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MISC 57(85) 3rd Meeting

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CABINET

OFFICIAL GROUP ON COAL

MINUTES of a Meeting held in
Conference Room C, Cabinet Office
on TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 1985 at 2.15 pm

PRESENT

Mr J D Unwin
Cabinet Office
(In the Chair)

Mr P T Warry
Prime Minister's Office

Mr N R Thornton
Department of Trade and Industry

Mr S A Robson
Treasury

Mr D H J Hilary
Home Office

Dr R Heathcote
Department of Energy

Mr I T Manley
Department of Energy

Mr I Freeman
Scottish Office

Mr P Wood
Department of Transport

Mr D B Smith
Department of Employment

SECRETARIAT

Brigadier J A J Budd
Mr J E Roberts

SUBJECT

LESSONS OF THE MINERS' STRIKE

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The Group considered a Note by the Secretaries attached to which was a draft of the Group's second report to Ministers on the lessons of the miners strike (MISC 57(85) 12).

In discussion a number of drafting points were made.

THE CHAIRMAN, summing up the discussion, said that the aim was to finalise the report on Friday 15 November, and Departments should send any suggested amendments or revisions to the Secretaries by that date. He would aim to submit it to the Prime Minister and the other Ministers concerned during the following week. He would ask them to take a note of the action which had been taken or was in hand, but he would not suggest that the Group should be asked to prepare a further specific follow-up Report unless Ministers asked for this. Departments would, however, continue work on the recommendations identified in the first report.

The Prime Minister would be convening another meeting to discuss coal stocks and physical endurance during December, which would cover a number of points not dealt with in the Group's second report.

The Group -

1. Took note, with approval, of the Chairman's summing up of their discussion.
2. Invited Departments to provide the Secretaries with any further amendments and revisions by 15 December.
3. Took note that the Chairman would be submitting the report to the Prime Minister and the other Ministers concerned during the following week.

Cabinet Office

13 November 1985