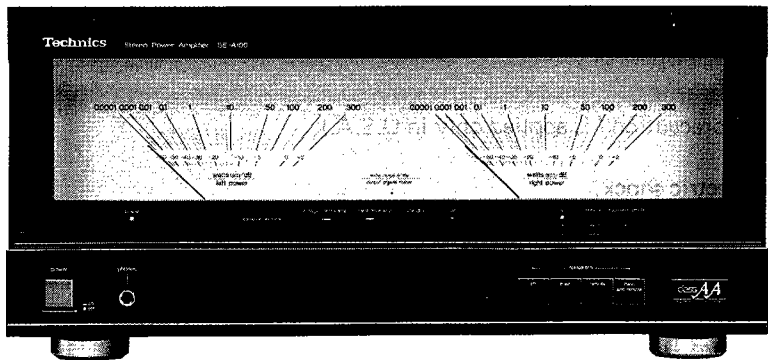


3963 Service Manual

ORDER NO. HAD8603425C1
A3

Amplifier SE-A100

Stereo Power Amplifier



Color

(K) Black Type	
Color	Area
(K)	[M] U.S.A.
(K)	[MC] . . . Canada

SPECIFICATIONS (IHF '78)

■ AMPLIFIER SECTION

Rated minimum sine wave RMS power output
 20 Hz~20 kHz both channels driven
 0.0007% total harmonic distortion
 170W per channel (8 ohms)
 20 Hz~20 kHz both channels driven
 0.002% total harmonic distortion
 240W per channel (4 ohms)

1 kHz continuous power output
 both channels driven
 0.0007% total harmonic distortion
 170W per channel (8 ohms)
 0.002% total harmonic distortion
 240W per channel (4 ohms)

Dynamic headroom
 0.7 dB (8 ohms)
 0.9 dB (4 ohms)

Total harmonic distortion
 rated power at 20 Hz~20 kHz 0.0007% (8 ohms)
 rated power at 20 Hz~20kHz 0.002% (4 ohms)
 half power at 20 Hz~20 kHz 0.0007% (8 ohms)
 half power at 1 kHz [less than 0.0002% (8 ohms)]

Power bandwidth
 both channels driven, -3 dB T.H.D. 0.01%
 5 Hz~100 kHz (8 ohms)

Transient intermodulation distortion unmeasurably small
SMPTE intermodulation distortion 0.002% (8 ohms)

Frequency response
 20 Hz~20 kHz (+0 dB, -0.1 dB)
 0.8 Hz~150 kHz (+0 dB, -3 dB)

Input sensitivity 75 mV (1V, IHF '66)
S/N (IHF, A) 97 dB (120 dB, IHF '66)
Residual hum and noise 0.3 mV
Input impedance 47 kilohms
Low frequency damping factor 120 (8 ohms)
 60 (4 ohms)

Load impedance
MAIN or REMOTE 4~16 ohms
MAIN and REMOTE 8~16 ohms

Meter
reading range 0.0001W~300W
 -60 dB~+2 dB
 (logarithmic compression)

frequency response (reading accuracy)
 20 Hz~20 kHz ±3 dB (more than -40 dB)
 20 Hz~20 kHz ±5 dB (less than -40 dB)

attack time 100μ sec
recovery time (0dB → -20dB) 300msec

■ GENERAL

Power consumption 770W, 980 VA
Power supply AC 120V, 60 Hz
Dimensions (W×H×D) 430 x 209 x 475 mm
 (16-15/16" x 8-1/4" x 18-11/16")

Weight 31.2 kg
 (68.64 lb.)

Note:
 Total harmonic distortion is measured by the digital spectrum analyzer (H.P. 3045 system).
 Specifications are subject to change without notice for further improvement.

Technics

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 Secaucus,
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SAFETY PRECAUTION

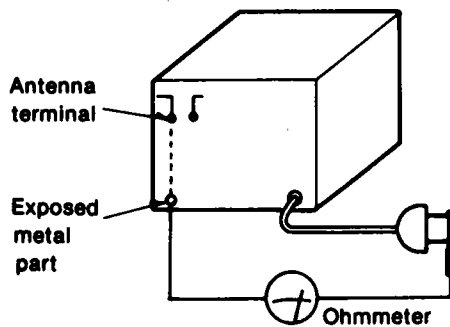
(This "safety precaution" is applied only in U.S.A.)

1. Before servicing, unplug the power cord to prevent an electric shock.
2. When replacing parts, use only manufacturer's recommended components for safety.
3. Check the condition of the power cord. Replace if wear or damage is evident.
4. After servicing, be sure to restore the lead dress, insulation barriers, insulation papers, shields, etc.
5. Before returning the serviced equipment to the customer, be sure to make the following insulation resistance test to prevent the customer from being exposed to a shock hazard.

INSULATION RESISTANCE TEST

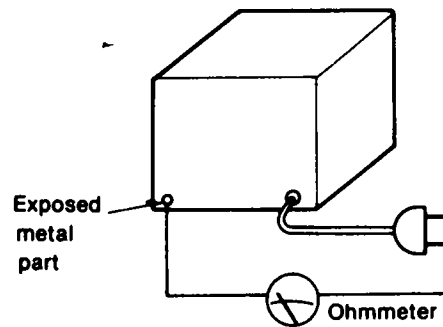
1. Unplug the power cord and short the two prongs of the plug with a jumper wire.
2. Turn on the power switch.
3. Measure the resistance value with ohmmeter between the jumpered AC plug and each exposed metal cabinet part, such as screwheads antenna, control shafts, handle brackets, etc. Equipment with antenna terminals should read between $3M\Omega$ and $5.2M\Omega$ to all exposed parts. (Fig. A) Equipment without antenna terminals should read approximately infinity to all exposed parts. (Fig. B)

Note: Some exposed parts may be isolated from the chassis by design. These will read infinity.



(Fig. A)

Resistance = $3M\Omega$ — $5.2M\Omega$



(Fig. B)

Resistance = Approx ∞

4. If the measurement is outside the specified limits, there is a possibility of a shock hazard. The equipment should be repaired and rechecked before it is returned to the customer.

Explanation on the New "class AA" Circuit Technology/Service hint

● Background of the "class AA" circuit development

A new approach to better characteristics of an audio amplifier has been noted recently. It is shown as the measurement data where speakers may be used for the load of an amplifier instead of a conventional pure resistance load.

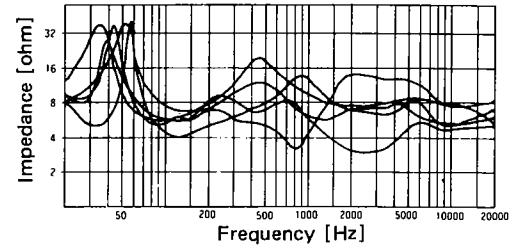
Some methods of evaluating the characteristics of an amplifier by changing the load conditions are being tried.

For instance, there are measurement data of the output (continuous output and instantaneous output) at load resistances of not only 8Ω but also 4Ω and 2Ω of lower resistance values.

There are also measurement data of the change of the output and distortion factor, when the phase of the drive voltage and current are changed by using a reactance load.

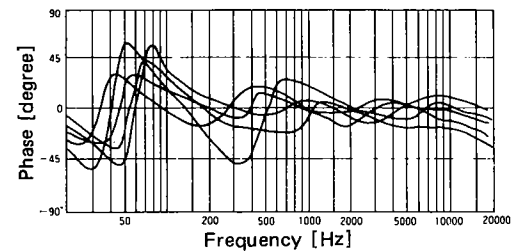
Furthermore, there are measurement data of the maximum drive power when various speakers are connected to an amplifier and a mixed signal of square wave and sine wave is applied to the input for sound reproduction by speakers.

These methods are used because speakers used for reproducing music exhibit completely different characteristics from a pure resistance load which has been used for the measurement of amplifiers. That is, the impedance changes greatly according to the frequency (refer to Fig. 1), and therefore the phase difference between the drive voltage and the drive current changes complicatedly (refer to Fig. 2).



