



DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY
ASHDOWN HOUSE
123 VICTORIA STREET
LONDON SW1E 6RB

TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01-212 3301
SWITCHBOARD 01-212 7676

PS/ *Secretary of State for Industry*

20 October 1980

Tim Lankester Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

Dear Tim

BRITISH SHIPBUILDERS FINANCES

You asked me for further information for the Prime Minister on my Secretary of State's paper E(80)112. I enclose a table listing British Shipbuilders' various yards, the types of vessels under construction, their number and information about any delays known to the Department.

2. The Department does not specifically monitor progress on British Shipbuilders contracts. Without detailed investigation it is not possible to establish whether a delay is attributable to customers introducing modifications to their orders or to reasons outside British Shipbuilders control, for example the steel strike or other failures by suppliers to deliver equipment on time. A number of ships are at an early stage of construction when delays are less apparent than at the later stages. The only ships which the Department knows to be currently late for reasons within the control of British Shipbuilders are:

- (a) three ships at Sunderland (caused by design difficulties);
and
- (b) one Polish ship at Robb Caledon caused by labour problems associated with the closure.

Yours ever

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I K C ELLISON
Private Secretary



Shipyard	Types of vessel under construction	Number	Comments
Ailsa	Suction Dredger	1) No known delay)
	LPG Tanker	1	
Appledore	Tug/Supply	2	No known delay Knock-on delay from earlier ships. 2 months late
	Container ship	1	
	Product carrier	1	
Austin and Pickersgill	Cargo carriers	7) Maximum delay 4 months on one ship)
	Bulk carriers	3	
Brooke Marine	Patrol craft for export	1	5 months delay due to customer
Cammell Laird *	Destroyers (MOD)	2	Ahead of schedule
Clelands	Bulk carrier	1) No known delay)
	Coastal Tanker	2	
Fergussons	Fishery Protection	1	3 months delay) Up to 2 months delay)
	Dredger	1	
	LPG	1	
Goole	Tankers	2	No known delay
Govan	Bulk Carriers	4	No known delay
Hall Russell	Patrol vessels (MOD)	2	No delay
Robb Caledon Dundee	Bulk carrier	1	12 months delay - mainly due to labour troubles and equipment suppliers. 3 months delay) No known delay)
Leith	Tug	1	
	Dredger	1	
	Trinity House Flagship	1	

* One MOD Fleet Support Tanker about to be ordered.



Shipyard	Types of vessel under construction	Number	Comments
Scott Lithgow Cartsburn	Cargo liner	1	<u>3 months delay</u>
	Seabed operation vessel (MOD)	1	<u>No delay</u>
Scott Lithgow Glen/Kingston	ESV	1	<u>3 months delay</u>
	Tanker	1	No known delay
Smith Dock	Refrigerated carriers	2	No known delay
Sunderland	Cargo carrier	1	<u>Five months delay</u> - mainly due to design change
Deptford	Bulk Carriers	3	No known delay
Sunderland	Cargo carrier	2	Five to six months delay - mainly due to design change
Pallion	Bulk carrier	2	One to two months delay
Swan Hunter Hebburn	Tanker	1	2 months delay
	Nuclear Fuel Carrier	1	No known delay
Swan Hunter Neptune	Product tanker	1	No known delay
	Destroyer (MOD)	2	Ahead of schedule
Swan Hunter Wallsend	Anti submarine Cruiser (MOD)	2	Ahead of schedule
Vickers	Submarine (MOD)	4) Ahead of schedule)
	Destroyer (MOD)	1	
Vosper Thornycroft	Patrol craft	8	No known delay
	Destroyers for export (MOD)	3) Ahead of schedule
	MCMV (MOD)	6	
Yarrow	Frigate (MOD)	4	Ahead of schedule
	MCMV (MOD)	2	No delay
	Support vessels for Iran	4	Contract terminated, and much deliberate delay while other markets sought