

CONFIDENTIAL

CG A Duguid



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ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE
LONDON, WC2A 2LL

The Secretary of State for Employment

Dear Sir,

Working Paper on Secondary Industrial Action

I have considered the latest draft of your working paper given to me by your officials this morning. I have also read the comments sent on behalf of the Prime Minister and the papers and letters circulated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Secretary of State for Trade, the Paymaster General and the Lord Advocate.

You will no doubt have received my comments on matters of detail given over the telephone and the comments I made on one point of substance. However that one point seems to me to be of such importance that I feel that I should confirm it in writing.

It does seem to me, comparing what you say in the latest draft of your proposals with what the Chancellor of the Exchequer said in para 2(ii) of his minute and what the Secretary of State for Trade said in the second paragraph of his letter, that there is a real possibility that there is misunderstanding as to what has been agreed and is to be proposed.

It may be that you have resolved such questions. If not I am of course at your disposal if I can be of any help in doing so.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, to other members of E, and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours ever,

18 February, 1980

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Dismissed
vid. Dr.
Prior

10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

The Solicitor General
has managed to say that he
has seen the latest draft
and is still not happy
with it: he believes it
leaves open the possibility
~~open~~ of immunities extending to
second customs / cross
border. Mr Prior is unwilling
to change it further.

Mr Prior and Sir Ian
are available if you wish
to discuss the draft tomorrow.

12/11/72