



Automatic Morse key

Country of origin:
Czechoslovakia

DATA SUMMARY

Organisation: ŠTB - Štátna bezpečnosť (Secret State Police) and Správa 2 - kontrarozvedka (Government, Department 1, espionage).

Design/Manufacturer: Správa 6 - spojovacia technika (Government, Department 6, communication technics).

Year of Introduction: Estimated late 1950s/ early 1960s.

Purpose: Electronic automatic Morse key; probably used for training or fixed service (embassies etc).

Power Supply: AC mains.

Size (cm) and Weight: Height 4.4, Length 10 (without Paddle), Width 19. Weight: 1kg.

REMARKS

This Czech electronic automatic Morse key, sometimes referred to as 'el-bug' was developed by Správa 6 - spojovacia technika, probably in the 1960s.

There is no information of its use, but considering three monitor output sockets, in addition to an extra normal hand operated Morse key, it might have been used for training, and/or use in diplomatic service. The key operated on AC mains only; noted is the use of valves in its design.



Left hand side and front view of the Czech elbug keyer. The paddle was on the right hand side of the front along with pre-set controls of mark and space. The variable speed could be adjusted with a thumb wheel control on top of the unit. A mains fuse and on-off switch were located at the top rear.

References:

- Photographs and technical details courtesy Detlev Vreisleben, Germany.