.57	M51102L	4.02	ME650N	3.94	SAF1032	5.80	SN76227N	0.80	T9022N	0.39	TBA570A	1.96	TDA2006	1.25	TC47	0.96
HA1138	3.56	M5115P	4.34	ME6458N	3.80	SAF1039	11.86	SN76228N	2.97	T9034V	1.25	TBA570	1.95	TDA2010	2.79	TC47	0.78
HA11414	2.50	M51231P	2.79	MP1106	4.80	SAS5010	7.62	SN76231	2.31	T9035V	1.26	TBA625A	1.37	TDA2010	2.79	TC47	0.78
HA1144	6.23	M5124P	4.38	OA200	0.10	SAS580	1.88	SN76242	4.75	T9038V	6.15	TBA625B	1.97	TDA2030	1.85	TC47	0.57
HA1156	1.30	M5134-9341	3.75	OA202	0.10	SAS580S	2.97	SN76243	4.75	T9061	2.55	TBA625C	1.97	TDA2140	1.44	TC47	0.60
HA11580	7.80	M51394P	6.25	OA47	0.10	SAS580T	2.85	SN76232	2.51	T9063V	1.03	TBA641A12	3.75	TDA2150	5.63	TC47	0.85
HA1160	3.45	M5142P	4.38	OA90	0.87	SAS570	1.61	SN76360	1.97	T9064V	0.92	TBA641B1X1	2.80	TDA2151	1.75	TC47	0.85
HA1166	3.08	M5143P	6.06	OA91	0.00	SAS570S	0.00	SN76390	2.80	T9067V	0.83	TBA651	1.80	TDA2160	3.84	TC47	0.83
HA1167	5.13	M5144P	3.42	OA95	0.80	SAS570T	2.50	SN76396	2.63	T9069V	2.94	TBA673	2.35	TDA2161	1.00	TC47	0.83
HA11711	16.13	M51513L	2.06	OC28	0.96	SAS580	4.41	SN76510N	0.95	TA5814	1.35	TBA700L	2.15	TDA2190	3.11	TC47	0.35
HA11713	7.80	M51515BL	3.10	OC29	1.95	SAS5800	2.62	SN76530P	1.90	TA7020P	4.36	TBA720	2.89	TDA2190	1.82	TC47	0.83
HA11714	6.75	M51516L	3.40	OC35	0.96	SAS590	4.55	SN76532N	1.80	TA7027	4.36	TBA730	1.75	TDA2520	2.15	TC47	0.35
HA11715	7.85	M51517L	2.90	OC36	1.16	SAS5900	2.32	SN76533N	1.56	TA7050	1.58	TBA750L	1.46	TDA2521	2.15	TC47	0.86
HA11718	7.79	M5152L	1.00	OC44	0.40	SAS680	2.50	SN76540N	1.80	TA7051	1.58	TBA780	1.55	TDA2522	2.81	TC47	1.25
HA11724	15.80	M51522	4.90	OC46	0.40	SAS6800	1.20	SN76540N	1.60	TA7060A1	0.80	TBA780	3.00	TDA2523	2.75	TC47	1.07
HA11725	16.80	M5191P	4.49	OC75	0.40	SAS680S	1.20	SN76545	4.55	TA7061AP	0.78	TBA800	0.00	TDA2524	4.00	TC47	0.39
HA1180	4.80	M5192	2.08	OH188	1.70	SAS6810	1.20	SN76546	3.15	TA7069	2.84	TBA810AS	1.46	TDA2525	2.96	TC47	0.28
HA1203	1.56	M53273P	0.92	ON236	2.90	SAS670	2.50	SN76546N	3.15	TA7070P	1.52	TBA810S	1.46	TDA2530	2.19	TC47	0.44
HA1306	1.74	M53274P	1.29	OT112	0.98	SAS6700	1.20	SN76549	2.35	TA7071	3.35	TBA810T	1.46	TDA2532	2.19	TC47	0.39
HA1322	1.74	MA06	0.97	OT121	0.70	SAS670S	1.20	SN76550	0.30	TA7072P	1.35	TBA820	0.83	TDA2533	2.09	TC47	0.71
HA1339	1.76	MA8001	0.74	PO144	2.83	SAS6710	1.20	SN76551	1.35	TA7073P	4.05	TBA820M	1.65	TDA2540	2.09	TC47	0.44
HA1342	1.80	MB3705	1.82	PT1017	2.43	SAS6800	2.30	SN76570	2.10	TA7074P	1.95	TBA890	1.85	TDA2541	1.95	TC47	0.85
HA1350	2.97	MB3712	2.85	PT2014	2.76	SAS6810	1.30	SN76600	1.80	TA7076P	4.95	TBA900	2.25	TDA2545	3.16	TC47	0.83
HA1365	3.85	MB3713	1.30	PT2014	1.82	SBA550B	1.95	SN76611	2.35	TA7089N	1.41	TBA920	1.50	TDA2560	1.97	TC47	3.28
HA1366WR	1.82	MB3730	2.94	R1038	1.99	SBA750	1.46	SN76620	2.35	TA7090P	1.36	TBA920Q	2.10	TDA2570	2.81	TC47	1.21
HA1367	3.20	MC13002	4.86	R1039	1.99	SC9488P	1.90	SN76622	1.50	TA7092P	3.85	TBA940	1.75	TDA2575A	2.95	TC47	0.22
HA1368	1.86	MC1303P	1.96	R2008B	1.20	SC9503	1.50	SN76623	0.62	TA7093P	1.64	TBA950	1.50	TDA2576A	2.58	TC47	0.26
HA1368R	1.09	MC1307P	1.90	R2009	1.20	SC9504P	1.46	SN76630	3.21	TA7102P	5.34	TBA970	2.08	TDA2577	5.31	TC47	2.02
HA1370	2.97	MC1310P	1.25	R2001B	1.20	SC9511P	1.90	SN76640	3.85	TA7108P	1.40	TBA970Q	2.98	TDA2581	1.95	TC47	10.78
HA1377	2.80	MC1327P	1.20	SC957	1.20	SC957	1.20	SN76650N	1.24	TA7109	3.37	TBA990	1.65	TDA2582	1.98	TC47	1.86
HA1389	1.62	MC1330P	1.23	R2030	1.20	SG264A	4.38	SN76650N	1.35	TA7120P	0.58	TBA990Q	1.95	TDA2590	2.80	TC47	1.86
HA1389R	1.74	MC1349P	1.20	R2257	2.16	SG613	6.88	SN76655N	2.25	TA7122BP	0.54	TBAZ31	2.33	TDA2591	2.80	TC47	1.20
HA1392	2.80	MC1350P	1.10	R2285	1.95	SG625	6.28	SN76655N	1.35	TA7124P	2.00	TC4001	1.29	TDA2591Q	2.80	TC47	2.70
HA1397	2.97	MC1351P	0.75	R2305	1.07	SG633	9.37	SN76655N	0.98	TA7130P	1.15	TC4053BP	3.94	TDA2593	2.24	TC47	1.03
HA1398	2.86	MC1352P	1.01	R2306	1.23	SI-1020N	4.76	SN76705N	3.99	TA7136AP	1.15	TC4156	1.62	TDA2594	2.80	TC47	2.80
HA1406	1.80	MC1357P	1.95	R2322	1.23	SI-1125HD	10.70	SN76705N	3.99	TA7137P	0.85	TC4160B	1.62	TDA2600	5.00	TC47	0.55
HA17723	5.40	MC1358P	1.55	R2323	1.23	SI-1130N	6.30	SN76707N	3.99	TA7137P	3.51	TC4170P	1.55	TDA2610	5.03	TC47	0.44
HBF4030AF	2.25	MC14001	1.75	R2348	1.82	SKB2708	0.70	SN76709N	4.65	TA7146P	0.84	TC4207S	1.95	TDA2611A	1.25	TC47	3.02
HD4480	15.80	MC14011	0.23	R2354A	1.82	SKEF2 1/04	1.26	SN76709N	4.23	TA7149P	2.10	TC4220A	2.05	TDA2612Q	4.25	TC47	1.07
HD44801A05	15.90	MC14013	0.27	R2354B	1.82	SKEF2 2/04	0.95	SN76730	4.95	TA7149P	1.51	TC4270S	1.65	TDA2611AQ	1.55	TC47	5.06
HM6231	8.50	MC14016CP	0.37	R2441	1.23	SKEF2 3/04	0.95	SN76810N	2.62	TA7153P	4.53	TC4290A	1.90	TDA2620	1.96	TC47	1.67
HM6232	7.71	MC14025	0.54	R2443	0.80	SKEF4 1/02	1.26	SN76920N	0.63	TA7161P	5.86	TC4440	1.65	TDA2630	2.34	TC47	2.14
HM9102	2.92	MC14049UBC	0.92	R2461	1.20	SKEF4 1/06	0.86	SN94041	3.45	TA7162P	4.25	TC4500A	1.95	TDA2630	2.40	TC47	1.35
HM9104	2.94	MC1438R	0.95	R2477	0.92	SKEF4 2/06	0.10	SN94042	3.95	TA7162P	4.80	TC4530	1.80	TDA2640	2.25	TC47	7.00
HT4207	15.80	MC14453P	2.56	R2501	1.16	SKEF4 2/08	0.80	SN94043	3.45	TA7169P	2.53	TC4640	2.63	TDA2640	6.93	TC47	1.95
IS889	1.87	MC14510BAL	3.15	R2540	1.80	SKEF4 2/02	0.87	STAA441	0.20	TA7172P	1.28	TC4650	1.85	TDA2650	2.95	TC47	5.70
IS751	1.87	MC14556BCP	3.15	R2540X	3.00	SKEF5 3/10	1.45	STK0029	3.42	TA7176P	2.25	TC4680B	2.63	TDA2651	2.86	TC47	2.54
ITT2003	0.20	MC1712	3.52	R2615	0.80	SL1310	2.85	STK0039	4.40	TA7176P	4.44	TC4					

Long-distance Television

Roger Bunney

September was a very poor month for long-distance signal propagation of all types. By tradition, September is usually a good month for tropospheric reception. Not this time however. The rains have caught up with those who spent a dry, hot summer! There was the usual autumn SpE decline, so there's little to report. Solar storms and associated ionospheric disturbances towards the end of the month produced auroral activity – from the 17th onwards – though the effects of this were restricted to northern locations. The main auroral activity occurred on the 23rd and 30th. This month's short SpE/auroral log is as follows:

- 7/9/84 TSS (USSR) ch. R1; ARD (W. Germany) E2.
- 8/9/84 TVE (Spain) E2.
- 9/9/84 TSS R1, 2; TVP (Poland) R1, 2; CST (Czechoslovakia) R1, 2; ORF (Austria) E4; ARD E2, 4; +PTT (Switzerland) E2, 3; JRT (Yugoslavia) E3; RAI (Italy) IA; TVE E2, 4.
- 10/9/84 TSS R1, 2; TVP R1, 2; CST R1.
- 11/9/84 TSS R1, 2; TVP R2; CST R1, 2; ORF E2a; JRT E3, 4.
- 12/9/84 TSS R1.
- 13/9/84 TVE E2, 3.
- 17/9/84 Auroral activity noted in Band I.
- 23/9/84 Strong auroral activity throughout Band I, with signals (of sorts) seen on all channels – though with the usual identification problems. RTE (Ireland) IB.
- 29/9/84 TVE E2.
- 30/9/84 Strong auroral activity in Band I.
- 1/10/84 CST R1; ORF E2a.

