

CONFIDENTIAL

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MR BLOOMFIELD

cc PS/SOS (L&B)
PS/Dr Boyson (L&B)
Mr Merifield
Mr Stephens
Mr Drummond
Mr Watkins
Mr Carson

H&W AND SHORTS

1. You will have seen my earlier note to-day on the reaction of the NIES workers to yesterday's meeting of the Intergovernmental Conference. For the record, I have now had a feedback from H&W and Shorts on the issue also.
2. We have been told by Douglas Cooper, Deputy Managing Director of H&W, that as much as 80/90% of the workforce were away from their workplaces for 1½ hours around lunchtime. Their normal lunch hour is ½ hour. H&W management are having difficulty identifying precisely who stayed and who left.
3. Shorts report that about 1,000/1,100 workers left the Queen's Island site for about 2 hours, and were in the event re-admitted on return. Management issued no pass-outs, and those who left work will have their wages abated. Only 8 workers left the Shorts Castlereagh facility, and none at all left the Newtownards factory.
4. I passed this information on direct to Neil Ward in the Secretary of State's London office this afternoon.



DAVID FELL

12 December 1985

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