#### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13D Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. \_\_\_)\*

| FREQUENCY ELECTRONICS, INC. |   |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--------|---|--------------------|--|--|--|
| (Name of Issuer)            |   |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | Common Stock  |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | (Title of Class of Securities)  |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             |   |        | 35801010  |                    |  |  |  |
|                             |   |        | (CUSIP Number)  |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | 545   | Madiso | ns III, Inverness Counsel, Inc.,<br>on Ave., New York, NY 10022 [2:   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | (Name,  | Addres | ss and Telephone Number of Person<br>Receive Notices and Communication                                      | n                  |  |  |  |
|                             |   |        | December 30, 1997   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | (Date of Eve  | nt whi | ich Requires Filing of this State   | ement)             |  |  |  |
| the a                       | acquisition which is  | the s  | iously filed a statement on Scheo<br>subject of this Schedule 13D, and<br>L(b)(3) or (4), check the follow: | d is filing this   |  |  |  |
| Checl                       | k the following box   | if a 1 | fee is being paid with the stater   | nent: //           |  |  |  |
|                             |   |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
| CUSI                        | P No. 35801010  |        | SCHEDULE 13D  | Page 2 of 13 Pages |  |  |  |
| 1.                          | <ol> <li>Name of Reporting Person</li> <li>S.S. or I.R.S. Identification No. of Above Person</li> </ol> |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | INVERNESS COUNSEL, EIN #13-3631802  | INC.   |   |                    |  |  |  |
| 2.                          | Check the Appropria   | te Box | c if a Member of a Group  | (a) / /<br>(b) /x/ |  |  |  |
| 3.                          | SEC Use Only  |        |   | (6) / //           |  |  |  |
| 4.                          | Source of Funds   |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | 00  |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
| 5.                          | Check Box if Disclor<br>Pursuant to Items 2   |        | of Legal Proceedings is Required 2(e)   | / /                |  |  |  |
| 6.                          | Citizenship or Place  | e of ( | Organization  |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | Delaware  |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             |   | 7.     | Sole Voting Power   |                    |  |  |  |
| Numbe                       | er of Shares  |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | eficially   | 8.     | Shared Voting Power   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | ed by Each  |        |   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | rting Person  | 9.     | Sole Dispositive Power  |                    |  |  |  |
| veho                        | With  |        | 308,846   |                    |  |  |  |
|                             | *******   | 10     | Shared Disnositive Power  |                    |  |  |  |

11. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person

12. Check Box if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares\*

//

13. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (11)

11.2%

14. Type of Reporting Person\*

IA

#### Item 1. Security and Issuer

This statement relates to shares of common stock, \$1.00 par value per share, of the issuer hereinbelow named:

Frequency Electronics, Inc. 55 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard Mitchel Field, NY 11553

#### Item 2. Identity and Background

(a) The identity of the reporting person is:

Inverness Counsel, Inc. ("Inverness")

The identity of (i) the executive officers and directors of Inverness, (ii) the person controlling Inverness and (iii) the persons ultimately in control of Inverness are set forth on Exhibit "A" hereto.

(b) The business address of the reporting person is:

545 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022

The business addresses of the persons referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item 2, other than Inverness, are likewise set forth on Exhibit "A" hereto.

(c) Inverness is an investment advisor registered under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, as amended.

The principal occupation or employment of the persons referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item 2, other than Inverness, are likewise set forth on Exhibit "A" hereto.

- (d) None as to Inverness and as to the persons referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item 2.
- (e) None as to Inverness and as to the persons referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item 2.
- (f) The reporting person is a Delaware corporation. The persons referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item 2, other than Inverness, are United States citizens.

