



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB

*cc Mr Lambester  
Mr Verelker*

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE

*WM  
28/5*

William Rickett Esq  
Private Secretary to  
the Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1

27 May 1981

*Dear William*

Further to Anthony Mayer's letter of <sup>27</sup>20 May I am writing to let you know that although the staff at DVLC reported for duty in the normal way this morning following the mass walk out last Friday (yesterday was their privilege holiday) there has been a further unfortunate development.

23 senior data processors, essential to the operation of the computers, have now been called out on strike by the CCSU. We expect a similar number to be brought out from the other two shifts later today.

We are investigating the possibility of using other staff to do the work but its specialised nature is such that even if some can be found there will not be enough to keep the computers going. In any event we must expect any staff called on to replace those now on strike to be themselves called out by CCSU. I am afraid therefore that we face the prospect of the computers continuing to be out of action in spite of the successful delivery of the nitrogen supplies and the restoration of the air conditioning.

Copies go as before to Jim Buckley in CSD and David Edmonds in DOE.

*Yours sincerely*

*Alice Baker*

MRS E A BAKER  
Private Secretary