My thanks to Dave Shirley (Hastings), Cyril Willis (Ely), Paul Barton (Harrogate), Simon Hamer (Powys) and Iain Menzies (Aberdeen) for sending in reception reports. Dave mentions that the present World Television Club series (Antenne-2, TDF) has come to an end. It will be resumed next year.

TV Pirates – UK Style

On the evening of October 7th a pirate TV transmitter was noted testing from 1930 on ch. E28 with the caption "Thameside TV". Observations from the Esher and Teddington areas suggest that the station's location is in the Croydon/Thornton Heath area. The caption features a circle within which there's an outline of London buildings and the "Thameside TV" identification – a further identification, "Channel 28 Thameside TV", appears at the bottom. The background colour is orange and the sound channel carries music. The transmission continued for several hours, with programmes from 2200. The sound is also transmitted at 90.5MHz (f.m.). Press reports earlier in the week had suggested that the transmissions would be on ch. E36.

Thameside returned at 2200 on the 8th, with programmes from 2300 until 0100. On the 9th a pirate transmission with excellent quality was received in the Twickenham area with the carrier some 1MHz below ch. 21. The identifications were "36" and "Late Night London Television" – there were no signs of signals on ch. 36. Programmes started at 0100 and continued until 0230,

with pop videotapes and an Egyptian film – the programme content is intended for Greek/Arabic viewers. It was announced that this "test transmission" will be followed by future programmes. It seems that the London airwaves could become an interesting field for late night DXing.

News Items

UK: The Dolby company is working on a stereo TV sound system using delta modulation as a possible alternative to the digital system proposed by the BBC.

France: Although Canal Plus transmissions started on November 4th, scrambling is not likely to be used before January 1985 – the idea is to get some initial publicity for the programming on offer. Apparently over 100,000 subscribers had signed up by the end of September. Boulogne and Amiens-St. Just will operate on ch. F10.

Denmark: Some independent (of Danmarks Radio) low-power local TV transmitters are now in operation, including Horsens ch. E52 (seen at over 100 miles during tropospheric openings), Copenhagen-1 E52, Odense E53, Aarhus E54, Copenhagen-2 E56 and Bornholm E59.

Satellite Equipment

Frank Lumen has sent further details of his satellite reception in Colorado (see last month). His garden sited parabolic dish is a 12ft diameter mesh type with a gain of 41dBi and a beamwidth of 1.5°: it can be swung from 53°W to 143°W and elevated to 45°. The LNA is a 90°K Aventek that feeds a Dex downconverter mounted just below the actuator arm. The receiver is a Drake ESR240 with infra-red remote control. Interesting that the downconverter provides a single conversion to 70MHz at 72Ω, with an image rejection figure of 20dB. The receiver has an i.f. bandwidth of 25MHz (-3dB) and a threshold at 8dB carrier-to-noise ratio. The audio is tunable and the modulated output is available on ch. A2 or A3 at 3mV.

We've received information from North East Satellite Systems on some relatively inexpensive dishes and supports they can supply. A 1m diameter dish complete with stand, elevation/azimuth adjustment mount and a feed tripod is available at £140 plus VAT and carriage (depends on distance). The dish is of spun aluminium and is accurate to within ±3mm. It can be used at 4 or 12GHz but as there's little margin for signal attenuation, e.g. in wet weather, a 1.5m dish has also been produced. Both Hugh Cocks and North East can supply electronics for Music Box and other downlink transponders in the 11-12GHz band. For rock music fans North East offer a stereo decoder/expander for disco use, taking its feed from a satellite baseband output receiver. The cost of the 1.5m dish assembly, based on an initial production run of 50, is quoted as £249 plus VAT. For further information write to the company at Cropton, Pickering, N. Yorkshire – telephone 075 15 598.

Wideband Band I Aerial

Weston Developments (33 Cherville Street, Romsey, Hants SO5 8FB) have introduced a new four-element wideband (47-68MHz) Band I array with the emphasis on higher gain. The elements are spaced for optimum gain over the band, matching back to 75Ω unbalanced with an in-line matching cable section. A 1:1 balanced-to-unbalanced ferrite transformer is available for use with this and other aerials in the WB1-4 series. Gain is 2dBd at 50MHz rising to 5.5dBd at 65MHz with the front:back ratio typically 20dB. Wideband aerials for the higher OIRT

channels R3-5 and the OIRT 67-73MHz f.m. band are also available.

TV Station List

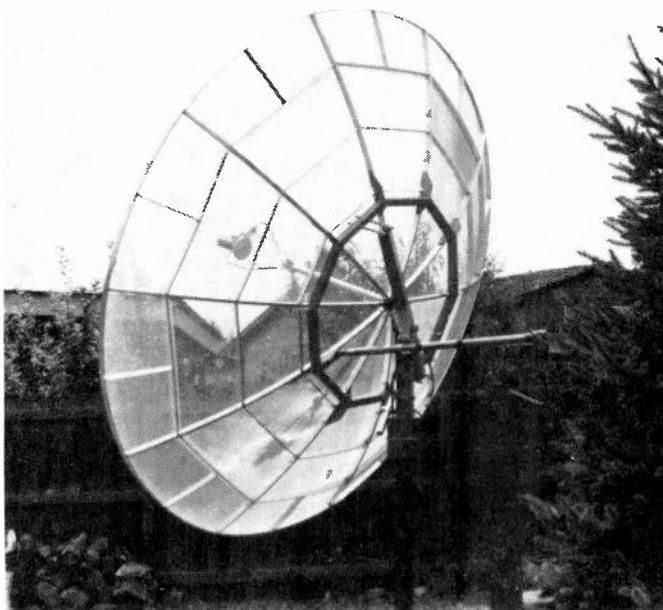
The EBU's "List of European Television Stations, No. 29" is now available at 750 Belgian Francs from the EBU, 32 Avenue Albert Lancaster, B-1180, Bruxelles, Belgium. This annual publication lists TV transmitters with powers down to mW operating in the European broadcasting area, including N. Africa and the closer Middle East, and is updated bimonthly with supplements. Highly recommended to all TV-DXers.

Circular Polarisation

In his Technical Topics column in *Radio Communication* (September 1984) Pat Hawker mentions the use of circular polarisation, particularly in Band II. The advantage is that reception is more acceptable and siting less critical with the types of aerials commonly used with portable receivers. For amateur satellite reception, crossed Yagi arrays with a phasing harness for switching between rotation modes gives circular polarisation. Bill Sykes (G2HCG), well known in the aerial industry and previously associated with J-Beam, has designed a device called "Polaplex" for use with crossed Yagi arrays: it provides accurate matching and control of the phasing between the two feeders over a full 360° so that all polarisation modes can be catered for using a control next to the receiver. This would make it easy to optimise reception from a satellite as it passes across the sky and might also make it possible to minimise ghosting and co-channel interference problems. It's hoped that the device will be made available commercially though there are no firm plans to do so at the time of writing.

TV from the Air

In the late 60s there was great press excitement when Ronan O'Rahilly announced that he intended to start commercial u.h.f. TV transmissions from an aircraft flying a figure-of-eight over the North Sea. No more was heard of it however and nothing was seen. The subject of



Frank Lumen's 12ft. dish in Colorado, USA.

SOUTH WEST AERIALS



£69.95

The **WALTHAM 416** is a VHF/UHF 6" screen mono TV for System B/G operation (5.5MHz sound) and is ideal for serious TV/DXing, or Continental travel and domestic use. Operation is via mains power or an external 12 volt source (all plugs and leads supplied). This receiver has a modern moulded cabinet and carrying handle, the controls are in a conveniently recessed but easily accessible position on the top of the television.

The 416 features extremely good sensitivity and sharp selectivity with its 4 individually tuned IF stages. All bands (VHF and UHF) feature continuous varicap tuning for ease of operation. Tuning controls and a clear scale readout are situated at the front of the receiver. ALL Band 1 & 3 TV/DX channels are covered, together with all UHF channels 21-68.

Aerial input is via a 75 ohm coaxial socket, in addition a strong ten section whip antenna (40" extended) is provided at the rear. Two internal speakers for maximum sound quality are another feature of the 416. The **WALTHAM 416** is a modern and reliable export receiver made for the W. German market. South West Aerials are the sole UK distributor for this model.

WALTHAM 416 6" screen VHF/UHF mono TV (5.5MHz sound) inclusive of VAT £69.95 plus £3.75 carriage and insurance (adjustment to 6MHz sound is available at an additional cost of £2.50). Delivery 3-5 days.

Send 60p for our NEW extensive 1985 CATALOGUE detailing Aerials (DXing and domestic), Amplifiers, Filters, Rotators etc. Customer consultancy available to solve difficult reception problems, TV/FM DXing our speciality (include SAE with all enquiries please). ACCESS & VISA mail and telephone orders welcome.



SOUTH WEST AERIALS (T)

11, Kent Road, Parkstone,

Poole, Dorset BH12 2EH. Tel: 0202 738232.



airborne transmissions came up recently in an American magazine. In addition to a project for Band III transmissions from a Super Constellation flying over Vietnam a considerable number of test transmissions were carried out in the USA. Harry Caul (KIL9XL) writes that radio transmissions at 19,100kHz and 532kHz with "This is the Voice of Blue Eagle" were heard over a wide area. The FCC took no action apart from announcing that the pirate station had been warned of the penalties, and it subsequently transpired that the transmissions were being organised by the military to gain information on coverage at various heights. It seems that a converted C121 was used as a flying radio/TV studio. These tests continued throughout 1964, then ceased. In 1965 the aircraft was used over the Dominican Republic following an attempted revolt and in 1966 it appeared over Saigon with two u.h.f. TV transmitters aboard - though there were no u.h.f. receivers in the area at the time! Rumour has it that some 1,500 receivers were subsequently distributed to the local population, and a second TV plane arrived. The planes seem to have operated at 20,000ft, on ch. A12. Information is rather vague however - has anyone more substantial details?

Band I

The use of cordless phones in the 49MHz band has been a considerable nuisance to TV-DXers in recent times. Their use has now become a criminal offence and if a unit is attached to the public network BT are obliged to report this to the DTI - prosecution could result in a fine of £2,000 for both the user and retailer, with the latter's stocks liable to be seized.

A further 60 special permits for operation in the 50-

52MHz band are expected any time now. The RSGB's 50.05MHz beacon is operating on a 24-hour basis at 15W from the Potters Bar HQ, using crossed dipoles.

From our Correspondents . . .

Reg Roper (Torpoint) has been experimenting with CB aerials. He's found that two "Firestick" CB mobile aerials fitted on to an X 90° insulator work very well as a DX-TV aerial! I'd anticipate that direct connection to a 75Ω coaxial feeder would result in considerable mismatch, though this could be corrected by using a transistor amplifier for each element, combining down to 75Ω. Since 2 × 27MHz = 54MHz performance could be good – further details are awaited.

