

Ref. A084/1793

PRIME MINISTER

Cabinet: Industrial Affairs: Coal

You will wish to ask for reports from:

- i. the Secretary of State for Energy
on the number of pits and miners working and
on the National Coal Board letter to miners
- ii. the Home Secretary
on the amount and intensity of picketing
- iii. the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry
on deliveries to steelworks and the present
thinking of the British Steel Corporation Chairman
in relation to civil action in the courts
- iv. the Secretary of State for Transport
on deliveries to power stations and the degree of
support for the National Union of Mineworkers from
rail and other transport unions.

2. The main issues for discussion, as at today's MISC 101 meeting, are likely to be:

- i. whether we have yet reached the stage where civil action in the courts would do more good than harm;
- ii. how best to counter the argument that the Government should intervene in the dispute;
- iii. how best to influence opinion among rank and file miners.

Next Meeting

3. Owing to your absence at the European Council, the next meeting of MISC 101 will be at 4.30 pm on Wednesday 27 June.

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Approved by
ROBERT ARMSTRONG
and signed in his absence.

20 June 1984