

## DESCRIPTION AND MAINTENANCE

### 138-174 MHz CUSTOM MVP TRANSMITTER

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### DESCRIPTION

Custom MVP transmitters are crystal controlled, phase modulated transmitters designed for one through four frequency operation in the 138-174 MHz frequency band. This solid state, high reliability transmitter uses one integrated circuit and discrete components to provide 25 watts of transmitted RF power. The transmitter consists of:

- Exciter Board; with oscillator, audio, modulator, amplifier and multiplier stages.
- Power Amplifier Assembly; with amplifier, PA final, power control, and low pass filter and relay assembly.
- Multi-frequency board; used with multi-frequency radios only (common to transmitter and receiver).

Figure 1 is a block diagram of the Custom MVP transmitter showing the exciter, PA board and multi-frequency board.

The exciter contains the oscillator, audio IC, modulator and multipliers to provide 250 milliwatts of modulated RF power to the power amplifier.

The power amplifier assembly includes two transistor stages (amplifier and power amplifier) to provide rated output power, a low pass filter and relay, and a power adjust circuit to adjust the output power level.

### MAINTENANCE

#### DISASSEMBLY

- To service the transmitter remove the wing nut at the rear of the radio and pull radio out of case assembly.
- To remove exciter board:
  - (1) Unplug cables W201 (exciter output) and when present W2602 (multi-frequency cable).
  - (2) Remove the six screws holding the exciter board to the mounting frame and gently lift exciter board out of radio.

#### NOTE

When replacing the PA board it is necessary to first remove the exciter board to allow installation of the PA transistor mounting hardware.

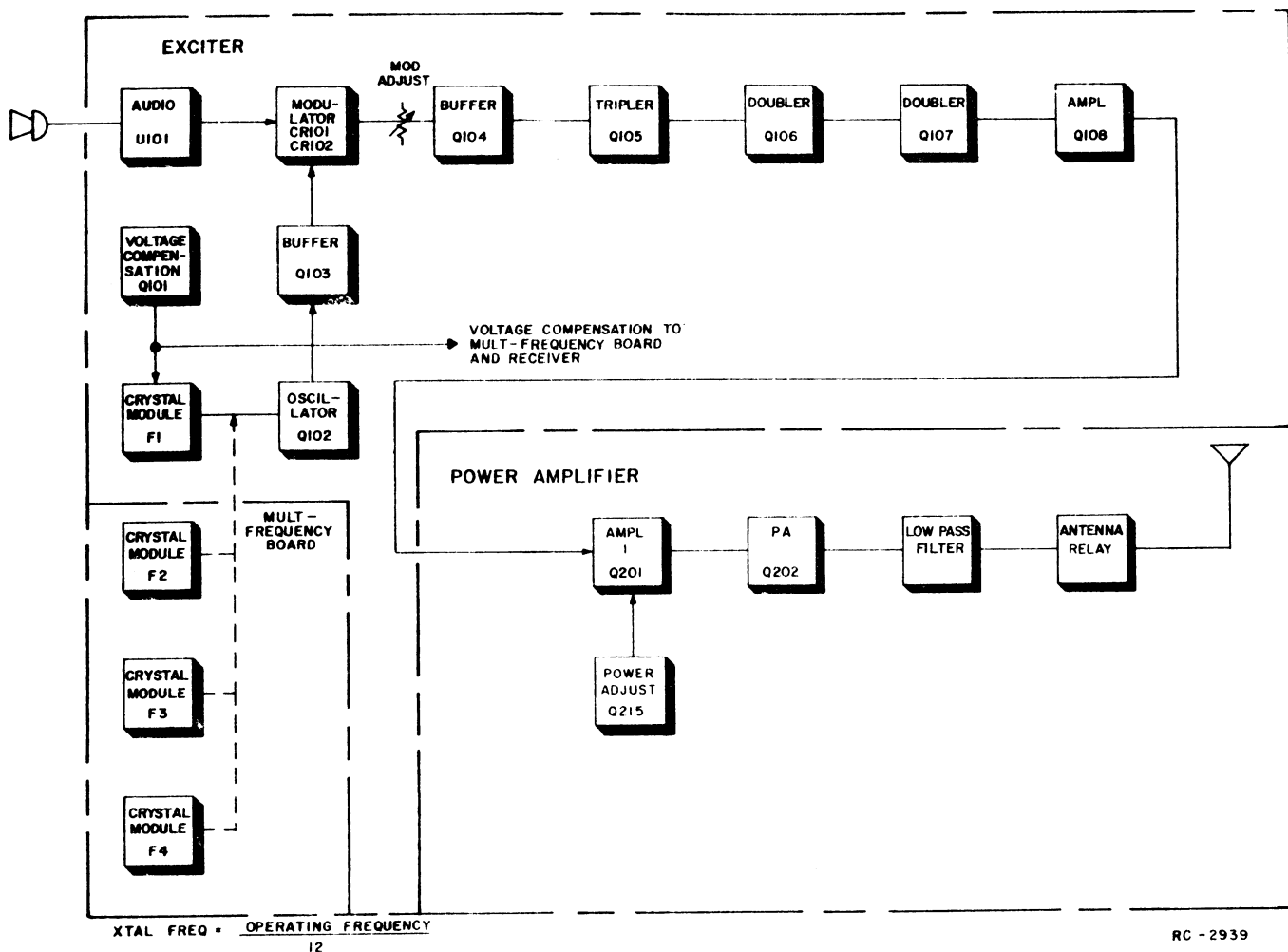


Figure 1 - Transmitter Block Diagram

## To remove PA board:

1. Unplug the exciter/PA cable from J1. Then unsolder the center conductor of the PA/low pass filter cable W202 from H1. The shield will come loose when the PA board mounting screws are removed.
2. Unsolder power lead W203 at E2, and remove the retaining screw from power adjust transistor Q215. Be careful not to damage the mica insulator between the transistor and the chassis.
3. Remove the two screws securing each of the two flange transistors to the mounting shelf.
4. Remove the five PA board mounting screws, and lift the board out.

