



RT-48

(Incorporating BS-48 battery and HG-48 hand generator)

Country of origin: USA

Correction to the 'Type 1-4' section in the 'Eastern Germany' Chapter of WftW Volume 4:
 - The 'Type 4' is now identified as 'RT-48'.

DATA SUMMARY

Organisation: Central Intelligence Agency.
Design/Manufacturer: CIA OC Laboratory, USA.
Year of Introduction: Estimated about 1962.
Purpose: Low power agents short wave transmitter.
Transmitter:
Circuit features: Crystal oscillator, doubler/driver, RF output amplifier. CW only.
Frequency coverage: 4-16MHz covered in two ranges.
RF power output: Estimated 5-10W depending on the frequency.
Power Supply: 24V DC derived from BS-48.
Size (mm): Height 20, length 92, width 77. (Same sizes for RT-48 and BS-48).
Accessories: Battery unit BS-48, handgenerator HG-48, AC mains cable, aerials, high speed keyer, Morse key, crystals.

REMARKS

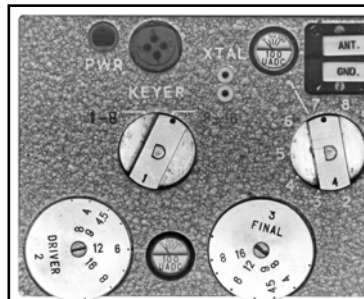
The RT-48 was a miniature crystal controlled and fully transistorised agents transmitter, covering the frequency range of 4-16 MHz in two bands. The transmitter was developed for high speed or manual CW Morse operation. Power was derived from a 24V battery unit BS-48 which contained two rows of 10 Nicad cells. The batteries were normally charged from mains power by a built-in charger. A HG-48 hand generator could be issued to charge the batteries when mains power was not available.



Battery BS-48 with cover opened showing two rows of NiCad cells. When not in use the power cable was stowed into a round compartment on the left.