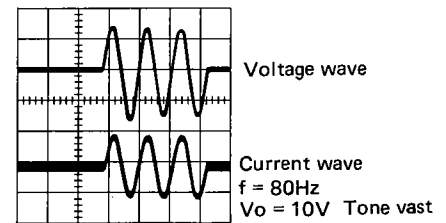
Frequency characteristic of speakers impedance

Fig. 1



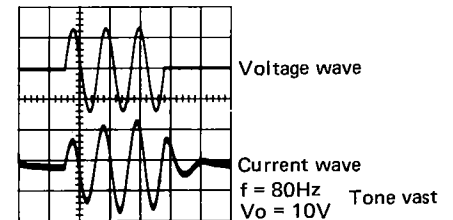
Frequency characteristic of phase of speaker

Fig. 2



Voltage and current wave-form at 8 ohms load

Fig. 3



Voltage and current wave-form at speaker load

Fig. 4

	Speaker	Pure Resistance
Impedance	The impedance change with the frequency (Fig. 1). There is a point of frequency where the impedance is considerably lower than the nominal impedance.	Does not change with the frequency.
Drive voltage- Drive current phase	Phase deviation occurs. The phase deviation changes with the frequency (Fig. 2).	No phase deviation occurs.
Drive voltage- Drive current waveform	Different (Fig. 4)	Same (Fig. 3)

Also, the voltage waveform differs from the current waveform due to the inverse electromotive force of the speaker, thus the speaker is a very complex load to the amplifier (refer to Fig. 3 and Fig. 4). For the improvement of the reproducing performance, therefore, it is important to observe the characteristics of an amplifier under conditions closer to the actual operation by changing the load conditions. Measurement data recently taken by such new methods show that there are differences in the capability of reproduction between amplifiers. This is because change of the output current according to the load condition influences the voltage amplification characteristics of the amplifier. It is also because the degree of the influence of the voltage amplification characteristics, as well as the current supply capacity of the amplifier, on the output current differs according to the amplifier. Also, for an class A amplifier, it is known that the output signal voltage distortion is minimum at no load, increasing as the output current increases by changing the resistance load to 16Ω , 8Ω and 4Ω . The change in the characteristic will be more complicated in the case of a speaker load which exhibits complex characteristics. As a result, for the ideal power amplifier, it is most important that two necessary functions: distortionless voltage amplification and sufficiently large energy-supplying current amplification, be made co-existent under the condition of speaker operation. The new "Class AA" circuit fully satisfies these conditions. The circuit has been developed by combining two amplifiers: a class A amplifier of no-load condition which can exhibit the ideal voltage characteristic and an amplifier which has great current drive power.

● Principle of the "class AA" operation

The "Class AA" system, as described previously, consists of two types of amplifiers: the voltage control amplifier of pure class A operation and the current supply amplifier to supply current to the speaker. The voltage control amplifier, being released from the heavy load of "current supply", controls the voltage exactly in accordance with the input signal, while the current drive amplifier supplies the required current with a margin, so that excellent transmission characteristics are obtained with a speaker load.

... a detailed explanation will be given using Fig. 5 about the principle of the "Class AA" operation.

The "Class AA" system consists of two amplifiers of different operation modes: a constant voltage amplifier and a constant current amplifier. They are combined by means of the "Class AA" bridge network.

The constant current amplifier, which is called the current drive amplifier, receives the input signal from the voltage amplifier, receives the input signal from the voltage source both ends of the network bridge, and supplies the output current to the other end of the bridge. Therefore, it operates the constant current source to output the current which is proportional to the speaker output current as shown by Equation in Fig. 5.

The voltage control amplifier of pure class A operation works the constant voltage source where NFB is applied from the speaker output terminals by connecting the amplifier output one end of the "Class AA" bridge. The conventional amplifier, which is shown in Fig. 6, uses the same circuit as the output circuit to supply the output current and for the circuit to control the output voltage. Therefore, the current from the output circuit influences the voltage amplifying stage, causing deterioration of the transmission characteristics, such as occurrence of distortion in the output signal.

In the "Class AA" operation, all the speaker driving current supplied from the current drive amplifier when the bridge is balanced as shown by Equation (3) in Fig. 5. Accordingly, the voltage control amplifier is released from the heavy load of current supply, so that it controls the voltage to obtain an output exactly in accordance with the input signal under the condition of "zero" output current. The current drive amplifier, which has sufficient capacity with a margin to supply current required for driving the speaker, together with the voltage control amplifier which operates in the ideal condition of pure class A operation, achieves excellent transmission characteristics of original pure class A operation which have never been obtained in the conventional class A amplifier.

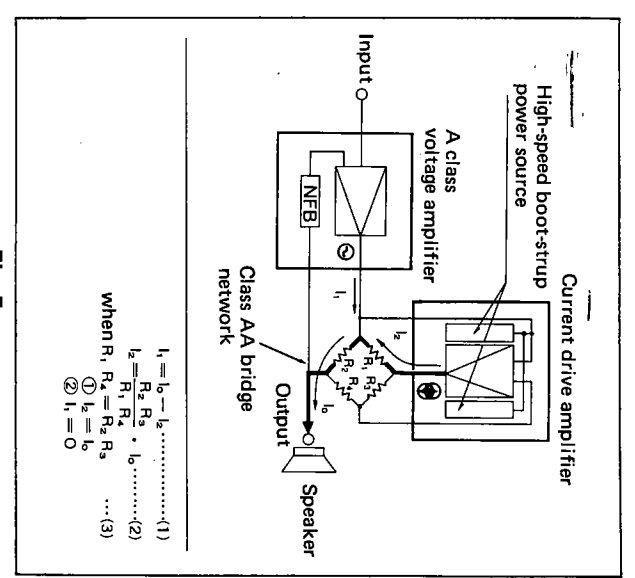


Fig. 5

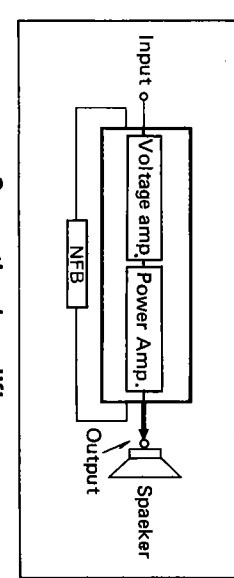


Fig. 6

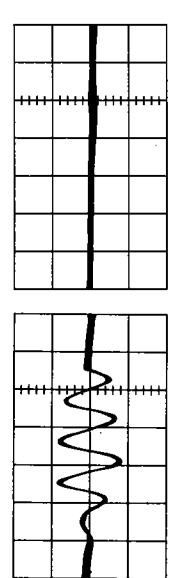


Fig. 7

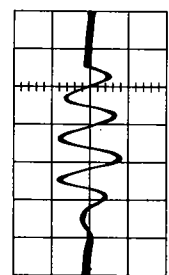


Fig. 8

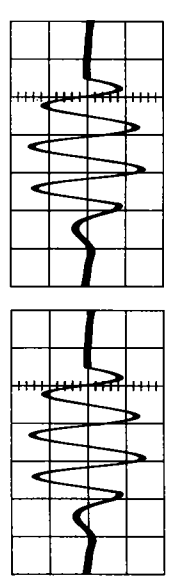


Fig. 9

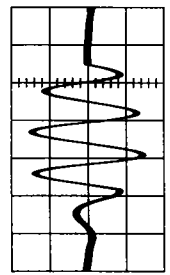
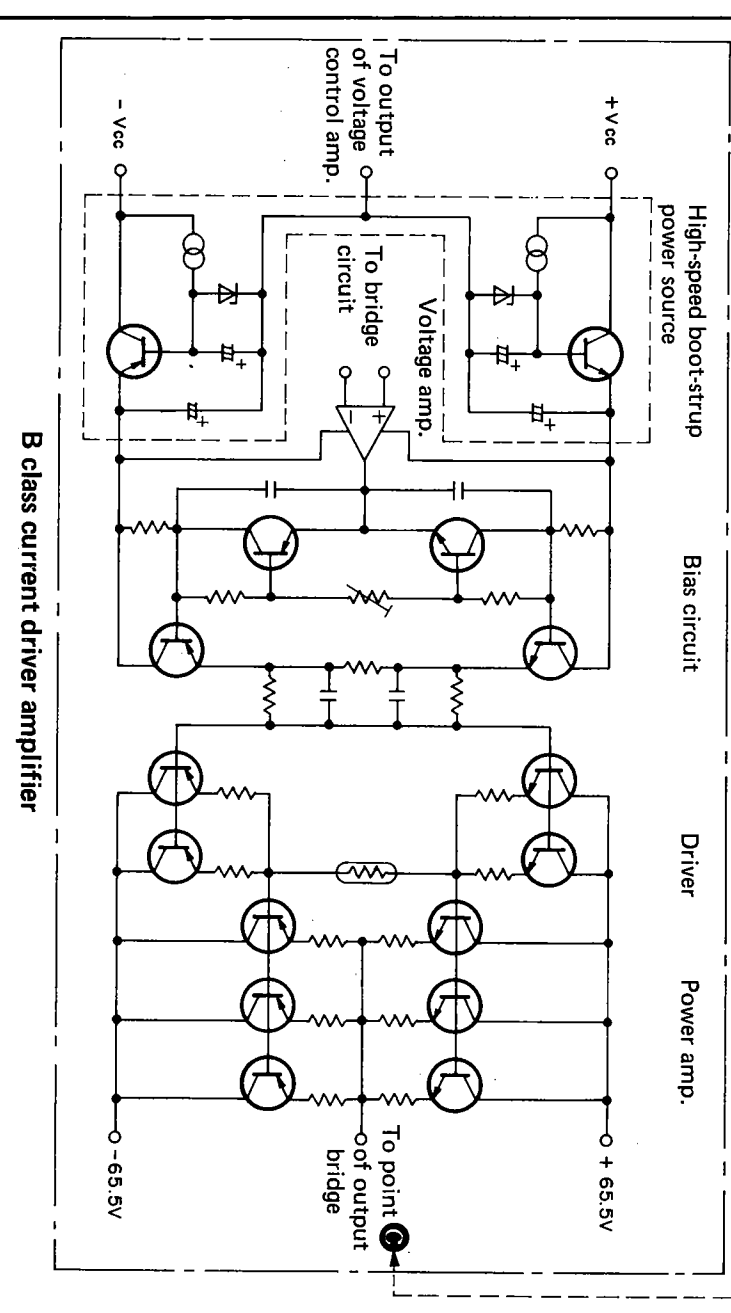
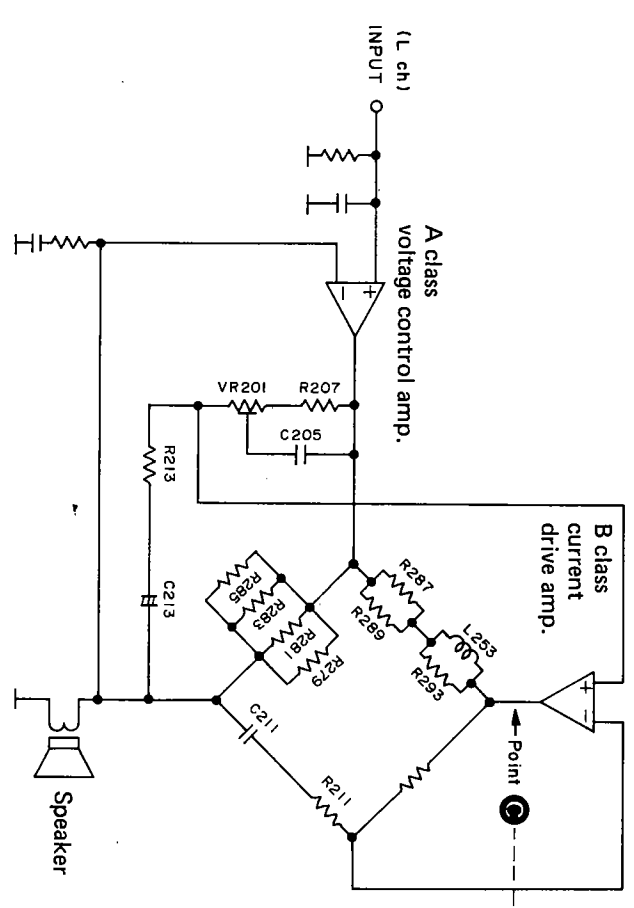