## PA TRANSISTOR REPLACEMENT

## WARNING

The stud mounted RF Power Transistors used in the transmitter contain Beryllium Oxide, a TOXIC substance. If the ceramic or other encapsulation is opened, crushed, broken or abraded, the dust may be hazardous if inhaled. Use care in replacing transistors of this type.

## To replace the PA RF transistors:

1. Remove exciter and PA boards.
2. Unsolder one lead at a time with a 50-watt soldering iron. Use a scribe or X-acto® knife to hold the lead away from the printed circuit board until the solder cools.

3. Lift out the transistor, and remove the old solder from the printed circuit board with a de-soldering tool such as a SOLDA PULLT®. Special care should be taken to prevent damage to the printed circuit board runs because part of the matching network is included in the base and collector runs.
4. Trim the new transistor leads (if required) to the lead length of the removed transistor. The letter "C" on the top of the transistor also indicates the collector (see Figure 2).
5. Apply a coat of silicon grease to the transistor mounting surface. Place the transistor in the mounting hole. Align the leads as shown on the Outline Diagram. Then hold the body of the transistor and replace the transistor mounting hardware, using moderate torque (6 inch-pounds). A torque wrench must be used for this adjustment since transistor damage can result if too little or too much torque is used.
6. Solder the leads to the printed circuit pattern. Start at the inner edge of mounting hole and solder the remaining length of transistor lead to the board. Use care not to use excessive heat that causes the printed wire board runs to lift up from the board. Check for shorts and solder bridges before applying power.

**CAUTION**

Failure to solder the transistor leads as directed may result in the generation of RF loops that could damage the transistor or may cause low power output.

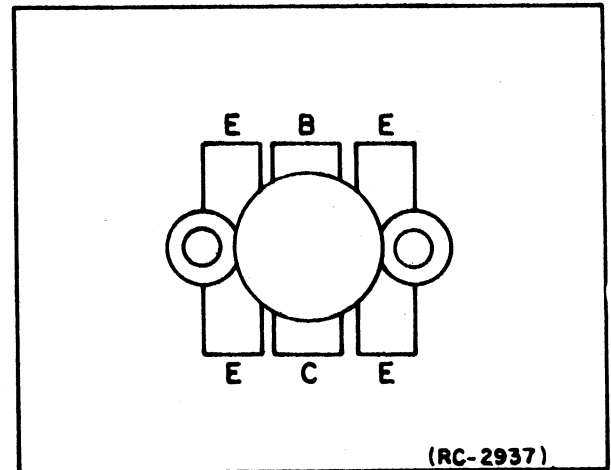


Figure 2 - Lead Identification

**TROUBLESHOOTING**

A Troubleshooting Procedure, including QUICK CHECKS, permits rapid fault location in the exciter and power amplifier.



## MODULATION LEVEL ADJUSTMENT

The MOD ADJUST (R108) was adjusted to the proper setting before shipment and should not normally require readjustment. This setting permits approximately 75% modulation for the average voice level. The audio peaks which would cause over-modulation are clipped by the modulation limiter. The limiter, in conjunction with the de-emphasis network, instantaneously limits the slope of the audio wave to the modulator, thereby preventing over-modulation while preserving intelligibility.

### TEST EQUIPMENT

1. An audio oscillator (GE Model 4EX6A10)
2. A frequency modulation monitor
3. An output meter or a VTVM
4. GE Test Set Model 4EX3A11 or 4EX8K12

### PROCEDURE

1. Connect the audio oscillator and the meter across audio input terminals J10 (Green-Hi) and J11 (Block-L0) on GE Test Set, or across P902-4 (Mike High) through a 0.5 microfarad (or larger) DC blocking capacitor, and P902-5 (Mike-Low) on the Exciter board.
2. Adjust the audio oscillator for 1-Volt RMS at 1000 Hz.
3. For transmitters without Channel Guard, set MOD ADJUST R108 for a 4.5 kHz swing using the deviation polarity that provides the highest reading on the frequency modulation monitor.
4. For transmitters with Channel Guard, set Channel Guard MOD ADJUST R1060 for zero tone deviation. Next, with the 1-Volt signal at 1000 Hz applied, set MOD ADJUST R108 for 3.75 kHz deviation. Then remove the signal from the audio oscillator and set Channel Guard MOD ADJUST R1060 for 0.75 kHz tone deviation.
5. For multi-frequency transmitters, set the deviation as described in Steps 3 or 4 on the channel producing the largest amount of deviation.

## PA POWER INPUT

For FCC purposes, the PA power input can be determined by measuring the PA supply voltage and PA current using the following formula:

$$P_i = \text{PA voltage} \times \text{PA current}$$

where:

$P_i$  is the power input in watts,

PA voltage is measured with Test Set Model 4EX3A11 in Position G on the 15-Volt range (read as 15 Volt full scale), and with the polarity switch in the (-) position. With Test Set Model 4EX8K12, use the B+ position and the 1-Volt range (read as 15 Volts full scale), with the HIGH SENSITIVITY button and the polarity switch in the (-) position.

