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PRIME MINISTER

MISC 101(84)47th Meeting: Coal

You will wish to invite reports from:

- i. the Secretary of State for Energy on
 - the return to work
(today's figures have, as you will know, shown a further marked acceleration compared with last week)
 - coal movements
 - the problems at the West Thurrock power station
(this had to be taken out of the grid last Thursday because of sympathetic action by TGWU power station workers who have been refusing to use oil in substitution for coal; CEGB are not too concerned because we can do without West Thurrock for the time being and there are coal stocks there which will enable it to be used on a normal coal burning basis at the winter peak; it would however be more serious if similar action was taken at other stations where oil is being substituted for coal, for example at nearby Tilbury)
- ii. the Home Secretary on
 - the latest outbreaks of violence, particularly in South Yorkshire
- iii. the Attorney General on
 - what steps are now open to the courts in respect of the NUM's funds.



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2. You may like to pursue in discussion the question of how the pressure for a return to work can best be sustained after 19 November. What financial incentives will remain, and how can they best be exploited?

Next meeting

3. There will be an opportunity for a further discussion under the Industrial Affairs item at Cabinet on Thursday 15 November. The next meeting of MISC 101 has been arranged for Tuesday 20 November at 10.45 am.

PLG

P L GREGSON

12 November 1984

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