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CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

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*in the Verkh
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19/6

Tim Lankester Esq
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19 June 1981

Dear Tim,

INDUSTRIAL ACTION PROGRESS REPORT

As has been reported in the Press, the CCSU Major Policy Committee decided, after a day of talks yesterday, to press ahead with an extended programme of selective strike action. The only union which, after membership consultations, still favoured an all-out strike was the CPSA, and it deferred to the others in the interests of maintaining unity.

A total of 4962 staff are involved in selective action today. Inland Revenue, MOD, Customs and Excise, DHSS, Employment, MAFF, Trade and Industry, Scottish Courts, DVLC and Passport Offices continue to be seriously affected. In addition, Ordnance Survey has been affected this week as set out below; and action still continues within the CAA. As usual the main developments in departments are set out below, and an Annex setting out total numbers on strike is attached.

ACTION WITHIN DEPARTMENTS

SCOTTISH OFFICE

The trade union side has abandoned the Agreement with management which has been keeping certain essential computer services going. Teachers' superannuation and certain payments to farmers, as well as the pay of Scottish Office staff themselves will be affected. The Scottish Office hope to keep up as many of these payments as possible on a manual basis. The unions claim that their latest move was provoked by management when, some weeks ago, the agreement was inadvertently breached by a delivery of mail. But this is regarded as a thin excuse.

ORDNANCE SURVEY

8 reproduction staff began indefinite strikes this week, leaving 4 machines out of operation. This means that OS are now unable to print certain larger maps. In addition picketing

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has been preventing deliveries of mail. However, smaller multicoloured maps and certain repayment work is being maintained.

CAA

The London Air Traffic Control Centre has been affected by industrial action both yesterday and today. Today air traffic controlled by the Centre is operating at about 70% of its normal level. Yesterday the corresponding figure was about 33%. Heathrow Airport itself was also affected by action yesterday. However, contrary to some Press reports, a substantial service was maintained.

INLAND REVENUE

20 Collectors in Charge went on strike yesterday following first TRD action taken against them for failing to submit returns of work to central management. Staff in six Collection Offices walked out for a short time in protest. Approximately 75% of the staff in PD Taxes, Cardiff, walked out on Wednesday afternoon in sympathy with Mr Elsey, the IRSF official whose trial began in Edinburgh the same day.

On a more positive note:

EMPLOYMENT

A backlog of benefits payments, which accumulated because of unofficial action by staff in Scotland, is likely to be cleared by next week. Staff are reported to be working normally and enthusiastically.

DHSS

The threat of TRD action to staff at Laurieston (Scotland) has resulted in a resumption of normal working. About 300 staff in six offices (4 in Scotland, 2 in England) were involved in walk-outs on Wednesday 17 June. Normal working has now been resumed.

Additionally several departments, including DVLC, Industry and DHSS, have made successful deliveries of mail and supplies to various sites.

Copies as before

JEREMY COLMAN
Private Secretary

*Yours ever,
Jeremy Colman*

SELECTIVE ACTION BY NON-INDUSTRIAL CIVIL SERVANTS

SUMMARY OF POSITION - 19 JUNE 1981

Department	Number on strike	Remarks
Customs & Excise	444	Strikes by computer, customs and other staff at Southend Computer Centre ; Dover/Folkestone/Sheerness/Shoreham/Newhaven ; Newcastle-upon-Tyne ; Manchester Betting Duty Office
Ministry of Defence	1024	Strikes by computer and other staff at 4 dockyards, 4 RN stores depots, 2 RN armaments depots, Clyde Submarine Base, Royal Ordnance Factories, Feltham and Taunton (Mapping), Bath, Oil Fuel Depots.
Environment/Transport	69	Senior Data Processors at DVLC.
Foreign and Commonwealth Office	317	Passport Examiners at the London, Liverpool, Peterborough, Newport and Glasgow Passport Offices; staff at Hayes Record Centre
Dept. of Health and Social Security	455	230 staff on strike at Newcastle computer centre; 10 staff at North Fylde central Accounts Office; staff at Reading Computer Centre (59) Livingston Computer Centre (56), and Washington Computer Centre (100).
Home Office		
Inland Revenue	2116	Staff on strike at Shipley and Cumbernauld computer centres; staff at various Collection Offices.
Paymaster General's Office	27	Strike by 12 computer staff; 12 in Finance Branch, disrupting Government banking transactions; telephonists.
Property Services Agency	12	Strikes by maintenance engineers at RAF Brawdy, Perdine, Aberporth, St Athans, Treow, Cardiff DWO, Cumbernauld, Carlisle, Shoeburyness.

Departments	Number on strike	Remarks
Depts. of Trade and Industry	163	Strike/by staff who handle search facilities at Companies House, London and Cardiff; telephonists at Cardiff
Scottish Office	25	Staff at the Scottish Computer Centre and 1 CPISA member involved in organising industrial action.
Scottish Courts Administration	235	Strike by staff at Edinburgh and Glasgøw Sheriff Courts.
Registers of Scotland	11	Strike by Administrative staff.
AFF	18	Staff at Guildford Computer Centre.
Employment	8	Computer staff at Reading.
Ordnance Survey	8	3 Reprographic staff.
TOTAL	4962	