

NC-300 REVISIONS

Robert J. Murray, W1FSN
100 Main Street
Dover, Mass.

The summer months of the year occasionally bring reports of calibration errors and ineffective crystal filter action in the NC-300, particularly in areas of high humidity. This is due to the second conversion oscillator drifting off its normal frequency. This drift can be caused by oxidation on the dialed in one direction on the high frequency range and in the opposite direction on the low frequency range and also by erratic operation of the crystal itself.

It is simple matter to crystal control the second converter oscillator which effectively eliminates these problems.

The crystal and its associated components may be removed in the shield can which formerly housed L5 the second conversion oscillator.

It should be remembered that there are two crystals in the circuit which must be properly coordinated if the receiver is to work at maximum efficiency. It has been noted that often times in the grinding of the crystals may show a situation to exist where the difference in frequency of the crystal in the filter (2215 kc) and the crystal in the second conversion oscillator (2257 kc) is not exactly 80 kc; accordingly, the filter may have to be re-adjusted accordingly, either slightly higher or slightly lower in frequency to compensate.

Improved Audit

An audio change that will improve the phone quality is shown in fig. 2. It consists of a 1 megohm resistor connected between the plate of the output tube and the plate of the preceding audio stage. This has a tendency to drop the voltage across the plate load of the output tube, raising the cathode of V4, R45 with a 20 mfd. 50 volt capacitor to chassis ground.

Dial Vernier

On the front panel of the NC-300 there is a plug button to the lower left of the main tuning dial. This button was designed for removal of the headphones shaft without the necessity of disengaging the main receiver control system for alignment tuning. It shall now be mounted in this spot if it is desired by enlarging the hole to 15/16" and inserting a National SB bushing. A neoprene rubber washer centered to the under surface of an SB or similar bush with a 15/16" slot going into the SB housing will be immediately available from Radio Mfg. Co., 40 shades of 1928 Stock. Stick a cotter pin through the shaft so that it won't keep pulling out. ■

Fig. 1—Crystal controlled second converter.

Fig. 2—Two new components improve audio.