Robert Copeman (Melbourne, Australia) reports that closure of SBS-TV ch. 0 has been delayed until 1986 to allow more people to obtain u.h.f. sets (there are at present parallel transmissions on chs. 0 and 28).

I've received a long letter from Peter Tomlinson (Bristol), who works for the r.f. design company Iosis, following comments in this column on microcomputer interference. He says that the AR2001 general-coverage receiver seems to suffer from poor cross-modulation performance, with breakthrough from police, radio amateurs, radar and other sources. Others have reported this problem in areas where there's a strong local group A u.h.f. TV signal and Lowes (Matlock) apparently have available a modification sheet to overcome it. Peter

continues: "There's a new generation of high-resolution video display units at present being designed with video dot rates in the range 200-300MHz. One display designer tells me that he can stop radiation through the c.r.t. by using a metal shield that acts as a waveguide. Properly designed, this blocks r.f. The video signals have large components at submultiples of the dot rate however. The same designer reports that the electronics generating the digital video signals seem to be more of a problem from the radiation point of view than the c.r.t." All this suggests increasing interference problems ahead. Perhaps the DTI should introduce legally enforceable standards as required by the FCC in the USA rather than guidelines.

East Germany

An official DFF transmitter list has been published by *Tele-Audiovision*. The channels for the first and second services respectively are as follows (V = vertical polarisation, H = horizontal):

Berlin	E5 H	E27 H	Leipzig	E9 V	E22 H
Brocken	E6 H	E34 H	Lobau	E27 H	E39 H
Dequede	E12 V	E31 H	Marlow	E8 H	E24 V
Dresden	E10 V	E29 H	Schwerin	E11 H	E29 H
Helpterberg	E37 H	E22 H	Sonneberg	E12 H	E33 H
Inselberg	E5 H	E31 H	Cottbus	E4 H	
Karl Marx Stadt	E8 H	E32 H			

The Cottbus E4 transmitter may close in 1986, transmissions moving to ch. E53.

Teletopics

CABLE CONFIDENCE FADES

The two largest operators in the UK cable TV industry, BET (Rediffusion) and Electronic Rentals Group (Visionhire), have decided to pull out. In addition, Thorn EMI is reconsidering the extent of its financial commitment to CATV. The Visionhire East Kilbride network is being closed and other networks will be continued only until contractual commitments come to an end. The company will not participate in any further cable TV activities. BET is selling its Rediffusion cable interests, subject to Home Office and DTI approval, to Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press for £11 million. Rediffusion had the "showcase" Guildford cable TV franchise, which was expected to be the most successful of the systems approved last year, but had been unable to raise the £30 million it would have required to install the cables. Robert Maxwell, whose other interests include the British Printing and Communications Corporation and Mirror Group Newspapers, is also chairman of the small and so far loss-making cable company SelecTV. He now becomes the UK's largest cable operator and it will be interesting to see whether he can make a go of cable where others have so far largely failed.

BET and ERG both blame delays in getting cable TV started, and the changes in the treatment of capital allowances introduced with the last budget, for their decisions to withdraw from cable TV. As David Hurley, managing director of ERG, put it "we now believe that the prospects of generating meaningful profits from this area on a normal commercial time-scale are too remote to justify our continued involvement". Thorn EMI says it has no intention of pulling out but is looking for minority

shareholders to assist with financing some of its franchises.

Earlier this year (see Teletopics, July) BET sold its Rediffusion TV rentals operation to Granada. This has led to union trouble since Granada recognises the electricians' union EEPTU while Rediffusion recognises the General, Municipal and Boilermakers' Union. Strike action has been threatened over Granada's plans to rationalise the Rediffusion operation.

HIGH STREET CHANGES

Changes are afoot amongst the high street electrical chains. Dixons, which has 280 stores, has announced a take-over bid for the family-run Currys group which has 531 outlets plus 25 Bridgers discount centres and 16 Carousel Colourhire shops. The bid follows the announcement of poor interim results by Currys and is being opposed by the Currys board. It seems that Dixons' trading has not been as badly affected as most other electrical retailers in recent months. The general situation is highlighted by Amstrad's announcement that it is for the time being withdrawing from the large-screen CTV and VCR markets to concentrate on audio and its home computer, which has been well received. Amstrad's founder and chief executive Alan Sugar has predicted a price war in the video and large-screen CTV fields.

Further high street rationalisation has resulted in the merger of the Trident retail and Telefusion rental chains to form the new Connect group.

DIGITAL TVs AND LCD DISPLAYS

TV sets using digital signal processing circuitry have been announced by Toshiba, Panasonic and Zenith in the USA. It's understood that all these sets use the IIT Digionation range of chips. Most have a "picture-within-picture" feature enabling a picture from an external video source, e.g. a VCR, computer, etc., to be displayed in the corner of

the screen, with remote switching between the two as the main picture. Mitsubishi have also announced a digital TV set, in this case with a still picture function using a one frame video memory. Other features of the set are a time-lapse mode that enables nine different TV programmes to be monitored on the screen simultaneously, with image renewal at four second intervals. Alternatively the nine-section display can be used to provide stroboscopic pictures, the intervals between shots being variable with a minimum of one thirtieth of a second – this feature is useful for studying golf form and providing other slow-action sport's shots. The set is expected to go on sale in Japan next autumn.

Casio has demonstrated a prototype 6in. liquid crystal colour TV display in Tokyo and plans to start production next year in various screen sizes from 2.5 to 12in. Seiko have announced a 2in. screen colour TV set in the USA, using a liquid crystal display with fluorescent backlighting and 52,800 pixels, each separately driven by a thin-film transistor. The liquid crystal is of the twisted-nematic type. Similar sets are planned by Citizen and Sanyo.

DISCS

Interactive video discs have been launched by JVC in Japan. The VHD discs can be used with a domestic computer to give realistic displays on the screen. As a result of interfacing the disc player and computer the user can modify and control the display. Programmes on the initial discs include road racing, casino games and chemical experiments. The move could well boost the prospects for disc systems – Philips have already announced an interactive LaserVision disc player in the UK, Model VP831, for the professional market, with computer interconnection via an RS232 port.

Thorn EMI is to supply VHD discs to Toshiba for sale in Japan. Deliveries are expected to reach 50,000 a month by the end of the year.

Hitachi have announced that spares for their CED disc players, now no longer in production, will be available for at least seven years.

FERGUSON CAMCORDER

The Videostar C Model 3V41 camcorder has been added to the Ferguson range of video equipment. This combined colour camera/VHS-C recorder has numerous features including an electronic viewfinder with eight recorder/camera mode indicators, a half-inch saticon tube, colour picture search and back space edit. The comprehensive range of accessories includes a super-directional microphone (which can be used with other Ferguson cameras) and a character generator. The latter enables the user to generate captions and titles when filming – four different types of pages, different sizes of lettering and options for positioning on the page make a variety of styles possible.

8mm VIDEO

The Kodavision series 2000 8mm video system has now been launched in the USA. A significant advance is a two-hour cassette which is to be made available for worldwide distribution in mid-1985. The tape is produced for Kodak by TDK and is 10 microns thick – the present ninety minute cassette uses 13 microns thick tape. There's still no date for the UK launch of the Kodavision system.

Sanyo has announced an 8mm video system in the USA, comprising a separate VCR and a camera that looks like a 35mm photographic one and takes standard 35mm lenses. The Electronic Industries Association of Japan

expects sales of 8mm equipment to reach six million annually in seven years' time, accounting for some 20 per cent of the world VCR market.

JAPANESE-EEC MOVES

The Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry has asked Japanese VCR manufacturers to reduce their exports of complete, i.e. non-kit, VCRs to the EEC by over ten per cent during the current financial year in order to avoid excessive price cutting. There has already been an 11.7 per cent decline in Japanese VCR exports to the EEC, where demand is currently slack. Not that the Japanese VCR manufacturers need worry unduly: exports rose to a record 1,993,000 in August, with 52.5 per cent going to the USA and only 19.1 per cent to Europe.

A standing joint committee to decide on common standards for consumer electronics goods has been proposed at a Japanese/EEC conference attended by eighteen leading electronics companies. The Japanese delegation was led by Sony's chairman Akio Morita while the European delegation was led by Philips' president Wisse Dekker.

CHANNEL FOUR COVERAGE

Almost fifty million people can now receive the Channel 4/S4C transmissions, roughly 97 per cent of the population. Ultimately the coverage should equal that of ITV/BBC at over 99 per cent. During 1985 another one hundred low-power relay stations will be equipped for Channel 4/S4C transmission, bringing a further 600,000 people within range. This will leave roughly 200 transmitters to be equipped in 1986/7 to complete the programme. In addition, new fill-in relays for all IBA/BBC channels continue to be built at the rate of about one a week.

PRESTEL MAILBOX NATIONWIDE

Prestel's 24-hours a day electronic message service Mailbox is now available throughout the country at local call rates, enabling messages to be sent instantly between any of the 47,000 terminals on the Prestel network. There are no sending/receiving charges above the normal Prestel operating costs. Mailbox was launched in 1981 as a local service for London subscribers, though users elsewhere could use it by making a long-distance call to the Mailbox computer. Users can either send their own messages via a typewriter keyboard or, if they have only a standard Prestel numeric keypad, they can select from a list of over 400 stock messages and phrases. To despatch the message the sender keys in the recipient's Mailbox code: the recipient is informed that a message awaits him whenever he calls Prestel. Up to five messages can be stored indefinitely in the Mailbox computer until called up by the recipient. The use of personal code numbers ensures that messages go only to the correct destination without interception by other users. A recorded delivery feature is to be added next year.

V2000 HI-FI

Now that Betamax and VHS VCRs with hi-fi sound are with us, using the same basic techniques, what about the V2000 system? Not to be left out, a prototype V2000 hi-fi machine was on display at the recent Dusseldorf Hi-Fi and Video Show. Models are expected to be released during 1985, though whether they will appear in countries other than the Netherlands and W. Germany, where the system has a reasonable share of the market, remains to be seen.

The technology involved is quite different from Beta/VHS: the audio is converted to digital form, using pulse-code modulation, and is compressed so that it can be inserted in the video waveform's field blanking period – it's laid down in the 0.325mm centre section of the tape originally intended as a cue track but never in practice employed for this purpose. The introduction of models on the market awaits the development of i.c.s to carry out the audio signal processing, which in addition to compression/expansion and coding/decoding involves noise reduction in both the recording and playback modes. The audio heads are mounted on the same piezoelectric actuators as the video heads so that both are subject to the dynamic track following that's a major feature of the V2000 system.

As to the future of the V2000 system, it's interesting that Philips' president Wisse Dekker commented in a recent interview with *Electronics Weekly* that "Philips is certainly not as strongly committed to V2000 as it was a year or so ago". In his view the decision by Philips to manufacture and market VHS machines should have been taken earlier while "now it's up to the market to decide". Grundig expects its VCR production to settle at two thirds VHS to one third V2000.

