

ATLAS 210/215 KEYING MODIFICATIONS

ALLEN CREWETHER VK3SM
28 REYNOLDS PARADE
PASCOE VALE SOUTH 3044

SOMETIME AGO I obtained an Atlas 210 transceiver and, a while later, decided to use it for CW. Having to operate the rotary switch every change-over got on my goat, so I installed the Atlas suggested modification using an external toggle switch.

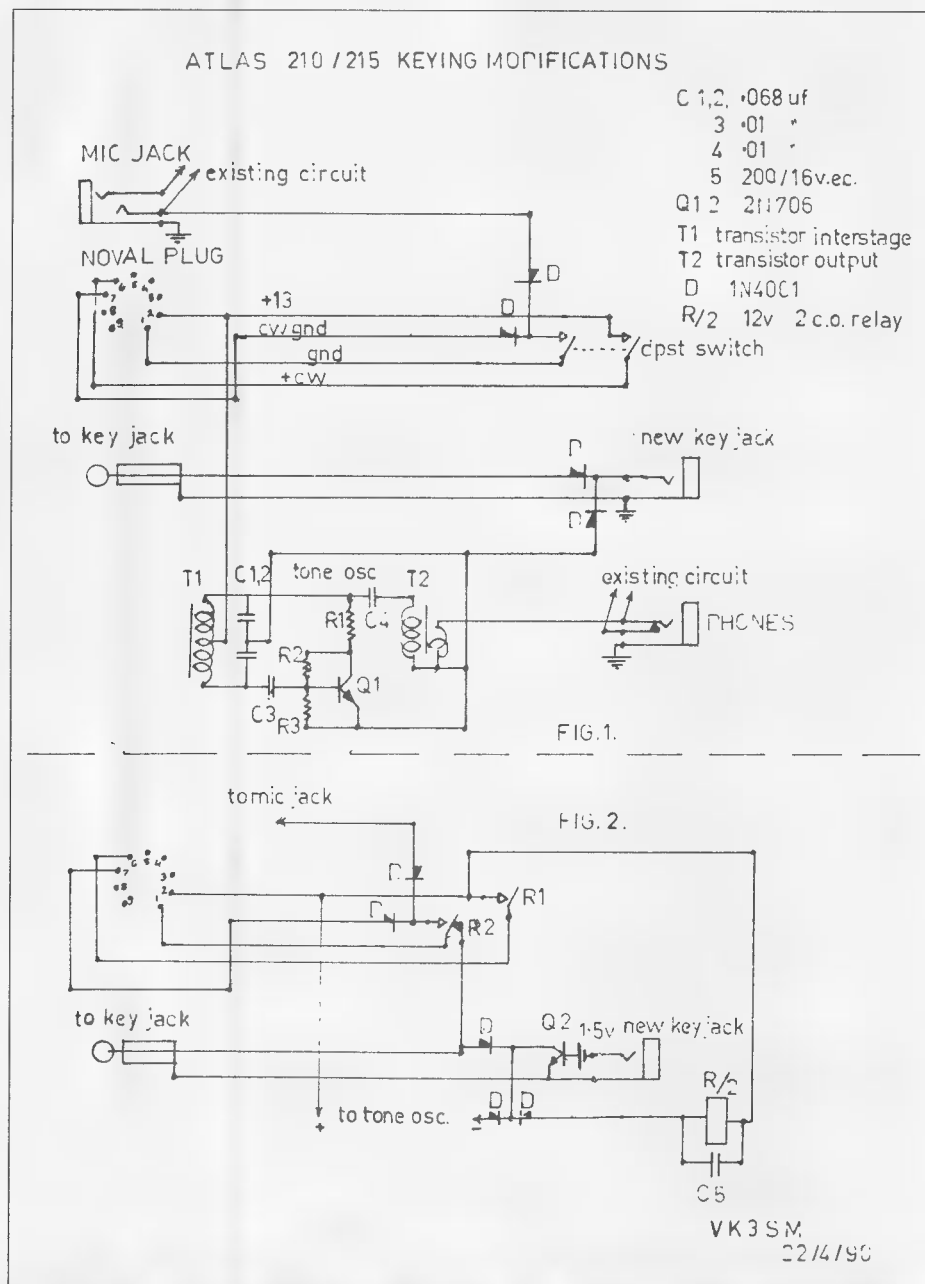
The problem then was that there is no side-tone oscillator provided, and modification (fig 1) resulted.

All was well until I built a keyer, and of course it required a negative key line to operate, and the Atlas had a positive one. A polarity changer was tried and, at the same time, I looked at a means of going from CW to Phone without having to remove the key plug from the back of the set.

The resultant circuit is shown in fig 2, and also results in semi-break-in CW with instant change-over to Phone. The relay used was a Siemens cradle 12V coil 6000 Ohm, and a 200µF capacitor gave me a nice hang time even at 5wpm, although it may be a bit long at 20wpm, but it is easy to adjust — the larger the value the longer the time.

All the circuitry is built in the bottom of the AC console, and now the only connection at the back is the antenna.

If you cannot get a noval plug to fit the socket on the rear of the set, one can be made by cutting the base of a nine-pin valve. Wind one turn of 22G on the tube about 6mm up from the bottom and connect to a Scope iron transformer or 6V winding of an old TV transformer. Make sure the turn is not shorting, and turn on the power. The turn should get hot. Plunge the tube into cold water; the base should snap off, the works can be cut clear and, with some care, wires soldered on the pins. Care is needed as the glass edge may be quite sharp. The wires and base are filled with "Plastibond" or similar, and there is your noval plug.



**Tell the advertiser you saw it in the
WIA Amateur Radio Magazine**