PA current is measured with the Test Set in Position F in the Test 1 position, and with the HIGH SENSITIVITY button pressed (read as 10 amperes full scale).

Example:

$$P_i = 12.6 \text{ Volts} \times 2 \text{ amperes} = 25 \text{ Watts}$$

## OSCILLATOR FREQUENCY ADJUSTMENT

First, check the frequency to determine if any adjustment is required. The frequency should be set using a frequency meter or counter with an absolute accuracy that is 5 to 10 times better than the tolerance to be maintained, and with the entire radio as near as possible to an ambient temperature of 30°C (86°F).

The oscillator should be reset only when the frequency shows deviation in excess of the following limits:

A.  $\pm 0.6$  PPM, when the radio is at 30°C (86°F).

F.  $\pm 5$  PPM at any other temperature within the range of -30°C to +75°C (-22°F to +167°F)

If an adjustment is required, proceed as follows:

If the radio is at an ambient temperature of 30°C (86°F), set the oscillator for the correct operating frequency.

If the radio is not at an ambient temperature of 30°C, setting errors can be minimized as follows:

A. To hold the setting error to  $\pm 0.6$  PPM (which is considered reasonable for 5 PPM crystal oscillators):

1. Maintain the radio at 30°C and set the oscillator to desired frequency, or
2. Maintain the radio at 30°C (+5°C, -15°C) offset the operating frequency as a function of actual temperature, by the amount shown in Figure 3.

For example: Assume the ambient temperature of the radio is 20°C (68°F). At that temperature, the curve shows a correction factor of 225 Hz.

Set C3 on the selected crystal module for a reading of 225 Hz higher than the licensed operating frequency. If a negative correction factor is obtained (at temperatures above 30°C), set the oscillator for the indicated frequency lower than the licensed operating frequency.

