

A technical history of  
Radio Communication Equipment  
in the Army

# WIRELESS *for the* WARRIOR

By Louis Meulstee



## The Various Series

No. 13 Beacon Crest



### **About the 'Beacon Crest'.**

The 'Beacon Crest' ('Crest' being the combination of the designer's initials: C.E. Ramsbottom and T.R. Smith), was a radio beacon used to home the aircraft of a main parachute landing force to their drop zone using the standard fitted aircraft radio compass. This was devised as an alternative to the limited supplies of the Eureka Rebecca system.

These beacons were designed and made in a great urge by 16 Base Workshop REME, located near Salerno, Italy, in July 1944. It would be transported to the drop zone by a small pathfinder parachute force, which would then set up and operate the beacon within a very short time. The dimensions and weight of a beacon were to be kept as low as possible. This was achieved by housing the beacon into a No. 19 Set spare valves case and using readily available components.

A working replica was created in August 2024, some details of its construction have been added to this publication.

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