Fig. 10

The SE-A100 amplifier has a current drive amplifier circuit consisting of a high through-rate input stage, a 4-stage Darlington output stage, and a newly developed feed-forward type bootstrap power source circuit. It is a high-power-output constant-current amplifier with 50A/μs high speed and ultra-low distortion.

• Bridge Circuit



Equipment used

- oscilloscope
- variable AC power supply
- audio frequency oscillator (AF OSC)
- electronic voltmeter (EVM)
- 100-ohm resistor (8Ω, 100W)
- 100-ohm resistor (10Ω, 10W)

Check Procedure when Output Signal is Not Delivered or Distorted

Switch off the power supply. (Set the voltage controller to 0 V.)

Remove the top and bottom boards.

Remove the PCBs **F**, **G**, **E**, and **H**.

Raise the primary power supply voltage gradually and

check voltages at the pins **314**, **316**, **317**, **310**, **320**, and **322**.

Check if voltages at the pin **314**, **317**, and **320** are about

33 V and those at the pins **316**, **319**, and **322** are about

33 V when the primary power supply voltage is 60 V.

If yes, the PCBs **A**, **B**, and **C** are normal.

If voltages at the pins **314** and **316** are not about ±33 V,

check the PCB **A** and the power source.

If voltages at the pins **317** and **319** are not about ±33 V,

check the PCB **C** and the power source.

If voltages at the pins **320** and **322** are not about ±33 V,

check the PCB **B** and the power source.

If the above step 5 check is satisfactory, set the

primary voltage to 0 V and discharge the capacitors

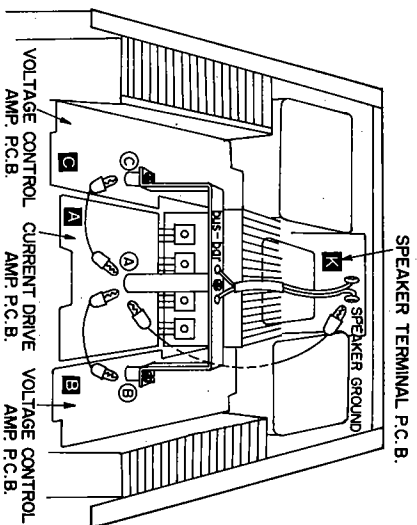
C301 to C308, C309, and C310).

Install the PCBs **F** and **G**.

Raise the primary power supply voltage gradually to 60 V

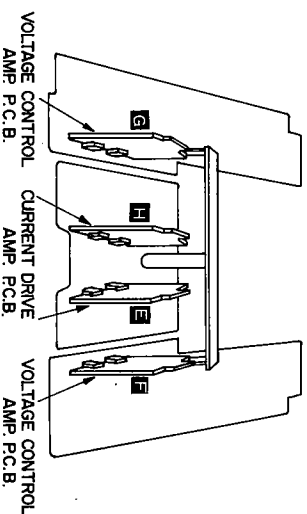
and check voltages at the pins **314** and **316**. If the vol-

tages do not rise, check the PCBs **E** and **A** or **G** and **A**.

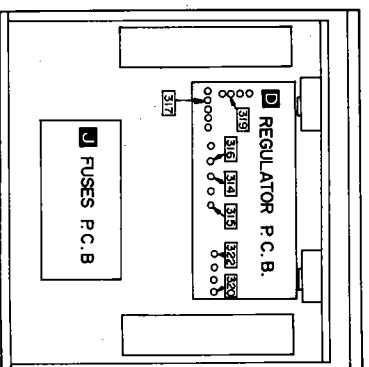


[Fig. 1]

Note: When the bus-bar is removed at checking, connect the **A**, **B**, **C**, and the loudspeaker ground terminal with clips as shown in Fig. 1.



[Fig. 2]



[Fig. 3]

9. If the voltages at the pins **314** and **316** are about ±33 V, raise the primary power supply voltage to 120 V and apply a signal 1 kHz 0.3 V to the input terminal. Check waveforms at the loudspeaker terminals.
(Output voltage: About 11 V)
The PCBs **A**, **F** and **G** are normal if the following waveforms are obtained.

No load



8-ohm load



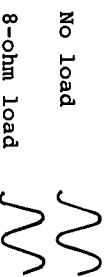
10. Set the primary power supply voltage to 0 V and discharge the capacitors (C301 to C308, C309, and C310).

11. Install the PCBs **E** and **H**.

12. Raise the primary power supply voltage gradually to 60 V, and check if the voltages at the pins **317** and **320** are about 33 V and those at the pins **310** and **322** are about -33 V. If the voltages do not rise, check the PCBs **E** and **B** or **H** and **C**.

13. If the step 12 check is satisfactory, apply a signal as in the step No. 9. The circuits are normal if the following waveforms are obtained.

No load



8-ohm load

- Check the PCBs **E** and **B**, or **H** and **C** again if the following waveform is developed.



Cautions: • Be sure that the earth (grounding) line (bus-bar) is positively connected when conducting the above checks.

• Don't install the PCBs **E** and **H** when the PCBs **F** and **G** are removed.

FEATURE

The assigned mission of the power amplifier is to see that the speaker systems are driven exactly according to the input signals. This may seem simple, but in reality is all the more difficult for its seeming simplicity.

Moreover, this assignment has no real meaning unless it can be accomplished when sharp level fluctuations and various frequency components included in music signals are reproduced by speakers with various unstable elements.

Technics has cleared up these problems through the application of its vast technological resources and its new concepts.

The amazing answer is the class **AA** SE-A100 amplifier with its pure class A sound and its overwhelming speaker drive capacity.

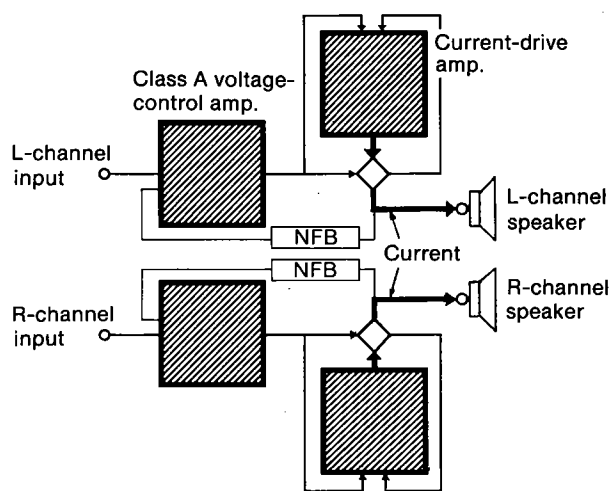
VC4 amplifier composition. class **AA equipped.**

This unit has the VC4 amplifier composition ... with voltage-control amplification, class A operation in which the problems of switching distortion and crossover distortion are finally a thing of the past, plus current-drive amplification to supply the current necessary for dynamic drive of the connected speaker systems.

