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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

20 November 1984

SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS

Thank you for your letter of 20 November on this subject. It arrived coincidentally with a meeting of MISC 101 and was briefly discussed there. The upshot was that Mr. Lamont should make point (a) in your letter to the Soviet Ambassador when he lunches with him today, though going rather further than you suggest and making clear that the Government object to the Soviet Union's activities. He should not, however, make point (b). This should be done in more discreet form through normal diplomatic channels.

I am sending copies of this letter to Michael Reidy
(Department of Energy), David Peretz (H.M. Treasury), Edmund Hosker
(Mr. Lamont's Office), Henry Steel (Law Officers' Department) and
Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

CHARLES POWELL

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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