

PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS

Cabinet met at 10.30 - all present except the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is attending an OECD meeting in Paris.

This afternoon the Prime Minister will meet Dr. Hosni Mubarak, Vice President of Egypt at 5.15 in the House. At 6 p.m. she will see Sir Murray MacLehose, Governor of Hong Kong. The main burden of the PM's discussion with the Governor is likely to be about the problem of Vietnamese refugees.

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STATEMENT

The Secretary of State for Transport will make a statement in the House this afternoon about the possible industrial dispute on the underground. This did not signify that the Government were about to intervene. Mr. Fowler would merely be reporting to the House on the situation and perhaps also giving some general guidance about travel in the London area, should the strike take place.

TUC

We confirmed that the Prime Minister had received a letter from Mr. Murray asking for a meeting with the TUC Economic Committee. Obviously, the Prime Minister would meet them - it was now just a question of fixing a mutually convenient time. The Prime Minister has only 5 days between now and the end of the month when she would be at Downing Street, and a very busy programme for this period. If it were imperative, the Prime Minister could meet the TUC Economic Committee next week but it would be more convenient to do so when she returns from Japan and Australia. There was no question of delaying tactics, merely one of logistics and arranging a time to meet which was mutually convenient.



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This morning's briefing was repeated. Correspondents were told that we did not expect President Carter to visit this country in the near future.

MPS' AND MINISTERS' PAY

A meeting between the PM and the Leader of the Opposition had not been arranged, neither had the report been discussed by Cabinet.

TUC

A meeting between the PM and the TUC Economic Committee had not yet been arranged but on the whole, because of the PM's very congested diary, it was more desirable to hold it after the Tokyo Summit.

PM TO MEET LOBBY

The Chairman, George Clarke, said he had hoped the PM would be able to visit the Lobby before his year of office came to an end on 4 July but the PM had been obliged to send her regrets to the invitation.

HGR