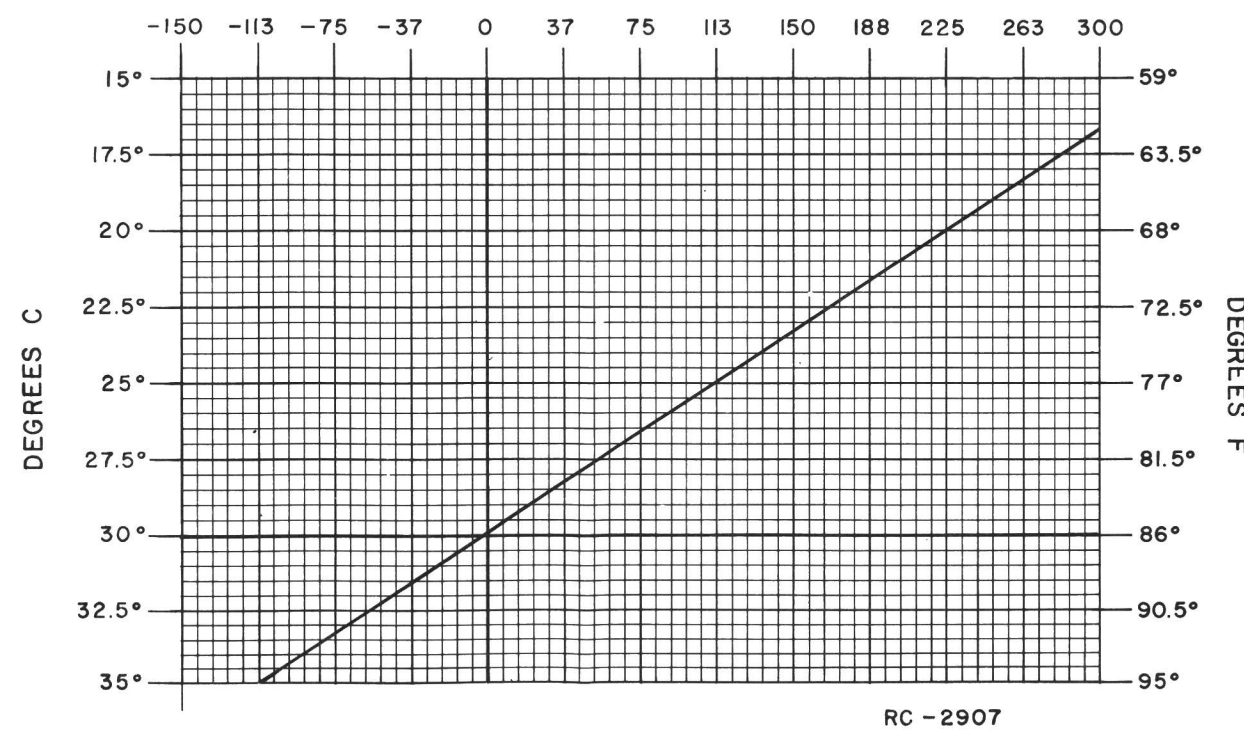
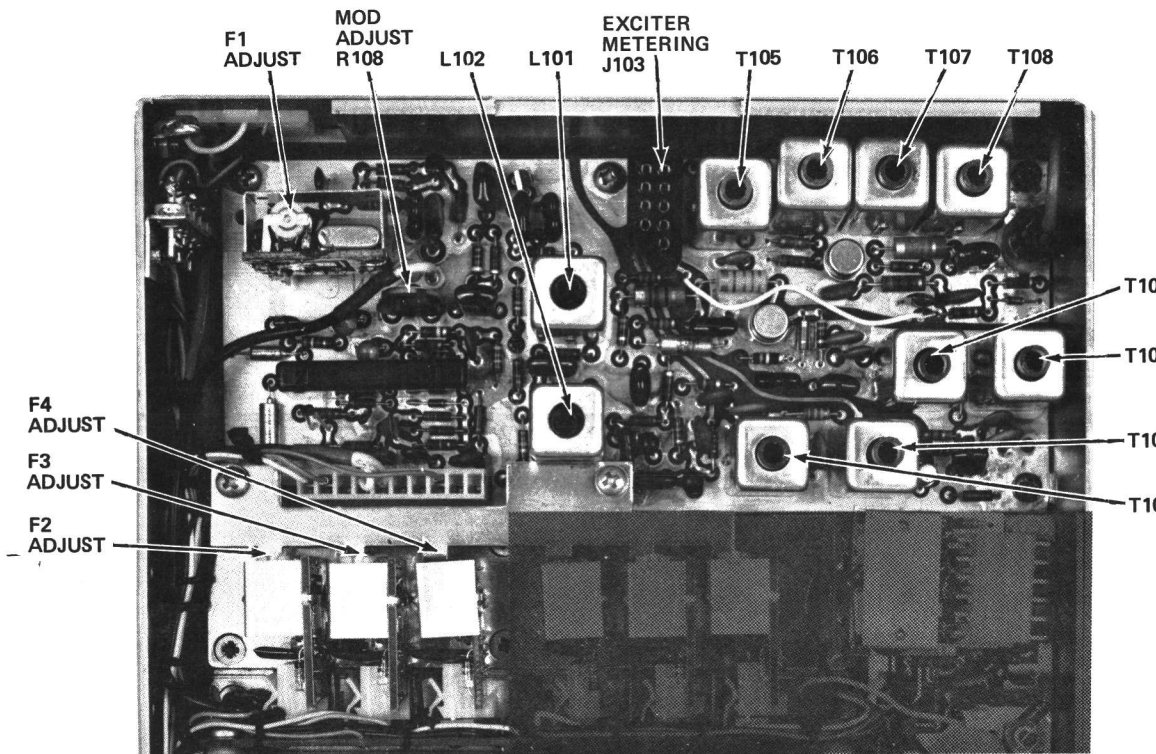
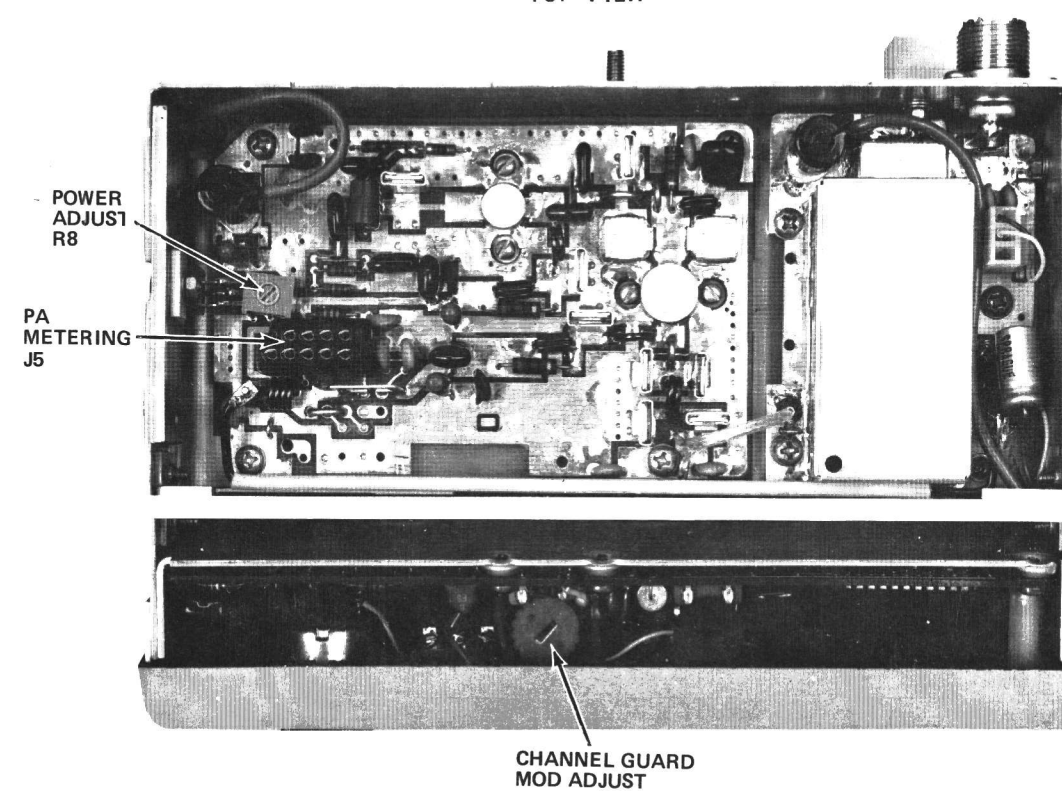


Figure 3 - Frequency Characteristics Vs. Temperature

### BOTTOM VIEW



### TOP VIEW



## TRANSMITTER ALIGNMENT

### EQUIPMENT

1. GE Test Set Model 4EX3A11 or Test Kit 4EX8K12.
2. A 50-ohm wattmeter connected to antenna jack J3.
3. A frequency counter.
4. Deviation Monitor.

