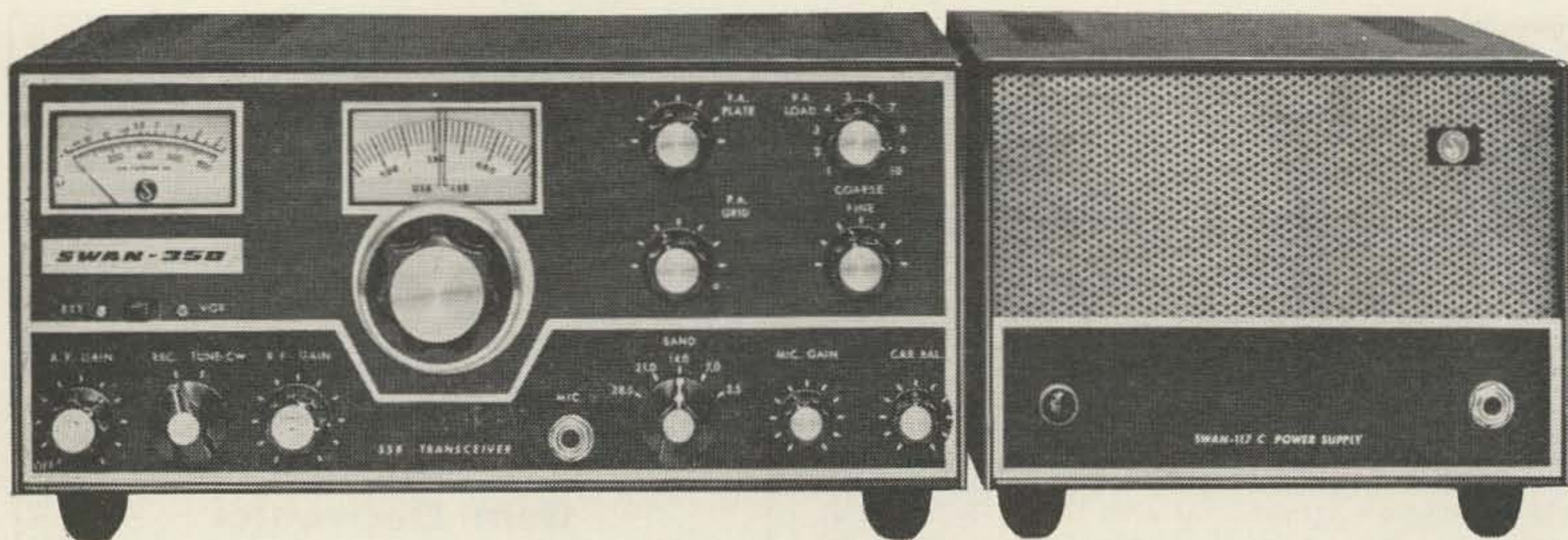


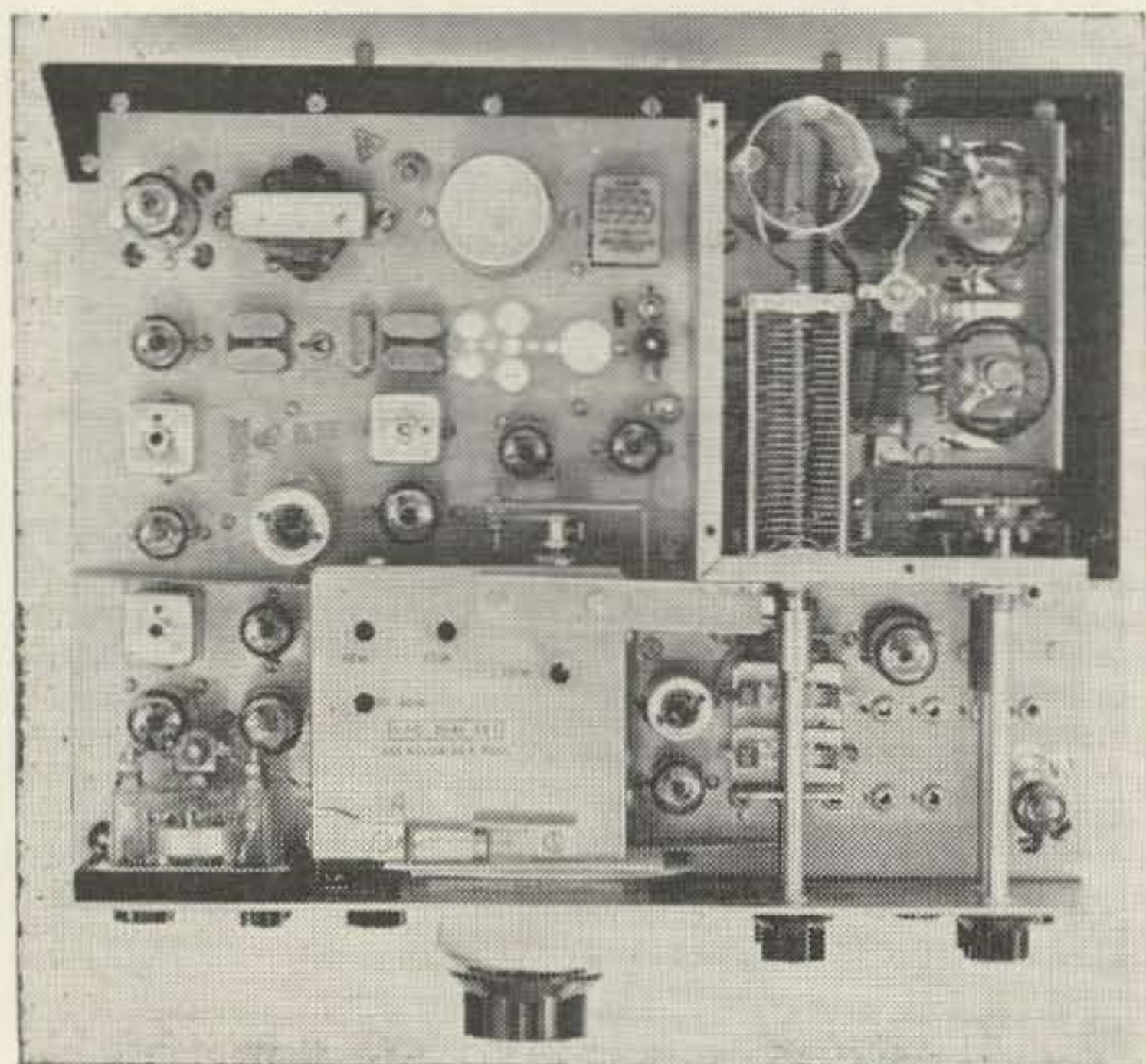


The Swan 350

Bill Siefkin WB6KEH

Excellent is the word for the new Swan 350 transceiver. The boys in Oceanside seem to have endless ability for producing top quality, economical, high performance single sideband transceivers.

Basically, the Swan 350 is a single sideband transceiver providing complete SSB or CW coverage of the 80-15 meter bands and one 500 kc portion of the 10 meter band. An optional modification kit is available for complete coverage of the 10 meter band. AM operation is accomplished by zero-beating the received signal and inserting a carrier into the transmitted sideband emission.



The receiver is the reliable single conversion design that is found in the Swan 100 and 240 series. The dual ratio tuning has that expensive feel to it, which is characteristic of the engineering excellence built into this rig. The transistorized VFO is temperature and voltage

stabilized. Push-to-talk operation is provided, and an optional VOX accessory is available.

It weighs only 17¼ lbs and measures but 5½ × 13 × 11 in. It is ideal for convenient fixed, portable, or mobile installations. The unit runs over 400 watts PEP on SSB, 320 watts dc input on CW, and 125 watts dc on AM. The transceiver provides automatic gain control (AGC), automatic level control (ALC), and grid-block CW keying. Recommended power supplies are the Model 117C for ac operation, and Model 412 for 12-volt dc operation.

The transceiver uses 15 tubes, voltage regulator, two transistors, and five diodes. A 6GK6 drives two AB₁ 6HF5s. Unwanted sideband suppression is down 40 db, carrier suppression is at least 50 db, and third order distortion is down 30 db. A lighted combination power amplifier cathode current and "S" meter is provided.

During the first weekend of operation, I worked 12 states, an XE2, KL7, and KH6. Sideband and carrier suppression, distortion, audio quality, and signal width reports were highly satisfactory. I don't miss VOX. I'd just as soon have a rig that is not "fully automatic." 599 reports on CW were common across the country.

The new Swan 350 represents an outstanding value in amateur communications. The prices are only \$395 for the transceiver, \$85 for the ac supply, and \$130 for the transistorized dc supply. The circuit is completely hand wired, except for a portion of the VFO.

Considering performance, reliability, craftsmanship, and price, I believe one could not go wrong in investing in this excellent piece of amateur communications equipment.

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