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PRIME MINISTER

DAVID HART

David Hart telephoned me today to report the concerns of the UDM. They had a list of five wishes/complaints:

- (i) there should be no more concessions to the NUM;
- (ii) there should be no more negotiations until the conciliation agreement had been signed by the NUM; (the conciliation agreement is apparently the master document from which the code of conduct hangs; the UDM have signed it);
- (iii) concerns about cuts in pay for office staff who are UDM members;
- (iv) the UDM wants negotiating rights for Ashfordby; they apparently do not have a majority there, but believe they would achieve it if they were given negotiating rights;
- (v) they would like to be put on some EC Committees, in order to raise their status with their members.

David Hart also said that the British coal management were not taking the UDM seriously enough, and this was why he (David Hart) had "conducted a campaign" in the Times this week. (There has been a leader and articles by Haslam and Liptrott.)

I said to David Hart that there were obvious reasons for not using No.10 as a conduit, and urged him to talk to Cecil Parkinson rather than to you or me. He should take Cecil Parkinson through what he had said to me. He agreed to do this, but said he would come back to you if he felt that to be necessary.

DN 

18 September, 1987.

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SECRET