

GPO raids a pirate radio

by ROSALIND MORRIS

FIFTEEN policemen and six members of the Post Office Investigation Squad raided a flat in Camden Town early yesterday and took away equipment being used for pirate radio broadcasts. Nine people were interviewed by police and one man was charged.

The pirate station, Radio Concord, has been broadcasting every Friday evening for the last four years on 225 metres medium wave. Using a different location in London for transmissions each week, Radio Concord broadcasts pop and folk music, poems, stories and news. The station has been raided several times by police and during yesterday's raid and another a week ago transmitters, records and recording equipment were removed.

Under the Wireless Telegraphy Acts (1949 and 1967) it is illegal to broadcast without a licence and the Post Office has the power to obtain search warrants and to seize equipment it believes is being used for illegal broadcasts.

A spokesman for Radio Concord said yesterday that the station was intended to provide an alternative to the BBC and commercial stations.

'We want the licensing system to be changed to allow a lot of local radio stations which are not connected with current commercial and BBC monopolies,' he said.

'We are going to do our utmost to get back on the air.'

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THEFT OF BEST PRACTICE