



CAMPAIGN for INDEPENDENT BROADCASTING

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Formerly-National Commercial Radio Movement

Newsletter to all members

Dear Member,

Well once again there is quite a lot of news to tell you, and as most members know although we guarantee at least 4 newsletters a year, we like to keep you informed as to what is happening so we send you newsletters just as soon as there is any news!

NATIONAL PETITION - The response to this has been good, but a much greater effort is needed. We want to hand in these petitions to the Prime Minister in batches. We want the first batch to be the largest, and we hope to hand it in to him in about 10 days time.

One way of getting people to sign is to go from door to door, and produce your membership card. You will find the public will respond such as they did for Keith Tilbury of Weybridge, Surrey, who each day sends us a completed petition form, without fail. We are sure there are more enthusiastic members like Keith, so now while the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications is open to suggestions please get as many forms filled in as you possibly can.

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF POSTS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS - David Prewett, Chairman and Fred Hasler Vice-Chairman, recently attended a meeting with the Minister. A copy of the minutes as sent to us by the Post Office is enclosed. Just to sum up the meeting, it was very useful, and it is the first time the Government has been willing to meet us. As you will read, the situation was discussed with the Minister, and we put over the listeners' point of view which we feel is important; not only because it represents your views, but you are the people to whom all broadcasts are directed. The Minister has invited us to put forward any further considerations we may have in the near future.

TELEPHONES - Just before the election, you may remember, Radio Nordsee International heard about the rally we planned for Speakers' Corner and gave out two telephone numbers of the C.I.B. for people to ring for information. We were very pleased at the response but the phones have not stopped ringing since. Something had to be done as we were receiving calls often in the early hours of the morning, and it was also upsetting some of the Committee Members' families, so consequently the number of the office has been changed as you will see above, to: 01-272-3823; the Press-Public Relations Officer's number is still the same, at present, but the calls are being intercepted by request, by the Post Office, and unless you ask for Martin Rosen by name you will not get through. When the interception ends and if the calls still come through, it may be necessary to change that number. We do not mind members phoning, but it is the many people that listen to R.N.I. and are not members, but think this is an R.N.I. information service. Often we know nothing more than what you have read in the papers.

RADIO NORDSEE INTERNATIONAL - As you probably all know by now, the boat moved back to Holland on Thursday (23rd). It is now broadcasting 3 miles from Schevinigen, approximately 1 mile away from Radio Veronica, and is positioned between Veronica and the shore. At the time of going to press, they are not being jammed.

RADIO GERONIMO - NEWSFLASH - At the time of going to press we understand that a new transmitter is being built, which will improve reception of the station in Britain. More news in the next Newsletter.

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ANNAN COMMITTEE - The proposed committee to look at broadcasting, which was set up in the final weeks of the last Government has been disbanded by the present Administration. This is welcomed by the C.I.B. at this point of time, as the big committees tend to take a number of years to report, and when the report is published, it is usually out-dated. The Government will ask the Post Office to look at the present situation and report on it. Although this is not a complete answer to problems connected with broadcasting, it is on the way.

NEWSLETTER - Are you reading this newsletter, which you have borrowed from a friend? Are you lending out your newsletter? Most people can now see we are genuine in our aims, and that you certainly do get value for your money when you join the C.I.B. We are trying to be as active as possible. So, if you are not a member, or your friend is not a member, but is interested in radio, why not join. The more members we have, helps to keep costs down. We can have newsletters etc., printed in larger quantities therefore costing less, and therefore we can send out newsletters more often. If your membership is due for renewal, please renew promptly as we would not like you to miss any news we may have.

BADGES - We hope to have badges manufactured within the next few weeks. If we do, and you are interested in buying one or more, please send us a S.A.E. and we will send you details, if and when they are available.

QUESTIONS (1) - Our members are always welcome to 'phone any of the above numbers between the hours of 6.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. any weekday evening, or at weekends, there is always someone available at either of these numbers to answer your questions, and besides we like to know our members personally. If you do phone, it is important that you should quote your membership number, and the same applies when writing to us, if you require an answer you should enclose a self-addressed envelope with a 5d stamp.

QUESTIONS (2) - The C.I.B. Committee meets the first Friday in every month. If there is a question that you would like to put forward, it should reach us no later than the Thursday of that week, or you may phone 01-272-3823 no later than 8.00 p.m. on the evening of the Committee Meeting, so that your matter is raised in Members' Question Time.

JAMMING - STOP PRESS - NEWSFLASH - The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, we understand, sent a telegram on Monday July 27th, to the International Telecommunications Union, explaining their position with regards to R.N.I. They are hoping the I.T.U. will put pressure on the Dutch Government to take action against R.N.I.

The Ministry is considering what action it should take, itself, against the station, whether to re-commence jamming or some alternative action. A spokesman at the Ministry said that if any action is to be taken, it must be soon. He was asked by Fred Hasler why any action was necessary. He said that R.N.I. is using British D.J's, and beaming their signal to the U.K. He also referred to the German Marine Broadcasting Offences Act, which was so designed that they could arrest a vessel.

We are sorry to end up with bad news, but rest assured if the Dutch start any action, we shall enquire as to why they have left Radio Veronica alone for 10 years.

Yours sincerely,

THE COMMITTEE.