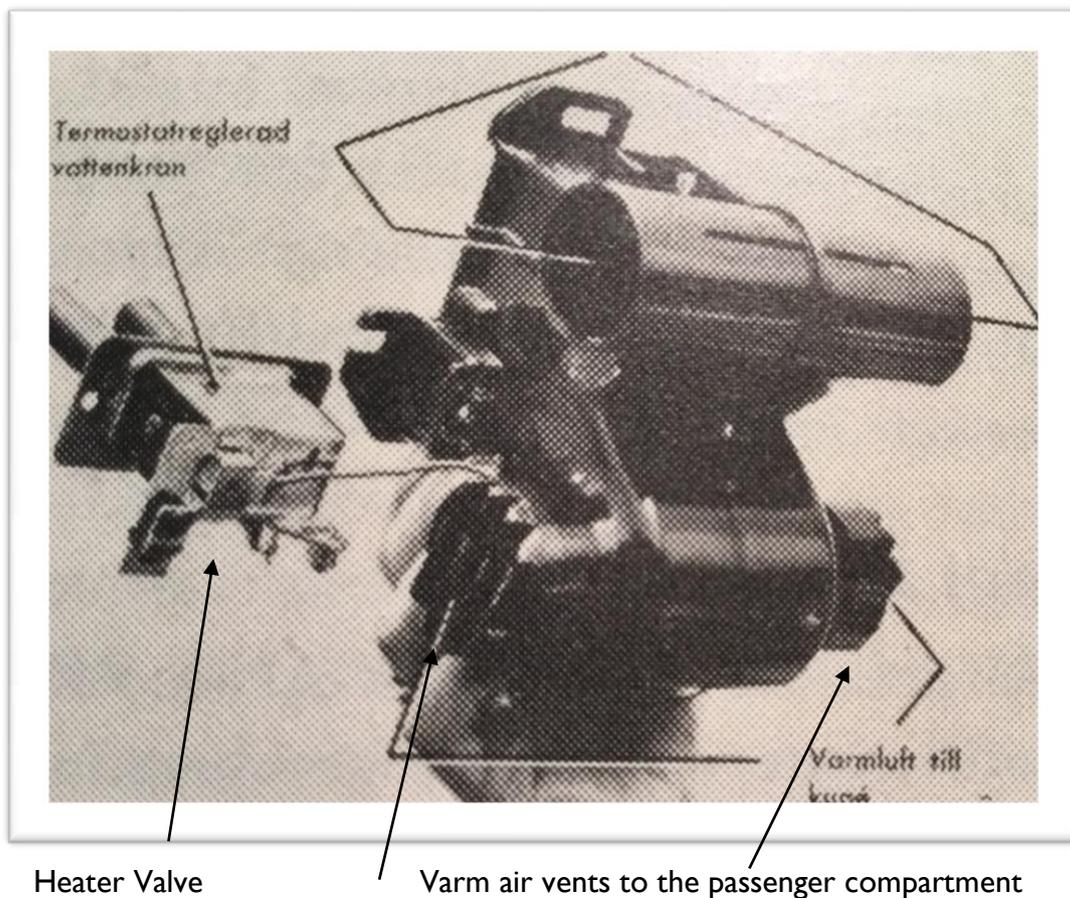


Previous article written on winter testing in Kiruna – VIPS

An earlier article discusses Saabs winter testing schedule above the Arctic Circle in the Kiruna region of Sweden - it was here that the SAAB 96's new Thermostat Controlled Heating system underwent winter climate testing.

**THERMOSTAT CONTROLLED HEATING SYSTEM - ONE OF THE IMPROVEMENTS IN SAAB'S 1963 MODEL RANGE.**



**THERMOSTAT CONTROLLED HEATER VALVE AND HEATER UNIT**

**On the 30 August 1962**, in Stockholm, SAAB's main sales agent, ANA (Aeroplane Nyköping Aktiebolag) presented the 1963 model range. Several changes had been made but by far the most significant was the 96's upgraded heating system.

Although maintaining all the features of previous heater unit, the new system included a unique thermostat-controlled heater valve.

From the heating system controls on the instrument panel the driver could now select a desired interior temperature. The inclusion of a wax type thermostat inside the heater ensured that the temperature of the coolant fluid flowing to the unit's heat exchanger remained as constant as possible and that a constant flow of warm air inside the passenger compartment could be maintained.

Thermostat regulated heating system description :

In the photo above the heater valve is shown alongside the heater unit assembly which also includes the ventilation channels to the windscreen and side windows.

The heating system itself has been also made more effective by the inclusion of a larger fresh air intake fan and housing, but without doubt the main reason for the cars vastly improved interior heating capability is the addition of the new thermostatically controlled distribution system.

The new heating system also permits a certain amount of warm air to circulate around the lower sections of the car's interior to the rear passenger floor area, raising the temperature by 10-15 °C.

A powerful interior heater fan now increases the volume of air entering the cabin by 60-90 %. To evacuate air from inside the passenger compartment modified extractor vents were needed to be included on both sides of the rear parcel shelf.

The above changes have vastly improved interior comfort for drivers and passengers in the SAAB 96.