Thus, the voltage-control amplifier is freed of the burden of current supply, leaving it free to supply voltage faithful to incoming signals.

The characteristic of the amplification element is therefore displayed at its finest, and distortion is so low as to be virtually unmeasurable, even by highly precise instruments.

The current-drive amplifier is, on the other hand, free to supply all the current needed for speaker drive. Impedance fluctuations, phase shifts and reverse electromotive forces at every frequency point have no effect, all having been removed in order to assure a clear and stirring sound filled with high-fidelity power under any condition.



VC4 amplifier composition

170W + 170W/0.0007% ... truly high performance

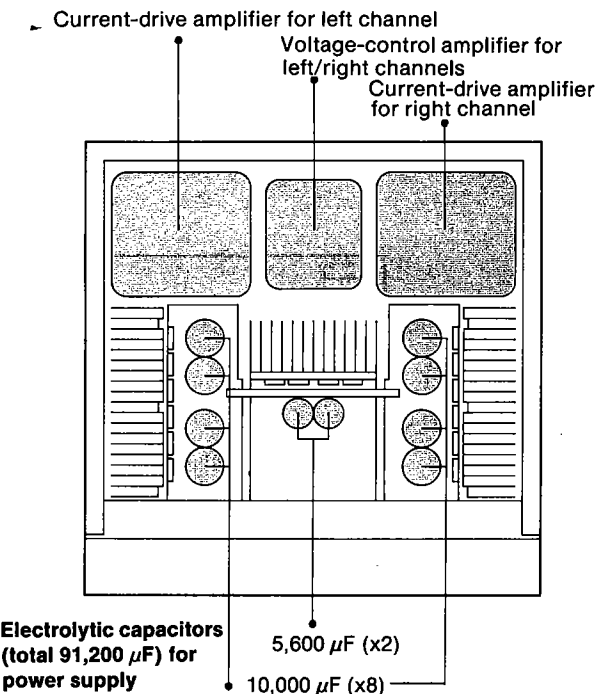
The high class **AA** performance is plainly expressed by the specs: high power of 170W + 170W (20 Hz ~ 20 kHz, 8Ω), and low distortion of 0.0007% (20 Hz ~ 20 kHz, 8Ω), an unrivalled rating that tells it all.

The dynamism of music can freely express itself until the whole body vibrates ... and the subtle nuances of music are expressed until covered by reverberations.

Luxuriously furnished as only the finest amplifiers would be

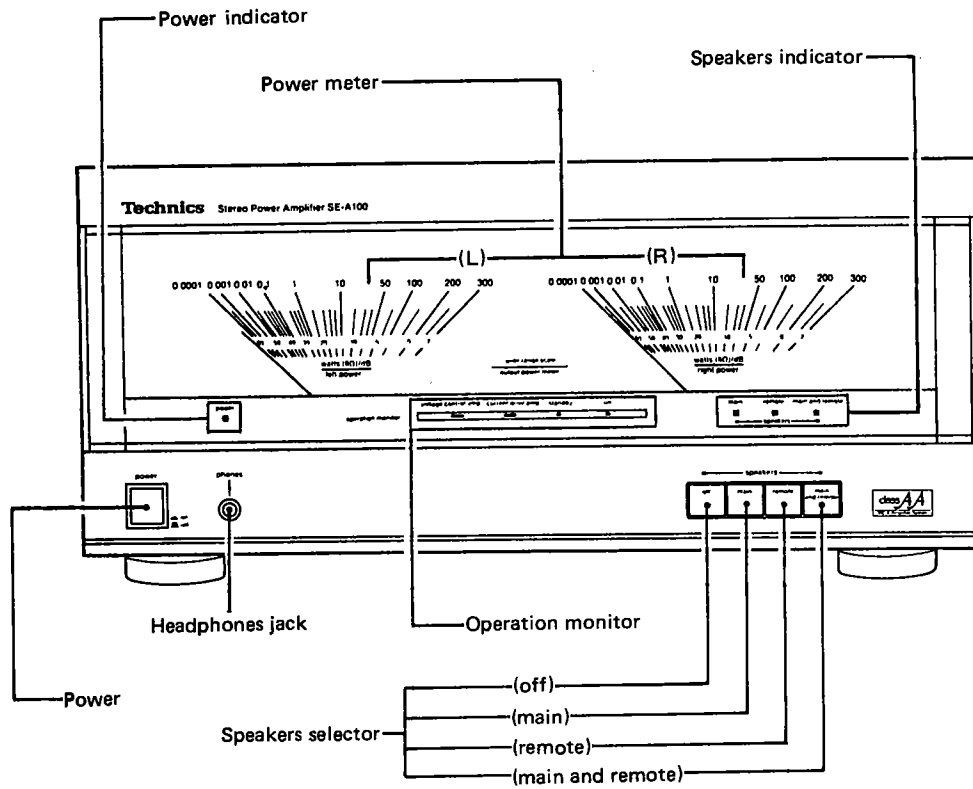
Beginning with the highly precise, large power meter traditional to Technics power amplifiers, and continuing with such features as the powerful power supply which uses three large transformers and high-capacity electrolytic capacitors, the LC-OFC internal wiring material, the gold clad contact relays for electronic speaker switching, and the heavy top panel for minimizing magnetic radiation and mechanical vibration ... every part of every circuit has been made to the finest possible specifications to make this the finest and most luxurious power amplifier you could want.

