

**Automatic Electric L-1156 A0 Special 3-key (Orange/Green/Red Banded on Escutcheon)
Cradle-Type Monophone** for Automatic Electric Pax Trunk Transfer Equipment

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Images provided by Rick Saint



The L-1156 Orange/Green/Red Banded 3 Key Monophone Cradle telephone was a special-purpose instrument (not for general exchange subscriber use). It requires special PAX (Private Automatic Exchange) adjunct control equipment to properly function. It provided access to a local PAX line as well as access to one of only two outside trunks by operating the Green or Red key. The Orange key operated a trunk privacy ("Secret Service") feature.

This telephone set is often confused with the more common Cat. No. AA-22 (Cat. 4055-D, 1944) 3-key telephone with keys marked LINE1/LINE2, HOLD1, and HOLD2 that with the appropriate ringer boxes (AO-25 and AO-26) is for general exchange subscriber use.

These special-purpose PAX 3-key sets require special ringer boxes (subsets) as well. The specimen in this case was attached to the ringer box H87432 providing the extra signaling wires (R, T, and TA leads) to the PAX trunk equipment.

Only one of these 3-key PAX telephones (with the orange privacy feature key) could be used on a given PAX equipped with the Trunk Transfer Equipment. Nine 2-key L-1155 (Green/Red) cradle sets for a total of 10 trunk access key telephones could be used on a PAX for access to two individual outside trunks (co lines) per system.

From AE Bulletin 618 (TCI Library, BC Switching Section)

<https://www.telephonecollectors.info/index.php/search?q=ae+bulletin+618>

Section 5 "Method of Operation" in the document above describes the use of the special 3-key Monophone.

5.1 Local Calls

When the trunk keys of the ten stations associated with the trunk relay unit are in the normal position, the stations are connected directly to the P-A-X switchboard. Outgoing and incoming call to and from the P-A-X may therefore, be made and received at these stations as long as the trunk keys are left undisturbed.

5.2 Outgoing Calls to Public Exchange

To originate a call to the public exchange, lift the handset from the cradle and then operate one of the trunk keys (the red key is associated with the first trunk and the green key with the second trunk). Listen on this trunk to determine whether it is idle or is in use before proceeding with the call. If the trunk is engaged, restore that trunk key and operate the other trunk key.

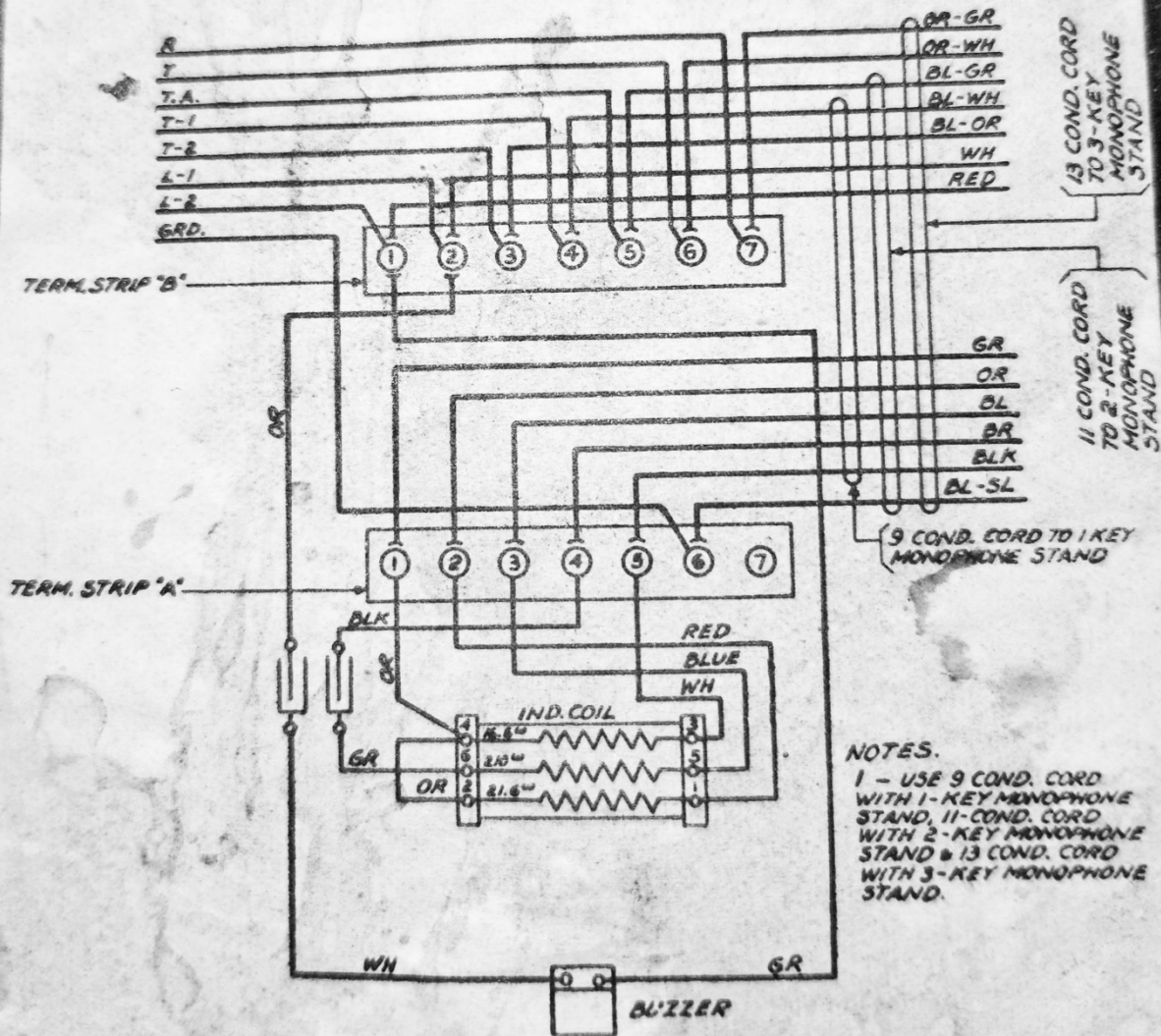
5.5 Secret Service

To ensure secret service on either outgoing or incoming public exchange calls at the three-key station, operate the third (orange) key...





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NOTES.
1 - USE 9 COND. CORD WITH 1-KEY MONOPHONE STAND, 11-COND. CORD WITH 2-KEY MONOPHONE STAND & 13 COND. CORD WITH 3-KEY MONOPHONE STAND.

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