



An overview of all currently known Russian covert VHF FM radios is provided in Appendix 3.

Kaira

Country of origin: Russia

DATA SUMMARY

Organisation: MVD Ministry of Internal Affairs. (МВД)
Design/Manufacturer: Russia.
Year of Introduction: Believed 1980s/90s. (Components were dated 1989 and 1990.)
Purpose: Covert surveillance operations and observations.
Transmitter-Receiver: VHF FM, Two channels operating in the 148-150MHz band. Voice masking (scrambler).
RF output: 500mW.
Power Supply: 6.5-8V DC derived from six AA batteries or rechargeable NiCad batteries.
Size (cm): Height 177, Length 115, Width 23.
Accessories: Combined speaker-microphone, flexible wire aerial, battery, covert speaker/microphone.

REMARKS

Kaira (Russian: Кайра) was a fully transistorised body wearable VHF FM transmitter-receiver developed for covert and special operations. The radio was shaped to be worn under the clothes on the chest carried in a linen body harness or bag. The combined speaker/microphone had a volume control, on/off switch, PTT button; two variations were noted, with and without an extra covert speaker/microphone. One source suggested that the Kiara was a replacement of Chaika (described in Chapter 181).

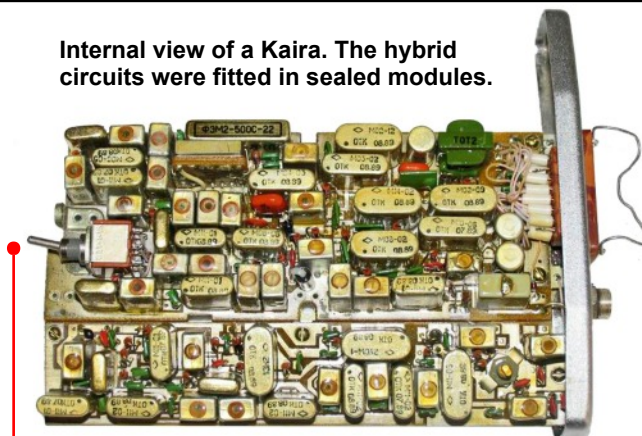


Flexible wire aerial with safety pin for attaching to the clothes. (Left) The battery/rechargeable accumulator holder was identical to that of the Chaika. (Right)



Two variations of the combined speaker-microphone.

Internal view of a Kaira. The hybrid circuits were fitted in sealed modules.



Note channel switch at the bottom.



Complete Kaira with associated linen body harness for carrying the set under the clothes on the chest.

References:

- This chapter is based on initial information from the Crypto museum. Several photos were derived from Internet sources.