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PA  
MR SCHOLAR

cc Mr Mount  
Mr Ingham

CCU: WATER WORKERS

This morning's meeting of the CCU, at official level, was not a particularly significant event. We received a fairly useful round-up of the effects of the water strike so far, which illustrated the difficulty of keeping up to date with what is actually going on in the regions; and we agreed that the Home Office would take urgent steps to get its stockpile of emergency fire service equipment ready for use. The pumps and hoses in particular could help hospitals by offering an alternative source of supply in the event of a burst main.

There was no discussion of the point you put to Mr King's Private Office this morning about the need for a co-ordinated presentational effort; and the DoE representatives were at a low and technical level. I think you will have to continue to press Mr King's Private Office to send it to you direct.

I will offer a brief tonight in preparation for tomorrow's Cabinet meeting covering the main decision points: the handling of the negotiations, deployment of the troops, and public presentation.



JOHN VEREKER

25 January 1983

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