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cc Mr Crockett



Mr Finlayson
Mr B. Khan

E. S. Reay

Topp's Stone - G.W.

14.2.77

MR SHUFFREY

History of the Carlisle and District State Management Scheme

You mentioned to me H B Wilson's great work. Here it is in its final version. The question is: what do we do with it? You will see that the main report outlines the State management of the liquor trade from its inception to the Scheme's discontinuance and it contains, inter alia, quite a lot of detail about the management and staffing of the various public houses, and the problems arising from the decision on disposal. One matter which disappointingly cannot be included in the report is the position on a Bonded Warehouse which seems to be the last remaining relic of the disposal. I understand that financial wrangling on the proposed assignment of the lease continues. This matter, if it had been settled, would have brought the disposal arrangements to a conclusion and would therefore have formed the coda, as it were, to Mr Wilson's historical document.

I do not think that it is worthwhile holding up the publication of the history (which has now been going on for more than two years) until the outcome of the disposal of the Warehouse is known.

not attached
R.F.S.
10/2

There is also a brief ancillary report "for official eyes only", a copy of which is attached at Annex "B". This document contains staffing and other points Mr Wilson (and for that matter Establishment Department) think it expedient to leave out of the main historical document but which are, all the same, well worth adding for the Departmental record.

Estabs 2 (Mr Crockett) have been dealing with this report since it was originally commissioned by Mr Bunker. I had some discussion with Mr Witney in 1975 about publication. Our Reprographic Branch can reproduce good quality spiral bound copies from clear, ordinarily typed drafts. I do not see how we could justify an HMSO publication. You will find some correspondence on the files about distribution. The issue is whether to keep it just to the Home Office, to send it as well to the Local Advisory Committee, or to put it in the Library of the House of Commons and send it Mr Whitelaw, Mr Lewis and Lord Peart. I think myself that at this date, we do not need to send it around widely, and I think the first of the proposals above is sufficient. But I think that distribution is for you and not for us, and would be grateful for your views.

R.R.P.

R R PITTAM
10th February 1977