



RPO-4 with a BAS-80 dry HT battery (left).

DATA SUMMARY

Organisation: Partisans.
Design/Manufacturer: Kharkiv Plant No.193.
Year of Introduction: 1941.
Purpose: Partisans, special forces.
Receiver:
Circuit features: RF, detector, AF. AM R/T and CW.
Frequency coverage: 35-70m (4.28-7.7MHz).
Valves: 2K2M (3x).
Transmitter:
Circuit features: CO/MO, RF power amplifier. CW.
Frequency coverage: 35-70m (4.28-7.7MHz).
RF Power: 7W.
Valves: 6F5, 6P3.
Power Supply:
Receiver: 2x80V HT battery (BAS 80) and 4x type 3C 1.5V batteries connected in series/parallel for 3V.
Transmitter: Hand generator type DRP-6B for HT and 6.3V LT.
Weight: Transmitter/receiver box 11.2 kg;
 Complete station up to 29 kg.
Note: The tuning scales were calibrated in metres.

RPO
 Country of origin:
 USSR

This Supplement chapter is a follow up and should be read in conjunction with the 'RPO' section in the 'USSR' chapter of WftW Volume 4 for more information.

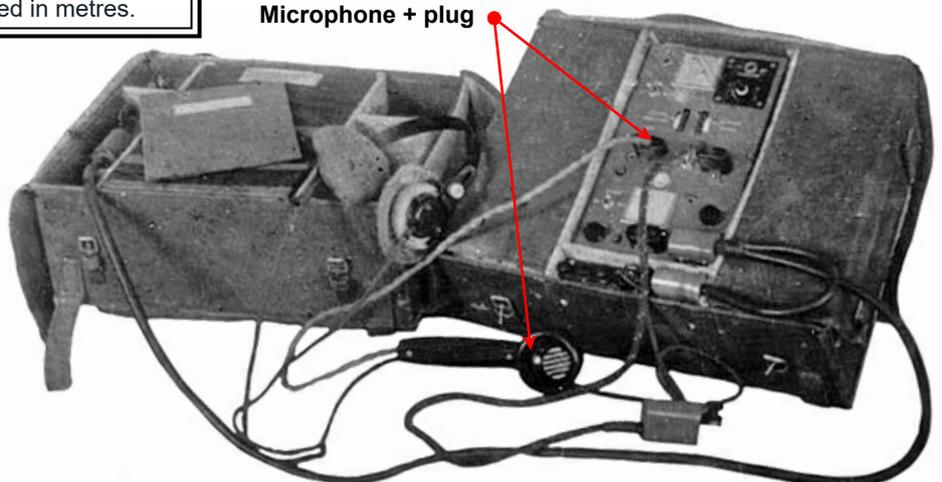
REMARKS

The RPO (Russian = РПО, short for радиостанцией партизанских отрядов; English = radio station of partisan groups) was a portable long range short wave transmitter-receiver intended for partisan communication. Developed as a more powerful set than the 'North' by Ing. V.A Terletski, I.O. Greenberg and M.A. Levitin, the RPO was built in 4 variations by the Kharkiv Plant No. 193, noted though not confirmed, also produced later in other plants. A total of 559 stations were produced: 16 in 1941, 209 in 1942 and 334 in 1943. The set was comprised of a separate transmitter and receiver held in a metal frame, housed in a reinforced wooden case along with accessories. The receiver was powered by dry batteries, the transmitter by a hand cranked generator. The latter was not very popular as it was rather noisy when operated. A complete station carried in separate wooden boxes comprised three loads, normally carried as man-packs. The RPO-1 and later RPO-4 differed only in detail, for example there was no AM voice operation in the RPO-4. No information was found on the RPO-2 and RPO-3. Tuning the transmitter was done with the aid of the brightness of the crystal tuning lamp and aerial tuning lamp. The aerial was a single wire and counterpoise. Comparing the RPO (which was initially also known as "Partisan" or "Partisanka") with the Partisan-1, an earlier but different set with similar specifications (described in WftW Volume 4), it may be concluded that there were some technical and operational similarities.

