

3 generations of Audio Frequency line based NF-B bugs. The 33406-111 bug in the foreground could be fitted in a 10 mm tube.



Line amplifier 33406-13, was used for monitoring two different microphones, or two microphones installed in a single Operational Object for stereo listening.

NF-B (1) Audio Frequency based bugs (GDR line bugs II)

Country of origin: GDR

To be read in conjunction with Chapter 163.

DATA SUMMARY

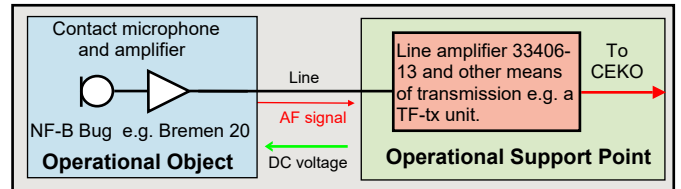
Organisation: MfS, Abt 26.
Design /manufacturer: MfS, OTS Abt 33.
Year of Introduction: Probably 1950s till 1989.
Purpose: Covert (line based) room interception.
Power Supply: Usually powered from a control point or Operational Support Point.

References:

- With many thanks to Detlev Vreisleben, DC7KG, Germany for his excellent photographs and scans, and providing technical and historical information.

REMARKS

A NF-B (*NF = German: Niederfrequenz = audio frequency*) Measure B concealed bug was part of a straightforward system, often used in buildings which were usually already been permanently wired for this purpose. E.g. prisons and hotels. It was comprised of a contact microphone and amplifier, connected to a 2 wire line, usually (but not always) powered via this line by the Operational Support Point. The audio could be monitored and recorded locally or routed from the Operational Support Point to a District CEKO where it was recorded. The system was used on short range local lines up to 1 km, depending on the model of bug.



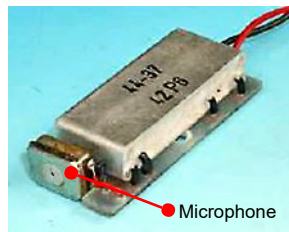
Block diagram of NF-B audio frequency based Measure B system.

Early NF-B bug with built-in microphone, type unknown, possible built by MfS Abt.26.

Speech opening tube.



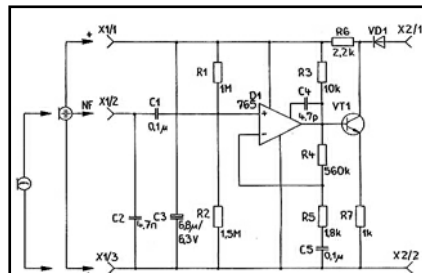
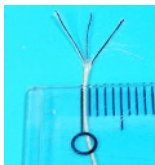
Early Bremen 19 bug used with a separate microphone.



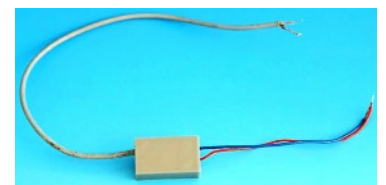
Two later versions of Bremen 19. (cover name 31550-401)



MfS Abt. 26 used 0.5mm thick 3-wire cable for the installation of NF-B bugs. This cable was originally developed for remote control of anti-tank projectiles.



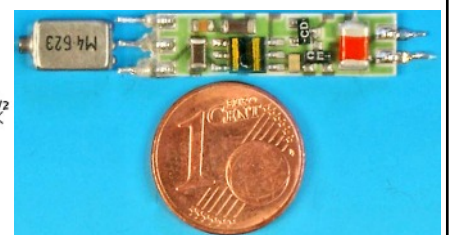
Circuit diagram of the 33406-111/112. The microphone could be electret or magneto dynamic. It was normally powered by e.g. a line amplifier unit in the Operational Support Point. Variations in design were the enclosure and gain which could be 20, 30 or 40dB.



Bremen 20-2 with separate microphone.



Unknown NF-B bug, with a separate Sennheiser microphone, used in the Rumelsburg prison. The microphone was hidden in a wooden dowel above the cell door.



33406-111, had a built-in microphone. (See also the top left picture on this page)