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P.01268

PRIME MINISTER

Coal: MISC 101(84)8th Meeting

You will wish to stick to the normal format:

- reports;
- discussion;
- action to be taken.

2. Subject to developments by the time of the meeting you may wish to pursue the following points in particular:

- i. any change in the number of pits and miners working;
- ii. the extent and effectiveness of sympathetic action by the rail unions, TGWU and seamen;
(there have been occasional reports of the odd oil train being turned back by the pickets; we also need to know whether action by the TGWU within power stations is significantly restricting the movement of coal to those stations)
- iii. the room available to stock coal at the Nottinghamshire pits;
(although many coal trains are still moving, the movement is presumably less than normal from those pits; it would be a pity if some of the Nottinghamshire pits had to stop working or reduce output as a result)
- iv. the latest information about the effects on the steel industry and other main coal-using industries;

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also handling
of any Debate
in the House.

v. any problems over the handling of the media, particularly with a view to your Panorama broadcast; (eg phone tapping, costs to the consumer of increased oilburn)

Next meeting

3. On present information it looks as if the next meeting could be arranged, if you so wished, at 9.45am on Wednesday 11 April.

PLG

P L GREGSON

6 April 1984

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