

G3LPC

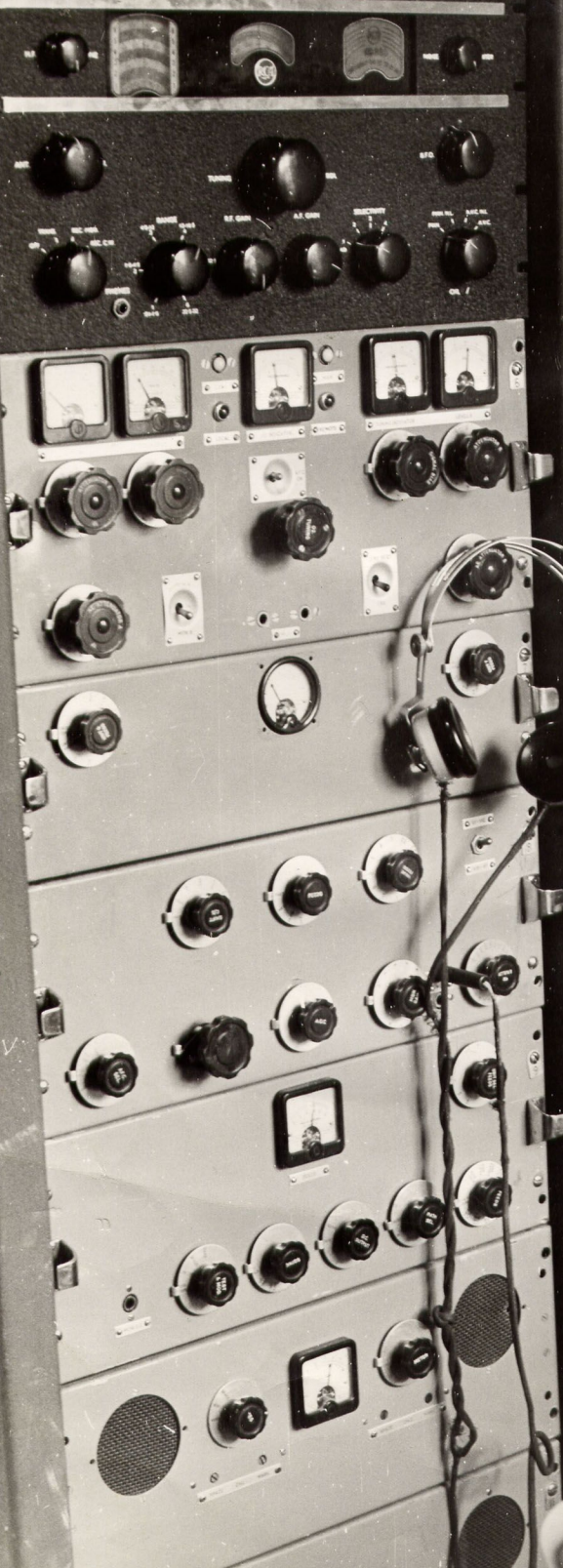




Photo (Mill Street Studios)

Gale keeps soldiers ashore

EIGHT soldiers from No. 3 Squadron of the 14 Signal Regiment, Bampton, in Oxfordshire, on Sunday sailed from Bideford Quay on the *Lundy Gannet* to set up what is probably the first amateur radio station to operate from Lundy Island.

The soldiers, under the command of Warrant Officer Class 1 R. C. Evans, travelled down to North Devon on Friday for a scheduled crossing on Saturday, but owing to high winds and generally poor conditions they had to delay their departure for 24 hours.

On their journey from Bampton the party managed to contact several places on the continent, in U.S.A. and Great Britain.

AS AMATEURS

The usual role of the 14 Signal Regiment is to run the United Kingdom terminal of the Army's world-wide Commonwealth Communications network, but on Lundy, where they will live in a disused lighthouse, members of the expedition will work purely as amateurs, trying to contact as many amateurs as possible all over the world and getting used to equipment to which they are not familiar.

Much they have made themselves and some has been loaned by manufacturers.

All the party have been to sea before, one of them, Staff Sergeant R. Conway, being ex-Merchant Navy.

"They have all been looking forward to the expedition since it was planned in February and hope to embark on a similar venture next year," said W.O. Evans.

The 330D Pennant Flies over Hundy Isl GB3LPC.