### PRELIMINARY CHECKS AND ADJUSTMENTS

1. Place crystal modules for F1 on Exciter Board and F2-F4 on multi-frequency board. (Crystal frequency = operating frequency  $\pm$  12).
2. For a large change in frequency or a badly mis-aligned transmitter, preset all slugs to the top of the coil form.
3. For multi-frequency transmitters with a frequency spacing less than .900 MHz for frequencies between 138-155 MHz or less than 1.00 MHz for frequencies between 150.8-174 MHz, tune the transmitter (except L101 and L102) on the lowest frequency. See Step 1 below.  
  
For multi-frequency transmitters with a frequency spacing up to 1.8 MHz for frequencies between 138-155 MHz or 2.0 MHz for frequencies between 150.8-174 MHz, tune the transmitter using a center frequency tune-up crystal module. These limits can be extended to  $\pm$  2.25 MHz and 2.5 MHz respectively with 1 dB degradation in power output.
4. Connect the black plug to the Exciter metering jack. Set the polarity to +, and set the range to the Test 1 position (1-Volt position for 4EX8K12).  
NOTE: With the Test Set connected to the PA metering jack, the voltage reading at position "F" with the HIGH SENSITIVITY button pressed may be converted to PA collector current by reading the current as 10 amperes full scale.
5. All adjustments are made with the transmitter keyed. Unkey the transmitter between steps to avoid unnecessary heating.
6. Set tuning slugs in L101, L102 and T101 through T108 to top of coil form.

### ALIGNMENT PROCEDURE

STEP	METER POSITION	TUNING CONTROL	METER READING	PROCEDURE
1.	A (MULT-1)	L101, L102 & T101	See Procedure	Tune L101 then L102 for maximum meter reading on highest frequency. Then with lowest frequency selected, tune T101 for a dip in meter reading.
2.	A	L102	See Procedure	Using a deviation monitor, check the symmetry of the modulator at 300 Hz using the highest and lowest assigned operating frequencies. If more than 0.5 kHz dissymmetry exists, tune L102 to optimize symmetry. NOTE L102 should not be adjusted more than $\pm 1/8$ turn from previous setting. If a deviation monitor is not available, adjust L102 1/8 turn counter-clockwise.
3.	B (MULT-2)	T102, T101 & T103	See Procedure	Tune T102 for maximum meter reading and re-adjust T101 for maximum meter reading. Then tune T103 for a dip in meter reading.
4.	C (MULT-3)	T104, T103 & T105	See Procedure	Tune T104 for maximum meter reading and re-adjust T103 for maximum meter reading. Then tune T105 for a dip in meter reading.
5.	F (AMPL-1)	T106 & T105	Maximum	Tune T106 for maximum meter reading, and then re-adjust T105 for maximum meter reading.
6.	G (Rel. Power Out)	T107 & T108	Maximum	Tune T107 and then T108 for maximum meter reading. Then, alternately re-tune T107 & T108 for maximum meter reading.
7.	D (AMPL-1 Driver on PA)	T107 & T108	Maximum	Set the range selector switch to the Test 3 Position. Move the black metering plug to PA metering jack and re-adjust T107 and T108 for maximum meter reading.
8.	F (AMPL-1 DRIVE)	T105 & T106	Maximum	Set the range selector switch to the Test 1 position. Move the black metering plug back to the Exciter metering jack and re-adjust T105 and T106 for maximum meter reading.
9.		R8		With the battery voltage at 13.6 Volts or the PA collector voltage at 13.2 Volts, set Power Adjust potentiometer R8 on the PA board for the desired power output from 8 to 25 Watts.  If the battery voltage is not at 13.6 Volts or the collector voltage at 13.2 Volts and full rated output is desired (25 Watts at 13.6 Volts), set R8 for the output power according to the battery voltage or collector voltage shown in Figure 4.  NOTE The PA collector voltage is measured as described in the PA POWER INPUT section.
ADDITIONAL STEPS FOR TRANSMITTERS USING CENTER FREQUENCY TUNE-UP CRYSTAL MODULE				
10.	B (MULT-2)	T101 & T102	See Procedure	Check drive on highest and lowest frequency. If drive is lower on lowest frequency, preset the tuning slugs of T101 and T102 to top of coil form and retune for maximum meter reading. (0.1 Volt typical difference between lowest and highest frequency).
11.	C (MULT-3)	T103	See Procedure	Check drive on highest and lowest frequency. If drive is lower on lowest frequency, retune T103 for maximum meter reading on lowest frequency.
12.	G Rel. Power Out	T105	See Procedure	Retune T105 for equal drive on highest and lowest frequency. Note: For two frequency spread approaching maximum limits, a difference in drive may exist. If this occurs, be sure the lower frequency has greater drive. Repeat Step 8.

