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State Intelligence

Buckingham Palace 6th April 1993

The DUKE OF YORK has been pleased to appoint Major Joyce Gillison, The Royal Irish Regiment, to be a Temporary Equerry to His Royal Highness. (1 SI)

OFFICE OF WAGES COUNCILS

WAGES ACT 1986

Linen & Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Wages Council (Great Britain)

Notice is hereby given that proposals (HL 123) have been made for new rates of statutory minimum pay of those workers in scope of the Council with effect from 12th July 1993. The proposed rates are 283.0p per hour basic rate and 424.5p per hour overtime rate.

G. Knorpel, Secretary

(2 SD)

222 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8HL.

WAGES ACT 1986

Button Manufacturing Wages Council (Great Britain)

Notice is hereby given that an Order (V 121) has been made fixing the rates of statutory minimum pay of those workers in scope of the Council with effect from 31st May 1993. The rates are £2.66 per hour basic rate and £3.99 per hour overtime rate.

	G. Knorpel, Secretary
222 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8HL.	(3 SI)

OFFICE OF FAIR TRADING

FAIR TRADING ACT 1973

Reference to the Monoplies and Mergers Commission Historical on-line databases

The Director General of Fair Trading in exercise of his powers under sections 47(1), 49(1) and 50(1) of the Fair Trading Act 1973, hereby refers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission the matter of the existence or the possible existence of a monopoly situation in relation to the supply in the United Kingdom of text retrieval services consisting in the provision of access to historical on-line databases containing archival business and financial information.

The Commission shall investigate and report on the questions whether a monopoly situation exists and if so:

- (a) by virtue of which provisions of sections 6 to 8 of the said Act that monopoly situation is taken to exist;
- (b) in favour of what person or persons that monopoly situation exists;
- (c) whether any steps (by way of uncompetitive practices or otherwise) are being taken by that person or those persons for the purpose of exploiting or maintaining the monopoly situation and if so by what uncompetitive practices or in what other way;
- (d) whether any action or omission on the part of that person or those persons is attributable to the existence of that monopoly situation and, if so, what action or omission and in what way it is so attributable; and
- (e) whether any facts found by the Commission in pursuance of their investigations under the preceding provisions of this paragraph operate or may be expected to operate against the public interest.

For the purposes of this reference "historical on-line database" means a collection of works:

- (a) which includes works reproduced or summarised from daily and Sunday newspapers circulating generally in the United Kingdom, and
- (b) which is arranged and indexed electronically, stored in a remote computer and retrieved by the user by means of one or more telecommunication links.

The Commission shall report upon this reference within a period of 9 months from the date hereof.

B. Carsberg, Director General of Fair Trading 5th April 1993. (7 SI)

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