

## 316A / VT-191 UHF transmitting triode, 'doorknob' style



This odd shaped tube was introduced around 1936 by Western Electric as UHF power amplifier or oscillator. It was one of the few UHF tubes available before WWII, originating more powerful variants in the U.S. Also used in the very early British airborne radar prototypes and in Germany, where it gave origin to other variants by GEMA. All-glass body, closely spaced electrodes supported by short rods just over the base. A spring loop from the top keeps the tiny filamentary cathode in tension.

It was capable of delivering 30W at 500MHz and oscillates up to 600MHz. Thoriated tungsten filamentary cathode drains 3.65A at 2V.

Western Electric, RMA record [339](#).

More information on this tube, its development and its derivative can be found in [this article](#) by Emilio Ciardiello.

