

WHUB USES RCA TRANSMITTER TYPE 250-K

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On October 17, 2009 my husband and I were on a genealogy – history trip to Putnam County and surrounding area. I got a call from Carolyn and Ted Huddleston of Silver Point to come over to the Buffalo Valley Community Center and see the old RCA Transmitter that was used by WHUB to broadcast their programs.

The transmitter had to be moved from the building it was used in and so the Medley family wanted it to be preserved for people to view. They donated the transmitter to the Buffalo Valley Community Center located in Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN. They are planning on enclosing the Transmitter and other components in a glass case with descriptions of the items.

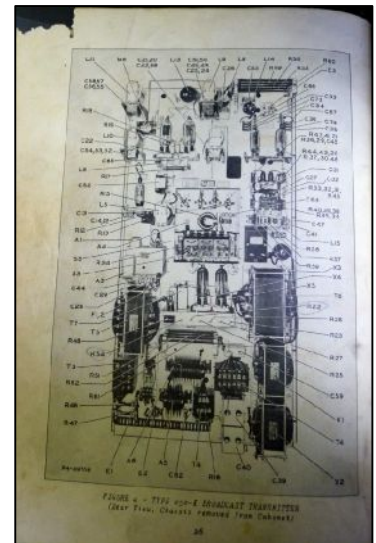
This is the original RCA transmitter that brought local radio broadcasting to the Upper Cumberland region of Middle Tennessee.

It all started when Jesse Beasley, Buffalo Valley mail carrier, asked Luke Medley, “Luke why don’t you put in a radio station in Cookeville?”

When the station went on the air Saturday, July 20, 1940, WHUB was the 14th radio station in Tennessee and one of the first in rural America.



The RCA Broadcast Transmitter Type 250-K description is as follows:



This transmitter will provide reliable, high-fidelity operation at any frequency between 550 and 1600 kilocycles with negligible distortion and low carrier noise. It is very easily installed, requiring only the connection of the external wiring.

The transmitter is a single, self-contained unit employing an advanced design in the vertical chassis type of construction. All equipment has been mounted on the chassis in such a manner that it may be easily removed by one man. All parts may be removed from the transmitter without the necessity of taking out other apparatus. This type of construction lends itself to concealment of the wiring and controls, and provides a decided improvement in accessibility. Bevel gears and shafts are employed to drive the variable tuning elements. It is not intended that the chassis be removed from the cabinet for any repairs whatever. The wire holes are of sufficient size and provided with well-rounded edges so that wires may be replaced or changed without the necessity of removing the chassis.

The unit has been designed to give the distinctive appearance. The meter panel is located at a convenient eye level and the control panel, situated immediately below the meter panel, is illuminated. Access to the rear of the meter panel is obtained by raising the meter panel. Studs are provided to hold the panel in place during operation. A hand hole is provided in the chassis in order that the panel may be held in place when the studs are started. When the panel is open it is held in its raised position by means of stay joins. *Caution – Power should not be applied to the transmitter unless the meter panel is fastened in position by means of the studs provided.* An antenna ammeter is provided with a suitable scale range as required by the customer's particular operation.

The transmitter is normally wired for operation at a power output of 250 watts. However, when it is desired to operate the equipment at a power output of 100/250 watts, a kit of parts designated as MI-7244 is supplied. This provides a method of changing power by means of a switch located on the control panel of the transmitter. When the transmitter is to be operated at straight 100 watt output, the power change equipment is also supplied. In this case, however, the relay and switch supplied are not connected in the circuit.

