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Subject: Looking for pointers on garbled or distorted sound from Philco-Ford S1888WA radio/turntable console

Posted by [Germain](#) on Mon, 09 Feb 2009 10:37:30 GMT

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Hi, Everyone. My mother inherited quite a collection of records from my grandmother and asked me to look for a turntable for her. I picked up a Philco-Ford S1888WA radio/turntable console at a local (Atlanta) vintage furniture store. Its got an automatic turntable and solid-state electronics. It's producing a garbled (distorted?) sound and I haven't been able to pin-point the source so I'm hoping you can help me. For sample pictures visit: front - <http://silverliver.nfshost.com/temp/01.jpg> dials - <http://silverliver.nfshost.com/temp/02.jpg> turntable - <http://silverliver.nfshost.com/temp/03.jpg> guts with legend - <http://silverliver.nfshost.com/temp/04.jpg> model# etc - <http://silverliver.nfshost.com/temp/05.jpg> For sample sound (640KB, wav) visit: <http://silverliver.nfshost.com/temp/01.wav> The system has a line-in (says "Tape/Input") and two line-out ("EXT SPEAKERS" and "TAPE RECORD"). I've run the following tests: 1) play turntable or radio on internal speakers = garbled sound 2) play mp3 player (through line-in) on internal speakers = garbled sound and lower volume (but not too bad) 3) play turntable or radio on external speakers (good speakers) = garbled sound 4) play mp3 player (through line-in) on external speakers = garbled sound NOTE: same results after playing with the R/L balance and 5) jiggle wires here and there = sound improved slightly after jiggling the connection that receives wires from the far-side speaker and sends to circuit board (see picture 04.jpg), but after playing with that connection for a while I wasn't able to make further progress. Only a slight improvement there. There is a single rusted connection somewhere in there. After I unplugged it I only got sound from one speaker but it was still coming garbled. I also dusted the circuitry with compressed air, although there wasn't much dust at all. I'm going to continue jiggling wires until I come up with more tests and/or give up. Any ideas? Many thanks!

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