

010
CONFIDENTIAL



C. B. M. ...

CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2AZ
Telephone 01 273 5400

ABM

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

*R
207*

Tim Lankester Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

17 July 1981

Dear Tim,

INDUSTRIAL ACTION PROGRESS REPORT

5214 staff are involved in selective industrial action today. As usual principal developments within departments are set out below, and a table showing numbers on strike is attached.

The revised pay offer has been sent formally to the unions this afternoon and it is expected that they will consult membership with a view to reporting back before the end of the month. The Trade Unions have undertaken to discourage any form of unofficial industrial action, and during the consultative period both sides have agreed to do everything possible to ensure that there is no intensification of the industrial action.

ACTION WITHIN DEPARTMENTS

Employment

There is no suggestion of an immediate return to work by those Unemployment Benefit Offices (UBO) staff already on strike. The total number of UBO staff now involved in strike action is 422, and 20 offices are affected. However discussions are taking place with national and departmental CPSA representatives with the aim of reaching an agreement to stop the increase in blacking of Girocheques. The aim is to achieve a 'levelling off' of the position.

DHSS

A number of offices are still refusing to deal with redirected UBO claimants. Where this is the case claimants are still being advised to seek financial assistance from Local Authority and social services departments. In Hackney there have been difficulties in securing Local Authority cooperation, but DHSS have now negotiated satisfactory contingency arrangements.

CONFIDENTIAL

MOD

The numbers involved in selective action are expected to decrease still further next week (following the drop in numbers already reported this week). However management are giving serious consideration to the position at Rosyth Dockyard, where Navy personnel may soon have to be used to take over certain operations affecting the refit of a nuclear submarine.

FCO/Passport Offices

Passport Offices are now almost back to full normal working. There is still some resistance from staff at Liverpool and Glasgow to the union's instructions on this, but both offices are functioning.

Scottish Office

Staff at the Scottish Office Computer Centre will resume normal working as from Monday following an agreement reached with the unions yesterday.

Welsh Office/ECGD

Blacking of work is occurring in both Departments, both at their Cathays Park site where there is a 24-hour picket, and at other regional offices to which they send mail. TRD action has been taken by both departments with reasonable effect. Heavy picketing is affecting some mail deliveries.

Copies as before.

*Yours truly,
Jeremy*

JEREMY COLMAN
Private Secretary

SELECTIVE ACTION BY NON-INDUSTRIAL CIVIL SERVANTS

SUMMARY OF POSITION - 17 JULY 1981

Department	Number on strike	Remarks
Customs & Excise	354	Strikes by computer, customs and other staff at Southend Computer Centre (308); Manchester Betting Duty Office (43); Glasgow Betting Duty Office (3)
Ministry of Defence	656	Strikes by computer and other staff at dockyards, RN stores depots, RN armaments depots, Clyde Submarine Base, Royal Ordnance Factories, Feltham and Taunton (Mapping), Bath.
Environment/Transport	85	EOs and Senior Data Processors at DVLC.
Foreign and Commonwealth Office	239	Passport Examiners at the London, Liverpool, and Glasgow Passport Offices; staff at Hayes Record Centre.
Dept. of Health and Social Security	466	230 staff on strike at Newcastle computer centre; 10 staff at North Fylde central Accounts Office; staff at Reading Computer Centre (56), Livingston Computer Centre (56), and Washington Computer Centre (100). Medicines Division DHSS HQ (3) Local office staff (11)
Home Office		
Inland Revenue	2459	Staff on strike at Shipley and Cumbernauld computer centres; staff at various Collection Offices. (467 TRDs)

Department	Number on strike	Remarks
Paymaster General's Office	43	Strike by 28 computer staff affecting pension payments; 12 in Finance Branch, disrupting Government banking transactions; 3 telephonists.
Property Services Agency	44	Strikes by maintenance engineers at RAF Brawdy, Pendine, Aberporth, Shoeburyness, St Athans, Trecwn, Cardiff DWO, Cumbernauld and Carlisle.
Depts. of Trade and Industry	163	Strike by staff who handle search facilities at Companies House, London and Cardiff; telephonists at Cardiff.
Scottish Office DAFS	25 13	Staff at the Scottish Computer Centre and 1 CPSA member involved in organising industrial action. Drawing Office staff
Scottish Courts Administration	235	Strike by staff at Edinburgh and Glasgow Sheriff Courts.
ECGD	5	Post room staff
MAFF	18	Staff at Guildford Computer Centre.
Employment	385	8 Computer staff at Reading and 7 staff in the Statistics Branch, Watford 370 UBO staff.
Ordnance Survey	1	1 Filmsetter Operator
Welsh Office	23	Mail sorting staff, paperkeepers and messengers at Cathays Park
TOTAL	5214	