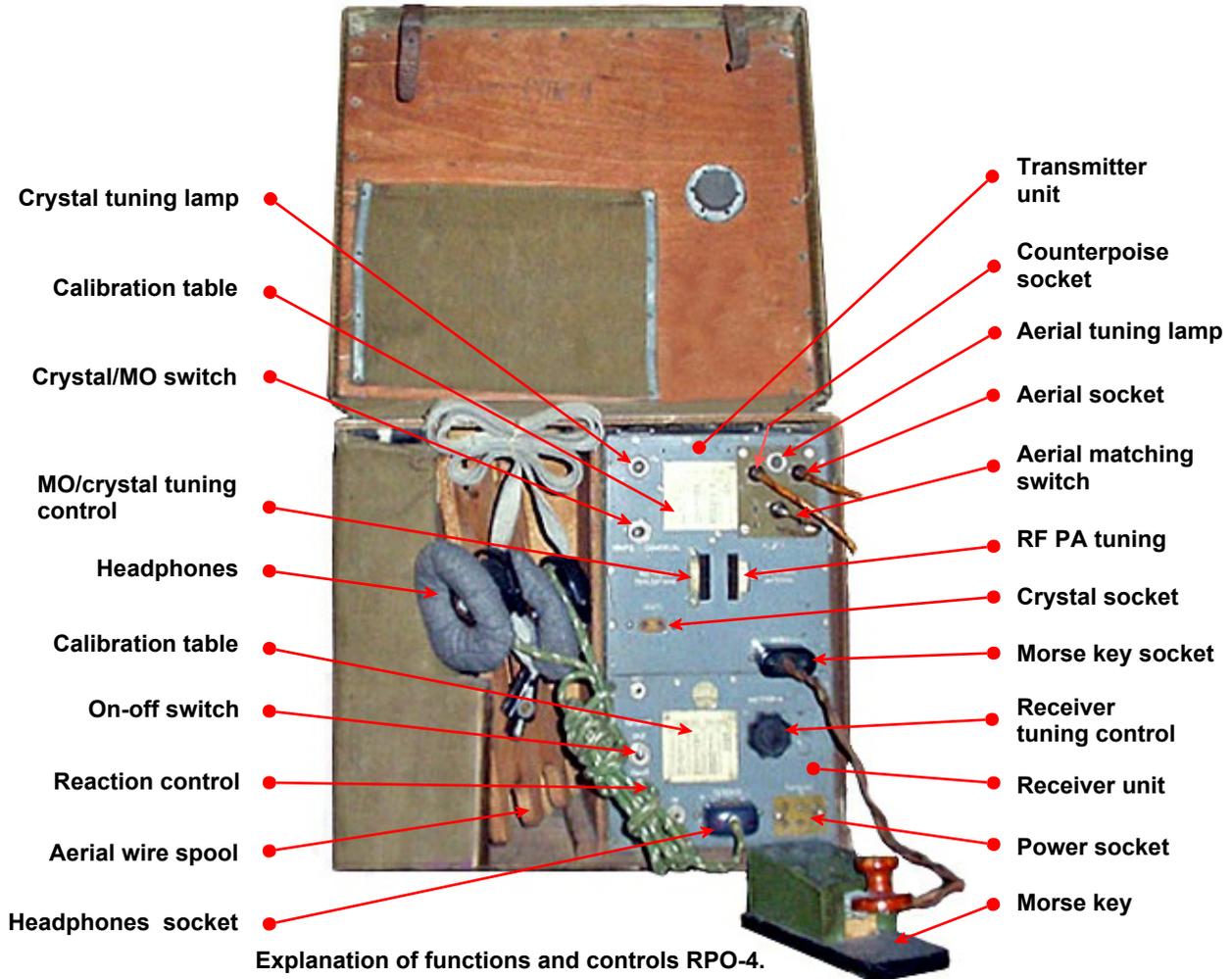
References:

- Photographs and information: Alexander, Donesk, DNR.
- Forum.QRZ.ru: Агентурная радиосвязь (Agent radio), #105, 2011, 'Some information on the radio station RPO', RN9ARX.

