

Leave Perkins alone — P M

The Prime Minister moved yesterday to block disciplinary action against aboriginal public servant, Mr Charles Perkins.

Mr Whitlam told senior ministers at a Cabinet committee meeting he hoped Mr Perkins would not be charged with a breach of Public Services rules.

Earlier, Mr Perkins

waited for 45 minutes outside the office of the permanent head of the Aboriginal Affairs Department, Mr Barrie Dexter, to see if he would be charged with breaking the PS Act.

Mr Perkins, 37, an assistant secretary in the department was upset by the delay.

"I am going to try to

get to see Mr Dexter first thing in the morning.

"I have to have an answer. I have had this."

The appointment was for 4.45 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. he was told that Mr Dexter would be unable to keep the appointment.

The meeting was arranged after Mr Dexter got a report from the Attorney-General's Department on whether Mr Perkins was to be charged.

Last Monday, Mr Perkins said in Perth that the Liberal and Country Parties were the "biggest racist political parties" the world had seen.