Home Made Key for FT- 817

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Sorry for pictures' quality – they were taken by my cell-phone. The design of the key is simple, see **Figure 1**. Three copper areas are cut on a small PC-board. Two upper ones are for 'dot- dash,' rest below is 'ground.' Copper strips with thickness in 0.5 mm are soldered to each dot- dash area, a metal end from a glass fuse is soldered to the ground area. Plastic buttons (special dash pots used at furniture) are glued to the copper strips. The PC board is placed to a little nice black box made from a metal.

The box with key board inside the one is fastened by a screw to transceiver's push-to-talk switch. The screw is screwed instead a screw (too much 'screws in one sentence!) that early was hold a clip. The push-to-talk switch has not flat surface, so a pillow made of polyurethane is placed under the 'black box.' Key wires are into push-to-talk switch cable.

While QSO the push-to-talk switch is in the left hand, by the hand do turn RX/TX, keying do by the right hand.
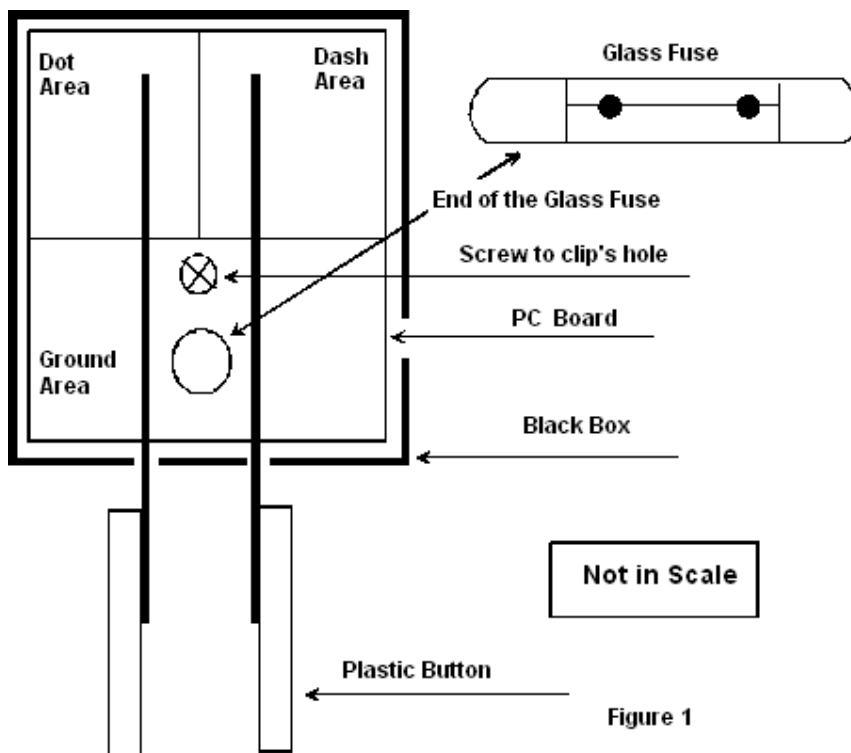
 73/72!

Figure 1