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PRIME MINISTER

MISC 101(85)1st Meeting: Coal

You will wish to invite reports from:

- i. the Secretary of State for Energy on
 - the number of pits and miners working
 - coal movements and power station coal stocks over the holidays
(Mr Walker announced over the holiday that oilburn was being reduced and the Group may welcome an explanation)
 - pay negotiations with NACODS
(it was reported to the Press last week that at their meeting with the NCB on 11 January NACODS will reject the 5.2 per cent offer, that there will be a Delegate Conference on 16 January and a ballot of NACODS members after that; is industrial action a possibility?)
- ii. the Home Secretary on
 - law and order
(in particular the current levels of picketing, intimidation and vandalism)
 - progress in the courts in criminal cases
- iii. the Secretary of State for Transport on
 - the attitude of the rail unions
(is a confrontation likely over the reported 30 per cent pay claim?)
- iv. the Solicitor General on
 - the current state of play on civil actions

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- v. the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Scotland
(Mr Ancram) on
- the handling of recent allegations by Labour MPs
about NCB inaction to save Polkemmet.

Next meeting

2. There will be an opportunity for discussion under Industrial Affairs at Cabinet on Thursday 10 January. The next meeting of MISC 101 is at 10.30am on Monday 14 January.

Pc

P L GREGSON

7 January 1985

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