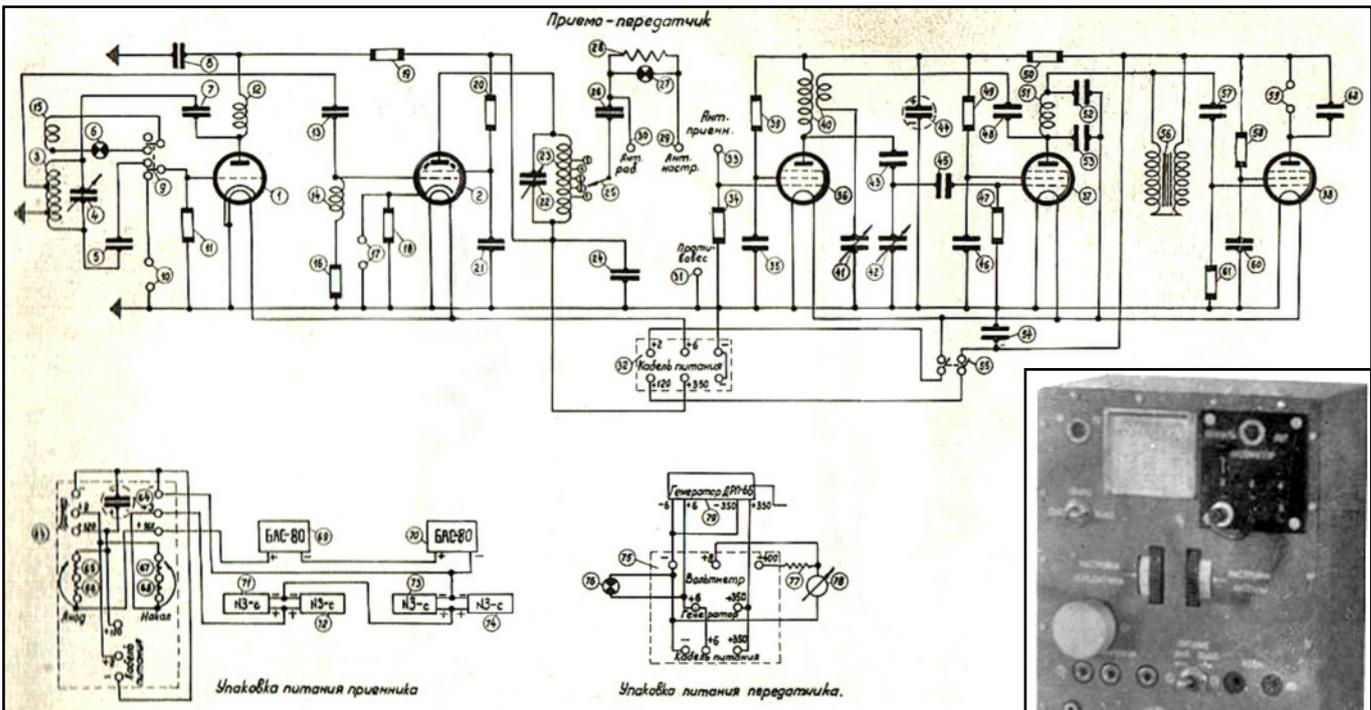
Microphone + plug



RPO-1 with accessories (right) and associated batteries/hand generator box (left). Note the microphone.



Explanation of functions and controls RPO-4.



Circuit diagram of the RPO-4. The circuit at the bottom left is that of the hand generator and battery box.

Inset right: RPO-1. Note sockets for microphone and a different aerial matching with movable plug and sockets.

