

PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS

Cabinet met at 10.00 and all were present except Lord Carrington, who is accompanying the Queen on her visit to Denmark.

The Prime Minister would be sitting in on some of the Debate on the Queen's Speech this afternoon.

---

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT PRESS CONFERENCE

We drew attention to the Press Conference to be given at 5 p.m. today at DoE primarily for housing correspondents. Michael Heseltine would be opening the Debate on housing this afternoon and John Stanley, Minister of State, DoE, would be winding up.

RHODESIA

Asked about the Rhodesia story in today's Daily Telegraph, we said that we would not lead correspondents away from the Telegraph's line that Lord Boyd and his team had taken a generally favourable view of the Rhodesian elections. We had nothing yet to say about the Government's reaction to Lord Boyd's report.

As regards publication of the Report, the Prime Minister would probably look for advice to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary on the timing and mechanics of publishing the Report.

CVA

PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS

Cabinet met this morning from 10 - 1.15. The Prime Minister was spending the greater part of the rest of the day in the House.

---

BOYD REPORT

The Foreign Secretary (accompanying the Queen in Denmark) had not yet seen Lord Boyd's Report on Zimbabwe: it would be for the Foreign Secretary, once he had studied the Report, to make recommendations to the Prime Minister. We thought it "inconceivable" that the Report would not be published.

---

POINTS FROM HOME SECRETARY'S AND LORD PRESIDENT'S BRIEFINGCAPITAL PUNISHMENT

It was expected that there would be an opportunity to vote on this between the end of the Whitsun recess and the start of the Summer recess. Were a Private Member not to raise the issue, the Government could, of course, allow Government time.

POST EURO-RECESS LEGISLATION

The Education Bill (published today) would be being worked on and other bills would be "coming forward steadily". There was no exact date for the Housing (Sale of Council Houses) Bill. Between the end of the Summer recess and Christmas Lobby might expect bills covering the funding of postal ballots, closed shops and picketing. No timing could be given on measures to repeal Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act or deal with the question of social security payments to the families of strikers.