

THE QST HISTORY MISSTATEMENT

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The American Radio League publishes *QST*, its monthly magazine, with a "Classic Radio" column. The December 2022 issue presented "Amateur Radio Equipment with a Hot Chassis." It claimed that the once-popular Hallicrafters S-38 and National SW-54 receivers were killers of this type. It sneered at others as similarly dangerous: the Echophone EC-1B; the Hallicrafters S-29, S-39, S-40B, S-41, S-52, S-72, S-93, S-200, and S-210; and the National NC-60 Special, NC-66, and NC-77X.

Looking these sets up in Rider's manuals and Sams' Photofacts shows that the accusations are wrong. None have a hot chassis. They follow the usual practice of having a small capacitor, often shunted with a discharge resistor, between the chassis and the "B-" bus, which is one side of the power line. Two have the isolation given by transformers.

A few of these radios don't appear in Rider's or Sams. The S-200 is diagrammed in AWA's [The Hallicrafters Story, 1933-1975](#). The S-210, NC-60 Special, NC-66, and NC-77X also not covered. However, they appeared long after Underwriters Laboratories set rigid limits on the leakage that a radio could emit if the set was to get approval. Factory schematics are available on the Web for the NC60 Special, NC-66 and NC-77X.

The *one* set that the column identifies correctly is the Hallicrafters S-22 "Skyrider Marine," an obscure low-frequency set introduced in 1938.

The "correspondence" input of the magazine received first and follow-up alerts sent in late November, with diagrams of the S-38 and SW-54 included. The editor got a highly detailed report in early January. However, no answer has been received and no attempt has been seen to correct the error, even in the March issue.