

3 February 1976

Dear Harold:

I had already talked to Mark before your note came saying you were going to try to get a subminiature recorder locally because of the servicing problem.

In case this doesn't pan out, here's what Mark told me. He has no experience with any makes other than the three alluded to below. In general he agrees with my suggestion that because of the power problems with subminiatures you would probably do better, other things being equal (which they probably aren't), using your TC40 with the carrying strap. Even the smallest subminiature is so heavy as to be quite a drag on any pocket except in a heavy garment like an overcoat or bush jacket.

He had three models which he showed me:

Sony TC55, \$170, which you already know about. It is as heavy as the TC40, has some improvements like a counter, and is probably 3/4 or 4/5 the size of your TC40. Uses 4 penlights.

Superscope C108, \$159.95. Appears to be the same size and weight as the TC55 and to have the same features. Both are too heavy and too big for carrying in a pocket, in my opinion. Superscope is made by the former Sony distributor in the US and uses 4 penlights.

Craig 2625, \$159.95. About 4" x 3" x 1", appreciably smaller than the other two but still quite heavy. Comes only with a rechargeable battery and charger which are included in the quoted price. Like the other two, uses standard cassettes. Mark says it is not nearly as sensitive, either recording or playing back, as the other two.

I neglected to ask Mark, who I'm pretty sure said the Craig takes an earplug, whether the rechargeable battery can store enough juice to last long enough to do the job. If there is a Craig dealer near you, perhaps he could supply this information and whether one could get an extra battery pack to have charged in reserve and carry along for a spare.

That's about all the ground we had time to cover before he had another customer. Hope it may be of some help.

~~xxxxxx~~ Best,

  
jdw