CHANNEL 7

Atlas Leisure has launched a video service called Channel 7 for the 2,000 large-screen video projectors installed in pubs and clubs by TeleJector. The service will consist of a mixture of sport, comedy, films, music, travel and news and will carry advertisements (the advertising rate is £2,800 for two thirty second slots shown daily for a week). Atlas hopes to increase the number of installations to 3,000 by mid-1985 and eventually to serve one in five of the UK's pubs and clubs. The use of satellite transmission is planned.

FOREIGN NEWS

The Australian government has decided to use the MAC-B transmission system for the AUSSAT satellite radio/TV service which is due to start next year, carrying ABC programmes to the outback... The Italian government has issued a decree making the three private TV networks legal – magistrates had earlier closed the networks in three areas on the grounds that they infringed the state-run service's monopoly... Grundig is to supply VHS VCRs in kit form to China for local assembly under licence. The company already has an agreement with China on CTV production... The launch of the first French DBS satellite, originally planned for November 1985, has been postponed until late 1986 due to technical problems with the high-power output tubes.

BBC AT IBC 84

The BBC's sound-in-syncs system for the distribution of mono sound and video signals via a single link was developed over fifteen years ago and has since been widely used throughout the world. The BBC is at present developing a system for two-channel sound, taking advantage of an important development in digital audio techniques – the NICAM-3 near-instantaneous companding system. In order to get twice the information into the same bandwidth and much the same time slot, a quaternary coding system and slightly more of the line sync period are used. The technique was amongst several interesting exhibits shown by the BBC at IBC 84.

Of particular interest to TV engineers will be the fact that the BBC now have a digital generator for test card F.

The geometric patterns are generated by computer techniques with reference to the original drawings, with edges both vertically and horizontally anti-aliased for optimum accuracy. The central picture with the little girl was copied from a slide by means of a YUV "picture grab", the resulting data being inserted into the geometric pattern during the computer preparation process. So it seems that the well known and much appreciated pattern will be with us for some time yet.

VIDEO NOTES

Panasonic's latest VCR, Model NV730, is less than four inches high. It's a two-speed machine expected to retail at about £633.50. BSR is to manufacture under licence Mitsumi r.f. modulators for VCR use at its Stourbridge, W. Midlands factory. Akai's new European VCR factory is to be built at Honfleur, western France, where the company already has a plant manufacturing hi-fi equipment and assembling VCRs. It had been hoped that Akai would set up the factory in the UK.

Panasonic have developed a still-picture camera using electronic technology. Up to 25 colour shots can be stored in digital form on a magnetic disc. The system is similar to Sony's Mavica camera and is expected to go on sale in a couple of years' time.

WILLOW VALE TRADE SHOW

The next Willow Vale Electronics trade show will be held at the Ladbroke Mercury Motor Inn, Exeter on November 28th, 1984. For further details apply to the Sales Manager, Willow Vale Electronics Ltd., 11 Arkwright Road, Reading, Berks (telephone 0734 876 444).

HEAD CLEANER AEROSOL

Electrolube have introduced a Video Tape Head Cleaner aerosol that loosens and removes accumulated deposits of dirt and tape oxide, drying quickly without leaving any residues on the tape. It's designed for use on all magnetic tape heads and comes in a 110 gram can. Application is by spraying directly on to the heads and the tape path – alternatively it can be sprayed on to cleaning tapes or other cleaning devices such as cotton buds. For further details contact Electrolube Ltd., Blakes Road, Wargrave, Berks RG10 8AW (073 522 3014).

PROPOSED ATV REPEATERS

A number of people have expressed interest in a 23cm ATV repeater for the Southampton/Bournemouth area and several possible locations have been considered. It has been suggested that two separate repeaters, one for the Bournemouth/Poole area and another for Southampton, would give better coverage of low-lying areas. Amateurs interested in 23cm operation are invited to contact Nick Foot, G4WHO, 47 Mallard Road, Colehill, Wimbourne.

EXHIBITIONS

The next Berlin Radio Show, now known as the Audio and Video Fair Berlin, will be held on August 30-September 8 1985. Details can be obtained from AMK GmbH, Postfach 19 17 40, Messedamm 22, D-1000, Berlin 19.

The twelfth annual Audio Visual Exhibition, AV85, will be held on April 22-25 1985, at the Wembley Conference Centre. The organisers are Maclaren Exhibitions Ltd., PO Box 138, 79-81 High Street, Croydon CR9 3SS. AV85 will be sponsored by *Audio Visual* magazine.

Teletalk on Colour

Malcolm Burrell

I was mulling over the question of colour picture quality recently. It seems that one result of so much circuitry being taken over by the silicon chip is greater consistency with our colour pictures. When colour started in 1967, and became more popular in 1969 as it spread to all channels, everyone would remark on the variation between the sets on display. True, variation still exists, but it's now more a matter of how well the set is tuned in and things like that. Most of us probably tend to take colour pictures for granted: the quality is more consistent than it was, but I feel that it's settled at a rather mediocre level of consistency.

The Early Sets

In 1967 we had dual-standard hybrid sets like the Decca CTV25, the GEC 2028 and the Philips G6. They used valves in the output stages and colour-difference drive, i.e. luminance at the tube's cathodes and the three colour-difference signals at its grids. This made grey-scale adjustment much simpler and somehow gave slightly better colour. To me the first G6s had a certain something that amounted to richer colour. The reds were red and flesh tones had a certain Technicolor golden hue that few other sets matched.

By 1969 we had single-standard sets. These often bore a more than passing resemblance to their predecessors but had somehow begun to lose something. I personally thought that the Thorn sets of the era, with their solid-state circuitry and RGB drive, never quite made it for colour quality, though a friend of mine still has a 25in. one that gives quite exceptional pictures for one of this breed. Decca went on to make the famous 10 and 30 series Bradford chassis which, though beloved by many engineers – they were excellent for quick servicing – somehow lacked something when it came to colour quality. They gave good pictures but the colours were not outstanding. Even the single-standard G6 didn't quite match its elder brother unless you got a really good one.

The K70

Then suddenly the Philips K70 came upon the scene. A few of these appeared in discount stores while some went to the rental outlets. The first thing of note about them was the use of varicap tuning, something we'd not experienced before in the UK. Imagine, I thought, no more mechanical tuners to fall to pieces! When you switched one of these sets on the next thing that became apparent was the superb sound quality, which was almost as well matched by the picture.

I remember being bewildered when I first made a call to service one of these sets. It had an elaborate but flimsy chassis that hinged outwards. The layout looked much the same as the G6 – but there were two line output valves! I always admired the sound reproduction, which came from the combination of just a single PCL86 and two speakers. I wondered what the secret was. The speaker at the front was a tweeter while the side-mounted bass unit was of special construction. I can remember substituting (temporarily) an ordinary type to compare the results. The

difference was startling. I'd secret designs on the speaker in the set but had to return it reluctantly to its rightful place. In subsequent years I did manage to get one from a scrap set but found that it didn't give much of an improvement when installed in a conventional TV set. It just shows how much thought was put into this Philips system – the loudspeaker, the circuit, the output transformer and the cabinet.

Oriental

I first encountered a 13in. Sony portable a good few years ago. The Trinitron system impressed me, as did the overall picture and colour quality. I subsequently bought a KV1810UB and found the pictures acceptable though not quite so outstanding. My main reason for buying this set however was its hue control – it was the last set sold in the UK to feature one of these. It enabled me to trim the phase of the reproduced colour slightly – unlike the tint controls provided on some sets (these altered the grey-scale as well). The 1810 had a 114° 18in. tube that didn't quite seem to have the sparkle associated with the earlier 90° types. It seems that the early 110° tubes that were used mainly in sets of Continental origin didn't produce sparkling pictures for very long.

I had thought that most 90° delta-gun tube sets had long passed their prime. Then last year I encountered a Hitachi CNP190 that had never required a service call in all its nine years of operation. Amazingly, the tube gave a superb, clearly defined picture with vivid, rich colours and would have put many a new set to shame. I must admit however that most of these sets are now well passed their best.

I live with a Sony KV2704 now, and though the colours don't sparkle they're certainly very good. Why did I buy it? First because I wanted a large screen and prefer the Trinitron's shape to the conventional goldfish bowl type. Secondly the Trinitron grill principle seems to me to be a more sensible one for in-line gun tubes than the segmented-slot arrangement. Thirdly the "turbo-drive" – a sort of dynamic focus system that was described briefly in the November 1981 issue (page 39) – really does seem to give sharp images right out to the edges of the screen.

What is True Colour?

As to what is true colour, it depends I suppose on what you're watching. A newsreader should look natural. If he's been sitting inside a studio all his life perhaps he should look pasty-white, but isn't it nice to see an old British film with scenes of London where the buses are much redder than they would ever have been in real life?

Then I think of photographs and slides. Do you remember the experimental colour test transmissions during the 50s and 60s, with endless slides of telephone boxes and young ladies in hats?! I came across a slide recently of a picture taken from a GEC 405-line colour receiver (TT4, see *Practical Television* early 1959) working on the NTSC system. Being from a photograph, the flesh tones were rich and golden. I once wrote to the IBA with some comments on Test Card F – that one should aim to get a

sort of warm golden brown in the upper arm area of the little girl. I think this caused some amusement, but I found that subjectively if you got this then a vectorscope was irrelevant!

In Conclusion

This is not to suggest that we return to the days of the G6. Most engineers who remember them prefer today's sets. In any case, I think that for clarity the in-line tube is preferable. It's not likely that one can improve on years of design work. A TV set is designed to give a certain picture quality at a price. Minor improvements sometimes work, also correct adjustment. Why for example was it that

almost every Decca 30, certainly the ones I've encountered, seems to have left the factory with Hanover bars when quite a simple adjustment puts this right?

A few weeks ago I had to attend an elderly Thorn 8000. It was working with a grotty aerial but the picture was noisier than usual. Out came the decoder/i.f. panel and we soldered the broken print around the i.f. input from the tuner. Having checked that there was indeed a colour picture I zoomed off. One whole month later the call "green faces" came. In my haste I'd accidentally swapped the green and red leads to the tube. I could go on about the old lady who watched a GEC set with a flat blue gun (all yellow) and after I'd fitted a new tube said "it's not as good as it used to be", but I'll close here.

TV Fault Finding

*Reports from Mick Dutton,
Hugh Allison, John Coombes
and Malcolm Burrell*

ITT CVC801 Chassis

The problem with this set was no results, though on closer examination we found that there was 320V across the mains bridge rectifier's reservoir capacitor C658. The chassis has a chopper power supply, with the drive coming from the line oscillator chip and the line output transistor driven from a secondary winding on the chopper transformer. Quick checks showed that none of the obvious semiconductor devices was at fault, so the question was where to go from here?

We decided to power the line oscillator from an external supply, and were rewarded with line whistle and a chopper output of some 30V instead of 110V. We then replaced the line output transistor with a low-wattage bulb. The h.t. remained low, proving that the fault was in the chopper control circuit. Voltage and waveform checks were then made in the power supply. Everything was o.k. up to the collector of T731, the pulse-width modulator transistor that drives the chopper driver transistor T750. T750's base waveform was incorrect, T731's collector voltage was slightly high and the voltage reading at the collector of T750 was low. The problem was traced to D750 (1N4148) being slightly leaky - this diode is connected between T750's 28V supply and the 20V rail that supplies the rest of the chopper control/drive circuit.

