

In view of the initial findings of the computer feasibility study consideration could also be given to suggesting to the Department that the opening of Branch Offices be deferred for at least 12 months until the final state of the computer feasibility study has been completed, and a report submitted. At that time the role of these branch offices can be reconsidered in the light of the computer, if its implementation is feasible. This suggestion was not considered politically practical and was not incorporated in the brief to the Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs outlining the cause of action proposed by the Passport Office.