#### Item 3. Source and Amount of Funds or Other Consideration

The 308,846 shares of common stock of the issuer referred to in the first sub-paragraph of paragraph (a) of Item 5 hereof were purchased for and on behalf of clients of Inverness, in the ordinary course of business for

investment from the personal funds of such clients for an aggregate price of \$7,426,131. No part of such purchase price was represented by funds or other consideration borrowed or otherwise obtained for the purpose of acquiring such shares. The shares were acquired by purchase on the open market on the national securities exchange on which the shares of common stock of the issuer are traded.

The 35,950 shares of common stock of the issuer owned by the persons listed on Exhibit "A" referred to in paragraph (a) of Item 2 hereof and set forth on Exhibit "B" hereto were acquired for investment from the personal funds of each such person for an aggregate price of \$271,614. To the knowledge of the reporting person, no part of the purchase price of such shares was represented by funds or other consideration borrowed or otherwise obtained for the purpose of acquiring such shares. All such shares were acquired on the open market on the national securities exchange on which the shares of common stock of the issuer are traded.

#### Item 4. Purpose of Transaction

The purpose of the acquisition of the shares of common stock of the issuer is investment. Neither the client owners of the shares nor Inverness, as reporting person, nor any of the persons listed on Exhibit "A" referred to in paragraph (a) of Item 2 hereof, have any plans or proposals at present which relate to or would result in any of the actions referred to in paragraphs (a) through (j) of Item 4 hereof.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Philip S. Lawrence, a managing director of Inverness, will become a member of a Board of Advisors established by the issuer, which Board is intended to advise and consult with the management of the issuer with a view to enhancing the business operations and activities of the issuer for the purpose of maximizing the value inherent in the issuer for the benefit of the holders of its outstanding shares of capital stock.

Inverness disclaims any intention of changing or influencing the control of the issuer and the filing of this statement on Schedule 13D shall not be construed as an admission that it has any such intention for purposes of Section 13(d) or 13(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

#### Item 5. Interest in Securities of the Issuer

(a) Inverness may be deemed to "beneficially own" 308,846 shares of the common stock of the issuer pursuant to Reg. Section 240.13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as of November 30, 1997. Such number of shares amounts to 11.17 percent of the total number of shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of that date.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Inverness disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares and the filing of this statement on Schedule 13D shall not be construed as an admission that it is the "beneficial owner" of any securities covered by such statement for purposes of Sections 13(d) or 13(g) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

The persons listed on Exhibit "A" referred to in paragraph (a) of Item 2 hereof own the 35,950 shares of common stock of the issuer set forth on Exhibit "B" hereto. Such number of shares amounts to 0.47% of the total number of shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of November 30, 1997. Such persons individually possess the exclusive voting power and/or investment power as to the shares shown as being owned by them.

(b) Inverness has the sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of the 308,846 shares referred to in the first sub-paragraph of paragraph (a) of this Item 5. Inverness does not possess, nor does it share, the power to vote or to direct the vote of any of such shares.

The persons listed on Exhibit "A" referred to in paragraph (a) of Item 2 hereof do not possess the power, nor do they share the power, to dispose or to direct the disposition of the 854,100 shares referred to in the first sub-paragraph of paragraph (a) of this Item 5, other than as agents of Inverness, nor do they possess, nor share, the power to vote or to direct the vote of any of such shares. Notwithstanding the foregoing, such persons individually do have the exclusive power to dispose, or to direct the disposition of or to vote, or to direct the vote of, the aggregate of 35,950 shares referred to as being owned by them and set forth on Exhibit "B" hereto.

(c) During the past sixty (60) days, the persons named in response to paragraph (a) of this Item 5 effected the purchase transactions set forth on Exhibit "C" hereto. All of such purchases were effected on the open market on the national securities exchange on which the shares of common stock of the issuer are traded.