M.D.

ITT CVC1100 Chassis

Another case of no results. There was 300V across the mains bridge rectifier's reservoir capacitor C658 but no 115V h.t. rail. This was due to the fuse being open-circuit and the over-voltage zener diode D658 short-circuit. It's important that the set isn't run with D658 removed as excessive h.t. can result in the e.h.t. rising alarmingly, with possible damage to the tube. The recommended procedure is to check for obvious shorts, then connect a low-wattage bulb across D658 as a load for the power supply. Next disable the line output stage by shorting together the base and emitter of the line output transistor. When we did this the bulb lit and the h.t. line was steady at 115V.

With the bulb still in circuit, we removed the line output transistor short. This produced an h.t. line of about 40V with some obvious straining noises from the chopper transformer. Fine we thought, the power supply is o.k. and there must be an excessive load somewhere. We checked

the secondary supplies provided by the line output transformer and found that the 150V rectifier D504 was short-circuit. This is quite common but usually the associated safety resistor R514 is burnt out. In this case it was intact and replacing the diode made no difference to the overload condition. We checked everything, including the line output transformer by replacement, without success.

Time for thought. Maybe the fault was in the power supply after all? The chopper circuit is self-oscillating, the feedback pulses from tag e on the chopper transformer going via a winding on the line output transformer (to synchronise the action), R722 (4.7Ω), C714 and R723 to the base of the chopper transistor. It turned out that R722 was open-circuit, as a result of which the chopper was operating in the start-up mode. Replacing R722 restored the correct h.t. voltage, but there was a lack of brightness and the picture was much overscanned. We'd left the replacement line output transformer in the set - refitting the original one produced a perfect picture. Our replacement transformer and the two others we had in stock turned out to be faulty.

M.D.

ITT CVC20 Chassis

The trouble started with faint horizontal lines across the picture when the chassis was in the normal, raised position. To cut a long story short, there was a high-frequency ripple on the h.t. line caused by a spurious oscillation in the TDA2640 chopper control i.c. Before we discovered this another engineer had changed the line output transformer in an attempt to cure the fault. Having sorted things out I had to replace the original transformer. This led to loss of the 24V and 12V lines due to an earthing lug on the transformer connected to D24. Then the contrast became low with no colour. This turned out to be due to D3 (1N4148) in the beam limiter circuit having gone short-circuit. It would have been cheaper to leave the new transformer in the set and say nothing!

M.B.

Rank Colour Portable

One of these sets, manufactured in W. Germany by Saba, came in with the complaint that there was line pulling and field jitter when it was first switched on. This looked like an a.g.c. problem, and we found that bridging the a.g.c.

time-constant capacitor C284 ($4.7\mu\text{F}$), which is connected between pin 4 of the TDA440 i.f. chip and chassis, cured the field jitter. We were left with bent verticals except when the channel 8 button was selected. Replacing C923 ($47\mu\text{F}$) which decouples the supply to the TDA2590 sync/line generator i.c. cured this problem. In both cases the capacitors seemed to be o.k. when tested. **M.B.**

Thorn TX9 Chassis

The fault was field cramping a third of the way from the top of the raster. Voltage checks around the TDA1170S field timebase i.c. (IC55) revealed the fact that the output pin 4 was at around 18V instead of 13.8V. Everything else seemed to be o.k. A replacement i.c. failed to cure the trouble and I eventually found that R288 in the d.c. feedback loop was high at $50\text{k}\Omega$ instead of $18\text{k}\Omega$. If R288 goes open-circuit you get complete field collapse – I tried it out of curiosity! **M.B.**

Hitachi CNP190/CNP192

These sets are built like battleships and seem to soldier on and on. One came in with various complaints that were cured once the main problem was appreciated. The picture was oversize, with a ripple, and the clue was that the h.t. rail was at 150V instead of about 120V. The set h.t. control R911 had no effect and almost every voltage around the series regulator seemed to be 150V. R912 ($18\text{k}\Omega$) which links one end of R911 to chassis turned out to be open-circuit – it must be checked out of circuit. **M.B.**

Hitachi NP81CQ Chassis

No sound led to a quick check at the d.c. supply pin (pin 10) of the TDA1035S sound channel i.c. The supply was missing, due to a dry-joint at pin 8 of the chopper transformer T901. Note that a lot of intermittent faults are caused by dry-joints in this area. **M.B.**

Thorn TX9 Chassis (Stereo)

This stereo sound version of the chassis came in with a tricky problem. Sometimes when the set was first switched on there would be no sound and field collapse! Of course it wouldn't go wrong in the workshop to start with, and when it did go wrong it corrected itself when dismantled. I tried to find a common link between the field and sound circuits on the main board, but there isn't one. There is on the stereo board itself however, since this incorporates 50-60Hz selection for video disc reproduction. Probing here brought to light a hairline crack in the print from PL121/1 to R1243 (12V supply line). **M.B.**

Thorn M2080

The elderly lady who owned this set said that it had spent longer in various workshops than in her own home in the four years she'd had it, while the repairs had cost more than the set itself. The complaint was intermittent tuning instability.

The stabilised supply to the tuning potentiometers was clean, but the output at the tuner was a bit jumpy. The a.f.c. to the tuner was jumping around like a fiddler's elbow but became clean when the aerial was disconnected. So it wasn't an a.f.c. fault. We decided to connect the set's aerial socket to the input of a spectrum analyser and wind the tuning potentiometers to minimum voltage. The tun-

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er's local oscillator was found to be rock steady: on winding up the potentiometers the oscillator became more and more unstable. Feeding in a tuning voltage from the bench supply produced the same results, so it seemed that the tuner was at fault. We removed it and fed 12V to the tuning pin, with no other supply, scoping the varicap diodes in turn. One of them had a volt of noise across it while the rest were quiet. Since the tuner is an oddball type that we didn't have in stock we replaced the varicap diode and realigned the tuner. After refitting it the set worked perfectly.

The old lady and I are both a bit puzzled why the last "engineer" called in to deal with the fault disconnected the infra-red remote control unit and charged £45 for doing this. If you're reading this, I hope you feel ashamed! **H.A.**

Mitsubishi CT2206TX/CT2217TX

For no sound, a green/purple display and no remote control operation check the voltage at the collector of the 12V regulator transistor Q7P1 on the remote control panel. There should be 16V at this point. If it's missing the series resistor R7Q2 (4.7Ω) is probably open-circuit. **J.C.**

National Panasonic TC492G/TC682GR

For high brightness with flyback lines check the 190V line. You'll probably find this low due to the reservoir capacitor C555 ($10\mu\text{F}$) being open-circuit. **J.C.**

Decca 70/90 Chassis (Touch-button tuning)

In the event of a noisy raster, noisy sound and no LEDs alight, check the voltages on the tuning panel, in particular around the SN76705AN channel selector i.c. The voltage at pin 15 should fall to a low reading when the channel one push button is operated. If this doesn't happen, short the pin to chassis. If this restores results, check the contact between pin 15 of the holder and chassis. If you don't get a short-circuit reading, replace the holder or solder the i.c. into the panel directly. **J.C.**

Toshiba C1695

This set wouldn't switch on from standby. We found that the 16.5V supply on the remote control panel was missing due to D408 (BY210) on the mother board being open-circuit. **J.C.**

Canal Plus Scrambling

Andy Emmerson

With the official opening of the Canal Plus service on November 4th, pay-TV took to the French airways. It is, I believe, the first instance of a normal, over-the-air TV broadcast service using encryption, in Europe at any rate. The principles involved can be outlined quite easily, but instructions for a DIY decoder would be a different matter!

Canal Plus is France's fourth national TV network. It's organised by the advertising agency Havas and is backed by various financial interests. Subscribers sign up for six months or a year, paying about £10 a month for the programmes – films, interviews, news and sport – and a deposit of some £35 for the decoder. The programming should turn out to be somewhat livelier than the normal French TV fare and is intended for French viewers only: probably for copyright reasons, there will be no foreign subscribers. Reception is nevertheless possible in many parts of southern England. Canal Plus is hoping to attract 200,000 subscribers initially. To protect cinema revenue, it's not allowed to announce programme schedules more than two months in advance.

Canal Plus transmissions are mainly in the v.h.f. Bands I and III. Twenty of the planned 57 transmitter sites will use u.h.f. however. Some of the channel allocations and frequencies were given in the October Long-distance Television column. Apart from a v.h.f. aerial, reception requires a hired tuner/decoder and preferably a modern TV set – because the decoder's output is designed to be connected to the set via a SCART socket, which has been a standard feature of new French TV sets for the past three years. To use one of the six million or more pre-1981 sets a modulator costing some £66 is required.

The decoder deals with the encryption of course. Each month paid-up subscribers receive through the post a secret eight-digit number which they tap out on the decoder's keyboard. While the number could easily be discovered (ask your neighbour!) this wouldn't be of much help as Canal Plus repossesses decoders on rental default.

A double scrambling system is used: the sound channel is rendered inaudible by suppressing the carrier, while the picture is scrambled by altering the line timing throughout each frame. The first thing the decoder has to do is to compare the control number keyed in by the subscriber

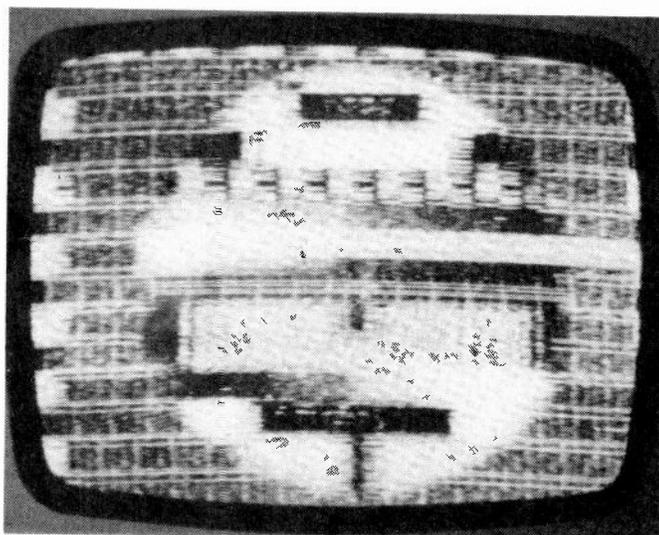
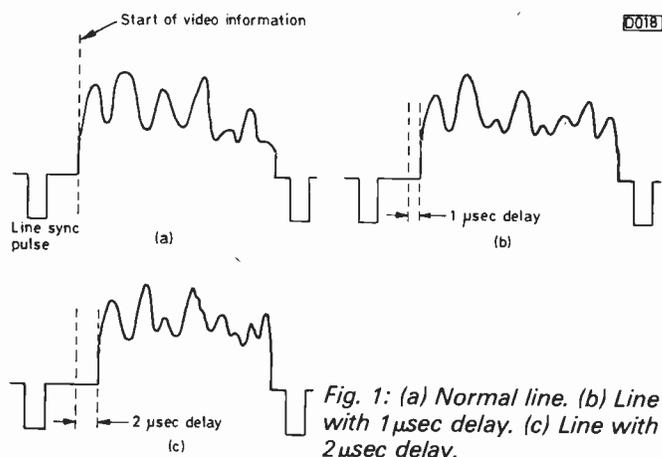
with the equivalent number transmitted by Canal Plus, probably during the field flyback time. If the two correspond the decoder is unlocked, restoring normal sound and vision.