Three transformers

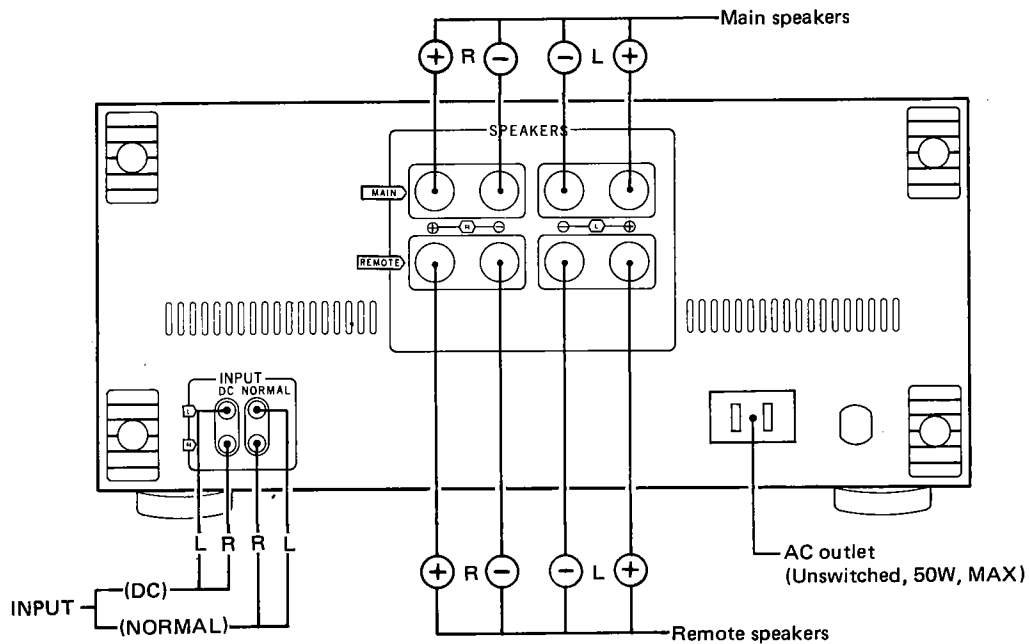


SE-A100 internal construction

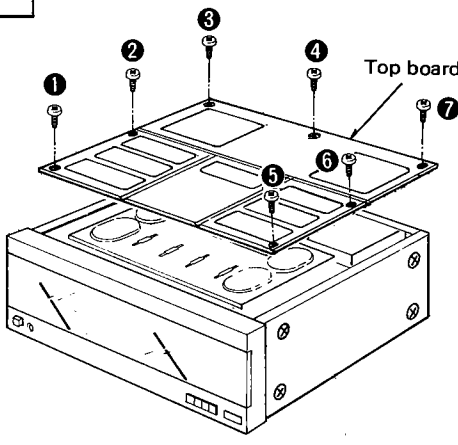
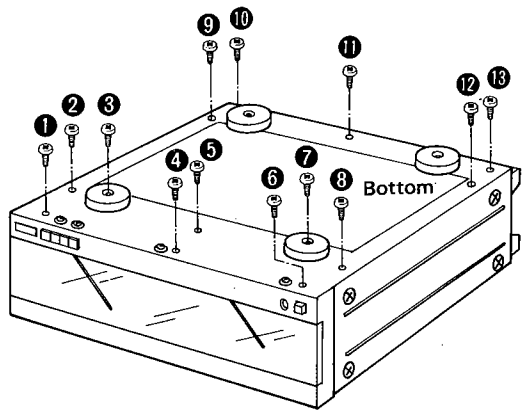
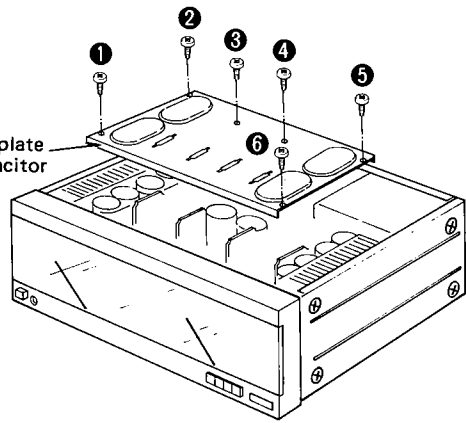
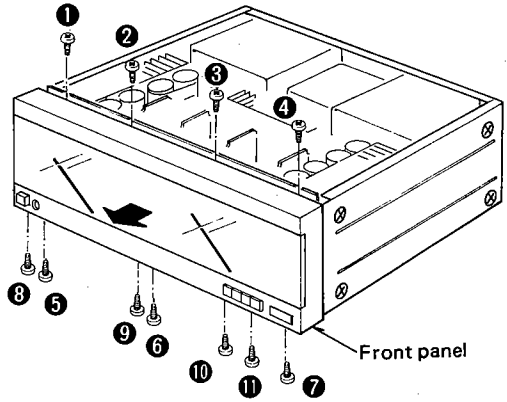
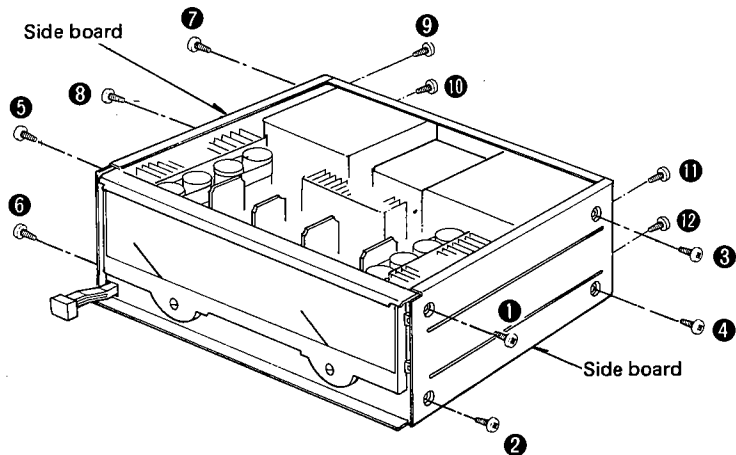
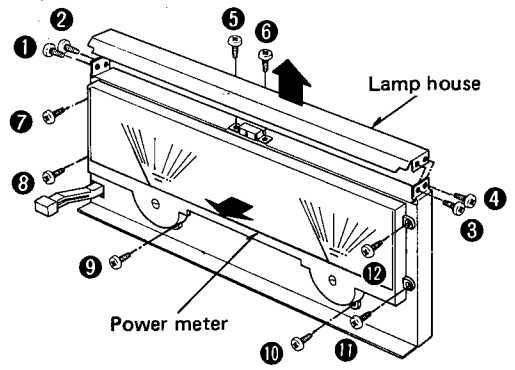
LOCATION OF CONTROLS



- If only the main or the remote speaker system is used ($4 \sim 16\Omega$)
- If both the main and remote speaker system are used ($8 \sim 16\Omega$)



DISASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

<p>Ref. No. 1</p>	<p>How to remove the top boards</p>	<p>Ref. No. 2</p>	<p>How to remove the bottom board</p>
<p>Procedure 1</p>	<p>● Remove the 7 setscrews (① ~ ⑦).</p>	<p>Procedure 1 → 2</p>	<p>● Remove the 13 screws (① ~ ⑬).</p>
			
<p>Ref. No. 3</p>	<p>How to remove the fitting plate for capacitor</p>	<p>Ref. No. 4</p>	<p>How to remove the front panel</p>
<p>Procedure 1 → 2 → 3</p>	<p>● Remove the 6 screws (① ~ ⑥).</p>	<p>Procedure 1 → 4</p>	<p>1. Remove the 11 screws (① ~ ⑪). 2. Remove the front panel.</p>
			
<p>Ref. No. 5</p>	<p>How to remove the side board, lamp house and power meter</p>		
<p>Procedure 1 → 4 → 5</p>	<p>1. Remove the 4 screws (① ~ ④).</p>		<p>2. Remove the 4 screws. (① ~ ④). 3. Remove the lamp house. 4. Remove the 8 screws. (⑤ ~ ⑫). 5. Remove the power meter.</p>
			

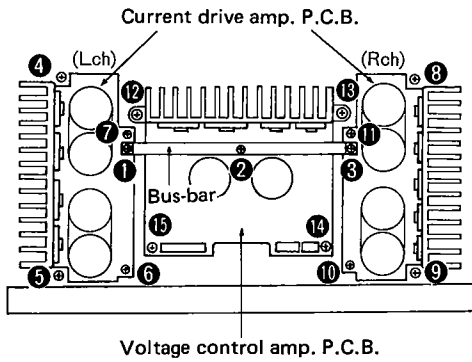
Ref. No.
6

How to remove the power transistor, voltage control amp. P.C.B. and current drive amp. P.C.B.

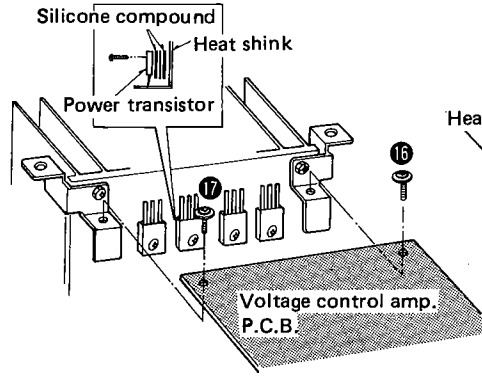
Procedure
1 → 6

1. Remove the 3 screws. (① ~ ③)
2. Remove the bus-bar.
3. Remove the 12 screws. (④ ~ ⑮)
4. Remove the voltage control amp. block and current drive amp. block. [Fig. 1]
5. Un solder the power transistor. [Fig. 3]

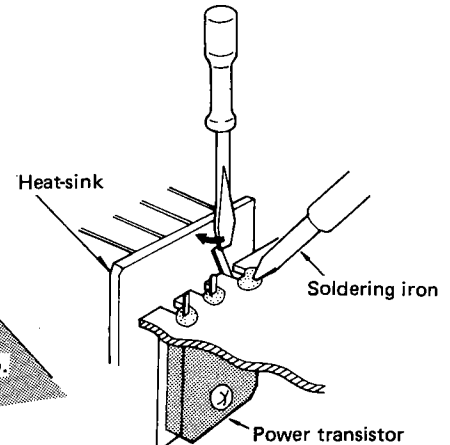
6. Remove the 2 screws. (⑯ ~ ⑰)
7. Remove the voltage control amp. P.C.B.
8. When mounting the power transistor apply silicone compound (SZZ0L15) to the rear side of power transistor.



[Fig. 1]



[Fig. 2]



[Fig. 3]

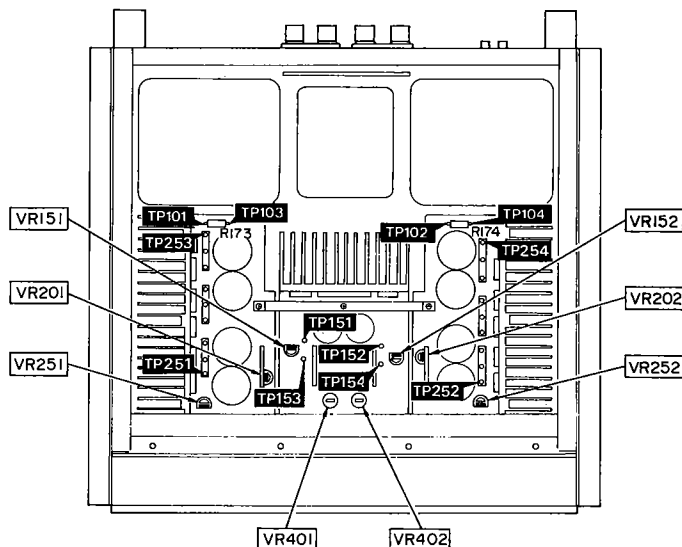
Note: When you check up with the bus bar disconnected, first connect ①, ② and ③ to the ground point and turn on the machine.

BEFORE REPAIR AND ADJUSTMENT

- (1) Turn off the power supply. Using a 10Ω, 10W resistor, shortcircuit both ends of power supply capacitors (C301~C308, 10,000μF, C309, C310, 5600μF) in order to discharge the voltage.
- (2) Before turning the power supply on, after completion of repair, slowly apply the primary voltage by using a power supply voltage controller to make sure that the consumed current at 120V, 60Hz in NO SIGNAL mode is 0.4 ~ 1.1A.

