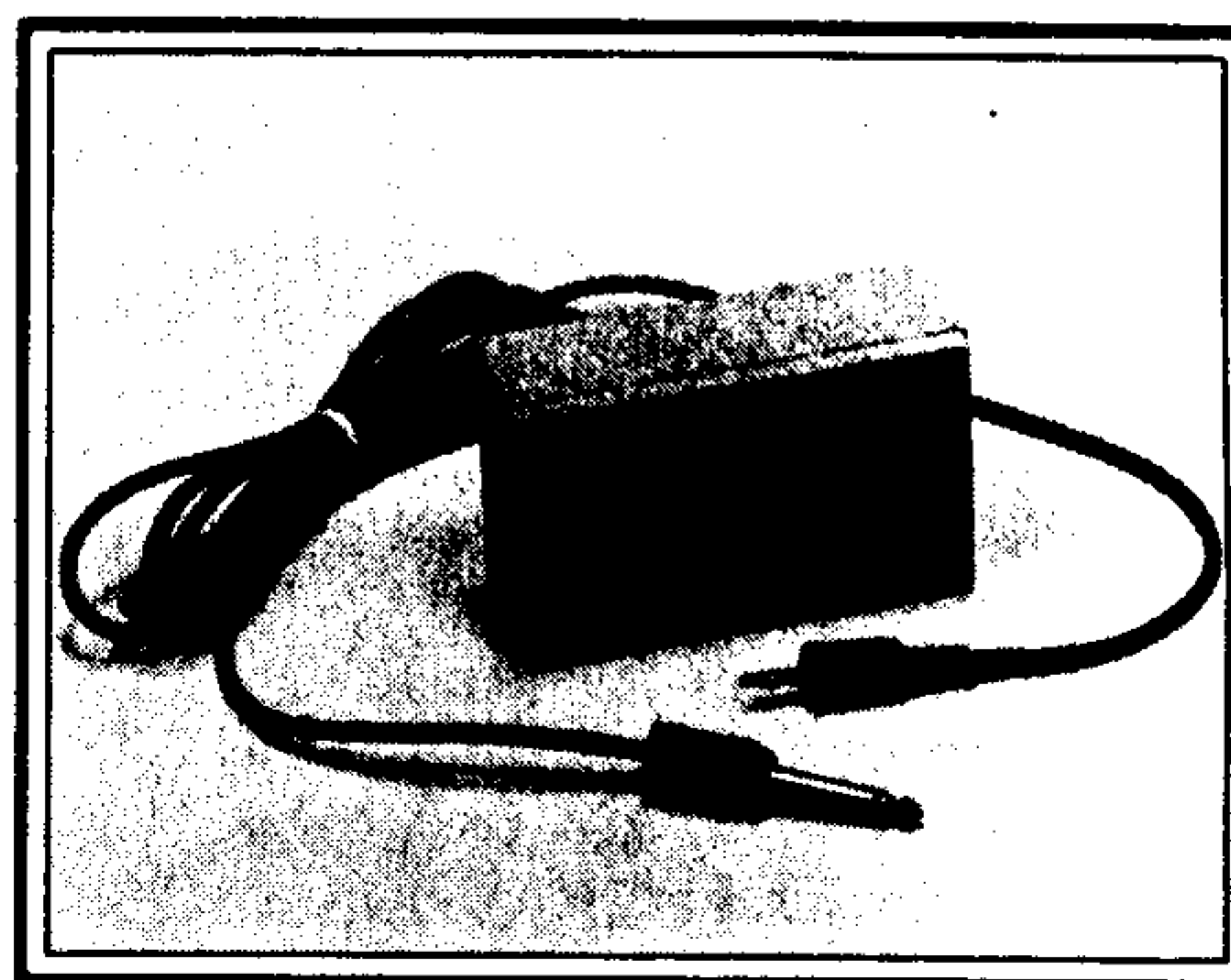


**Want to make a good piece of equipment better? For a few bucks and a few minutes investment you can add another dimension to the ever-popular HW-8.**

# Add A Speaker/Amplifier To Your HW-8

BY HY SIEGEL\*, K9CCN



*The Archer Mini-Amplifier/Speaker (Radio Shack No. 277-1008) and patch cord (Radio Shack No. 42-2433).*



