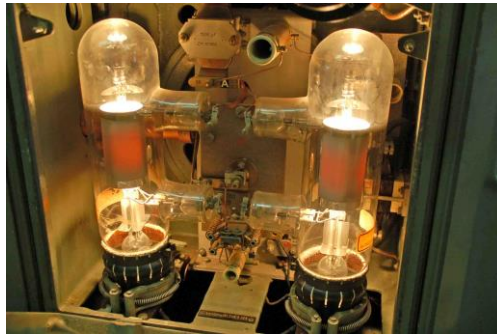


Tube Of The Month

RS329

While searching through an archive of WWII equipment, I found some photos that showed some Telefunken [RS329](#) triodes. For many years I have had an RS329 in my museum collection, but never knew what it was used in. The RS329 is a 500-watt dissipation tube with a maximum anode voltage of 3000 volts at 450 ma. The tube was rated for full power at 30 meters but could be operated at reduced levels to 5 meters. The tungsten filament runs on 23 volts at 13.5 amps. The base has three banana plug sized jacks for the filament and cathode. At about 13 inches tall, this is one of the largest German tubes I have.



The transmitter I found is a Telefunken 1.5 KW multi-mode short wave unit with the ability of being remotely operated from 2 to 12 MHz. The RS329 tubes were in the final amplifier. This transmitter was first built before WWII but only a few were used by the Germany military. Eventually some of these units were procured by the Swiss Military where they were used for many years. The transmitter was designated type G1,2K by the Swiss.



The unit sitting on top of the transmitter is a VOX or voice activated exchange circuit similar to what we use with modern gear. One of the pull-out units under the amplifier contains a pair of [RS282](#) tubes and a rotating switch that sets bias according to the transmission type desired. Full break-in is difficult enough today with very fast relays, but in the late 1930s, a tube made a very fast switch. When the VOX detected audio on the phone line, it activated the transmitter and switched the bias on the amplifier tubes with the RS282 tubes. An audio oscillator could be remotely keyed to send CW at near full break-in.

Photos of the transmitter are with the permission of [cdvandt.org](#).

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