COLLINS 30L-1©

High Frequency Linear Amplifier

Description of modification:

REACTIVATE A NOS OR NEW 811A TUBE

List of required parts or devices:

Variable 40-50 DC power supply

Procedure:

To avoid flashover in a new or a long time unused tube, it is prudent to prepare ("reactivate") it for his task. There are various opinions and solutions how to do it, but with a 811A it can be relatively simple. A DC of 40 to 50 V is sufficient for the tube to draw 175 mA as the grid is connected to the anode. Heat the tube 30 minutes with a filament voltage of **6.3 V**. Then supply a "high voltage" of about 45 V and set the voltage to a current of 175 mA. If possible use a current limiter, because during reactivate the current can increase suddenly so that continue monitoring could be necessary to maintain 400 mA. Usually I will not reactivate longer than an **hour**. Soon you will find out at which voltage a good tube drawn 175 mA, so you have an indication if another tube is better or not.

All good used or new TAYLOR, WATERS and CETRON tubes that I could test were remarkably similar, as they were 175 mA at 40-44 Volts.

Please refer to the schematic below to assist you to this modification