

FROM PEGGY E. FENNER M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON, SW1

16th July 1970

Dear Mr. Bunzl,

I do thank you for your letter with regard to the jamming of Radio Nordsee International.

I have already made several specific complaints to the Minister, Mr. Christopher Chataway, who has answered several questions in the House on the subject of this jamming. I understand from Press reports that the Minister was meeting a deputation on Tuesday and that he has firmly stated that the jamming of this illegal wavelength will continue.

I shall be in contact with other Members and continue to press the matter, only in so far as this affects BBC Home Programmes. Whilst I am definitely in favour of Commercial Stations, I cannot support the use of illegal wavelengths.

Yours sincerely,

A.M. Bunzl, Esq.,
BICKLEY.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy E. Fenner".

FROM: PEGGY E. FENNER, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON, SW 1

22nd July, 1970.

Dear Mr. Bunzl,

As you will know, I have complained several times over the past few weeks to Mr. Christopher Chataway, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, about the effect on B.B.C. Home Programmes of the jamming of Radio North Sea International. I felt that you might be interested in his reply, a copy of which I enclose.

Yours sincerely,

Peggy E. Fenner

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Campaign for Independent Broadcasting,
3 Old Field Road,
Bickley, Kent.



Waterloo Bridge House
Waterloo Road
London SE1
Telephone 01-928 7878

From The Minister of
Posts and Telecommunications

16 July 1970

Thank you for your letter of 24 June concerning the action taken by my Ministry to stop pirate broadcasting.

I would be very concerned if the 'jamming' by my Ministry of the pirate broadcasting station Radio North Sea International was to cause interference to the reception of BBC broadcasts on 247 metres in the Medway area on the scale that complaints have suggested.

However, following extensive technical investigations we have found that the majority of complaints of interference to BBC Radio One were due to interference caused by the pirate station itself, particularly during its attempts to make good the promoter's threat deliberately to cause interference by operating on frequencies close to Radio 1. Many more of the complaints were found to concern interference to the reception of RNSI, but these of course need no answer. Only a few complaints of interference from our transmitter to the public reception of Radio One have been found justified and more often than not these arose because of some deficiency in the receivers in use.

Nevertheless since there have been a few genuine cases of interference to Radio One from our transmitters, despite our precautions, I have reconsidered the question of our 'jamming', but for the following reasons I have decided that it must continue. On every frequency used by the pirate station it has caused interference in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in Europe, on one occasion to safety of life services over a wide area. On another occasion where the station used a frequency assigned to Czechoslovakia the pirates let it be known that they had obtained the agreement of the Czechoslovak authorities but this was denied by Czechoslovakia who complained to the International Frequency Registration Board in Geneva that the pirate station was causing harmful interference to their services. In short the pirate station is a menace to the rights of others to use their own frequencies free from interference and I must act against them. My action in 'jamming' is the only way in which we can prevent the station establishing itself and incidentally prevent a spate of pirate broadcasting. It is done in support of our treaty obligation under the International Telecommunication Convention and

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Mrs Peggy Fenner MP
House of Commons
LONDON SW1



is in accordance with the Radio Regulations annexed to the Convention.

Our 'jamming' transmitters are designed to reduce to the lowest possible level any interference with BBC Radio One listeners, but if there are a few people whose reception is affected I can only ask them to be patient and to offer them my assurance that as soon as RNSI ceases to operate the interference will stop.

(Sgd) CHRISTOPHER CHURCHWAY