MEASUREMENTS AND ADJUSTMENTS

• Adjustment points



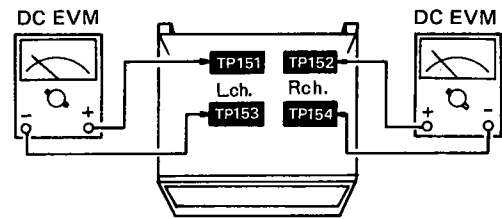
Adj. points	Adjustment
TP151, 153	Lch ICQ adj. of voltage control amp.
VR151	
TP152, 154	Rch ICQ adj. of voltage control amp.
VR152	
TP251, 253	Lch ICQ adj. of current drive amp.
VR251	
TP252, 254	Rch ICQ adj. of current drive amp.
VR252	
TP101, 103	Lch bridge-balance adj.
VR201	
TP102, 104	Rch bridge-balance adj.
VR202	
VR401	Lch power meter adj.
VR402	Rch power meter adj.

Equipment used

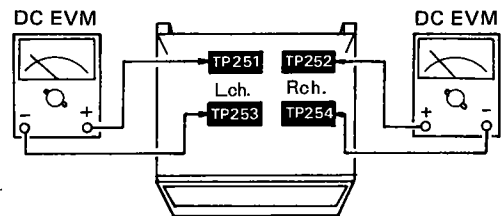
- AC and DC electronic voltmeter (EVM)
- Audio frequency oscillator (AF OSC)
- Dummy resistor or speaker (8Ω , 100W)

VOLTAGE CONTROL (V) AMP. IDLING (ICQ) ADJUSTMENT

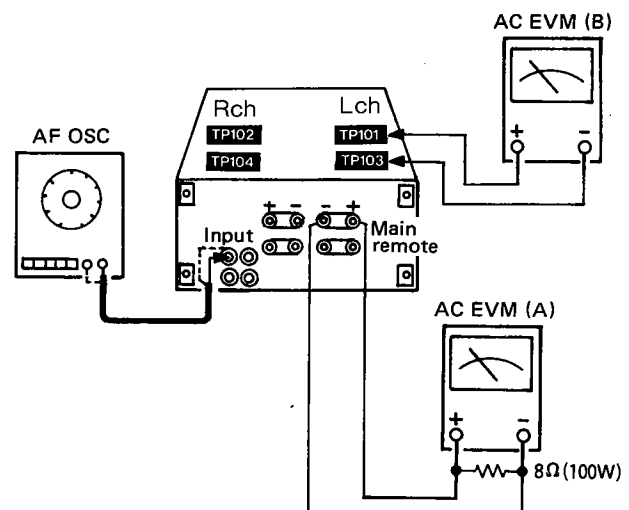
1. Test equipment connection is shown in figure.
(Connect the DC EVM. on both channels.)
2. Completely turn the (V) amp. adjusting volumes (**VR151**, **VR152**) counter-clockwise.
3. Turn ON the set when it is cold, and 30 sec. later, adjust **VR151** and **VR152** so that the voltage is **3mV**. Also, check that the voltage is **10 – 18mV** (standard: **12mV**) after lapse of **10 – 15 minutes**. (Below **50mV** after lapse of **60 min.**)

**CURRENT DRIVE (C) AMP. IDLING (ICQ) ADJUSTMENT**

1. Test equipment connection is shown in figure.
(Connect the DC EVM. on both channels.)
2. Completely turn the (C) amp. adjusting volumes (**VR251**, **VR252**) counterclockwise.
3. Turn ON the set when it is cold, and 30 sec. later, adjust **VR251** and **VR252** so that the voltage is **0.7mV**. Also, check that the voltage is **2 – 4mV** (standard: **2.5mV**) after lapse of **10 – 15 minutes**. (Below **20mA** after lapse of **60 min.**)

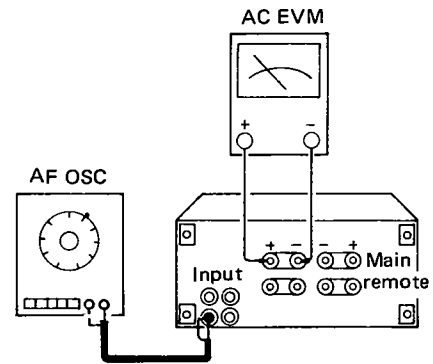
**BRIDGE-BALANCE ADJUSTMENT**

1. Test equipment connection is shown in figure.
2. Turn the **VR201** (Lch) and **VR202** (Rch) to the central positions before turning ON the set.
3. Apply 1kHz signal to the input terminal so that the output voltage of speaker terminal is **10V**. (It can be changed by the attenuator of the AF OSC)
4. Adjust **VR201** so that the voltage is minimum in the 3mV range of AC EVM (B).
5. Also for **R** channel, change the connection and make the same adjustment by **VR202**.



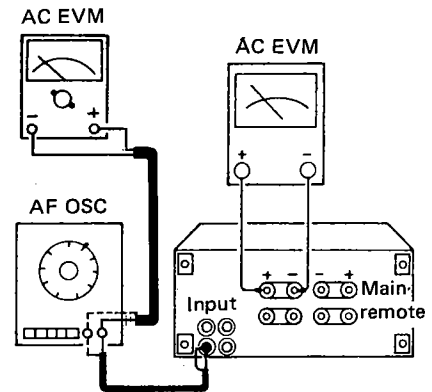
POWER METER ADJUSTMENT

1. Test equipment connections shown in figure.
2. Turn the **VR401** (Lch) and **VR402** (Rch) to the central positions before turning **ON** the set.
3. Before adjusting make sure that the power meter is mechanically adjusted to **0** point.
4. Apply 1kHz signal to the input terminal so that the output voltage of speaker terminal is **28.3V** (It can be changed by the attenuator of the AF OSC.)
5. Adjust the **VR401** (Lch) and **VR402** (Rch) so that the power meter indicates **100W**.



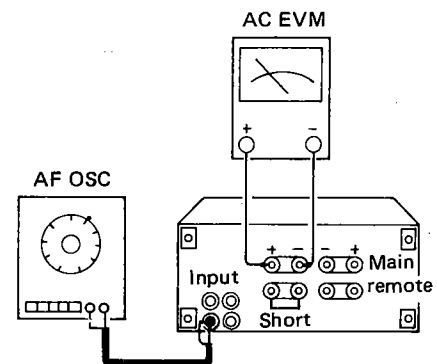
CHECK OF MUTING CIRCUIT DURING POWER "ON" – "OFF" OPERATION

1. Test equipment connection is shown in figure.
2. Apply **1kHz, 0.5V** signal to the input terminal.
3. Check that the output is given **7 – 8.5 sec.** after power **ON**, and that the output goes out immediately with power **OFF**.



CHECK OF OVERLOAD DETECTION AND PROTECTION CIRCUIT

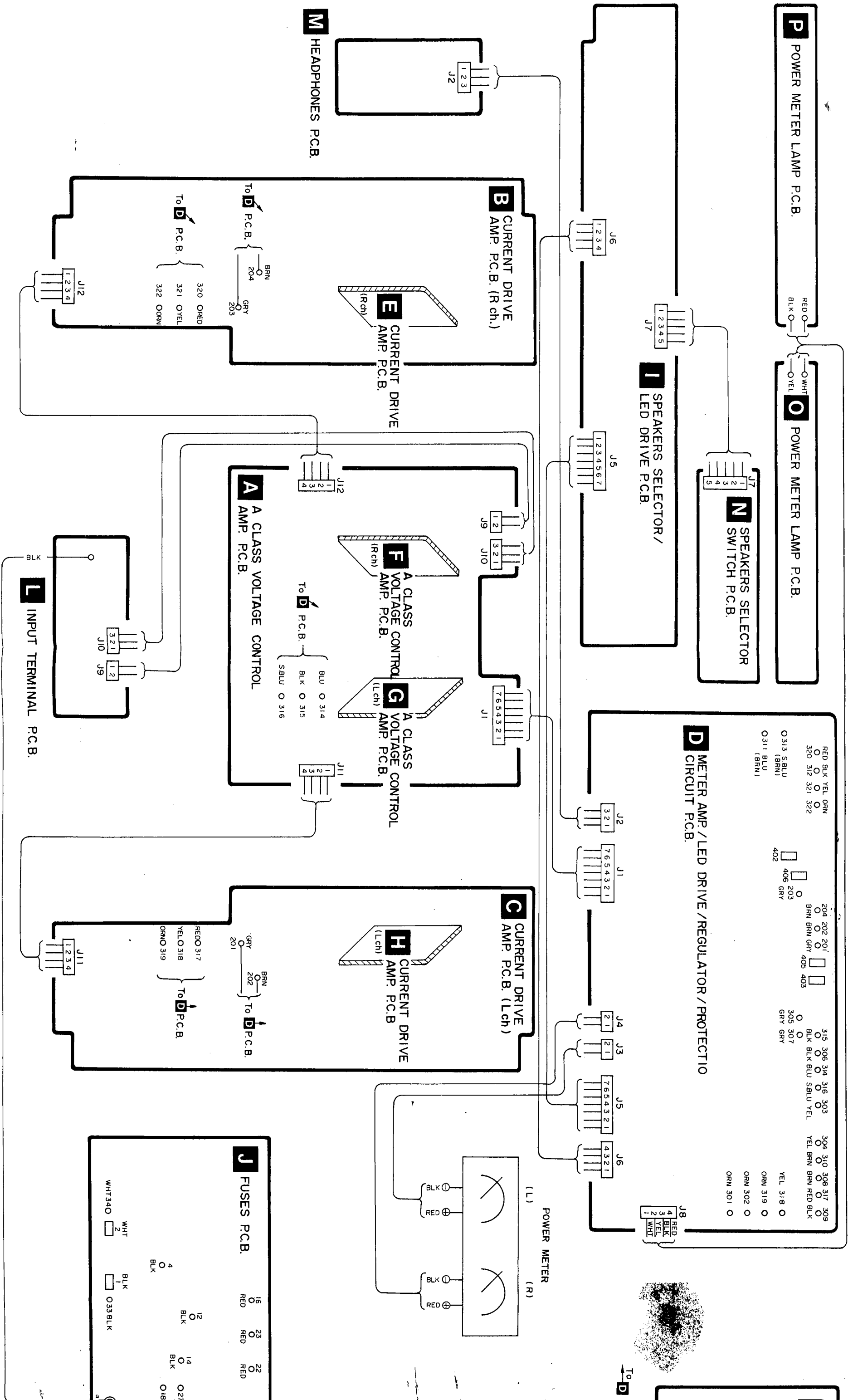
1. Test equipment connection is shown in figure.
2. Set the speaker select switch to **"main"**.
3. Short-circuit the speaker terminals on the **"remote"** side.
4. Apply 1kHz signal to the input terminal so that the output voltage of speaker terminal is **1.2V**. (It can be changed by the attenuator of the AF OSC.)
5. Check that the relay turns off and the output stops when the speaker select switch is shifted to **"remote"**, and that the condition is held even with the speaker select switch is set to **"OFF"**.
6. Perform the same check on **L** channel.



