Device to beat the radio pest

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

LONDON, Saturday. — People who dislike transistor radios are using a small device to "jam" them.

When the device is turned on any transistor radio within 200 feet emits sounds "like a wailing cat." London radio dealers say the device may reach Sydney, where attempts have been made to import jamming devices.

The technical name for the device is a "tumble oscillator." It is a battery-operated oscillator.

"They are easy to make." One dealer said. "They are made in Japan. They are sold for a few shillings."

"In many parts of England they are being used effectively — and illegally." The jamministers are assembled in a case about the size of a cigarette packet. They can be concealed easily in pocket or handbag.

They are operated by a button switch at one end of the device.

The London "Daily Mirror" reported this week that jamministers could be bought in London for 15s.

Sold furiously

"Sun-Herald" inquiries show they cannot be bought openly in shops. They are said to change hands furiously in secret bars.

One British company has used a jammer to stop workers in a factory from listening to cricket broadcasts.

A man who did not like music with his beer used a jammer in his local hotel — but the licensees never found out where the interference was coming from.

A salesgirl in one of Britain's biggest manufacturers of transistor radios said, "We know all about them. They are more of a nuisance than a problem."

The General Post Office says anyone who uses the devices without a transmitting licence may be liable to prosecution and that any deliberate interference is an offence.

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PAPUANS, protesting against the proposed transfer of Dutch New Guinea to Indonesia, demonstrate outside the New Guinea Council building in Hollandia on Friday.

About 1,000 marchers, carrying anti-Indonesian banners and chanting "Down with Soekarno," took part in the mass rally — one of five in New Guinea.

The rally was orderly and there were no incidents.