



12 WG  
Country of origin:  
Germany W

This Supplement chapter is a follow up and should be read in conjunction with the '12 WG' section in the 'Germany after 1945' chapter of WfW Volume 4 with more detailed information, a picture of the two-unit variation and circuit diagram.

**DATA SUMMARY**

**Organisation:** Organisation Gehlen (OG), later Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND)  
**Design/Manufacturer:** Believed Wandel & Goltermann.  
**Year of Introduction:** 1953.  
**Purpose:** Agents.  
**Receiver:** 12WG/E.  
**Circuit features:** Mixer, oscillator, IF stage with regeneration, Detector, AF, stabiliser. AM and CW.  
**Frequency Coverage:** 3-16MHz in three ranges.  
**Valves:** 6J6, 9001 (2x), OB2.  
**Transmitter:** 12WG/S.  
**Circuit Features:** CO/PA. CW only.  
**Frequency Coverage:** 3-16MHz.  
**Valve:** 6AQ5.  
**Power Supply:** 12WG/N; Metering unit 12WG/M.  
 AC Mains 90-220V; Accumulator 12V. 6X4 rectifier.  
**Size (cm):** Height 7, Length 24, Width 28.  
 (Four-unit set in case)

**REMARKS**

The 12WG agents set was originally developed for Organisation Gehlen and remained in use till 1963 after OG was formally established as BND in April 1956. Two variations of the 12WG were known: an easier to conceal four separate unit set comprising transmitter, receiver, AC/DC power unit and metering unit. The second, not very common two-unit variation had a combined transmitter-receiver, and power supply with integrated metering unit. In both variations the units were interconnected by miniature Jones type plugs and sockets.



12WG four-unit variation set captured in possession of an agent in the GDR. (Above). Along with the 12WG came a box with crystals for operating on other frequencies, code tables and a set of 78rpm records with a Morse code course. The 12WG was complicated and mainly issued to agents with a background in operating similar equipment, for example former military signallers.



A 12WG with accessories as kept in the DHM (Left). Note the use of a WW2 'mouse' Morse key and transmitter aerial dummy load left in front of the receiver.

**References:**

- Photographs and information courtesy Detlev Vreisleben, DC7KG, Germany.