

Huntersdon

80 p/ks

Fleetwood - 200

Teeside - out.

Bristol 120

12

P.L.A. - Closed shop.

Bun & Mann in.

N.I.L.B. - Grimsby.

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P.01376

PRIME MINISTER

MISC 101(84)37th Meeting

You will probably wish to deal first with coal and then with the docks.

Coal

2. You will want to ask for the usual reports on:

- pits and miners working;

42 3

102 +1

- coal movements;

- Movement - May.

- law and order

(there was heavy and violent picketing at one Yorkshire pit, Kellingley, today).

6.500

2 days -

3 =

3. The subjects on which you will wish to concentrate in discussion are:

- the latest position on the NCB/NUM talks;

- the prospects for industrial action in support of the miners by other unions

(eg the latest news about the threatened action on the railways next week, and the present assessment of the likelihood of action by the power station workers).

Great North - no -
Orpington -

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4. It would also be useful to have a brief discussion about two environmental matters affecting the coal strike, ie:

Letter from DoE
has been sent
and is in folder
Ditto, but see
also Policy Unit
Comment.

i. the possible suspension of the Clean Air Acts;

ii. the relaxation of planning conditions about road movements from certain opencast sites.

Energy

A-G.

The Parliamentary Under Secretetary of State, Department of the Environment (Mr Waldegrave) has been invited to give DoE comments on both items. On i. it is for the Secretary of State for Energy to open the discussion by saying whether he thinks that suspension of the Clean Air Acts would be useful and desirable. On ii. it will be for the Attorney General to say whether there is scope for expediting the planning procedures further, in the light of your request to him to look into the matter again at the last meeting.

Line to take on coal

5. It will be necessary to give some guidance on the line to take on coal over the weekend, particularly in the light of the latest position on the NCB/NUM talks.

Docks

6. You will want to ask for the usual reports on:

- the number of ports and dockers working;
- the extent and effectiveness of picketing and sympathetic action;
(bearing in mind particularly Mr Connolly's appeal to the TGWU lorry drivers)
- the PLA management ballot;
- the complaint to the National Dock Labour Board about the handling of fish at Grimsby;

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- any news of civil action in the courts.

Line to take on the docks

7. There will also need to be guidance on a line to take on the dock strike. The PLA management ballot, whose result will be known before the weekend, will be important in this context, and also any further statements by port employers that dockers who defy their union will not lose their jobs.

Next meeting

8. The next meeting has been arranged for 5.00pm on Monday 10 September.

PLG
P L GREGSON

6 September 1984

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