Listening to the encrypted sound on a normal TV set produces a sputtering noise, since it consists of the a.m. sidebands with no carrier. The decoder supplies a carrier so that the receiver can carry out demodulation in the normal manner (the French TV system uses a.m. for the sound channel). The carrier frequency is pretty low, 12.8kHz. There's a reason for using this particular frequency. The oscillator that provides the carrier must have great stability, and the easiest way of achieving this is to reference it to a frequency of known accuracy. The reference chosen is the line frequency, 15.625kHz. When multiplied by 512 (which is a power of two) you get 8MHz. Divide this by 625 and you get 12.8kHz. All this is easy to do using binary counters and phase-locked loops.

If unscrambling the sound encryption appeared to be a relatively simple matter the vision signal is rather more of a problem. Whereas in a conventional vision transmission the active video commences at a fixed time after the sync pulse on each line, with Canal Plus the period between the sync pulse and the start of the vision signal varies line by line. As Fig. 1 shows, the delay introduced is either nil, 1µsec or 2µsec. It varies in a quasi-random manner line by line. On a conventional set a serrated image is displayed. The decoder deals with the problem by switching compensating delay lines into circuit in the required order.

A six-field sequence is used for the pattern of delays. The decoder holds this sequence in a memory which is likely to be a PROM (programmable read only memory). A reference signal is required to indicate to the decoder the start of the sequence. It takes the form of a peak white signal that indicates the last line of the six-field cycle.

The encryption characteristics described have been noted by observation (not by me unfortunately – acknowledgement is due to the magazine *Science et Vie*). The PROM's programme holds the quasi-random delay sequence but there's nothing to prevent the programme being altered from time to time – provided the alternative programmes have been programmed into the PROM. Signals could be transmitted during the field flyback period to tell the decoder to switch to "sequence two" or whatever. Whether this additional complication has been designed into the system is not so far known.



Effect of the type of scrambling described – photo courtesy of Roger Bunney.

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PHILIPS G11 CHASSIS

The set won't start up at switch on – all that happens is that resistors R4019, R4051 and R4052 in the active filter circuit burn up. I've replaced the associated BCX32 transistor but the trouble persists.

This fault is generally caused by the 27V zener diode D4021 (BZX79-C27) which not only burns up the three resistors mentioned by also carries off the two transistors (BCX32 and BD201) in the active filter circuit.

AKAI VS4

There's intermittent sound distortion during playback of prerecorded and self-recorded tapes. Occasionally part of the picture fluctuates sideways when a prerecorded tape is being played back.

If the sound distortion is in the form of a wow, check that all guide rollers and the capstan are clean and that the reel discs rotate freely. Note whether the tape wrinkles during its passage across the audio/control head – if so the pinch wheel is out of vertical or there's no back tension. Replace the pinch wheel if badly worn. Finally, suspect the capstan motor: if a scope is available, check for less than 0.5V ripple across the motor in record pause.

TELEFUNKEN 711 CHASSIS

Bowing at the sides was found to be due to the EW modulator driver transistor T591 (BD135) having gone short-circuit. A transistor with the same voltage rating was tried but this blew. The set is otherwise performing well.

The driver transistor needs to be of the correct type and properly heatsinked. Before fitting a replacement, check the two BYX55 modulator diodes D562 and D563 and the pre-driver transistor T592. BYX55s are best replaced with the beefier and better MR854s.

SONY C7

The machine threads but doesn't play. Fast forward won't operate either. With the end-alarm switch on you get the sound and the tape will rewind.

It seems that the forward sensor oscillator has stopped. If pin 8 of IC8 on the syscon panel is above 2V, check the continuity of the connectors and the sensor coil, then suspect the chip.

RANK Z718 CHASSIS

The height has collapsed from full to about half, even with the height control at maximum.

If the field scan is linear, the trouble is likely to be due to one of the resistors in series with the height control. You will probably find that 4R9 (470k Ω) has gone high in

value. If the linearity is poor, check the 32V line then suspect the electrolytic capacitors and transistors in the field timebase. Check back from the output stage to the field oscillator.

PANASONIC NV7000

When play is pressed the tape threads then unthreads. The same thing happens when a timed recording is attempted. The only way to get the machine to play or record is to press the play button then a moment later the forward one.

The syscon is getting a stop message at the end of threading. Watch the drum to confirm that it starts and reaches a reasonable speed within a second or two. If so it's likely that the after-load microswitch is not making or is mechanically defective. Also ensure that the take-up spool gets going – a slipping drive to this will result in the rotation sensor signalling stop to the syscon.

GRUNDIG 1500GB

There's horizontal foldover at the centre of the screen. The line timebase valves have been replaced and all the waveforms seem to be right.

We've seen this fault in similar sets that use valves in the line timebase. It usually stems from lack of decoupling in the line oscillator stage: check C609 (16 μ F) by substitution. This set is a bit unusual in having a transistor driver stage: if the oscillator is o.k., check this transistor (Tr621, BF259G) and its base bias resistor R623 (1.2M Ω).

NATIONAL PANASONIC TC381G

The line output transistor was replaced using a BU208 instead of the 2SD299 originally fitted. This lasted for a month or so then went short-circuit. Is there some intermittent condition that's killing off the line output transistors?

It's important to use a genuine 2SD299 in this set. Before switching on after fitting a replacement, check the condition and jointing of R520, which is in series with its base, and the line driver transformer T502; also check the anti-breathing resistor R527 (5.6 Ω , 5W) and the efficiency diode D503 (for leakage).

SONY C7

Playback of programmes recorded on this machine is accompanied by severe smearing that cannot be improved with the tracking control. All other functions work perfectly and the only other fault we've had has been the usual rewind problem.

If replay of prerecorded tapes is o.k. and the self-recorded tapes are smeary rather than having a tracking band the problem lies in the luminance record department. Oscilloscope checks in this area should pinpoint the

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cause of the fault. If no fault can be found, or tracking is a problem with playback of the machine's own tapes, it's likely that the head drum is in need of replacement.

NATIONAL PANASONIC TC2201

The complaint with this set is sound but no picture. The c.r.t. cathode voltages are high but nothing else seems to be amiss. Apparently there was low saturation before the screen blanked out. I suspect the AN281 chroma demodulator/output chip - any other ideas?

First make sure that the 12V supply is present and correct. If so, check the luminance amplifier transistors and clamp transistor TR605. It could be that the beam limiter transistor TR604 is turning down the brightness because it thinks the beam current is excessive. Condemn the AN281 only if its output pins 11, 13 and 15 are at a low voltage.

RANK T22 CHASSIS

When the field output stage bias preset is adjusted correctly as given in the manual there's bottom foldover. Increase the bias so that the voltage at 4C1 is 20V instead of 16.5V and the foldover has gone, though it's difficult to get reasonable linearity. The field output transistors have been replaced and when the bias is set correctly all the voltages in the output stage seem to be correct.

Some samples of the 17466 transistors used in the output stage can show a tendency to produce this fault. It's sometimes worth swapping over 4VT3 and 4VT4, or trying a different make in the 4VT4 position. The trouble can also be caused by the 36V line having a high source impedance. If a scope across 4C4 shows a parabolic

waveform, check this electrolytic and the 36V line. Other possibilities are diodes 4D1/2, the field scan coupling capacitor 4C1 and the amplifier/driver transistors 4VT1/2. Finally ensure that 4VT2's load resistor 4R4 (1kΩ) hasn't changed value.

ITT CVC20 CHASSIS

With the chassis in the working position there are three or four black lines at the bottom on the screen. When the chassis is hinged back about four-five inches they disappear.

First check that the c.r.t.'s Aquadag coating is properly earthed, then check for dry-joints around the NS correction transducer and the NS phase coil. That there's a problem in this area can be confirmed by shorting out C30, i.e. shorting out the NS correction circuit. If necessary check transistor T9 in the field output stage and the flyback blanking pulse coupling capacitor C24 (1μF).

GRUNDIG GSC100 CHASSIS

Two-three minutes after the set is switched on there's suddenly a half inch foldover at the bottom of the screen while the top third of the raster is distorted and slightly brighter than the rest. The field timebase module has been checked by replacement, also the scan coupling capacitor, the components in the centring circuit, and C628 which is the reservoir capacitor for the 18-6V line that supplies the field timebase.

The checks already made don't leave very much! It seems likely that the cause of the trouble is in the supply to the field timebase. We have had a case of a high-resistance fuse (Si627) here. Otherwise, suspect the recti-

