MERSEYSIDE FREE RADIO SCENE

Week ending Sunday 17th August 1986

Last weekend's unusually large number of stations appears to have attracted the attention of the DTI who were reported to have been active in the Wirral on both Saturday and Sunday. Security and co-operation appear to have been very good and it is believed that none of the stations were actually raided, though many schedules were either disrupted, curtailed or abandoned. Although the DTI seem to have confined their activity to the Wirral, some of the Liverpool stations thought it prudent to operate shorter hours than planned.

RADIO MERSEY WAVES 1242kHz: 9, Meadfoot Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 7UW. The station opened late on Monday and featured "carrier only" for part of the evening. They failed to come on the air on Friday and weren't noted all weekend. Heard were:-

Monday: llam Alan Bates (in for Barry Noble); lpm continuous music; 1:25pm DJC; 3pm Earry Noble (in for Alan Bates); 5pm Tara; 7pm Carrier only; 9pm Tony Hollis; llpm-lam Peter Thomas

STORETON COMMUNITY RADIO (??) 1296kHz

The short loop-tape of continuous music was noted all day and evening on Monday. On Tuesday, the tape was noted in the morning, but when checked in the early evening it had gone from the air and has not been heard since

RADIO JULIE 104.8MHz: 15, Pitch Close, Greasby, Wirral, Merseyside L49 2RR.

Reception in Liverpool remains virtually non-existant for me, and nothing at all was noted from this station till 5:18pm on Friday. On Saturday, they didn't open up till 5pm and on Sunday they featured continuous music and a tape of an old Phil Smith show between 1pm and 3pm. Later, the latter, in a live show, said that the DTI were in the area and that all available DJs had been on security watch. He also confirmed that the DTI had been in the area on Saturday. This weekend, the frequency seems to have drifted below 104.8MHz causing very bad splatter onto Radio Veronica. Noted have been:-

Friday: 5pm(?) Dave Moore; 7pm Andy Davies; 8pm Dave Collins; 10pm Joe Williams; Midnight - 2am Tony West

Saturday: 5pm Dave Moore; 7pm Dave Collins. The remainder of the schedule wasn't noted but Dave Collins was still on air at 10pm and a joint Dave Collins/Joe Williams was in progress at about 12:10am

Sunday: Ilam Tom Webb; 1pm continuous music/Phil Smith tape; 3pm Jim Lowe; 5pm Phil Smith; 8pm Dave Collins; 10pm Joe Williams; Midnight-2am Tony West(?).

CONCEPT RADIO 104.4/104.3: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF
This station was heard briefly around 8:40pm on Friday night announcing Tom Webb till
9pm, then Keith till 10pm but this wasn't confirmed. The frequency was 104.4MHz. On
Sunday, from mid-afternoon, a carrier on 104.3MHz was blocking out BBC Sheffield. From
5:50pm the station was noted with Keith in the hot seat announcing the broadcast as a
"test transmission" of Concept Radio and promising a full day of broadcasting next Sunday,
with guest appearances by the crew of Central Radio. They were not on the air when checked
at 7:44pm and weren't subsequently noted.

STARLIGHT RADIO 1404kHz: 18, Glynne Street, Orrell, Bootle, Merseyside L20 6DF
This station was heard at 1:15pm on Saturday, but they closed down at 1:16pm with an announcement that they had been on the air since llam. On Sunday, they were heard with continuous music from 11:50am and opened at Noon. Jim Browne announced that the normal schedule will be Noon to 6pm, but "due to circumstances beyond our control, the authorities in fact" they would close-down at 2pm. Close-down time noted was 2:15pm with Jim Browne being the only DJ. It isn't known whether they will be on the air next Sunday due to the "guest appearances" on Concept Radio.

ANFIELD COMMUNITY RADIO 1413kHz: 111, Finehurst Avenue, Anfield, Liverpool L4 7UG On Sunday, this station seems to have been buried under splatter from Starlight Radio until 2:15pm. The schedule was:-

Sunday: Noon Mark Evans; 2:30pm John Sanderson; 4pm Mark Evans; 6pm Mystery guest; 6;30pm-7pm New DJ on trial.

The station was only noted till 5:50pm, and had gone when checked later.

RADIO VERONICA 104.7MHz: 81, Lark Lane, Liverpool L17 SUP
This station wasn't found on Friday night. On Saturday, with Julie not signing on till
5pm and BBC Lancs not getting through on 104.5MHz, reception of Radio Veronica was
excellent, but the same could not be said of Sunday, when Radio Julie appear to have
drifted down in frequency and reception of Radio Veronica was very difficult till about
7pm, when things improved.

The station was supposed to have opened at 10am on Sunday and featured the whole of the Radio Caroline Top 100 show, but they were not found by 11:20am and were first noted at 1:30pm. Although the voices of various station DJs were heard, the Caroline Top 100 show seem to have been hosted by Neil Frazer. Noted this weekend have been:—Saturday: 2pm Adrian Cooke: 3pm Loff Kings App Form Weil Frazer

Saturday: 2pm Adrian Cooke; 3pm Jeff King; 4pm-5pm Neil Frazer Sunday: ?? Caroline Top 100: 5pm Adrian Cooke: 6pm Offshore

?? Caroline Top 100; 5pm Adrian Cooke; 6pm Offshore tapes; 7pm Neil Frazer; 8:30pm Radio Rainbow free radio news; 9:30pm Steve Harper; 10:30pm Adrian Cooke: The remainder of the schedule wasn't noted.

At the end of the Steve Harper Show, he closed-down with "Summer Holiday", saying that the station would be back in two weeks time.

LIVERPOOL PIRATE RADIO 1170kHz: 30, Elkstone Road, Norris Green, Liverpool L11 2TD The station was on the air from 9am-10am Saturday with a "test transmission". Phil Davies rang, requesting a reception report but, unfortunately, the station couldn't be heard at this location. Phil said that he would open at noon on Sunday, but all that could be heard here was a "flutter fading" type of interference to Signal Radio on 1170kHz Reports from the Liverpool area confirm that the station WAS on the air from Noon to 3pm.

On 11th July, London's ILR station, Capital Radio, was intercepted twice at 9:28am and 10:28am. The following message was read out. "This radio station has been intercepted by supporters of ACTION NOW for COMMUNITY RADIO. The government promised us our own transmitters, so large amounts of money and effort were spent preparing. Then, for no good reason, they changed their mind and have so denied you the wider choice and involvement that Community Radio would give. The supporters of Action Now for Community Radio apologise to advertisers for intercepting their messages". Reports say that further action is planned. The aim of Action Now for Community Radio is to sue the government for at least one million pounds to compensate the "groups" who have spent large amounts of money in the expectation of getting a CR licence.

This is the second time that the broadcasts of LBC have been "hi-jacked" this year. In April, during the newspaper dispute at Wapping, a Radio Wapping managed to intercept the broadcasts of LBC and get their own message across. It is generally believed that the illegal broadcast of Radio Wapping was largely responsible for the government's "change

of heart" on the whole subject of Community Radio.