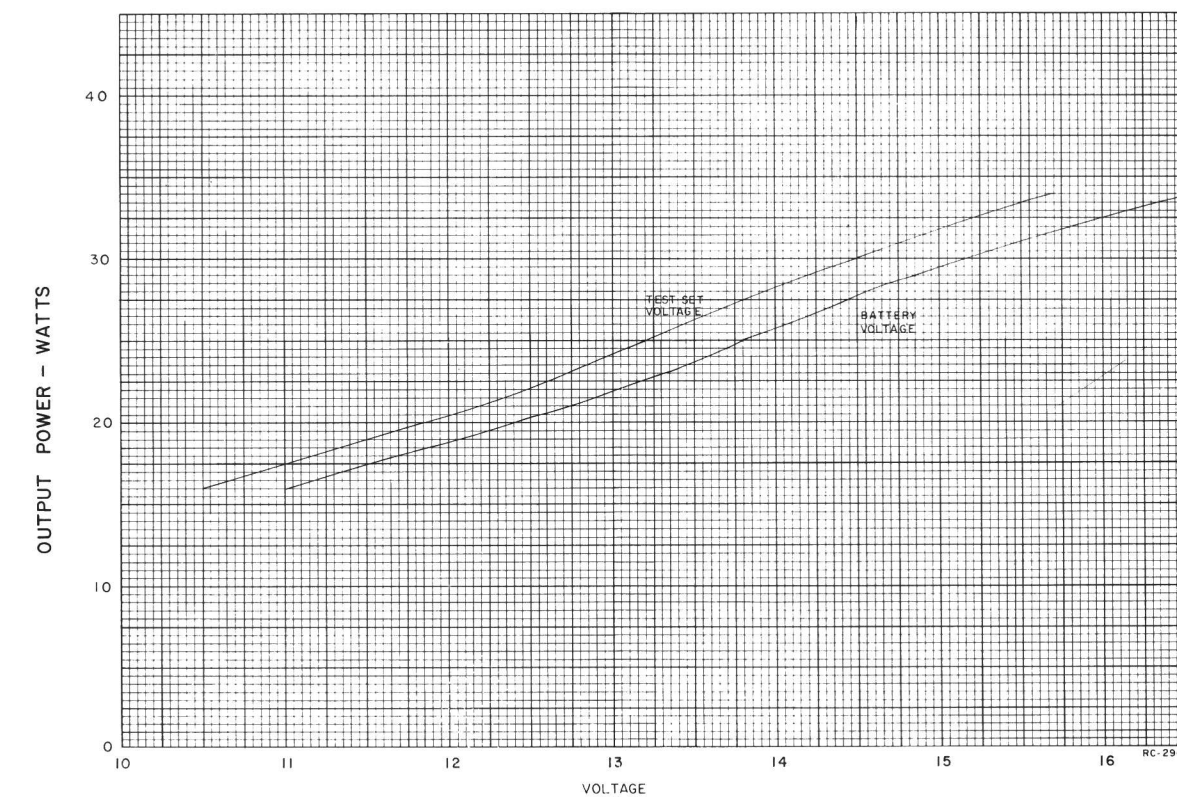


Figure 4 - Power Output Setting Chart

## ALIGNMENT PROCEDURE

138—174 MHz, 25-WATT TRANSMITTER



TEST PROCEDURES

These Test Procedures are designed to assist you in servicing a transmitter that is operating-- but not properly. Problems encountered could be low power output, tone and voice deviation, defective audio sensitivity, and modulator adjust control set too high. Once a defect is pin-pointed,

refer to the "Service Check" and the additional corrective measures included in the Transmitter Troubleshooting Procedure. Before starting with the Transmitter Test Procedures, be sure the transmitter is tuned and aligned to the proper operating frequency.

CAUTION

Before bench testing the MASTR Custom MVP Mobile Radio, be sure of the output voltage characteristics of your bench power supply.

To protect the transmitter power output transistors from possible instant destruction, the following input voltages must not be exceeded:

- Transmitter unkeyed: 20 Volts
- Transmitter keyed (50 ohm resistive load): 18 Volts
- Transmitter keyed (no load or non-resistive load): 15.5 Volts

These voltages are specified at the normal vehicle battery terminals of the radio and take the voltage drop of standard cables into account. The voltage limits shown for a non-optimum load is for "worst case" conditions. For antenna mismatches likely to be encountered in practice, the actual limit will approach the 18 Volt figure.

Routine transmitter tests should be performed at EIA Standard Test Voltages (13.8 VDC for loads of 0 to 6 amperes. Input voltages must not exceed the limits shown, even for transient peaks of short duration.

Many commonly used bench power supplies cannot meet these requirements for load regulation and transient voltage suppression. Bench supplies which employ "brute force" regulation and filtering (such as Lapp Model 73) may be usable when operated in parallel with a 12-Volt automotive storage battery.

TEST EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

for test hookup as shown:

- |                          |                     |                                |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Wattmeter similar to: | 2. VTVM similar to: | 3. Audio Generator similar to: |
| Bird # 43                | Triplet #850        | GE Model 4EX6A10               |
| Jones #711N              | Heath # IM-21       |                                |
4. Deviation Meter (with a .75 kHz scale) similar to: Measurements # 720

POWER MEASUREMENT

TEST PROCEDURE

1. Connect transmitter output from the antenna jack to the wattmeter through a 50-ohm coaxial cable. Make sure the wattmeter is terminated into a 50-ohm load.
2. Key the transmitter and check the wattmeter for the desired power output.

SERVICE CHECK

Check the setting of the Power Adjust Control (R8).

Refer to the QUICK CHECKS on the Transmitter Troubleshooting Procedure.

