

## PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS

Cabinet met at 10.30: all present.

The Prime Minister would take Questions and would make a statement on Prime Minister's Questions following a request from the Leader of the Opposition about the style of Questions she would be willing to accept. The Lobby could assume that she would be prepared to take any Questions without eroding the status of Departmental Ministers. This would be followed by the Business Statement at 5 p.m.

Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary General of the United Nations, would call on the Prime Minister on his way through London. The engagement had been on the diary for some weeks and more subjects would be discussed than next week's Geneva Conference on boat people. Mrs. Thatcher, as Leader of the Opposition, had met Dr. Waldheim twice before - in 1975 in New York and in 1977 in London.

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## QUEEN'S SAFETY IN LUSAKA

One could assume that the Prime Minister had received the safety report referred to in the press but there would be other reports and the safety aspect of this visit would be under consideration right up to the last minute.

## STANDARD OF LIVING INDEX

This was being studied in the Treasury but it was not a replacement of RPI and no decisions were imminent.

## COMPETITION BILL

This would be introduced this afternoon and there would be a Press Conference by the Secretary of State for Trade in Conference Room 'A', Department of Trade, at 5.15 p.m.

## INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

The Lobby could expect statements seriatim with the first one (on regional policy) next week.

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This morning's briefing was repeated.

## BISHOP MUZOREWA

We knew of no plans for the Bishop to meet backbench MPs and thought it was unlikely that we would have anything of substance to say after his meeting with the Prime Minister. Asked if the Government would allow his arrest to take place while in this country, we told them that the Government did not interfere with the law.

## AIREY NEAVE PROGRAMME

We did not think that the Attorney General was looking into this programme by the BBC at the instigation of the Prime Minister.

## DR. WALDHEIM

In addition to this morning's briefing, we added that the subjects likely to be covered would be boat people and Rhodesia. We added that they could assume that the Government would know how it would approach next week's conference in Geneva, and that our attitude to the number of refugees we were willing to consider taking would not be influenced by the attitude of other countries. In the statement to the House a global figure would be given.

HGR