

Backbench

Michael

John Whittingdale telephoned to give a quick report on the meeting this afternoon.

They were talking "doom and gloom". They are aware that there is a crisis and are demanding that something should be done. The Government must give a lead, and must be seen to do something. However, nobody had any ideas on what should be done - although there was mention of bringing in voluntary forces to sort out the docks.

John's personal impression was that they are unhappy, although keen to help, and need to be told what the Government is doing.

Tessa

18.7.84