



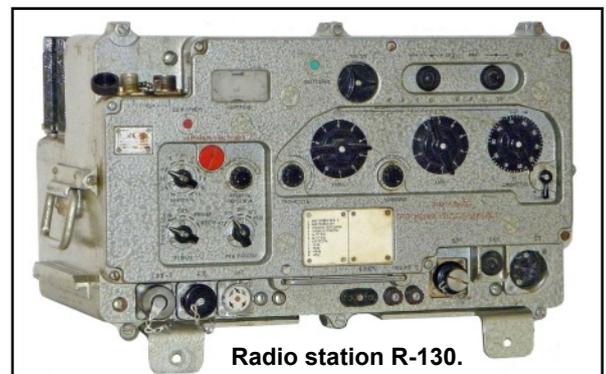
R-129
(‘Shot’)
Country of origin:
Russia

DATA SUMMARY

- Organisation:** Warsaw Pact.
- Design/construction:** Voronezh Institute of Communications in collaboration with Radiopribor.
- Year of Introduction:** 1966.
- Purpose:** Special Forces communication.
- Frequency coverage:** 1-10.990MHz in 10kHz steps.
- Operating modes:** CW, USB, AM. (FSK transmit only)
- Receiver:** Sensitivity 2uV; FSK 3uV.
- Transmitter RF output:** 0.5-1W.
- Aerial:** 1.5m Kulikov; 4m vertical rod; Wire aerial with counterpoise; dipole wire aerial on 10.5m mast.
- Power supply:** Two sets of two 1.25V rechargeable batteries. Type 2NKP-20U2. The batteries could be charged in the field by a type Z-348m hand cranked generator. Fully charged batteries provided 8 hours of continuous operation at a rate of 30% transmit.
- Size (cm):** Height 19, length 38, width 41.
- Weight:** 19kg. (Set only).
- Operating ranges:**
 - *Kulikov:* up to 10kM, at night 5kM; (1.5m rod).
 - *4m rod:* up to 25kM, at night 10kM.
 - *Wire aerial:* 1.5-4MHz up to 40kM, at night 25kM.
 - *Dipole cut to frequency:* up to 300kM.

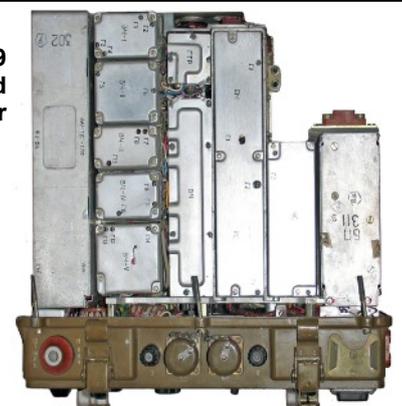
Remarks

The R-129 (Russian P-129, covert name Выстрел = Shot) was a self-contained HF manpack transceiver designed for Warsaw Pact Special Forces communications e.g. forward reconnaissance, paratroops. It replaced the R-131 (see Chapter 253) in a similar role. The transceiver was interoperable with the R-130, R-130M, R140, and other reconnaissance sets of that era (R-131 and the later R-143); but also with older field radios such as the R-104M and R-112. It was constructed with relatively easy to replace modules (named ‘blocks’); use was made of sub-miniature ‘pencil’ valves. The R-129 covered 1000 fixed selectable channels with 10kHz spacing in the range 1-10.990MHz. Power was derived from four internally mounted rechargeable batteries. In voice (SSB or AM) mode the R-129 could be remote controlled up to 2km distance by using a TA-57 field telephone. Noted is a variation R-129M of which no details are currently known. Some sources mention that the R-129 was a spin off from the AFV set R-130 (See below).



R-129 with associated miniature Morse key. This type of key (right picture) was standard issue with many Russian sets.

Top view of a R-129 with cover removed showing its modular construction (right).



References:

- Photos and information courtesy Alexander, Donesk, DNR.