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CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

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Sir Ian Bancroft G.C.B.
Head of the Home Civil Service

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1 May 1981

Dear Mike,

There are at present 4360 staff involved in selective strike action, a small increase in the figures given earlier this week. Details of the number and the areas of industrial action are given in the attached Annex.

The pattern of action in the major departments remains largely unchanged. However, Customs and Excise staff on the NI Land Boundary and at most West Coast ports have returned to work, although there is an increase in the pattern of action at certain Channel ports affecting the flow of goods. Action continues in the Navy Department, where Rosyth Dockyard remains a particularly difficult area; the Liverpool Bill Paying Office have returned to normal working. Main areas of dispute in Inland Revenue remain the same, with firm TRD action being taken in new trouble spots in Scotland. Whilst there may be some disruption of Air Traffic arrangements on 4 May, no action is expected at the weekend.

HMS Repulse, which docked Tuesday for routine inter-patrol maintenance, is being blacked. MOD have reduced the time between the issue of letters A and B of the TRD procedure to two hours. The local CCSU representatives were given warning before this that if blacking occurred management would take accelerated TRD action on a wide front.

To date well over 1000 TRD Written or Oral Warnings have been issued. This has resulted in nearly 300 staff returning to work, about 350 being relieved from duty and the remainder on strike.

Other developments include:-

- i. Inland Revenue. Further TRD action has been taken at Inverness, Dundee and Chichester Collection Offices.
- ii. Environment/Transport. Post Office workers have agreed to cross the picket line at DVLC. Maintenance staff might cause further problems.

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iii. Foreign & Commonwealth Office. The Department are considering the use of British Visitors Passports, to be issued via the Post Office.

Copies as before.

Yours truly,
Jeremy

JEREMY COLMAN
Private Secretary

SELECTIVE ACTION BY NON-INDUSTRIAL CIVIL SERVANTS
SUMMARY OF POSITION - 1 MAY 1981

Department	Number on strike	Remarks
Customs & Excise	453	Strikes by computer, customs and other staff at Southend Computer Centre (277), London Port (2), South Coast Ports (128), Manchester Betting Duty Office (42), Glasgow (4).
Ministry of Defence	690	Strikes by computer and other staff at 4 dockyards, 4 RN stores depots, 2 RN armaments depots, Clyde Submarine Base, Feltham and Taunton (Mapping), Bath, 5 Oil Fuel Depots.
Environment	4	Cartographers on strike at HQ, Marsham Street.
Foreign and Commonwealth Office	134	Passport Examiners at the London, Liverpool, Peterborough and Glasgow Passport Offices.
Dept. of Health and Social Security	345	230 staff on strike at Newcastle computer centre; 10 staff at North Fylde central Accounts Office; 95 staff on unofficial strike in Scottish local offices.
Home Office	6	Staff picketing Horfield Prison, Bristol.
Inland Revenue	2206	Staff on strike at Shipley, Cumbernauld and Worthing computer centres; staff at various Collection Offices and the mail sorting centre at Kew. (1855 on strike, 351 TRD)
Paymaster General's Office	28	Strike by 10 computer staff; 13 in Finance Branch, disrupting Government banking transactions; telephonists.
Property Services Agency	47	Strikes by maintenance engineers at RAF Brawdy, Wyton, Aberporth, St Athans, and Swansea District Works Office.

Departments	Number on strike	Remarks
Depts. of Trade and Industry	168	Strike by staff who handle search facilities and Companies House, London and Cardiff; telephonists at Cardiff.
Scottish Office	25	Staff at the Scottish Computer Centre and 1 CPSA member involved in organising industrial action.
Scottish Courts Administration	235	Strike by staff at Edinburgh and Glasgow Sheriff Courts.
Registers of Scotland	11	Strike by Administrative staff.
Employment	9	Strike by clerical staff at Barrhead UBO.
TOTAL	4361	