(d) Neither Inverness nor the persons other than Inverness who are referred to in paragraph (a) of Item 2 hereof have the right to receive, or the power to direct the receipt of, either dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the 308,846 shares referred to in the first sub-paragraph of paragraph (a) of this Item 5. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, the persons other than Inverness referred to in paragraph (a) of Item 2 hereof do have the right to receive, or the power to direct the receipt of, either dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, any shares set forth as owned by them in Exhibit "B" referred to in the third sub-paragraph of Paragraph (a) of this Item 5. The clients of Inverness who own the economic interest in the 308,846 shares of common stock of the issuer referred to in the first sub-paragraph of paragraph (a) of this Item 5 have the sole right to receive, or the power to direct the receipt of, dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, such shares. To the knowledge of Inverness, no such client of Inverness owns an interest amounting to more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the class of securities identified in Item 1 hereof.

#### (e) Not applicable

Item 6. Contracts, Arrangements, Understanding or

Relationships with Respect to Securities of the Issuer

Other than as set forth herein, neither Inverness nor the persons listed on Exhibit "A" referred to in Section (a) of Item 2 hereof have any contracts, arrangements, understandings or relationships (legal or otherwise) with any person with respect to any securities of the issuer. The issuer proposes to enter into an option agreement with Philip S. Lawrence, a managing director of Inverness, pursuant to the 1997 Independent Contractor's Stock Option Plan of the issuer in order to compensate Mr. Lawrence for his services on the Board of Advisors of the issuer referred to in Item 4 hereof. Such option agreement will grant Mr. Lawrence an option to purchase an aggregate of 37,500 shares of common stock of the issuer at a price equivalent to the market value of such shares as of the date of the grant. Messrs. Robert B. Deans, Jr., Chairman of Inverness, David W. Laughlin, President of Inverness, and Robert K. Maddock III, an employee of Inverness, will share in such options to the extent of 14,750 shares, 2,000 shares and 2,000 shares, respectively, in consideration of logistical support, advice and consultation rendered to Mr. Lawrence in connection with his services on the Board of Advisors of the issuer.

#### Item 7. Material to be Filed as Exhibits

Other than the option agreement referred to in answer to Item 6 hereof, no agreements exist relating to either (i) the filing of joint acquisition statements or (ii) plans or proposals with respect to (1) the borrowing of funds, (2) the acquisition of issuer control, liquidation, sale of assets, merger, or change in business or corporate structure or any other matter disclosed in Item 4 and (3) the transfer or voting of securities, finder's fees, joint ventures, options, puts, calls, guarantees of loans, guarantees against loss or of profit or the giving or withholding of any proxy.

#### Signature

After reasonable inquiry, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

| 1/8/98 | /s/ Robert B. Deans, III |
|--------|--------------------------|
| Date   | Signature                |
|        | Robert B. Deans, III     |
|        | Name/title Treasurer     |

## EXHIBIT "A "

The name, business address and principal occupation of (i) each executive officer and director of Inverness, as reporting person (ii) each person controlling Inverness and (iii) each executive officer and director of any corporation or other person ultimately in control of Inverness are as follows:

#### (i) Inverness:

|         | The name,  | business  | address  | and  | principal | occupation | of | each | executive |  |
|---------|------------|-----------|----------|------|-----------|------------|----|------|-----------|--|
| officer | and direct | or of Inv | erness i | s as | follows:  |            |    |      |           |  |

| Name<br>  |   | Principal Occupation                 |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Robert B. Deans, Jr.,<br>Chairman & director        | New York, NY 10022                          | employee of Inverness                |
| George H. Garfield, Vice Chairman<br>& director     | New York, NY 10022                          | Officer and employee of Inverness    |
| David W. Laughlin, President & director             | 545 Madison Avenue<br>New York, NY 10022    | employee of Inverness                |
| Robert B. Deans, III, Treasurer & director          | 545 Madison Avenue<br>New York, NY 10022    | Officer and<br>employee of Inverness |
| William P. DuBose, Jr., Executive<br>Vice President |   | Officer and                          |
| Enno W. Ercklentz, Jr., Secretary                   |   | Attorney at law                      |
| John W. Hanes, Jr., director                        | 10500 Gee Norman Road<br>Belgrade, MT 59714 | Retired                              |

