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CABINET OFFICE

70 Whitehall, London swia 2As Telephone 01-233 8319

From the Secretary of the Cabinet. Sir Robert Armstrong KCB, CVO

Ref. A09758

14th October 1982

Withstanding a Strike in the Electricity Supply Industry

As you know, the Prime Minister agreed earlier this year (Mr Scholar's minute to me of 5th May 1982) that there should be a study of how to withstand a strike in the electricity supply industry. The Official Group on Electricity Supplies (MISC 86) has now been established for this purpose, under Peter Gregson's chairmanship. I am writing to invite nominations to it from you and copy addressees, preferably at Deputy or Under Secretary level.

The Group clearly ought to aim to complete its work before the opening of the pay negotiations in the electricity supply industry, and I expect that Peter Gregson will therefore wish to convene an early first meeting. I should therefore be grateful to have the names of departmental nominees as soon as possible.

I am sending copies of this letter to Ken Barnes, Peter Carey, Peter Baldwin, Frank Cooper, Donald Maitland, Kerr Fraser, Michael Franklin, Robin Butler and John Sparrow.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Sir Douglas Wass, GCB

SECRET AND PERSONAL

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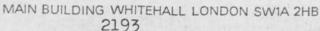
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY THAMES HOUSE SOUTH MILLBANK LONDON SWIP 40J 01-211 4391 SIR DONALD MAITLAND GCMG OBE PLEMANINT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE 22 October 1982 SECRET AND PERSONAL Dear Robert. WITHSTANDING A STRIKE IN THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY You sent me a copy of your letter of 14 October to Douglas Wass about the above study. Clearly, the Department of Energy will have an important part to play in this study. I am however somewhat concerned about the implications for our resources, especially as many of those involved could in the next few months be dealing with the consequences of an adverse vote at the end of the NUM ballot. We will nonetheless do our best to participate fully in the study. I should like to nominate Ivor Manley as our Departmental representative. He will be assisted by David Metz, the Assistant Secretary in the Electricity Division concerned with such issues; it would be helpful if he too could be regarded as a full member of the Group. I am sending copies of this letter to Douglas Wass and the other recipients of your letter. Yours Ever, Donald Sir Robert Armstrong KCB CVO Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall LONDON SW1A 2AS

SECRET PERSONAL

SECRET AND PERSONAL

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Page 1 of 1 Page



Telephone 01-218 (Direct Dialling)

01-218 9000 (Switchboard)



PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE SIR FRANK COOPER GCB CMG

PUS/82/1271

Sir Robert Armstrong KCB CVO Cabinet Office Whitehall

21 October 1982

) in Robert

You kindly sent me a copy of your letter to Douglas Wass of 14 October in which you asked for nominations to the newly formed MISC 86.

- 2. In our case there is a good deal of practical value in having the same person representing MOD on all the inter-departmental groups which are or will shortly be conducting parallel studies of how to withstand strike action in industries where essential supplies and services would be at risk. I should therefore like Barry Miller, Head of DS6, to be our representative on MISC 86.
- I am sending copies of this letter to the other recipients of yours.

FRANK COOPER





From the Permanent Secretary M. D. M. Franklin, CB CMG DEPARTMENT OF TRADE

1 VICTORIA STREET

LONDON SWIH 0ET

TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01 215 3785 SWITCHBOARD 01 215 7877

NO 10 OF 11

R Hatfield Esq PS/Sir R Armstrong KCB CVO Cabinet Office Whitehall London SW1

.21 October 1982

Dear Richard,

MISC 186

Michael Franklin's nomination to MISC 86 is Alec Berry, Assistant Secretary on the domestic side of our Western European and General Division (215 3020).

Copies of this letter go to Private Secretaries to the recipients of Sir Robert Armstrong's letter of 14 October.

ROBERT P MADELIN Private Secretary 380

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SECRET AND PERSONAL



THE PERMANENT SECRETARY
SIR PETER BALDWIN, KCB

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SWIP 3EB

01-212 4581

Richard Hatfield Esq Private Secretary to Sir Robert Armstrong KCB CVO Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall LONDON SWIA 2AS

19 October 1982

Dear Richard,

WITHSTANDING A STRIKE IN THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY

Sir Peter Baldwin was grateful for his copy of Sir Robert Armstrong's letter of 14 October to Sir Douglas Wass about the establishment of a new Official Group on Electricity Supplies. He would like to nominate Mr John Palmer, who is shortly to take up his appointment as Deputy Secretary Transport Industries, as our representative on the Group.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to recipients of Sir Robert Armstrong's letter.

Yans,

Micholas know

N J KROLL Private Secretary

Copy no 9. of 15 DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY ASHDOWN HOUSE LONDON SWIE 6RB SWITCHBOARD 01-212 7676

SECRET & PERSONAL



Sir Peter Carey GCB Permanent Secretary

123 VICTORIA STREET

TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01-212 7003

19 October 1982

Sir Robert Armstrong KCB CVO Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall LONDON SW1

/ Robert

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 14 October to Douglas Wass about withstanding a strike in the electricity supply industry.

Jack Leeming will represent this Department on the study as he has on the other similar studies that are in hand.

I am sending copies of this letter to those who received yours.

Peter Carey

SECRET AND PERSONAL



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CABINET OFFICE

Central Policy Review Staff

70 Whitehall, London swia 2As Telephone 01-233 7765

From: John Sparrow

Qa 06096

15 October 1982

Sir Robert Armstrong KCB CV0 Cabinet Office S W 1

Dear Robert,

Withstanding a Strike in the Electricity
Supply Industry

I would like to nominate Graham Hart as the CPRS representative on MISC 86.

I am sending copies of this to recipients of your letter to Douglas Wass of 14 October.

your sincerely

John Sparrow





Sir Kenneth Barnes Permanent Secretary Department of Employment Caxton House Tothill Street London SW1H 9NF Telephone Direct Line 01-213 3000 File 3

15 October 1982

Dear Richard

WITHSTANDING A STRIKE IN THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY

Sir Kenneth Barnes' nomination to MISC 86 is Matt Wake, Under Secretary in charge of our Industrial Relations Division II. His telephone number is 213-4409.

Copies of this letter go to private secretaries to the recipients of Sir Robert Armstrong's letter of 14 October.

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Rotor McCarty-Ward

PETER McCARTHY WARD

R Hatfield Esq PS Sir Robert Armstrong KCB CVO Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall LONDON SW1

N'8 OCT 1982





SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Withstanding a Strike in the ELEctricity Supply Industry

Thank you for copying me your letter of 14 October (A09758) to Douglas Wass on this subject.

May I nominate John Vereker as the representative from No. 10 on Peter Gregson's group.

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15 October 1982

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