



OG/BND* short-wave
receiver
Country of origin:
Germany (W)

DATA SUMMARY

Organisation: OG/BND.

Design/Manufacturer: Believed Wandel & Goltermann.

Year of Introduction: Estimated around 1954.

Purpose: Agents receiver.

Receiver:

Circuit Features: Probably TRF with reaction control and AF output valve. CW and AM R/T.

Frequency coverage: 2.8-3.6MHz.

Valves: Unknown, believed 'U 41' series.

Power Supply: AC/DC mains 220V or 110V. (For 110V an extra mains lead was required).

Size (cm): Height 3.5, Length 10, Width 10. (Calculated against 18mm distance between the mains sockets)

REMARKS

The 'OG/BND* short-wave receiver' (original type number unknown) was already mentioned in the '12 WG' section in the 'Germany after 1945' chapter of WftW Volume 4. At the time, suggested as a design predecessor of the 12 WG receiver unit having a similar appearance, constructional details and size, with the recent information this still cannot be confirmed. Looking at the design details it is assumed that this receiver, along with the 12 WG, was developed and produced by Wandel & Goltermann.

Considering the time of development, the OG/BND short wave receiver was remarkably small in size. This was possibly achieved by using valves of the 'U41' series which were not only very small, but also designed for direct heating via series connection, avoiding the use of a mains transformer, and permitting the receiver to connect to AC and DC mains. Three 'U41 series' valves, plus a ballast resistor would be sufficient for direct connection to the 110V mains; a special mains lead with resistance wire was required for connecting to 220V. The OG/BND short-wave receiver was substituted by the BND SW Converter (see Chapter 34) in about early 1959. This solution was not only cheaper, easier to produce and simpler to use, but the BND SW Converter was also much smaller and therefore not difficult to conceal.

* Looking at the date of introduction it is obvious that this receiver was used by Organisation Gehlen (OG) and after 1956 the Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND), hence the provisional name 'OG/BND short-wave receiver'.



OG/BND short-wave receiver with earphone and aerial wire connected (left). The 220V mains lead in front was permanently fixed to the receiver. For 110V mains a separate mains lead was plugged into two sockets on the top left of the front panel by-passing the 220V (resistance wire) mains lead. Most likely issued for safety reasons were a protective cover for the unused 220V plug, and special adapter for connecting the 110V lead to a wall socket.

References:

- Photographs and information courtesy Detlev Vreisleben, Germany.