

Over and Out

rodriguez



"I haven't been able to log that one since the dentist put in my new bridge."



"What do you mean, am I going to work today? WWV has broadcast a W-9 propagation notice!"



"What's such a big deal about a satellite? The washing machine makes funny noises, too."



"And what do I do while you're DXing with your triple-stacked antennas?"

Sonar SENTRY VHF MONITOR RECEIVERS

With Battery,
Earphone, &
Carrying strap
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Model		
FR-103	FR-106	AR-107
150-175 MHz	25-50 MHz	Aircraft 108-136 MHz

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for Industrial, Commercial, Utility & Govt. Use
2 CHANNELS • BROADCAST BAND • CRYSTAL CONTROLLED

Designed and engineered for simplicity of operation, compact enough to fit a shirt pocket yet powerful enough to deliver a clear clean signal—it's dependable • Operates on two crystal controlled VHF channels plus broadcast band • Completely solid state for long life use • Visible battery indicator to show battery condition at all times • Built in antenna • 5 7/8" H x 2 1/2" W x 1 3/4" D. Wt. 11 oz.

SOLID STATE

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Beware of Your TV Repair Traps

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"even though the last turn or two was tough going. But I know the nut ended up in the same location on the bolt. I could tell by the rust marks."

There was no sense in telling him that no two picture tubes are exactly the same size and that each needs a fit that is snug but never tight—he probably won't be changing any more tubes.

Turn of the Screw

Mr. Myer is a nice old gent who makes his living by manufacturing kitchen gadgets. The last time I had a service call from him he told me, "I must 'fess up, Art. The set was good 'till I got ahold of it."

I turned on his TV. Light and background noise came on. There was some semblance of audio and video but they showed up on the wrong channels with very severe interference.

"What did you do?"

"He removed the channel selector and fine tuning knob and pointed into the hole they had been covering. "I tried to adjust those little screws for best sound and picture. But something went wrong."

The oscillator slug adjustments in most TVs are readily available. They move sound and picture settings to the center of the fine tuning range so you can switch from channel to channel without bothering with the fine tuner.

Some sets have all the channels hooked together while others (like Mr. Myer's) have individual adjustments for each channel. When they are hooked together you have to adjust only two screws—one for channels in

the high band (7 through 13) and another for the low band (2 through 6). You must know which type you are working on before making the adjustment.

In any case the adjustments should be made with a non-metallic alignment tool. If you use a screw driver with a metal blade it acts as though it, too, was a slug as long as it is in the coil. You have to pull it out of the coil to check every adjustment you make.

If they are tuned too far the slugs can fall out—there are no stops in some tuners. When that happens you lose your range altogether. That's what had happened to Mr. Myer's TV.

I began removing his front-end's oscillator strips one by one, gingerly holding the coil and removing the slug. Then I reinserted the slug into the front of each strip and adjusted them.

And while I was at it I decided to clean all the contacts on each strip. Very often the accumulation of dirt on the contacts can cause intermittent reception, or none at all, when you switch channels. Also, I got up into the front-end to clean the fingers which touch the contacts. They, too, get dirty and are a frequent cause of a missing picture when you switch to another channel. Best thing to clean the contact with is an aerosol spray cleaner.

Mr. Myer had been watching me closely, muttering, "There must be an easier way."

A few weeks later he sent me a small package. It contained a gadget that looked like a long, thin screw driver with an adjustment to rotate the center of the blade. Inserted in the slot of a screw it can be made to grip the sides of the slot so that you can reach into a tuner coil and retrieve the slug. Mr. Myer had found that easier way. —