

Porsche prowler



Two way short wave radio is part of the latest equipment of the Autobahn Police. Switches and dials of unit set neatly in the glove compartment.



By JESSE ALEXANDER

HIGHWAY conditions in West Germany have gone from bad to worse since the end of the war. A booming German automobile industry is pouring out huge amounts of new cars every month that are immediately gobbled up by a flush and auto-starved population. But on the Autobahns traffic conditions are especially bad — overcrowded roads, reckless drivers, autobahn bandits,

and uneducated truck drivers have made this terrific highway system into a nightmare which is often referred to by both US Army MP's and German police as the most accident prone stretch of road anywhere in Europe.

Conditions have made at least one German state re-evaluate their rolling stock. North Rhine Westphalia's autobahn police are giving up their three and four year old Mercedes

Extra generator mounted at left of regular generator supplies auxiliary batteries with power for short wave set.



220's and poky beat-up Volkswagens for newer and faster equipment — namely the beautifully outfitted unit pictured on these pages; a white 1600 Type 356A Porsche convertible equipped with two-way radio. The cars will be manned by specially picked, extra tough officers who will sport white crash helmets and green uniforms.

The radio installation is especially neat; as can be seen, it is fitted directly behind the seats with two extra batteries charged through a second generator installed in the engine compartment. Dual high-pitched horns are mounted on the front bumpers and they give out an alternating two-tone sound that is enough to lift the hackles of every 300 SL this side of the Rhine. A powerful blue emergency light is mounted on the left front fender. The radio installation is by Schaub-Lorenz.

Power is supplied by the well-known 70 bhp 1600



Outside of the additional equipment mostly located inside, the Porsche remains unchanged in body contour and paint.



Combined transmitter and receiver unit sits behind driver and assistant. Two six volt batteries connected in series power the short wave set.

“normal” engine giving the police cars a top speed of over 100 miles per hour and enough acceleration to take on any modified Volkswagens who get fresh. It's interesting to note that the German police are almost entirely equipped with open vehicles. Even the huge riot trucks fitted out with floodlights and rescue equipment have soft tops — and a common sight on the Autobahn is an elderly dark green VW convertible with a tall white-capped polizist, waving his arms directing traffic. The authorities apparently prefer the extra visibility and easy access afforded by a convertible to four-door sedans.

These new highway police with their fleet of Porsches will present a picture formidable enough to put the fear of God into most all would-be law breakers, at least in North Rhine Westphalia. And the idea *could* get contagious! Look in your rear view mirror. #