### (ii) Person controlling Inverness:

Cromarty Management Corporation, a Delaware corporation ("Cromarty")

545 Madison Avenue

New York, NY 10022

| Name  | Business Address                            | Principal Occupation              |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Robert B. Deans, Jr.,<br>Chairman, treasurer & director | 545 Madison Avenue<br>New York, NY 10022    | Officer and employee of Inverness |
| George H. Garfield, Vice President<br>& director        | 545 Madison Avenue<br>New York, NY 10022    | Officer and employee of Inverness |
| Robert B. Deans, III, President                         | 545 Madison Avenue<br>New York, NY 10022    | Officer and employee of Inverness |
| Mary E. Bianco,<br>Vice President                       | 545 Madison Avenue<br>New York, NY 10022    | Officer and employee of Inverness |
| Enno W. Ercklentz, Jr., Secretary                       | 630 Fifth Avenue<br>New York, NY 10111      | Attorney at law                   |
| John W. Hanes, Jr., director                            | 10500 Gee Norman Road<br>Belgrade, MT 59714 | Retired                           |
|   |   |                                   |

## (iii) Person controlling Cromarty:

Deans Children Issue Trust u/a 12/4/85 ("Trust") William Prickett and John W. Hanes, Jr., trustees

 $\,$  Trust is the owner of 100% of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of Cromarty.

 $\label{eq:theorem} \mbox{The name, address and principal occupation of each trustee of the Trust is as follows:}$ 

| Name                            | Business Address  | Principal Occupation |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| John W. Hanes, Jr., trustee     | 10500 Gee Norman Road<br>Belgrade, MT 59714   | Retired              |
| William Prickett, Esq., trustee | Prickett, Jones, Elliott,<br>Kristol & Schnee<br>1310 King St., Box 1328<br>Wilmington, DE 19899-1328 | Attorney at law      |
|                                 |   |                      |

# Exhibit "B"

|   | Number of Shares |           |
|---|------------------|-----------|
| Robert B. Deans, Jr. (incl. 1,950 shares owned by spouse)                 | 13,350           | \$ 51,997 |
| Deans Children Issue Trust u/a<br>12/4/85                                 | 6,150            | 46,788    |
| David W. Laughlin<br>(incl. 6,550 shares owned by<br>spouse and children) | 10,000           | 144,900   |
| William P. DuBose, Jr. (incl.<br>1,350 shares owned by spouse)            | 4,350            | 44,936    |
| Robert B. Deans, III (incl. 6,000 shares owned by spouse and children)    | 9,750            | 55,264    |
| William Prickett  | 3,000            | 28,052    |
|   | 46,600           | \$371,937 |

|     | Person Effecting Transaction            | Date of Transaction | Number of<br>Shares | Price Per<br>Share |
|-----|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| [A] | Inverness on behalf of advisory clients | 10/22/97            | 800                 | 26.815             |
|     | п                                       | 10/22/97            | 2,000               | 26.815             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/22/97            | 1,000               | 27.125             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/22/97            | 1,000               | 26.815             |
|     | п                                       | 10/23/97            | 2,500               | 27.500             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/23/97            | 500                 | 27.187             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/23/97            | 2,000               | 26.500             |
|     | п                                       | 10/28/97            | 9,300               | 25.623             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/28/97            | 5,000               | 25.811             |
|     | п                                       | 10/28/97            | 700                 | 25.373             |
|     | п                                       | 10/28/97            | 400                 | 25.750             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/28/97            | 900                 | 24.000             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/31/97            | 400                 | 28.604             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/31/97            | 200                 | 28.604             |
|     | п                                       | 10/31/97            | 200                 | 28.604             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/31/97            | 500                 | 28.604             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/31/97            | 800                 | 28.968             |
|     | п                                       | 10/31/97            | 1,000               | 28.604             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/31/97            | 1,000               | 28.604             |
|     | п                                       | 10/31/97            | 3,100               | 28.604             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/31/97            | 700                 | 27.267             |
|     | п                                       | 10/31/97            | 400                 | 29.000             |
|     | II II                                   | 10/31/97            | 1,800               | 28.500             |
|     | п                                       | 10/31/97            | 1,400               | 27.875             |
|     | п                                       | 10/31/97            | 1,000               | 28.604             |
|     | II II                                   | 11/04/97            | 300                 | 27.781             |
|     | 11 11                                   | 11/04/97            | 2,000               | 28.000             |
|     | II II                                   | 11/04/97            | 300                 | 27.781             |
|     | п                                       | 11/05/97            | 900                 | 27.541             |
|     | п                                       | 11/05/97            | 6,000               | 27.541             |
|     | п                                       | 11/05/97            | 1,500               | 27.541             |
|     | п                                       | 11/12/97            | 200                 | 28.000             |
|     |   | 11/12/31            | 200                 | 20.000             |

