Introduction:

Well it’s April, and I had planned to present one of Heathkit’s more arcane kits (is “arcane” ever an ‘almost’ appropriate word). However, I got fooled myself. I did a lot of research and got four or so pages into the article. Stuff like dates of manufacture, and general information that I could find out of the catalogs and online, all while waiting for a manual I had ordered to come in the mail. That was in mid-March and alas it’s now one week into April and no manual yet. And thus no article.

I’ve been writing these articles as a hobby and without any compensation, except when someone forwards me a catalog or manual (though I usually cover their postage expenses). However, since this was going to be a special article, I blew my budget and ordered the manual from the new Heathkit (about $40 with shipping and CA tax).

I had ordered manuals from the new Heathkit before for kits I have acquired and for which I had no manual. The manuals are copied to order from original manuals and thus are complete and include the illustration booklet. They are nicely spiral-bound and usually very clean.

After the manual didn’t arrive in a week, I inquired as to the status, fearing it got lost in our deteriorating postal system. In rely to my inquiry I was told by the person in charge of the manuals that he was having trouble finding the illustration booklet, which must have been mis-filed. He says he knows he has the original, as he has copied it before. He is still looking.

Without the manual it would be hard to write anything informative, as I’m not very familiar with the actual kit.

So what is the kit to be covered by the article? I gave a clue last month, and there is hidden in this text another clue. I still want it to be a surprise.

**NEWSFLASH** The manual has arrived and the article is underway. It should be released next month, and will be put on the HotM site on the same day it is published in RF Newsletter.

73, from AF6C