

TECHNOTES PART II

TC SSB KIT IN THE COBRA 21,25 or 29

● Courtesy Card Kit

The question might arise as to whether or not the TC SSB kit can be used on a Cobra 21, 25, or 29 Plus unit or not. The answer is, yes it can, but you will have a zero beat signal on your regular 40 channels. These units have no delta-tune or voice-lock as does the Cobra 146GTL, so you cannot zero the beat out. If a technician wishes to use the TECH'S CHOICE SSB and the zero beat is not a problem here is the procedure.

1. Using a set of Jan. '87 Tech Notes, follow all parts of step one, omitting part 7.
2. Follow all parts of step two, except you must supply your germanium diode, down to part 5.
 - 5a. Solder the black wire of the switch PC board to the shield of the upper tank on the epoxy pack and then to ground.
 - 5b. Solder the white wire of the switch PC board to the orange dot terminal on the epoxy pack.
 - 5c. Run a wire through the hole drilled in the PC board and solder the other end to the blue dot terminal on the epoxy pack.
 - 5d. Run a wire from the yellow dot terminal on the epoxy pack to TP-2.
 - 5e. Run a wire from the cathode of D-27 (D-23 on 29 Plus) to the cathode of the germanium diode D-15. Part 6 remains the same.

APRIL TECH'S NOTES

Alignment

All parts of the alignment procedure are the same except, omit part 2, and the frequencies that you adjust for, will be the metal stamped or red side markings on the crystal. The two crystals supplied with the kit will give you 27.415mhz and 27.420mhz. Now someone is going to conclude that if a TECH'S CHOICE SSB kit will work on the AM's, then a TECH'S CHOICE AM should work on an SSB. The answer is no it will not and here is why. You have made circuitry changes that cannot be switched back and forth. (Namely the capacitor in the tuning of L-39 and the cross over of the USB and LSB switching).

Let's help each other do a better job.

For those of you that have not discovered the 5x5 Francis whips yet, you probably will have problems with high swr when using the TECH'S CHOICE SSB kit. Most antennas are not designed for broad bands. For those that have discovered this whip already here is some tuning hints. As shipped, it is tuned to the regular 40 and 40 channels below. If you put a spring (such as the Tite-Lok #304) under it, you must trim it off about twice the length that is covered by the cap to keep it tuned to the same frequency. For each 40 channel bank you wish to shift this whips' tuning upward, you need to cut off an additional amount equal to the length covered by the cap. If you take a stock whip and just put a spring under it, it would be tuned to approximately 26.065mhz.

APRIL TECH'S NOTES

W-e-l-l, here it is. Several of you have been waiting for the modification for the base units and the 148GTL. We will be covering more of these units that the TC DX modifies. More specifically in the future tech's notes. But the basics are the same. Only the break-in points or component numbers will change.

One great advantage of this DX kit when compared to others is, no longer will you need a test set or frequency generator. Just modify yourself a bench set and select any frequency you want instead of fumbling with a signal generator and frequency counter. Having them drift off frequency while you are trying to make an adjustment is very frustrating. If I could ever give you one piece of advice that would save you time and make your work easier, it would be, "make yourself a test set." You can make it either from a Cobra 142GTL or (if you want a read out too) wait until next month and modify a 2000GTL. If you want something cheaper