

## 10 DOWNING STREET

## PRIME MINISTER

Peter Walker rang to say
that Mr. MacGregor had
telephoned him and said that
he was very pleased with
Mr. Walker's letter. Mr. Walker
has a meeting with Mr. MacGregor
tomorrow morning to take him
through the issues.

## Robin Butler

13.9.84

Ian MacGregor, Esq.,
Chairman,
National Coal Board,
Hobart House,
Grosvenor Place,
London SW1

13 September 1984

As you will know, the Cabinet regularly meets on a Thursday morning. At this morning's meeting, I reported to my colleagues the current situation and negotiations in the coal mining dispute.

The Cabinet recorded its unanimous support for you and your colleagues in your patient but firm insistence both that the National Coal Board must continue to be able to close pits on economic grounds and that any words agreed with the National Union of Mineworkers as a basis for ending the current dispute must make this clear. The Cabinet wanted you to know that you have their wholehearted backing in your efforts to achieve these objectives in these long and arduous negotiations.

PETER WALKER