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CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT
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Telephone 01 273 5400

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

Tim Lankester Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

26 June 1981

Dear Sir,

INDUSTRIAL ACTION PROGRESS REPORT

4953 staff are currently involved in selective industrial action. The principal departments affected remain the same, with the addition earlier this week of the FCO (Headquarters) where 7 photoprinters have been called out. This and other new developments are set out below by Department and a table showing total numbers on strike is attached.

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British Telecom have written to the Department of Industry about an estimated £1M which because of industrial action is outstanding on Government telephone bills, and the cut-off stage has been reached. They are not seeking to cut-off Government Departments' telephones but are asking that either a returnable deposit should be paid or that interest should accompany the eventual payments. The Department of Industry and the Treasury are dealing with this matter.

ACTION WITHIN DEPARTMENTS

FCO

7 Photoprinters in the Communications Operations Department were called out on indefinite strike on Wednesday. This action will interrupt distribution of telegrams, both internally and within Whitehall; however, action copies will be distributed; there is unlikely to be any significant disruption to the working of Government.

CAA

Heathrow Airport has been the main target this week, with flights disrupted today and on Wednesday by Air Traffic Controllers' action. The Chairman of British Airways has announced estimated losses of £40 million due to the disruption of services at airports.

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CUSTOMS AND EXCISE

Striking staff at Dover are expected to return to work as from next Monday.

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE

A total of 43 staff are on strike; this includes 12 Finance staff, 3 telephonists and the entire computer operations staff of 28. The strike by computer operators will seriously affect the payments to 1 million public service pensioners. Emergency arrangements will be promulgated in the media generally on Monday. The unions have undertaken to cooperate with manual payments in cases of hardship.

SCOTTISH OFFICE

120 staff are today being asked to write girocheques for teachers' pensions and other payments manually because the computer is out. It is not yet known how many will comply, but management is making clear that there will be immediate TRD action against those who do not do so.

ORDNANCE SURVEY

On Wednesday a contractor's van was surrounded by 2-300 staff when an attempt was made to pick up mail from the site. This was therefore unsuccessful, but an 'out of hours' collection of a large consignment of maps were successful yesterday evening. This will help to meet current orders.

DHSS

Local Offices have been forced to close by short-term protest action at Basildon (yesterday for one hour) and Chesterfield (all day today).

Copies as before.

Yours ever,
Jeremy

JEREMY COLMAN
Private Secretary

SELECTIVE ACTION BY NON-INDUSTRIAL CIVIL SERVANTS

SUMMARY OF POSITION - 26 JUNE 1951

Department	Number on strike	Remarks
Customs & Excise	434	Strikes by computer, customs and other staff at Southend Computer Centre (308); Dover/Folkestone/Sheerness (82); upon-Tyne (1); Manchester Betting Duty Office (43). Newcastle-
Ministry of Defence	952	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	315	Passport Examiners at the London, Liverpool, Peterborough, Newport and Glasgow Passport Offices; staff at Hayes Record Centre; <i>Photoprinters (Telegrams Section)</i>
Dept. of Health and Social Security	458	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). <i>Medicine Division DMS HQ (3)</i>
Home Office		
Inland Revenue	2170	Staff on strike at Shipley and Cumbernauld computer centres; staff at various Collection Offices. (393 TAB)
Paymaster General's Office	43	Strike by computer staff; ^{affecting pension payments} 12 in Finance Branch, disrupting Government banking transactions; telephonists.
Property Services Agency	44	Strikes by maintenance engineers at RAF Brawdy, Pendine, Aberporth, St Athans, Treow, Cardiff DWO, Cumbernauld and 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 Glasgow Sheriff Courts.
Registers of Scotland	11	Strike by Administrative staff.
STAFF	18	Staff at Guildford Computer Centre.
Employment	8	Computer staff at Reading.
Ordnance Survey	8	8 Reprographic staff.
TOTAL	4953	