| Person Effecting Transaction            | Date of Transaction | Number of<br>Shares<br> | Price Per<br>Share<br> |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
|   |                     |                         |                        |
| ппппппппппппппппппппппппппппппппппппппп | 11/13/97            | 2,000                   | 27.406                 |
| п                                       | 11/13/97            | 1,500                   | 27.406                 |
| II II                                   | 11/14/97            | 2,000                   | 26.656                 |
| II II                                   | 11/17/97            | 200                     | 26.708                 |
| II II                                   | 11/17/97            | 800                     | 26.708                 |
| II II                                   | 11/17/97            | 200                     | 26.708                 |
| II II                                   | 11/19/97            | 800                     | 26.500                 |
| п                                       | 11/19/97            | 1,000                   | 26.250                 |
| II II                                   | 11/20/97            | 1,000                   | 25.875                 |
| II II                                   | 12/03/97            | 300                     | 16.625                 |
| II II                                   | 12/03/97            | 350                     | 16.125                 |
| II II                                   | 12/04/97            | 400                     | 18.750                 |
| п                                       | 12/04/97            | 300                     | 18.750                 |
| II II                                   | 12/04/97            | 500                     | 18.750                 |
| п                                       | 12/04/97            | 200                     | 18.750                 |
| II II                                   | 12/04/97            | 400                     | 18.750                 |
| п                                       | 12/04/97            | 100                     | 18.125                 |
| II II                                   | 12/04/97            | 500                     | 18.750                 |
| п                                       | 12/04/97            | 1,000                   | 18.750                 |
| II II                                   | 12/04/97            | 1,000                   | 18.750                 |
| п                                       | 12/04/97            | 2,000                   | 18.750                 |
| II II                                   | 12/04/97            | 200                     | 18.750                 |
| II II                                   | 12/05/97            | 400                     | 18.182                 |
| II II                                   | 12/05/97            | 200                     | 18.182                 |
| II II                                   | 12/05/97            | 500                     | 18.182                 |
| II II                                   | 12/05/97            | 300                     | 18.182                 |
| II II                                   | 12/05/97            | 1,000                   | 18.182                 |
| II II                                   | 12/05/97            | 1,000                   | 18.182                 |
| п                                       | 12/05/97            | <sup>′</sup> 300        | 18.182                 |
| п                                       | 12/09/97            | 3,200                   | 17.990                 |
| п                                       | 12/11/97            | 1,500                   | 17.125                 |

| [B] | Persons listed on<br>Exhibit "A" to Item 2                  |          |       |        |
|-----|---|----------|-------|--------|
|     | William P. DuBose, Jr.                                      | 10/31/97 | 1,000 | 28.604 |
|     | David W. Laughlin<br>(for children)                         | 10/31/97 | 1,500 | 27.432 |
|     | David W. Laughlin   | 11/07/97 | 500   | 28.250 |
|     | Deans Issue Trust<br>(for issue of Robert<br>B. Deans, Jr.) | 11/13/97 | 500   | 27.406 |