





## Pirates hit by timely raids

GOVERNMENT trading officers have pulled the plug on two Merseyside pirate radio stations.

A round of lightning raids has taken Central Radio and Storeton Community Radio off the air—and more “hits” could follow soon.

Both stations were well established and led a new miniboom in illegal broadcasting, it was claimed last night.

Central, based in Bootle, had been beaming out rock and pop music, featuring local groups, for almost two years.

Storeton Community, based in Birkenhead, also featured pop broadcasting 24 hours a day.

The well-timed raids by officials from the Department of Trade and Industry, backed up by police, caught both stations in the middle of broadcasting.

Illegal home made transmitters and radio equipment were taken away—but “SCR” was broadcasting again within hours.

One Wirral pirate who operates Atlantis Radio claimed the raids were well organised—but would not frighten off the new boom in illegal broadcasters.

“There are five stations operating in the Birkenhead area alone,” he said.

“It seems to be most popular here, although they are springing up all over the area. We can't see why they should be so determined to have a go at us when we are obviously so popular.”

A spokesman for the Department of Trade and Industry confirmed officers had been operating in the area following a raid on a large pirate station in Manchester.