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*✓ Mr. [unclear]
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CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT
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12/15

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

Tim Lankester Esq
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19 May 1981

[Handwritten signature]

Dear Tim,

INDUSTRIAL ACTION PROGRESS REPORT

Since the last report there has been a slight increase in the number of staff involved in selective strike action (4605 as against 4509 on 15 May). The number of staff on TRD remains the same at 465. Action at the various computer centres (Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise, DHSS, MOD, PGO, SO, and now MAFF) and at MOD generally continues. However TRD warnings were issued on Friday and Monday to staff at Companies House, Cardiff where the processing of mail was threatened. These proved effective and all but 30 of the staff concerned (who are still to be seen) are now working normally. At Inland Revenue there are rumours that the unions intend to put pressure on staff still working normally at Shipley. Extra police assistance will be sought if they do. Developments are summarised below:-

MAFF

The Guildford computer has been closed down, (18 staff involved). The three areas of work affected are the payment of export refunds to traders; the payment of capital grants to farmers; and other payments in connection with the Common Agricultural Policy. The normal weekly payment total is £16m, and no payments are being made at present. Contingency arrangements are being urgently reviewed.

see my note at Finis A.

FCO PASSPORT OFFICE

The total of those on strike at offices in London, Liverpool, Newport, Peterborough and Glasgow is now 282 (as against 214 last Friday). The action, still mainly by Passport Examiners, continues to affect seriously the issue of passports. Most of the additional strikers are at the London office though the position it still at its most acute in Liverpool and Glasgow.

MOD

There was a one-day strike at Gosport on Friday in protest against the re-arming of 2 submarines at Devonport by industrial staff under the supervision of management. It received little support.

CAA

Action continues to switch between locations on a day-to-day basis. Cardiff Airport and the Oceanic Control Centre (Prestwick) have been closed this morning, and the Scottish Air Traffic Control Centre (also at Prestwick) has been providing a limited service only.

DVLC

Arrangements have been made for the delivery of nitrogen for the air-conditioning system. Mail is continuing to flow in regularly following the agreement with the unions noted in the previous report.

REGISTERS OF SCOTLAND

Arrangements are being made for contractors to service reprographic equipment. This may cause escalation and a need for TRD.

Copies as before.

*Yours truly,
Jeremy*

JEREMY COLMAN
Private Secretary

SELECTIVE ACTION BY NON-INDUSTRIAL CIVIL SERVANTS

SUMMARY OF POSITION - 19 MAY 1981

Department	Number on strike	Remarks
Customs & Excise	440	Strikes by computer, customs and other staff at Southend Computer Centre (308); Wick (2) South Coast Ports (74); Manchester Betting Duty Office (44), London Airport (12).
Ministry of Defence	861	Strikes by computer and other staff at 4 dockyards, 4 RN stores depots, 2 RN armaments depots, Clyde Submarine Base, Oil Fuel Depots, REME Longmoor Feltham and Taunton (Mapping), Bath, Feltham and Taunton (Mapping), Bath, Oil Fuel Depots, REME Longmoor
Environment/Transport	4	Cartographers on strike at HQ, Marsham Street. (DVLC - see PSA)
Foreign and Commonwealth Office	282	Passport Examiners at the London, Liverpool, Peterborough, Newport and Glasgow Passport Offices.
Dept. of Health and Social Security	240	230 staff on strike at Newcastle computer centre; 10 staff at North Fylde central Accounts Office.
Home Office	12	Staff at Exeter and Bristol Prisons.
Inland Revenue	2207	Staff on strike at Shipley, Cumbernauld and Worthing computer centres; staff at various Collection Offices. (1742 on strike, 465 TRD)
Paymaster General's Office	27	Strike by 12 computer staff; 12 in Finance Branch, disrupting Government banking transactions; telephonists.
Property Services Agency	57	Strikes by maintenance engineers at RAF Brawdy, Pendine, Aberporth, Yeovilton St Athans, Treowen, Cardiff DWO, Swansea DWO (picketing DVLC) & Cumbernauld.

Departments	Number on strike	Remarks
Depts. of Trade and Industry	186	Strike by staff who handle search facilities at Companies House, London and Cardiff; telephonists and messengers 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.
MAFF	18	Staff at Guildford Computer Centre.
TOTAL	4605	