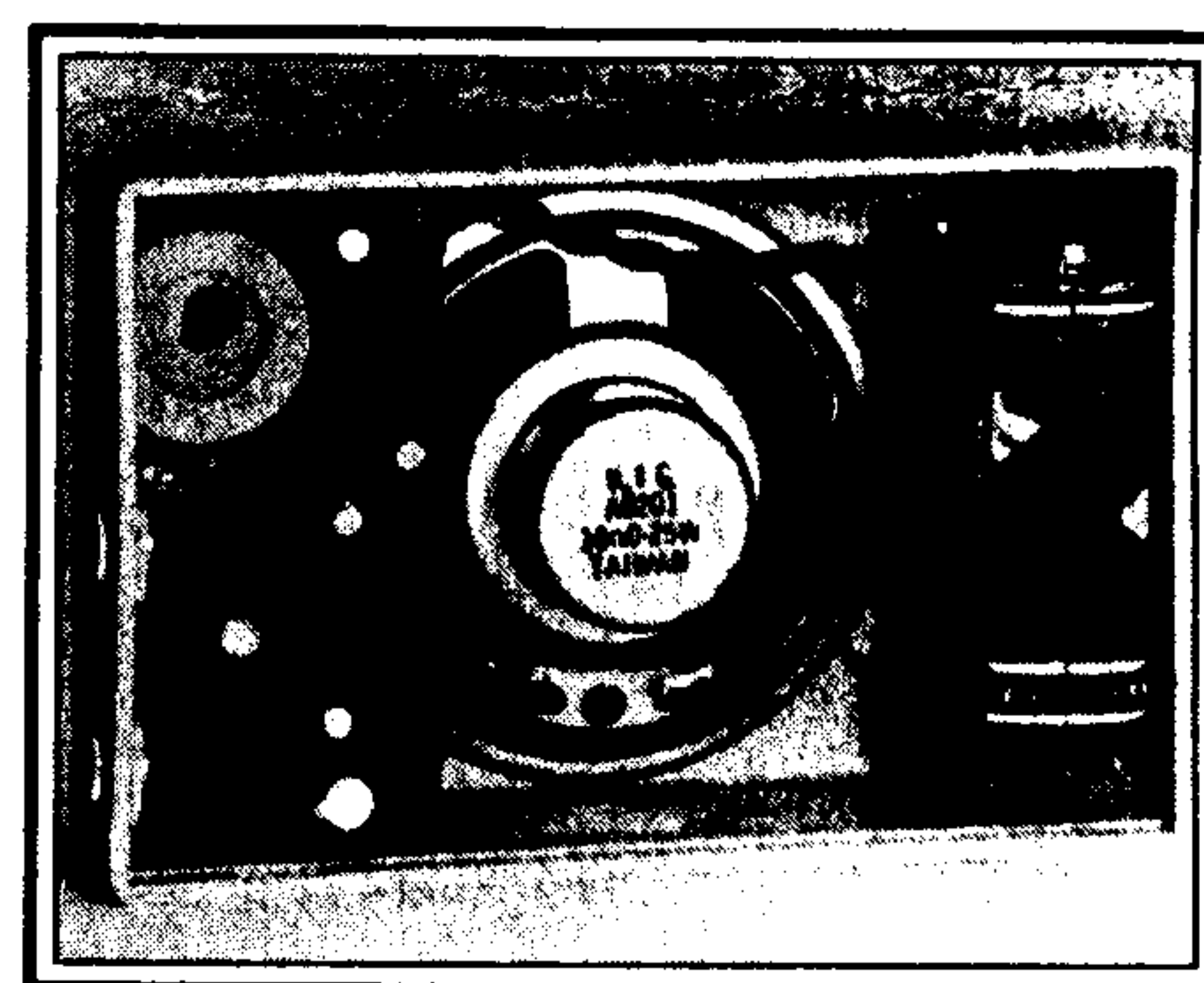
*The Archer Mini-Amplifier/Speaker simply plugs into your HW-8 to give you an instant speaker.*

**H**eathkit's HW-8 is perhaps one of the most enjoyable pieces of amateur gear I have had since my Novice station, which consisted of a home-brew transmitter and Heathkit AR-3 receiver. The little rig combines effective simplicity with the kind of compact portability that has always delighted me. It seems equally at home in the Novice shack as well as in that of the seasoned QRP "pro."

It has, for me, only one flaw—I don't like wearing headphones! Of course, this is a personal preference (one that I know is shared by many other amateurs, although I am aware that many

die-hard brass-pounders wouldn't have it any other way. Certainly, wearing cans has advantages over using a speaker, particularly in noisy surroundings. Avid DXers and contest operators usually prefer them for the aid they give in focusing attention. But for those of us who are "weekend" brass-pounders, primarily interested in a casual c.w. QSO, it's sometimes desirable to have a choice available, rather than being restricted just to headphones.

There are occasions when a speaker provides a definite advantage for the purpose at hand. Consider an exhibit of amateur radio; watching an operator wearing headphones has much less impact on an audience of potential amateurs than if they are



*The compact speaker/amplifier is powered by a 9-volt battery and has a self-contained speaker.*

able to hear the sounds of the QSO underway.

Adding a speaker to the HW-8 can be done easily and inexpensively using the Archer Mini-Amplifier/Speaker (#277-1008) sold by Radio Shack for \$11.95. This palm-sized unit operates on a self-contained 9-volt battery. It has an on-off/volume control and a jack for an earphone or external speaker if you don't like the sound of the internal speaker. According to Radio Shack's catalog description, the Archer Mini-Amplifier/Speaker uses a high-gain integrated circuit amplifier and delivers an output of 200 mW. Sensitivity is given as 1 mV; frequency response, 100–10,000 Hz. The size of the unit is 2½" x 3-7/8" x 1¾".

To use the speaker/amplifier, all that's needed is a patch cord with a ¼" phone plug on one end to plug into the HW-8's headphone jack, and a 1/8" mini-plug on the other end that connects to the speaker/amplifier's input jack. If you're in a hurry, exceptionally lazy (like me), or have no "junk box," Radio Shack has a ready-made patch cord of this type available (#42-2433, \$2.89).

Operation is easy. Simply make the plug-in connections, adjust the speaker/amplifier and HW-8 volume controls to a comfortable level, and you're on the air.

\*6237 Dovenshire Terr., Fort Worth, Texas 76112