CAPACITORS 91 5 × .0047/1500 AB23 Chassis 1.50 92 10 × 220MFD 1.60 Elect 0.50 93 10 × .047MFD 0.50 Mul Pol 0.50 94 5 × 4.7/100V C514 T3500 1.25 95 5 × .47/1000 Dublier 3.00 97 10 × 0.1/2000V W/E 2.00 98 5 × 1/250 Supp 1.00 etc. 1.50	68 Grundig 3010/1500 3.00 69 Thorn 3500 7.50 70 Thorn 8500 5.40 71 Philips G8 6.30 72 Pye 731 1.00 89 10 × Anti Track EHT Cap 2.00	179 TDA2532 2.40 180 TDA2540 1.85 181 TDA2541 2.67 182 TDA2560 3.28 183 TDA2571 2.15 184 TDA2591 0.98 185 TDA2593 2.23 190 TDA2600 4.00 191 TDA2611 1.24 192 TDA2640 2.35 210 ETT8016 2.28 211 ETT8016 2.28 212 BT8018 2.28 220 SL9018 Int Circuit 5.00	030 GEC 2100 Hybrid 4.00 032 Thorn T × 9 Chass. 14.50 033 Philips KT3 8.00 034 RRI T24 Chass. 14.00 035 Sanyo CTP5101 9.50 037 Split Diode EHT Lead 1.35	SPECIFIC COMPONENTS 351 Thorn 1591 Speaker 2.00 352 Thorn 1600 Dropper 0.50 353 T × 10 Preset 354 T × 10 CRT Base Assy 4.00 355 3" Round BR Speaker 1.00 358 5 × Tho/3500 2.00 Conv. Pot. 1.00 359 5 × Tho/3600 50R Conv. Pot. 1.00 360 5 × TCE3500 A1 Rectifier 0.75 362 T9000 Rem. Receive Assy 5.00 363 T3500 Mains TX 5.00 364 T8500 Mains TX 7.50 365 T8500 (PLastic) Cut Out 1.50 370 Pye 731 Thick Film Resis. 1.50 371 Pye 713/731 Vis. Gain Mod. 6.50 372 Pye 731 3P3 50V Metal cld. 1.29 373 100K×3 Drawer Pset Alt Pye 731 2.00 378 Grundig 5010/6010 Vid Mod. 4.00 384 5 × 10R Phil. G8 Conv. Pot. 2.40 385 5 × 15R Phil. G8 Conv. Pot. 2.40 386 5 × Phil. G8 2k×2 Lin. Bright. 2.50 387 5 × Phil. G8 10k Log. Colour 2.50 388 5 × Phil. G8 47k Log. Vol. 2.50 389 G8 Plastic Mains Switch 0.75	390 G8 Metal Mains Switch 1.23 391 G8 Line Stor/Eq. 2.25 392 G8 R/G Symetry Coil 3.33 397 20 × 3.15A A/S 20mm Fuse 1.50 398 20 × 800MA A/S 20mm Fuse 1.50 399 20 × 2.5A A/S 20mm Fuse 1.40 400 20 × 2A A/S 20mm Fuse 1.40 401 20 × 1A A/S 20mm Fuse 1.40 402 20 × 1.25A A/S 20mm Fuse 1.40 403 5 × RRI T20 Tube Base 4.35 410 Phil. G11 E/W Load/ Coil 1.50 411 Phil. G11 Bridge TX 1.50 412 Phillips 511 Speaker 1.00 413 10 × TDA2600 IC Holder 1.50 415 PALKT3 Speaker 1.50 435 10 × Decca 30 10R Fusible 0.50 436 5 × Decca 30 36R Modulohm 1.75 437 Decca 30 47k Vol.+Switch 1.25 453 5 × 5R Universal Conv. Pot. 1.00 454 5 × 20R Universal Conv. Pot. 1.00 455 5 × 100R Universal Conv. Pot. 1.00 456 5 × 470R Universal Conv. Pot. 1.00 457 10 × 100k Tun/Preset TCE etc. 3.00 458 10 × 100k Tuner Preset G8 3.00 459 ELC1043/05 Tuner 6.00	460 ELC1043/06 Tuner 6.00 461 U321 New Tuner 7.95 462 U322 New Tuner 7.95 463 98003 Posister 0.99 464 98009 Posister 0.99 465 Multi.DL50 Delay Line 0.95 466 5 × VA1104 2.70 469 Cut Out Metal GEC 2100 1.00 470 5 × GEC2100 3 Leg Thermist. 1.00 479 5 × Gen. Purp. Rotary Switch. 3.80 480 5 × Gen. Purp.Push/ Switch. 3.75 481 20 × Neons GEC etc. 2.25 482 5 × Univ. Aerial Skt. Kit 5.50 483 10 × Metal Coax Plug 1.70 484 Focus Unit 7.20 Type 1.25 485 Foc/Unit Thorn 8500 Type 1.25 486 4.43Mhz Crystal 0.40 488 10 × Ring Type Spk/ Gap 1.50 496 TX10 Chass. Focus Unit 7.00 497 De-Soldering Pump 3.50 498 1 × 10 Trimming Tool 1.00
EHT TRAYS 50 ITT CVC 5/9 3.00 51 Decca 1730/1830 5.00 52 Decca 80 Series 4.50 53 GEC 2040 Hybrid 3.00 54 T1500 5 Stick 3.50 55 Thorn 9000 7.00 56 Thorn 1400 2.00 57 Philips G9 3.50 58 Universal ITT Type 4.50 59 5 × TV11 EHT Rec for PTV's 1.00 60 3 × TV45 EHT Rec Z718 1.00 61 ITT CVC 45 4.00 63 RRI Z179 3.00 64 Pye 691/697 3.50 65 Pye CT200 4 Lead 3.50 66 Pye CT200 5 Lead 4.50 67 Korting 90 DGR Hyb 5.00	INTEGRATED CIRCUITS 140 5 × TDA440 3.00 141 5 × TBA120AS 1.80 142 5 × TBA540 4.00 143 5 × TBA540Q 4.00 145 5 × TBA560 3.50 146 5 × TBA610S 4.50 147 5 × TBA820Q 4.50 148 5 × TBA820 4.00 149 5 × TBA820Q 4.00 150 5 × TBA830 4.25 151 5 × TBA850 4.50 154 10 × TCA270SQ 4.50 155 5 × MC1327Q 2.50 160 TDA1170 1.45 161 TDA1190 1.35 162 TDA1006A 1.45 164 TDA1035 1.83 165 TDA1044 2.23 166 TDA1190 1.50 167 TDA1142 0.90 172 TDA2002 1.00 173 TDA2020 2.50 174 TDA2030 2.15 178 TDA2523 2.35	LINE OUTPUT TX 001 Philips G8 7.50 002 Decca 30 Series 7.00 003 Decca 100 Series 6.50 004 ITT CVC 25/30/32 7.00 005 Philips G9 7.50 006 RRI T20 9.92 007 RRI A823 7.00 008 RRI Z718 18" 18.95 009 RRI Z718 20/22/26" 18.95 010 RRI A774 Mono 10.87 011 Thorn 1690/91 7.00 012 Thorn 1615 6.50 013 ITT CVC 45 6.50 014 Phil TX Chass. 5.00 015 RRI Ranger 1/2 5.00 016 ITT CVC 5/9 8.50 017 Philips E2 Chass. 5.00 018 Thorn 9000 12.00 019 Thorn 9500/9600 8.50 020 Polish 161 Mono 6.00 021 Thorn 3500 Scant 4.50 022 Thorn 8500 11.00 023 Thorn 1590/91 8.50 024 Thorn 1500 15KV 4.00 025 GEC 2040/2100 Hybrid CTV 4.00 026 Bush 161 Mono 5.00 027 GEC Single Std Mono 5.00 028 Pye 691 (wired) 5.00	PUSH BUTTON UNITS 110 Pye 713 4 Way 7.87 111 Pye 715 6 Way 11.95 112 Phil G8 Square 12.75 113 Phil G8 Sloping 14.98 114 Thorn 9000 2.50 115 Thorn 1615 4 Way 7.87 116 Decca 6 Way 6.95 117 Decca 4 Way 6.50 118 GEC 2110 6 Way 7.95 119 GEC 2136/7 Tapered 7.95 120 ITT CVC5 9.25 121 ITT CVC8 11.46 122 ITT 6 Way with V.C.R. 7.95 123 RRI A823 etc. 7.95 124 Hitachi 4 Way 7.95 125 RRI T20 6 Way 8.95	SMOOTHING CAPACITORS 80 220/400 CVC32/ T20 1.20 81 200+300 Pye 691 2.00 82 600/300 Phil G8 1.90 83 175+100+100 T3500 1.50 84 2000/100 Volt 0.50 85 470 Mfd G11 1.50 86 400+400 Decca 30 2.50 87 200+200+75+25 ITT CVC5/9 1.50 88 400/400V Tho 9000 1.50 89 4700/25 Thorn 1590/ 91 0.80	TRANSISTOR/DIODES 230 10 × AC128 1.50 235 50 × BC213L 2.50 250 10 × BD124 9.00 251 10 × BD131 1.80 270 10 × BU206A 8.50 271 10 × BU208 7.50 272 10 × BU326 10.00 273 5 × BU205 3.00 280 25 × 2N3075 (Texas) 7.50 281 10 × 2N2905 (Equiv. BC161/203) 0.50 290 10 × BT106 Thyristor 9.00 292 5 × BT119 4.50 293 5 × BT120 4.50 335 50 × BY127 Diodes 3.00 340 25 × TIP41A 6.50 341 25 × TIP41C 7.00	

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fier diode Di627 or dry-joints at pins e or i on the line output transformer. A scope check on the 18.6V line when the fault is present should show what's happening.

TEST CASE

264

Each month we provide an interesting case of television servicing to exercise your ingenuity. These are not trick questions but are based on actual practical faults.

Monochrome portables seem to have a very long life – we regularly see ten and twelve year old specimens in good condition. Well made sets getting only occasional use will probably last for many more years, but a recent servicing job involving a Ferguson Model 3816 (1590 chassis) put years on us! It's easy to get blasé about simple monochrome sets and the diagnosis of their ills. Now and again however we come across really sticky faults that are interesting, intriguing even, but don't do much for the workshop production schedule or the bottom line of the profit/loss account.

Such a job has just passed through the mill. The symptoms were plain enough – complete loss of sync and a vastly over-contrasted display. On the strength of this we decided that some sort of a.g.c. problem was present and a modest estimate was given to the owner. This was accepted, and with a “ready tomorrow” promise we hung up the phone and returned to the set.

The sync separator transistor VT7 is followed by a phase-splitter transistor VT8 which drives the flywheel line sync discriminator diodes and also provides the field sync pulse feed from its collector. An oscilloscope check at VT8's collector showed that there were no sync pulses at this point. This proved to be due to the transistor's collector being open-circuit. A replacement restored sync of sorts but the picture was jittery, wobbly and had a “soot and whitewash” effect, indicating problems elsewhere.

The voltages at the emitters of the gain-controlled i.f. amplifier transistors VT2 and VT3 and the video driver transistor VT6 were way out, so to avoid a chicken-and-egg puzzle in the a.g.c. department we connected a 6V battery across the a.g.c. reservoir capacitor C2, thus overriding the a.g.c. action and providing the correct d.c. conditions for VT2 and VT3. This gave us a correct-level video output from the vision detector diode W2 (manual waveform B) with the contrast now at a reasonable level. The sync performance was still very poor however, with ragged verticals and horizontal pulling: field lock would be lost at the drop of a hat.

The cause of this seemed to lie in the video driver stage – the sync separator transistor is driven from the collector of the video driver transistor VT6. We found that the

voltage at this point was abnormally high, the signal level being low and “crushed”. VT6's collector and emitter load resistors were both o.k., so we turned to the base where the voltage was markedly low at some 1.8V instead of 5V. This voltage is normally set up by the potential divider network R32/33, which produces 5.8V across the decoupling capacitor C36 – the output from the vision detector is superimposed on this bias voltage.

Why was the voltage at this point so low? Literally every component between the collector of the final i.f. amplifier transistor VT5 and the base of VT6 was checked and double checked. The voltage across C36 stood at about 3V: increasing this by artificial means increased VT6's conduction but still wouldn't reduce its collector voltage (normally 8.5V) below about 12V! We came to the conclusion that some spurious signal was present in the i.f. stages and was being rectified by the vision detector diode to produce a large negative offset voltage across C36. This theory was checked by turning VT5 off (base-emitter leadouts temporarily linked). VT6's base voltage then rose, but only to about 2.5V. Its collector voltage remained high.

The breakthrough came when we monitored VT6's collector signal with the scope while VT5 was cut off. There still appeared to be sync pulses present! They were upside down however, and therein lay the key to the whole sorry business. You've had an easier ride through the diagnostic process than we had, so we're sure you'll have the answer before it's published in the next issue . . .

ANSWER TO TEST CASE 263 – page 49 last month –

Last month we had a line drift with a difference fault – the trouble was with a Panasonic TC481GR which suffered from intermittent loss of line hold. Our extensive checks in the line oscillator and flywheel sync circuits had been quite fruitless.

Now this set incorporates an excess-voltage protection circuit that comes into operation in the event of excessive flyback pulses being generated in the line output transformer. The output from one pulse winding is rectified and monitored by an 11V zener diode which, when it conducts, switches on a pair of transistors (TR551/2) that latch on and short out the supply to the line oscillator transistor. This of course shuts everything down by way of protection. What's significant however is that the oscillator transistor's supply voltage is crucial to the frequency generated. So the protection circuit mustn't load this down in any way.

