**AN/PRC-77 Portable Transceiver**

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AN/PRC 77 radio and handset

**AN/PRC 77 Radio Set** is a manpack, portable [VHF](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/VHF) [FM](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frequency_modulation) [combat-net radio](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Combat-net_radio) [transceiver](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transceiver) manufactured by "Associated Industries" and used to provide short-range, two-way [radiotelephone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiotelephone) voice communication. In the [Joint Electronics Type Designation System](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_Electronics_Type_Designation_System) (JETDS), AN/PRC translates to "Army/Navy, Portable, Radio, Communication."

**History**

The AN/PRC 77 entered service in 1968 during the [Vietnam War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam_War) as an upgrade to the earlier [AN/PRC 25](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=AN/PRC_25&action=edit&redlink=1). It differs from its predecessor mainly in that its final power amplifier stage is made up of solid state components and does not use vacuum tubes. The AN/PRC-77 can use voice encryption devices which the AN/PRC-25 cannot. Today the AN/PRC-77 has largely been replaced by [SINCGARS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SINCGARS) radios, but it is still capable of inter-operating with most VHF FM radios used by U.S. and allied ground forces. It is commonly nicknamed "The Prick" by the [U. S. Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U._S._Army) and [U. S. Marine Corps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U._S._Marine_Corps)

**Technical characteristics**

The AN/PRC 77 consists of the [RT-841](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RT-841) transceiver and minor components. It can provide [secure voice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secure_voice) (X-mode) transmission with the TSEC/[KY-57](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KY-57) voice [encryption](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Encryption) device, but is not compatible with the SINCGARS [frequency hopping mode](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frequency-hopping_spread_spectrum).

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| **Channels:** | 920 channels across two bands using 50 kHz steps |
| **Frequency Ranges:** | 30.00 to 52.95 MHz (Low Channel);53.00 to 75.95 MHz (High Channel) |
| **Estimated Range:** | 8 km (5 mi) Dependent on conditions |
| **Power Output:** | 1.5 W to 2.0 Watt |
| **Power Source:** | BA-4386/U, BA-398/U or BA-55984or a [nickel-cadmium](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nickel-cadmium_battery) rechargeable battery cassette. |
| **Antenna:** | AT-271A/PRC 10 ft (3.0 m) multi-section whip "Static" [Whip-a-way](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whip-a-way), orAT-892/PRL-24 3 ft semi-rigid steel tape "Bush-whip", |
| **Type of Service:** | 30K0F3EManpack field radio |
| **Weight:** | 13.75 lb. (6.2 kg) |
| **Note:** | A modified version of the AN/PRC-77 is available and is designatedAN/PRC-1177. This version has been enhanced to allow a smallerchannel step of 25 kHz and to reduce voice bandwidth to 6 kHz. Thesefeatures combine to double the number of available channels to 1840. |

**Users**

Control Panel of a PRC-77

The AN/PRC-77 set is used by the [Australian Army Cadets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Army_Cadets) and the [Australian Air Force Cadets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Air_Force_Cadets). The Australian Army is phasing out the AN/PRC-77, which is being superseded by the [RAVEN](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=RAVEN&action=edit&redlink=1) series. Because of a shortage of the Raven sets due to the extensive overseas commitments, the Australian Army still has AN/PRC-77 sets in service. Eventually, both the AN/PRC-77 and RAVEN will be completely replaced by the [Thales MBITR](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MBITR) in active service.

The AN/PRC-77 has been replaced, as a main source of radio communication for regular forces of the [Norwegian Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norwegian_Army) by ingeniously developed radio sets called [MRR](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multi_Rolle_Radio) (Multi Role Radio) and LFR (Lett Flerbruks Radio) (Norwegian for Light Multi Role Radio), and a number of other modern radios. However the Norwegian Army did not throw these radio sets away. Instead many of them were handed over to the Home Guard which starting using it with [Heimevernsungdommen](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Heimevernsungdommen&action=edit&redlink=1) (Home Guard Youth) which uses it as their main communication device in their squads on exercises.

The [Austrian Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austrian_Army) still uses the AN/PRC-77, though it seems as if it is only used for training cadets in radio communications. For border patrol the Austrian Army now uses a new device called "TFF-41", which is capable of frequency-hopping and digital encryption. The Austrian Army also uses the AN/PRC-1177 for example the Austrian AN/PRC-77 have a special switch for a 25 kHz mode, which reduces the bandwidth of the selected channel by 25 kHz and therefore doubles the number of available channels.

In the [Swedish Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swedish_Army) the radio system goes under the name Radio 145 and Radio 146 (Ra145/146), predominantly the Home guard (State militia) is issued the Ra145/146.

The [Swiss Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swiss_Army) used the radio as SE-227.

The [Pakistani Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakistani_Army) has also used the set for the past 25+ years. Purchased from different sources including the US, Brazil and Spain, it is scheduled to be replaced in the next 5 years.

The [Finnish army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finnish_army) uses this radio as a "battalion radio", using it as a common training device. The radio is designated LV 217 'Ventti-seiska' (ventti being the Finnis

* [List of military electronics of the United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_military_electronics_of_the_United_States)

**External links**

* [AN/PRC-25 and AN/PRC-77 at Olive-drab.com](http://www.olive-drab.com/od_electronics_anprc25.php)
* [PRC-77 Back Pack Squad Radio](http://www.pacificsites.com/~brooke/PRC77.shtml)

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