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PRIME MINISTER

MISC 101(84)14th Meeting: Coal

You will no doubt wish to follow the normal pattern of:

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

2. Depending on developments by the time of the meeting you may wish to explore in particular:

- i. any evidence of weakening of support for the strike;
- ii. the extent to which mass picketing and demonstrations by the NUM have occurred and have had any effect;
- iii. the latest position at Ravenscraig;
(particularly in the light of reported efforts by the TGWU to prevent private sector lorry drivers from crossing the NUM picket lines)
- iv. the latest information about coal movements generally;
- v. the implications of the threatened industrial action by rail unions over pay and productivity (overtime ban, no rest-day working, non-cooperation, etc);
- vi. any developments relating to civil action in the courts (eg by British Steel).

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Next meeting

3. Unless there is some unforeseen development, you will probably be content to have the next discussion under the Industrial Affairs item at Thursday's Cabinet.

PLG

P L GREGSON

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4 May 1984

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