We found that the symptoms disappeared when we disconnected the protection line and that a varying resistance to chassis was present on the now open-circuited line. Replacing the protection transistors TR551/2 did the trick, though why they didn't latch on when this leakage effect was present remains a mystery. Incidentally the official circuit diagram is incorrect, which doesn't help with a fault like this – it shows a connection from the base of the line oscillator transistor to the protection circuit.

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AA132	9p	BC392	15p	BFX98	14p	TIP117	56p	2N3866	68p	BYX71/600	80p	ECC83	40p	4044	56p	7486	28p	74LS670	130p	LA-1365	110p	TC9A90	85p
AC107	28p	BCY33	150p	BFY50	14p	TIP120	43p	2N4031	25p	OA47	9p	ECC84	40p	4045	57p	7489	100p			LA-3301	180p	TD1170	90p
AC126	17p	BCY34	150p	BFY51	14p	TIP121	48p	2N4036	25p	OA90	9p	ECC85	40p	4046	57p	7490	35p			LA-3350	150p	TD1412	60p
AC127	15p	BCY42	20p	BFY52	14p	TIP122	47p	2N4037	25p	OA91	4p	ECC86	40p	4047	57p	7491	45p			LA-4031	140p	TD1202	80p
AC128	15p	BCY56	16p	BFY56	25p	TIP125	47p	2N4443	76p	OA200	7p	ECC87	40p	4048	57p	7492	45p			LA-4051	250p	TD2020	140p
AC128K	23p	BCY70	16p	BFY57	28p	TIP126	56p	2N4444	76p	OA202	7p	ECC88	40p	4049	57p	7493	35p			LA-4101	140p	TD2030	140p
AC141K	23p	BCY71	16p	BFY64	25p	TIP127	56p	2N4961	20p	IN4148	2p	ECC89	40p	4050	57p	7494	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2522	90p
AC142K	23p	BCY72	16p	BFY90	60p	TIP128	56p	2N5296	30p	IN4002	4p	ECC90	40p	4051	57p	7495	45p			LA-4101	140p	TD2530	90p
AC153K	23p	BD178	10p	BT116	80p	TIP295	34p	2N5296	30p	IN4004	4p	ECC91	40p	4052	57p	7496	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AC176K	18p	BD124P	50p	BSX20	15p	TIP3054	38p	2N6106	40p	IN4003	4p	ECC92	40p	4053	57p	7497	45p			LA-4101	140p	TD2532	90p
AC187	15p	BD128	35p	BT109	90p	TIP3055	34p	2N6107	40p	IN4004	4p	ECC93	40p	4054	57p	7498	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AC187K	20p	BD131	15p	BT116	80p	TIP3056	34p	2N6109	40p	IN4005	4p	ECC94	40p	4055	57p	7499	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AC188	15p	BD132	35p	BT119	90p	TIP3057	34p	2N6110	40p	IN4006	4p	ECC95	40p	4056	57p	7500	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AC188K	23p	BD135	20p	BT120	100p	TIP3058	34p	2N6111	40p	IN4007	4p	ECC96	40p	4057	57p	7501	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
ACY18	48p	BD136	20p	BU104	10p	TIP3059	34p	2N6112	40p	IN4008	4p	ECC97	40p	4058	57p	7502	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AD142	60p	BDY92	100p	BU108	100p	TIP3060	34p	2N6113	40p	IN4009	4p	ECC98	40p	4059	57p	7503	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AD149	45p	BD138	20p	BU110	110p	TIP3061	34p	2N6114	40p	IN4010	4p	ECC99	40p	4060	57p	7504	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AD161	22p	BD139	20p	BU111	140p	TIP3062	34p	2N6115	40p	IN4011	4p	ECC100	40p	4061	57p	7505	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AD196	22p	BD140	20p	BU123	70p	TIP3063	34p	2N6116	40p	IN4012	4p	ECC101	40p	4062	57p	7506	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AF124	25p	BD140	20p	BU204	75p	TIP3064	34p	2N6117	40p	IN4013	4p	ECC102	40p	4063	57p	7507	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AF125	25p	BD144	90p	BU205	70p	TIP3065	34p	2N6118	40p	IN4014	4p	ECC103	40p	4064	57p	7508	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AF126	25p	BD145	90p	BU206	70p	TIP3066	34p	2N6119	40p	IN4015	4p	ECC104	40p	4065	57p	7509	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AF129	22p	BD157	38p	BU207	70p	TIP3067	34p	2N6120	40p	IN4016	4p	ECC105	40p	4066	57p	7510	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AF239	22p	BD158	38p	BU208	120p	TIP3068	34p	2N6121	40p	IN4017	4p	ECC106	40p	4067	57p	7511	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AL112	70p	BD166	30p	BU326	85p	TIP3069	34p	2N6122	40p	IN4018	4p	ECC107	40p	4068	57p	7512	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AL113	80p	BD175	30p	BU406	85p	TIP3070	34p	2N6123	40p	IN4019	4p	ECC108	40p	4069	57p	7513	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AS125	190p	BD177	30p	BU407	85p	TIP3071	34p	2N6124	40p	IN4020	4p	ECC109	40p	4070	57p	7514	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AS127	100p	BD179	32p	BU408	100p	TIP3072	34p	2N6125	40p	IN4021	4p	ECC110	40p	4071	57p	7515	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AU110	110p	BD181	45p	BU500	110p	TIP3073	34p	2N6126	40p	IN4022	4p	ECC111	40p	4072	57p	7516	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
AY102	180p	BD183	60p	BU526	80p	TIP3074	34p	2N6127	40p	IN4023	4p	ECC112	40p	4073	57p	7517	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BA106	100p	BD201	33p	MJ2500	100p	TIP3075	34p	2N6128	40p	IN4024	4p	ECC113	40p	4074	57p	7518	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BA148	10p	BD203	42p	MJ2501	110p	TIP3076	34p	2N6129	40p	IN4025	4p	ECC114	40p	4075	57p	7519	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BA154	6p	BD204	42p	MJ2502	110p	TIP3077	34p	2N6130	40p	IN4026	4p	ECC115	40p	4076	57p	7520	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BA157	12p	BD222	31p	MJ3001	115p	TIP3078	34p	2N6131	40p	IN4027	4p	ECC116	40p	4077	57p	7521	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BB101	13p	BD225	31p	MJE29A	30p	TIP3079	34p	2N6132	40p	IN4028	4p	ECC117	40p	4078	57p	7522	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BB103	16p	BD230	31p	MJE30A	30p	TIP3080	34p	2N6133	40p	IN4029	4p	ECC118	40p	4079	57p	7523	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BB105B	16p	BD234	32p	MJE30B	30p	TIP3081	34p	2N6134	40p	IN4030	4p	ECC119	40p	4080	57p	7524	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BB205B	74p	BD237	21p	MJE350	80p	TIP3082	34p	2N6135	40p	IN4031	4p	ECC120	40p	4081	57p	7525	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC107	2p	BD238	24p	MJE520	30p	TIP3083	34p	2N6136	40p	IN4032	4p	ECC121	40p	4082	57p	7526	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC108	7p	BD240	25p	MJE2955K	90p	TIP3084	34p	2N6137	40p	IN4033	4p	ECC122	40p	4083	57p	7527	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC109	7p	BD437	28p			TIP3085	34p	2N6138	40p	IN4034	4p	ECC123	40p	4084	57p	7528	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC115	10p	BD635	38p	OC28	100p	TIP3086	34p	2N6139	40p	IN4035	4p	ECC124	40p	4085	57p	7529	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC118	11p	BD636	38p	OC29	100p	TIP3087	34p	2N6140	40p	IN4036	4p	ECC125	40p	4086	57p	7530	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC140	19p	BD637	38p	OC30	100p	TIP3088	34p	2N6141	40p	IN4037	4p	ECC126	40p	4087	57p	7531	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC141	19p	BD638	38p	OC36	120p	TIP3089	34p	2N2218A	24p	BY103	32p	ECC127	40p	4088	57p	7532	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC142	19p	BDX32	100p	OC41	50p	TIP3090	34p	2N2219	24p	BY126	32p	ECC128	40p	4089	57p	7533	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC143	19p	BDX65	80p	OC75	50p	TIP3091	34p	2N2221	23p	BY127	32p	ECC129	40p	4090	57p	7534	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC147	6p	BF180	15p	OC72	50p	TIP3092	34p	2N2222	23p	BY133	8p	ECC130	40p	4091	57p	7535	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC148	6p	BF181	18p	OC200	180p	TIP3093	34p	2N2369	15p	BY164	22p	ECC131	40p	4092	57p	7536	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC149	6p	BF183	20p			TIP3094	34p	2N2384	20p	BY176	85p	ECC132	40p	4093	57p	7537	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC157	6p	BF184	20p	R2008B	80p	TIP3095	34p	2N2646	38p	BY182	32p	ECC133	40p	4094	57p	7538	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC159	6p	BF185	20p	R2010B	80p	TIP3096	34p	2N2904	20p	BY184	32p	ECC134	40p	4095	57p	7539	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC182	6p	BF194	5p			TIP3097	34p	2N2905	20p	BY187	32p	ECC135	40p	4096	57p	7540	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC182L	6p	BF195	5p	TAG06-60	42p	TIP3098	34p	2N2906	20p	BY188	32p	ECC136	40p	4097	57p	7541	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC183	6p	BF196	5p	TAG521-200	72p	TIP3099	34p	2N2907	18p	BY206	11p	ECC137	40p	4098	57p	7542	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC183L	6p	BF197	5p	TAG4443	75p	TIP3100	34p	2N2908	18p	BY207	11p	ECC138	40p	4099	57p	7543	45p			LA-4061	250p	TD2532	90p
BC184	6p	BF200	16p	TAG4444	75p	TIP3101	34p	2N2926	8p	BY208	11p	ECC139	40p	4100	57p	7544	45p						

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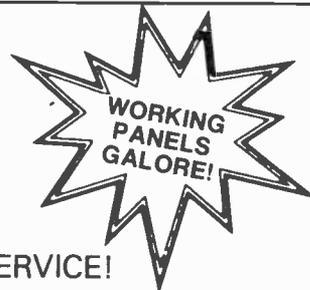
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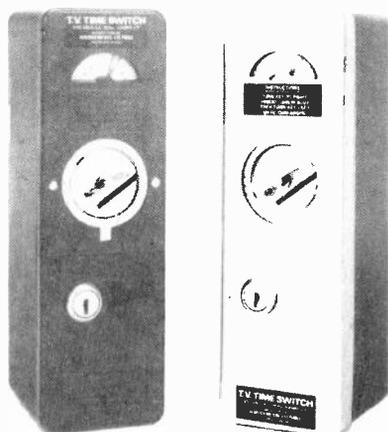
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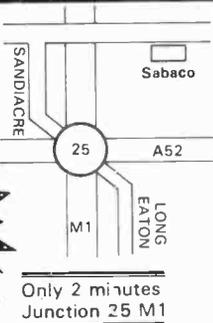
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BD535	30p
BD544D	30p
BD562	