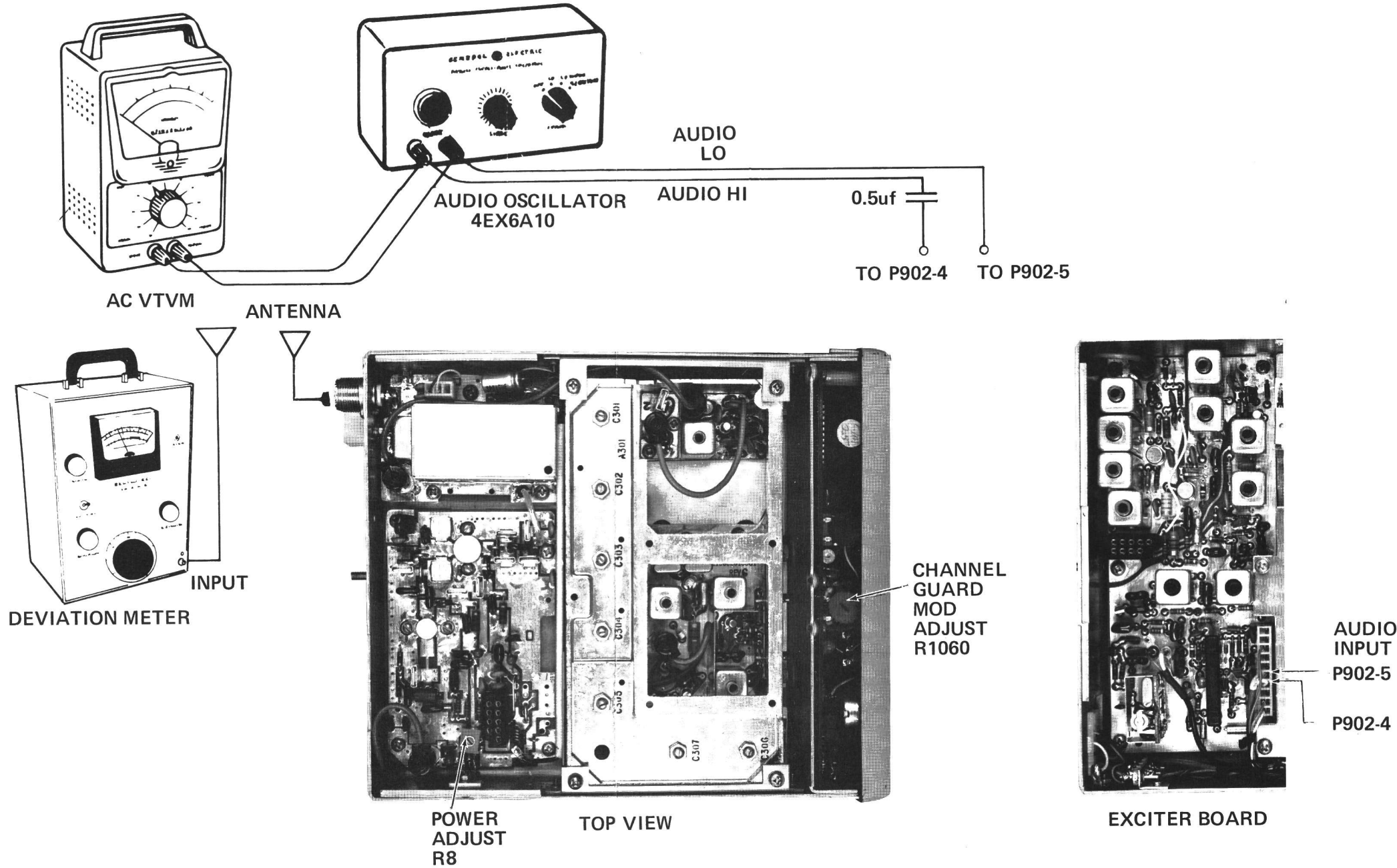
VOICE DEVIATION , SYMMETRY AND AUDIO SENSITIVITY

TEST PROCEDURE

1. Connect the test equipment to the transmitter as shown.
2. In radios equipped with Channel Guard set Channel Guard Mod Adjust R1060 for zero tone deviation.
3. Set the Audio generator output to 1.0 VOLTS RMS and frequency to 1 kHz.
4. Key the transmitter and adjust Deviation Meter to carrier frequency.
5. Deviation reading should be ±4.5 kHz in radios without Channel Guard, and ±3.75 kHz with Channel Guard.
6. If necessary, adjust MOD ADJUST control R108 (on exciter) for the proper deviation on plus (+) or minus (-) deviation, whichever is greater.

**NOTES:--** MASTR Custom MVP transmitters are adjusted for 4.5 kHz deviation at the factory. The factory adjustment will prevent the transmitter from deviating more than 5.0 kHz under the worst conditions of frequency, voltage and temperature.

7. If the deviation reading plus (+) or minus (-) differs by more than 0.5 kHz, recheck Step 1 as shown in the Transmitter Alignment Chart.
8. Check Audio Sensitivity by reducing generator output until deviation falls to 3.0 kHz for radios without Channel Guard, or 2.25 kHz for radios with Channel Guard. Voltage should be LESS than 120 millivolts. If not, refer to the Transmitter Troubleshooting Procedure.



TONE DEVIATION WITH CHANNEL GUARD

TEST PROCEDURE

1. Set up the Deviation Meter and monitor the output of the transmitter.
2. Remove the 1000 Hz signal from the audio generator.
3. Key the transmitter and check for 0.75 kHz deviation. If the reading is low or high, adjust Channel Guard MOD ADJUST R1060 for a reading of 0.75 kHz.