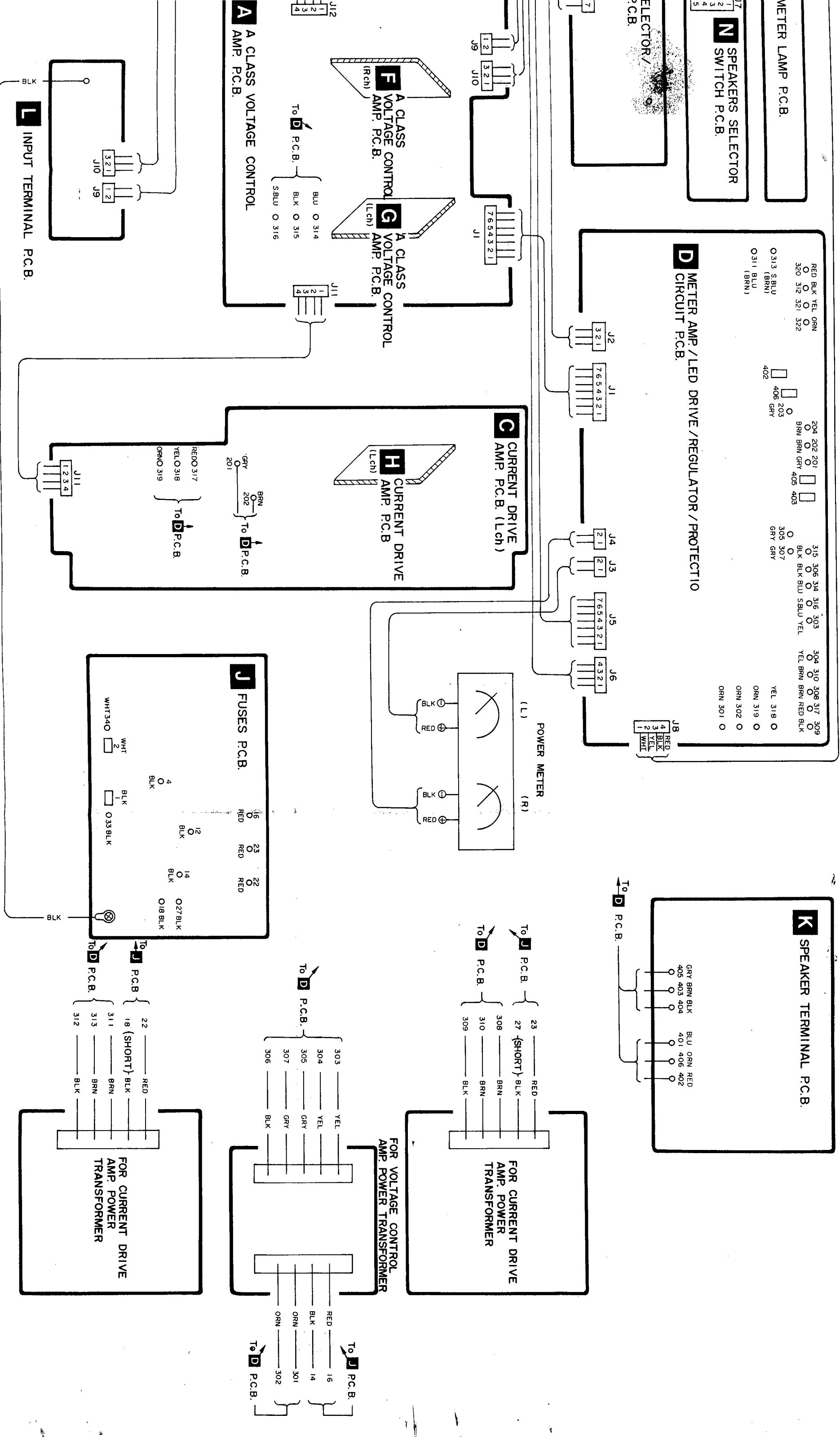
Note

- * Check the protection circuit separately on each of the channels.
- * The protection relay, if operated, will not reset itself. So, turn off the power supply and again turn it on.
- * When the protection circuit is in operation, the indicator "stand by" is blinking.

