



Aiwa
Country of origin:
Russia

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

DATA SUMMARY

Organisation: Ministry of Internal affairs/KGB.

Design/Manufacturer: Russia.

Year of Introduction: Estimated 1980s.

Purpose: Border troops, security, surveillance.

Transmitter-receiver:

Frequency range: 44.3-46MHz. FM voice. 18 crystal controlled channels. (44.3 to 45.6MHz in steps of 100kHz; 45.65, 45.70, 45.75 and 45.8 MHz)

Transmitter: RF power output: $\geq 2W$.

Receiver: Sensitivity $0.25\mu V$.

Power Supply: Rechargeable 9 volt battery.

Accessories: Hand speaker/microphone, (speculated) a covert microphone and earphone, rechargeable battery, 30cm flex aerial, 1.5m long Kulikov aerial, wire aerial concealed in shoulder strap, aerial adapter for vehicle aerial, battery charger.

REMARKS

Aiwa (Russian = Айва), translated into English as Quince, (a type of fruit that looks like a pear) was a fully transistorised body wearable covert VHF FM radio. It was developed for border troops (one source mentions the KGB). The radio used a number of uncased hybrid thick film modules in a hermetically sealed case. When used in a vehicle, a special adapter was issued for connecting the radio to an external aerial. The rechargeable battery slid into the radio at the bottom, being held in position with a spring clip.

When this chapter was prepared, no additional information had been found. Any additional information/confirmation on e.g. its use and organisation is welcome.



Quince radio packed for transit with flex aerial and shoulder strap aerial.



Detail view of the hand speaker/microphone.

References:

- The photos were derived from Internet sources of which confirmation of the source was not available at the time when this chapter was published.
- www.radioscanner.ru



Detail view of strap aerial plug.

(Mini type) Kulikov aerial.



Type number plate with frequencies.



Flex aerial issued for the Quince radio.



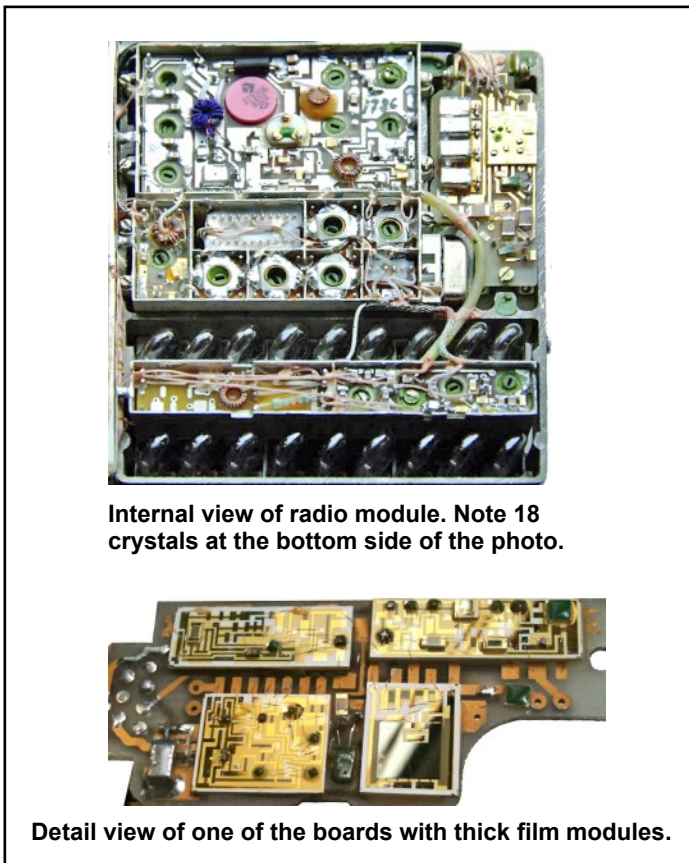
Base of flex aerial with engraved frequency range.



Top view showing remote control socket, channel and volume control, and aerial socket.



Detail view of channel switch.



Internal view of radio module. Note 18 crystals at the bottom side of the photo.

Detail view of one of the boards with thick film modules.



Back view of the Quince radio.