



*Mr Hales*

*to Downing St*

PS/MR MOORE

CC PS/SECRETARY OF STATE  
MR GUINNESS  
MR CARTER  
MR CARR

MINING DISASTER IN YUGOSLAVIA

1 The press this morning have reported a mining accident in Yugoslavia involving the loss of at least 35 lives. An early day motion, expressing condolences to the families of the deceased, has been put down by a number of Labour MPs. I understand that the Parliamentary Clerk is circulating the briefing prepared for the Leader of the House on this.

2 We recommend that, in accordance with past practice on such occasions and as stated in the briefing for the Leader of the House, that Mr Moore should send a telegram expressing sympathy for the miners involved in the accident and their families. The Embassy in Belgrade have suggested that any telegram should be sent to them for onward transmission to the appropriate minister in the Yugoslav Government, Mr Hasan Siljak, the Deputy President of the Federal Committee for Energy, who is currently the acting Minister of Energy. Our Ambassador in Belgrade has already sent a telegram to the Head of the mine concerned. A draft telegram to the Embassy is attached.

A J DANIELS  
COAL 2a  
Rm 1287, TMS  
Ext 3983

13 May 1982

To UNCLASSIFIED BELGRADE  
IMMEDIATE

Yara TEL No 107: ZENICA MINE ACCIDENT

Please pass following message to the acting Minister for Energy, Mr Hasan Siljak, from Mr John Moore, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Energy.

Qwvli I am most distressed to hear of the colliery accident at Zenica and the many lives that have been lost. I should like, on behalf of the British government, to offer my sincere condolences for this tragic event. Unqvll.

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Information

PS

PS/Mr Riplind

PS/PUS

Mr Ingham

Mr Gordon

and all Gordon branches.



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FM BELGRADE 131015Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELNO 107 OF 13 MAY 82

MINE DISASTER

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~~Hd~~ / EESD  
Hd / NEWS DEPT  
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PS  
PS / MR RIFKIND  
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LENDX

1. THERE WAS A SERIOUS ACCIDENT IN A COAL-MINE IN ZENICA, BOBINA, IN THE EARLY HOURS OF 12 MAY WHEN 39 MINERS WERE KILLED AND 8 INJURED AS A RESULT OF A METHANE EXPLOSION. 14 MAY HAS BEEN DECLARED A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING.

2. I HAVE SENT A PERSONAL MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE MINE.

3. I UNDERSTAND A GROUP OF LABOUR P'S ARE TABLING A MOTION IN THE HOUSE TODAY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IS INTENDING TO SEND A MESSAGE. THESE WILL BE WELL RECEIVED AS MUCH EMOTION HAS BEEN AROUSED BY THE ACCIDENT.

4. WE HAVE A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THIS MINE WHERE WE HAVE SOME IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS.

BOLLAND

NNNN