



'Tynset 1940 campaign Transmitter' (v1.01)

Country of origin:
Norway

DATA SUMMARY

Design/Manufacturer: Unknown radio amateur.
Home built from available parts.
Use: Norwegian forces during the 1940 campaign.
Year of use: 1940.
Transmitter: Single valve. CW only.
Receiver: One valve with reaction control.
Frequency range: Unknown, possibly 80 or 40m band.
Power Supply: AC Mains.
Size (cm): Height 55, length 34, width 31.

Remarks

In 1994, at the annual meeting of the Nord-Østerdal Defence Association, it was suggested and agreed that the association should collect material and personal property from the war and build an occupation museum for the district. The occupation collection would contain objects related to the Second World War and the German occupation of Norway. War actions in April 1940, resistance struggles and everyday life in Nord-Østerdal during the war years 1940-45 would be the main focus.

The fundraising work was carried out by an elected committee consisting of one person from each municipality. The association was granted permission to utilize a location in the Museum Park in Tynset (about 263km north-east of Oslo).

An exhibition for the liberation commemoration in 1995 was created in collaboration with the then Nordsterdalsmuseet. The at that time under the name 'Occupation Museum' was opened on 9 November 1996, in connection with the Home Guards' 50th anniversary. The collection was created essentially by Local Defence Association members.

In 2018, the collection was taken over by Anno Musea in Nord-Østerdalen. In the years since, it has experienced some growth, intending to document other aspects of the war years in Nord-Østerdalen.

Radio amateur transmitter for Army communication in 1940.

One of the artefacts donated for the Occupation Museum exhibition in 1996 was an amateur transmitter/receiver allegedly used by Norwegian forces at Tynset during the 1940 campaign. It was eventually buried/hidden in April 1940. Unfortunately, further information of its use and the name and call sign of its builder and further evidence is unknown. The home built transmitter/receiver was a simple and inexpensive construction of a four angle iron vertical support structure, three wooden platforms and a hardboard top panel. Reducing the hand effect, a metal plate had been attached on the backside of the plywood front at the positions of the tuning capacitors. The AC main power unit was at the bottom, the receiver in the centre, and the transmitter on the third wooden platform. On the hardboard top cover were two ceramic aerial feedthrough insulators. A small bulb on top functioned as an aerial current indicator.

Photographs taken in the late 1930s of two other Norwegian radio amateur stations showed a similar construction (See page 3).



The 'Tynset 1940 campaign' transmitter/receiver on display in the museum of occupation in Tynset.

'Anno' is a cluster of small and large museums all over the County of Hedmark, from local village open-air museums, to museums of national and international importance. With 29 different venues, they disseminate a wide range of cultural and natural history of Norway.



Three additional pictures taken of the 'Tynset 1940 campaign transmitter'. Its construction consisted of a simple four-angle iron vertical support structure, three wooden platforms, and a hardboard top panel.

The addition of a substantial metal plate at the backside of the plywood front at the positions of the tuning capacitors alleviated the hand-effect and strengthened the mechanical construction.



The AC main power unit was at the bottom, the receiver on the centre, and the transmitter on the third wooden platform.



Construction detail: an aerial current lamp in series with the aerial.



The entrance of the museum of occupation 'Occupationsstua' ('Occupation Cottage'), located in the 'Bygdetun' (Museum park) in Tynset. This park is a collection of old local buildings that have been transformed into a museum environment.



At the right-hand side of the 'Tynset transmitter' display, separated by a partition, is a corner with WW2 and Stay Behind era equipment: a British Mk.122, 'Svenskesupern' MA 444, Kongshavn receiver, Sweetheart Type 33/1 and a homemade suitcase set.

Reference

- Information and permission to use photographs of the 'Tynset 1940 campaign transmitter' courtesy Anno Musea, Nord-Østerdalen. (Identifier photos: NUT.03190).
- Musea i Nord-Østerdalen, Kongsveien 6, 2500 Tynset, Norway.
- Website: <https://museainordosterdalen.no>

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Hans Seathre, LA9LT, for allowing to use his photographs taken during a visit to the Tynset museum in 2002. In addition to his search to identify the owner and callsign of the Tynset transmitter.



Detail photo of the British Mk.122 from the Stay Behind era. In the background is a Sweetheart Type 33/1 receiver, a 'Svenskesupern' MA 444 and an unknown Morse tape transmitter used with the Mk.122.



There was no information on the homemade suitcase set, which was most probably constructed after the war. In the suitcase is a Kongshavn receiver.

As far as is currently known, there were no active radio amateurs in Tynset during the pre-war years. The closest was LA6I, Martin Ludvigsen, located in Elverum. Looking at his QSL card dated 1937 shown right, the much more advanced technical details of his station excluded its use in Tynset. (QSL card collection, Hans Seatre, LA9LT.)



Photographs taken of Gunnar Eriksen, LA6K (left) and Erling Hoel, LA6B (right) at the operating position of their pre-war amateur radio station. Both transmitters (on the table right) shares its construction with the 'Tynset 1940 campaign transmitter' in this chapter and is believed to be an example of a design published in a radio amateur magazine.