

Perkins decision postponed

CANBERRA. — A confrontation to tell Mr. Charles Perkins whether he would be charged with breaching the Public Service Act was called off at the last moment yesterday.

But it is understood the Attorney General's department yesterday prepared final documentation for charges against him.

Mr. Perkins — a \$17,000 assistant secretary in the Aboriginal Affairs Department—is in trouble for his attacks last week on the Liberal and Country parties.

Meanwhile a stream of telegrams continued to flow into the Aboriginal Affairs Department supporting Mr. Perkins.

The deputy president of the Australian Union of Students (Mr. John Vines) said Asian student bodies would be presenting protest notes to Australian embassies in their countries supporting Mr. Perkins.

The head of the Aboriginal Affairs Department (Mr. Dexter) yesterday told Mr. Perkins and

Dexter held up at conference

another Aboriginal member of the department, Mr. Gordon Briscoe, to meet him at 4.45 p.m.

Mr. Briscoe last week strongly attacked the Government and the Federal Education Minister (Mr. Beazley).

After Mr. Perkins and Mr. Briscoe had waited 45 minutes a message from Mr. Dexter called off the meeting.

The message said Mr. Dexter had been delayed in talks with the Public Service Board.

It is understood these talks were on plans for administrative reorganisation in the Aboriginal Affairs Department.

Mr. Perkins last night said there was "some small analogy" between Solzhenitsyn's case in Russia and his own.

"All I'm doing is sticking up for a principle — if that's not good enough I don't see how we're any better than Russia.

"There's a small analogy in the cases in the suppression of individualism and views. My case is basic to civil liberties," he said.

He repeated that he believed he had not breached Public Service regulations.

"I will not retract anything I said about the Liberal and Country parties and their racist policies," he said.

"It's the right of every public servant to speak out on social questions — these are not defence or security matters.

"Aborigines must make a strong stand for their people.

"What disgusts me is when people speak out on Aboriginal affairs and we're put in the category of stirrers.