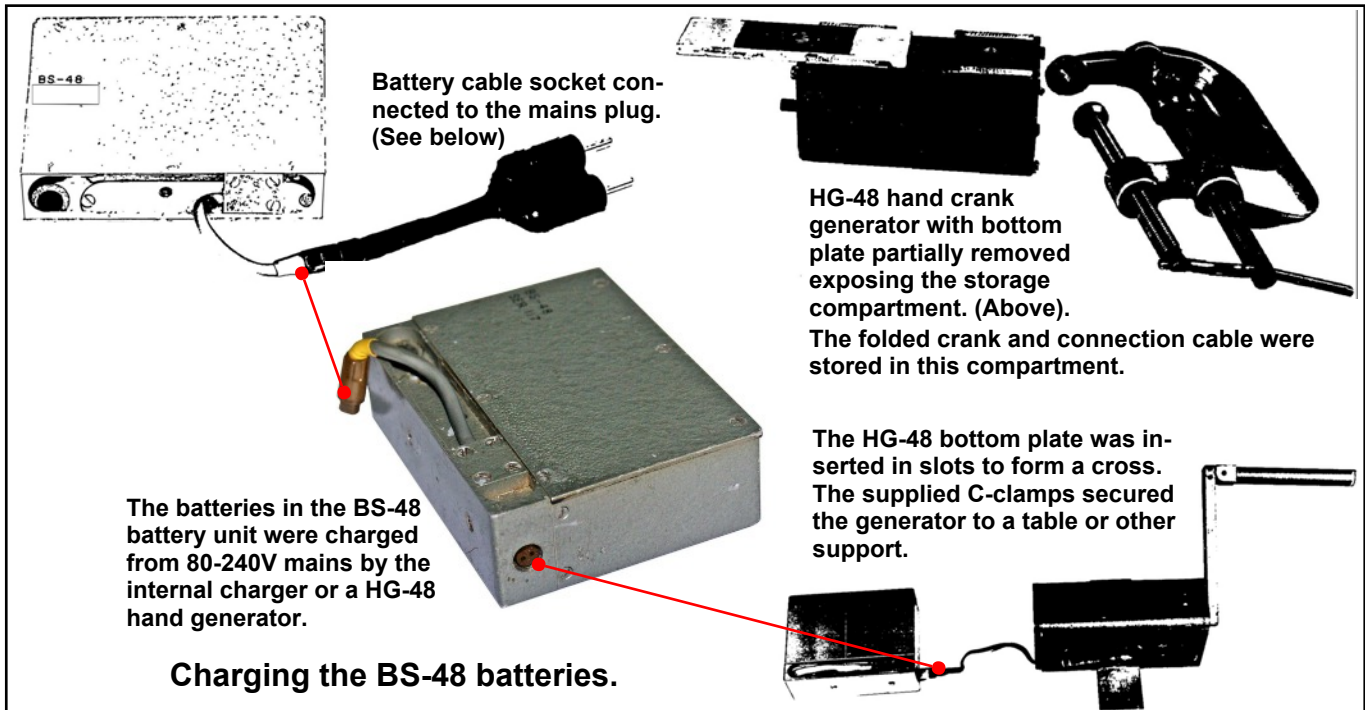
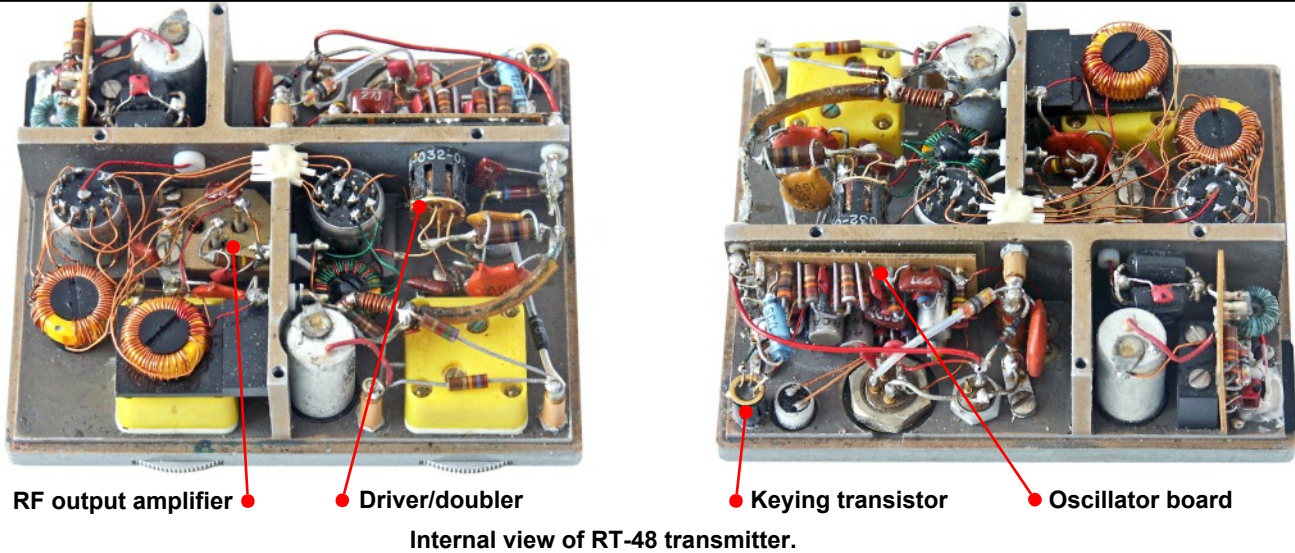
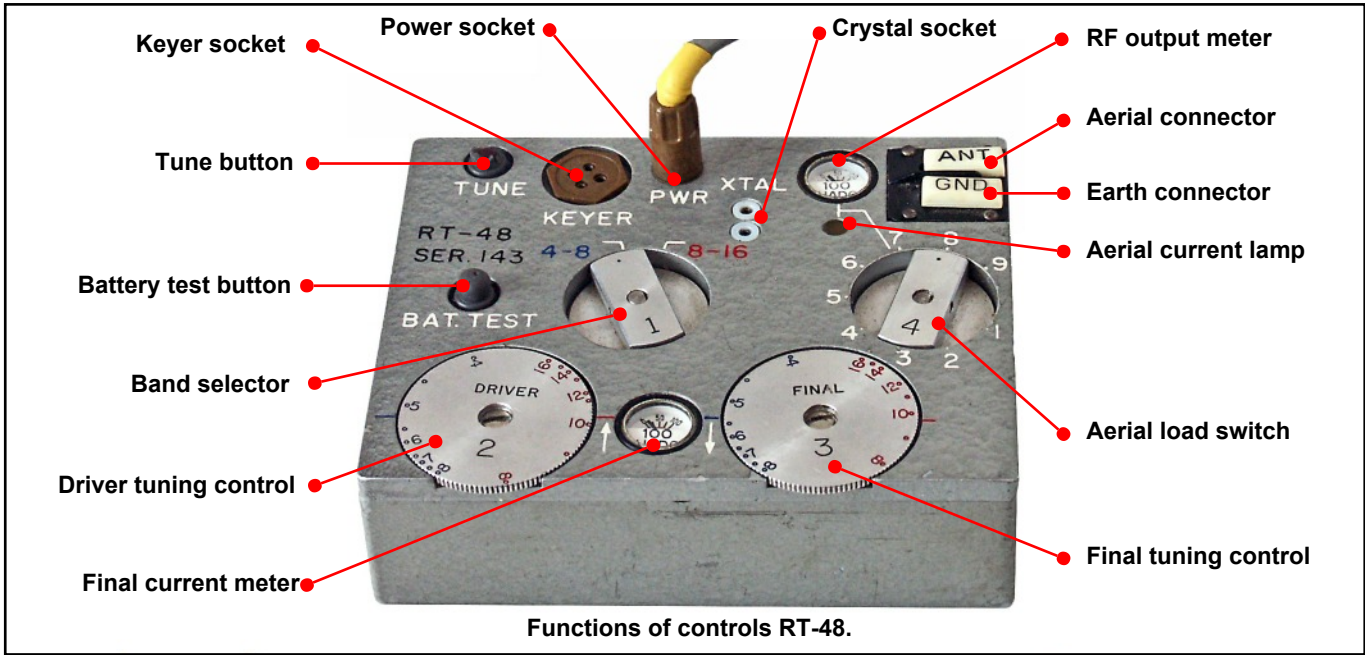
General view of a RT-48 agents transmitter with associated BS-48 battery unit.



Pictured left is probably a trial production version of the RT-48. It is missing the tune and battery test buttons. The power socket was positioned left of the keyer socket and the dial calibration engraving was different.

References:

- Colour photographs and additional information was kindly provided by Jan Lexa, Czech Republic.
- User manual for RT-48 and BS-48 Battery, CIA, n.d.
- User manual for HG-48 Handgenerator, CIA, n.d.



Sendeanlage mit amerikanischem Transistor-Sender vollautomatischer Schnellgeber		US-Geheimdienst <hr/> Netz: BSTU <hr/> Nr. 0027
Chiffriergerät (dunkle Ausführung)	Verbindungsschnur (Sender-Schnellgeber)	2 Speicher- Kassetten
Schnellgeber (dunkle Ausführung)	transistorisierter Sender	Stromversorgungsteil - Batterie -

GDR datasheet of a captured RT-48 with associated GRA-71 Coder-Burst transmission group.
 (Scan courtesy Detlev Vreisleben)