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Law enforcement

Ref. A084/2643

PRIME MINISTER

Cabinet: Industrial Affairs: Coal

Since there is a heavy Cabinet agenda you will wish to avoid a lengthy discussion. You might invite oral reports from:

- i. the Secretary of State for Energy on
  - the number of pits and miners working
  - coal movements
  - the NCB talks with NACODS and the contacts with ACAS
- ii. the Attorney General on
  - the civil action by working miners against Mr Scargill and the NUM Executive
- iii. the Home Secretary on
  - picketing and intimidation
  - progress in dealing with criminal cases.

2. In summing up you will probably want to bring out the point that the contempt of court action is being brought by working miners and does not arise from this Government's employment legislation but long-established law designed to protect the rights of members of trade unions and other associations. You will also wish to settle the line to take for Friday (a critical day with the NCB Board meeting and a further meeting planned with NACODS) and for the weekend.

Next Meeting

3. The next meeting of MISC 101 is at 11.30 am on Monday 8 October.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

3 October 1984

NAT IND : COM : PE13

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