



SECRET

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P.01269

PRIME MINISTER

Coal: MISC 101(84)9th Meeting

You will wish to stick to the normal format:

reports;
discussion;
action to be taken.

2. Subject to developments by the time of the meeting you may wish to pursue the following points in particular:

- i. any change in the number of pits and miners working;
- ii. any problems over law and order;

iii. the extent and effectiveness of sympathetic action by the rail unions, TGWU and seamen;
(the movement of coal by rail appears to be much reduced since the weekend; it would be useful to know whether there is any danger that some of the Nottinghamshire pits may run out of room to store the coal that they are producing)

iv. the latest information about the effects on the steel industry and other main coal using industries;

v. an assessment of the domestic coal supply position;
(there have been press reports suggesting that difficulties are beginning to arise in the North of England)

Mr Tebbat has been briefed to give a full account of stocks in industry.

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