

NOTE FOR THE RECORD

COAL INDUSTRY

Following the meeting on the Chairmanship of UKAEA, the discussion turned to the coal industry. Mr Walker said that Mr MacGregor had received favourable reports about Mr Michael Bishop, the Managing Director of British Midland Airways and was considering recommending him as a non-executive Director. The Prime Minister said she knew Mr Bishop and had a high regard for his ability but wondered whether he was right for the coal industry. Mr Walker said the Chairman of Dowty, Mr Morgan, had been commended to him. Mr Morgan had a background in the mining industry and Mr Walker would investigate him further.

The following issues were also raised:

- (i) Mr Walker said he had raised Sir Woodrow Wyatt's letter with Mr MacGregor. This was being acted upon.
- (ii) Mr Hunt had had dinner with Mr Moses and had concluded that he was bright and able but not of the calibre required for a Chairman.
- (iii) It seemed likely that a number of senior managers at NCB had actively colluded with NACODs during the course of the recent dispute.
- (iv) The Prime Minister asked whether NCB was prepared to offer Emly Moor to the miners who were offering to take it over as a cooperative. Mr Walker said the pit was geographically unsuitable but a neighbouring pit was a possibility.

AT

ANDREW TURNBULL

5 June 1985