NOTES:

1. On units supplied with Channel Guard, the Phase Modulator Tuning should be adjusted carefully to insure proper performance. (Refer to Step 1 in the Transmitter Alignment Chart).

STEP I - QUICK CHECKS

METER POSITION GE TEST SET	PROBABLE DEFECTIVE STAGE		
	HIGH METER READING	LOW METER READING	ZERO METER READING
EXCITER			
A (MULT-1)	Q104, Q105 T101	Q104, Q105	Q104, Q105 T101
B (MULT-2)	Q106, T103	Q106, T101 T102	T101, T102, Q106, T103
C (MULT-3)	Q107, T105	T103, T104 Q107	T103, T104, Q107, T105
F (AMPL-1)	Q108, C149	T105, T106, Q108	T105, T106, Q108, L108
POWER AMPLIFIER			
"D" (AMPL-1 DRIVE)		Low Output from Exciter	No output from Exciter, CR1
"C" (AMPL-1 POWER CONTROL VOLT- AGE)	Q201	Q201	No Exciter output, Q201, CR1
"F" (PA CURRENT)	Q201 Q202	Q201, Low Output from Q202	Q202, Q201. Check Pos. D & C
"G" (PA VOLTAGE)	Q202	Q201, Q202	Q202, Q201

STEP 3  
CHECK AUDIO AC VOLTAGES

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED  
● AUDIO OSCILLATOR  
● AC VTVM

AC-VTVM		
SET AUDIO OSCILLATOR AT 1000 HZ WITH OUTPUT OF 1.0 V RMS. NOTE: AN RMS OR PEAK READING VOLT METER WILL READ 1/2 TO 1/3 OF PEAK-TO-PEAK READINGS.	100MV P-P 46 MV RMS	1.1V P-P 0.36V RMS

STEP 4  
AUDIO & OSC WAVEFORMS

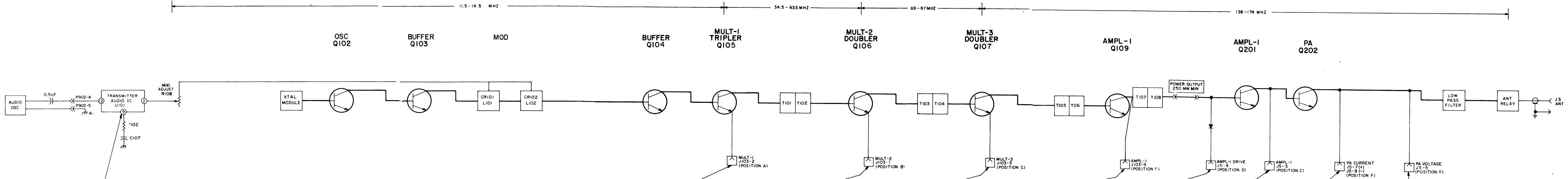
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED  
● AUDIO OSCILLATOR  
● OSCILLOSCOPE

SCOPE SETTING	HORIZONTAL	0.5 MS/DIV	0.5 MS/DIV
VERTICAL	50 MV/DIV	50 MV/DIV	0.5 VOLT/DIV
SET AUDIO OSCILLATOR AT 1000 HZ WITH OUTPUT OF 1.0 V RMS.			

STEP 2  
CHECK TYPICAL DC VOLTAGES

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED  
● G.E. TEST MODEL 4E33A11  
OR  
● 20,000 OHM-PER-VOLT METER  
NOTE: ALL DC READINGS TAKEN WITH  
THE TRANSMITTER KEYED

V-DC TYPICAL MULT-1 READING AT POS. A SHOULD BE: 0.55V	V-DC TYPICAL MULT-2 READING AT POS. B SHOULD BE: 0.85V	V-DC TYPICAL MULT-3 READING AT POS. C SHOULD BE: 0.5V	V-DC TYPICAL AMPL-1 READING AT POS. F SHOULD BE: 0.75V	V-DC TYPICAL AMPL-1 READINGS AT POS. D SHOULD BE: 1.2V	V-DC TYPICAL AMPL-1 READING AT POS. C SHOULD BE: 8.5V (READ ON 15 VOLT SCALE)	V-DC TYPICAL DRIVER IC READING AT POS. F SHOULD BE: 3.2V (WITH "HIGH SENS" BUTTON PRESSED) CURRENT-VOLTAGE READING	V-DC TYPICAL READING AT POS. G SHOULD BE: 13.3V WITH TEST SET ON 15 VOLT RANGE AND READ AS 15 VOLTS FULL SCALE, SET POLARITY SWITCH TO (-).
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TROUBLESHOOTING PROCEDURE

138-174 MHz, 25-WATT TRANSMITTER

## ORDERING SERVICE PARTS

Each component appearing on the schematic diagram is identified by a symbol number to simplify locating it in the parts list. Each component is listed by symbol number, followed by its description and GE Part Number.

Service parts may be obtained from Authorized GE Communication Equipment Service Stations or through any GE Radio Communication Equipment Sales Office. When ordering a part, be sure to give:

1. GE Part Number for component
2. Description of part
3. Model number of equipment
4. Revision letter stamped on unit

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These instructions do not purport to cover all details or variations in equipment nor to provide for every possible contingency to be met in connection with installation, operation or maintenance.

Should further information be desired, or should particular problems arise which are not covered sufficiently for the purchaser's purposes, contact the nearest Radio Communication Equipment Sales Office of the General Electric Company.

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MOBILE RADIO DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY • LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA 24502

