BC-312 –Italian Army Version







At the end of WWII huge lots of US military equipment were sold at auctions. Some sets were used by Italian armed forces. These sets were overhauled by small radio laboratories, adding labels with Italian inscriptions and, of course, an operator booklet in Italian language. The original labels were often removed, making then very difficult the identification of the model variant and of its manufacturer. Anyway, despite the new writings and the labels, these sets were all American made.

Probably the set in the above photos was in origin a BC-312-M.

BC-312 was a short-wave superheterodyne receiver covering from 1.5 to 18 MHz in six overlapping bands. IF frequency 470 kHz. Crystal IF filter. It could receive AM or CW signals.

The base version operated with 12 VDC supply. The ‘X’ suffix was intended for operation at 26 V. The AC version was identified as BC-342. There were also low-frequency variants, the DC supply BC-314 and the AC supply BC-344, operating from 150 to 1.500 kHz in four bands.

8 tubes: two 6K7 as RF amplifiers, 6L7 mixer, 6C5 local oscillator, two 6K7 as IF amplifiers, 6C5 BFO, 6R7 detector and audio preamplifier, 6F6 power amplifier.