CIRCUIT BOARDS AND WIRING CONNECTION DIAGRAM

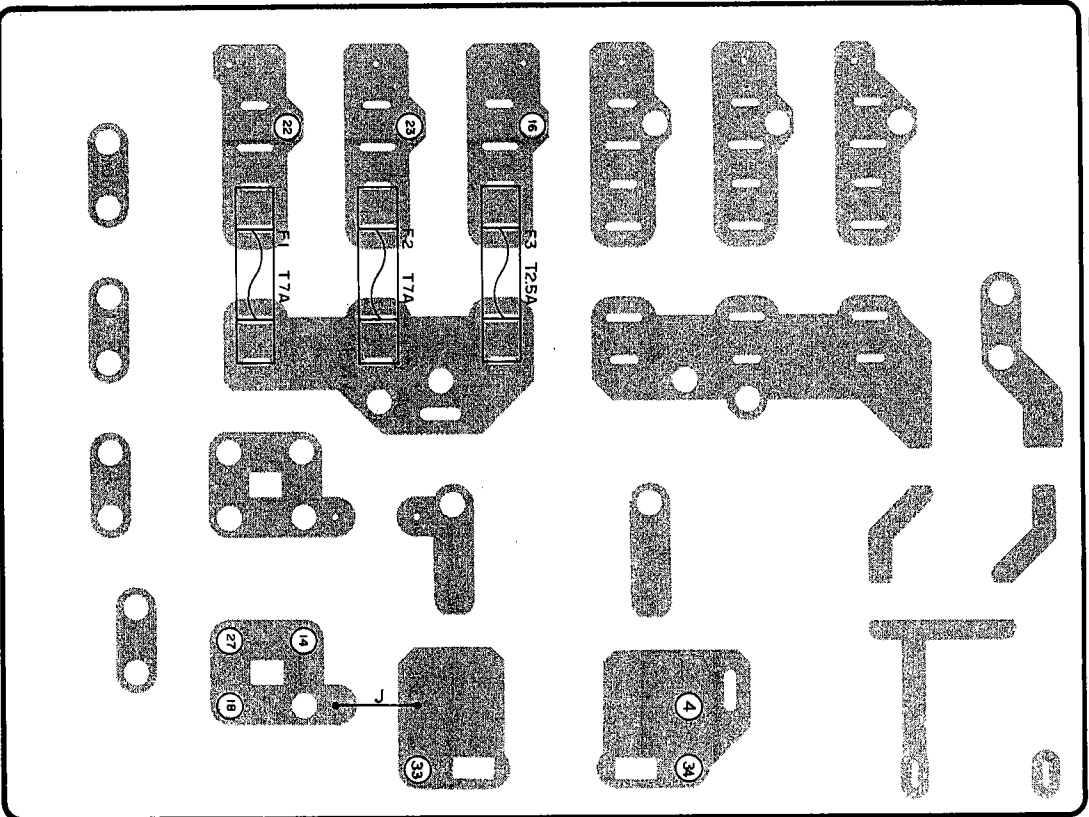


M

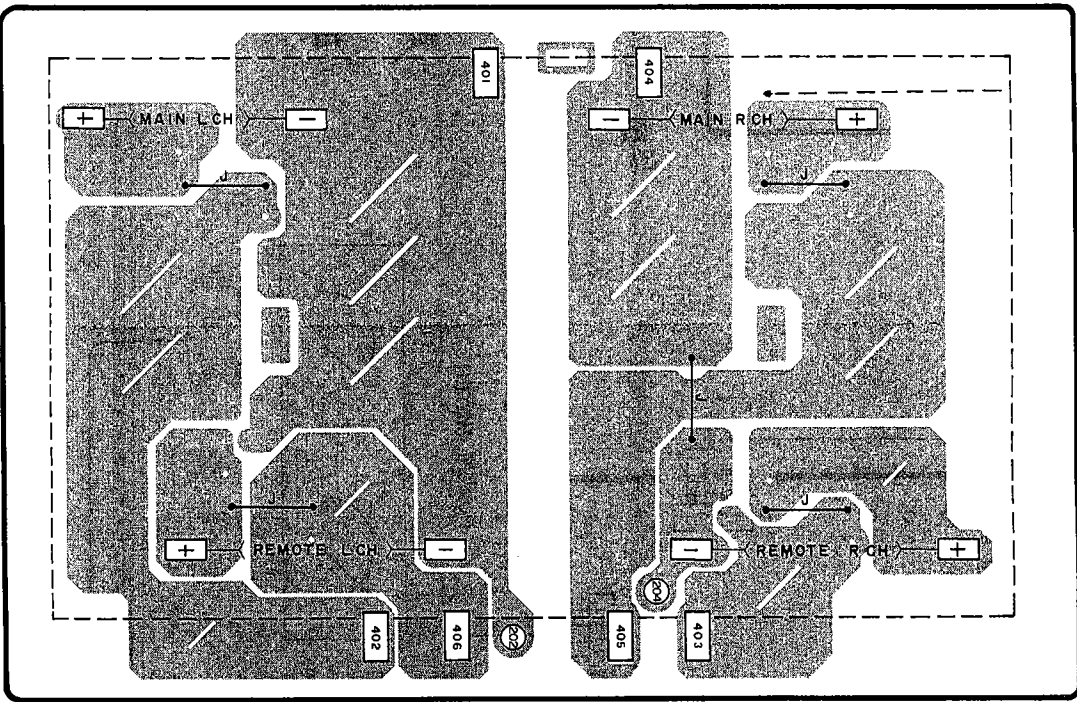


PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS

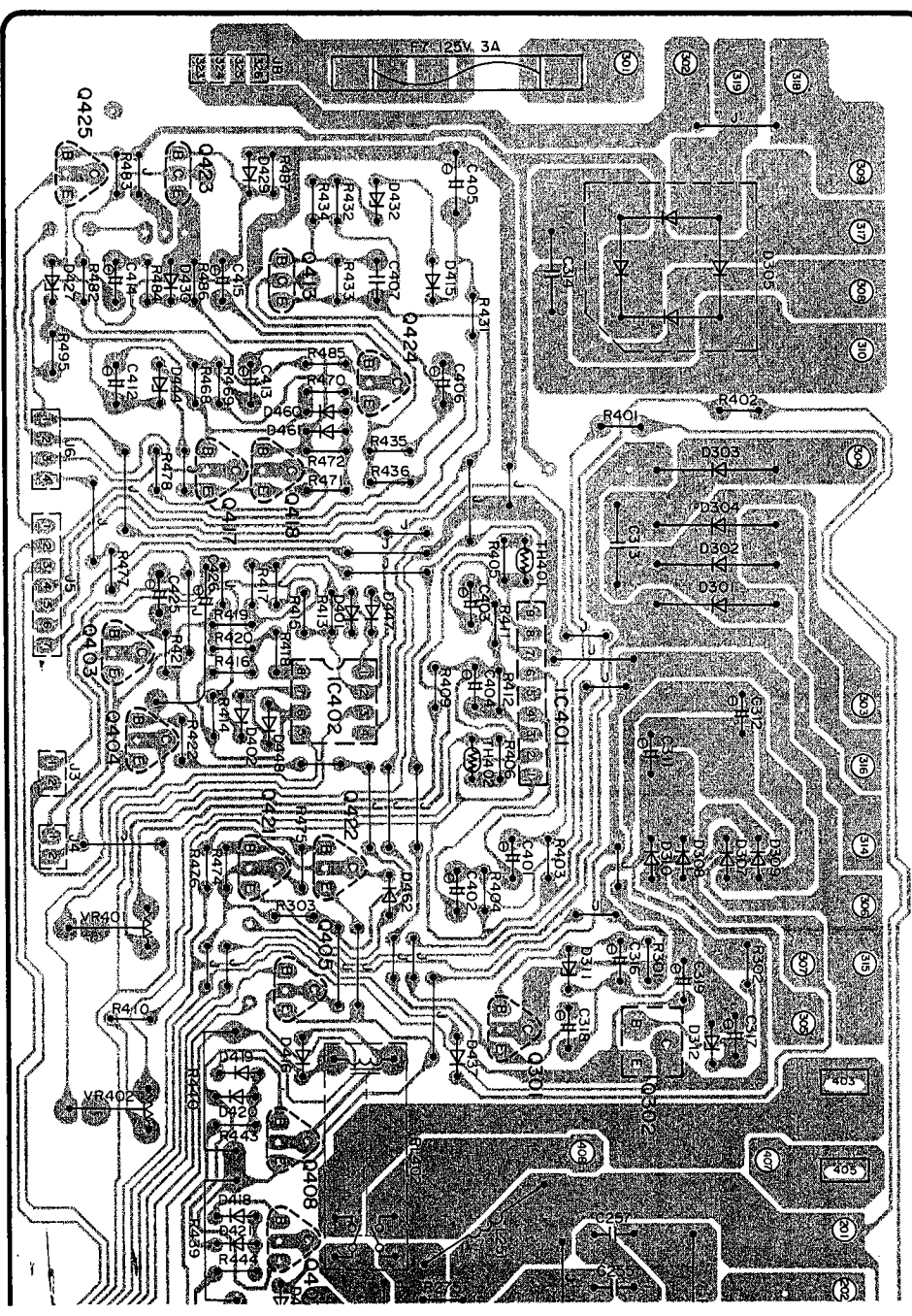
J FUSES P.C.B.



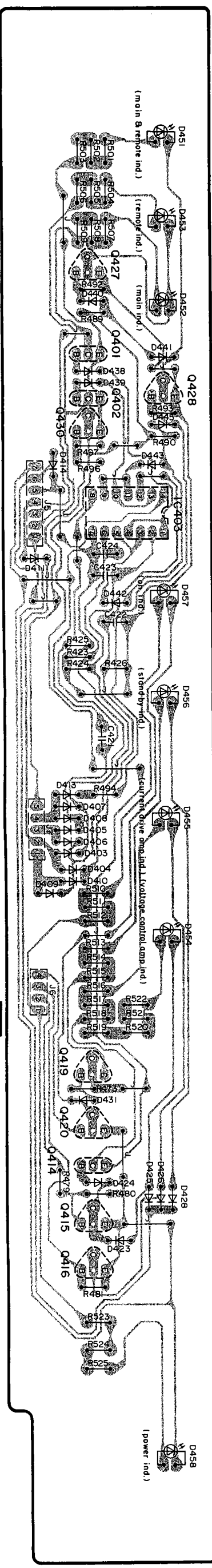
K SPEAKER TERMINAL P.C.B



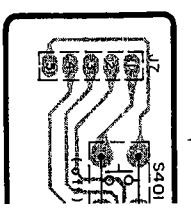
D METER AMP / LED DRIVE / REGULATOR / PROTECTION CIRCUIT P.C.B.



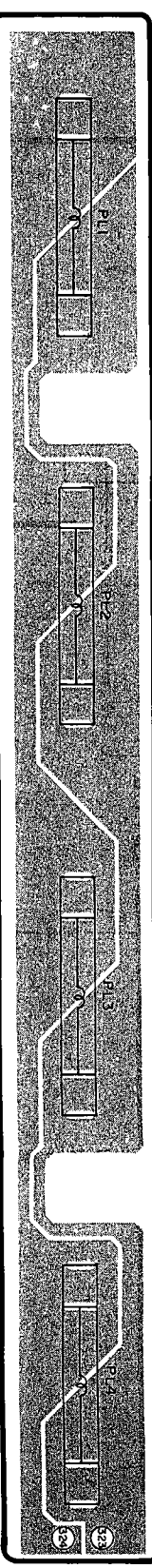
I SPEAKERS SELECTOR / LED DRIVE P.C.B



N SPEAKER



O POWER METER LAMP P.C.B



P POWER METER LAMP P.C.B

