

SECRET AND PERSONAL

## Daily Coal Report - Wednesday 26 September 1984

	<u>Number</u>	<u>plus on holiday</u>
(i) Working normally	44	1
(ii) Turning some coal	9	-
(iii) Some men present	20	-
(iv) On strike/picketed out	100	--

Little change from yesterday.

179 men reported at Bilston Glen - 1 up on yesterday's record.

No change in the North East.

46 men reported in Yorkshire.

In North Derby 241 men reported at Bolsover, 176 at Shirebrook (a record), and 152 at Warsop. For the first time the 24 hour attendance figure for North Derby exceeded 1000 - up by nearly 100 since the beginning of the week.

Attendances elsewhere are much the same as yesterday. They are holding up well in the working areas.

#### Coal Movements

172,000 tonnes were moved yesterday, 18,000 tonnes up on the figure for last Tuesday.

41 coal trains ran.

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Law and Order

9 pickets were arrested outside Ollerton colliery (Nottinghamshire) last night. Several hundred pickets forced their way into Kellingley colliery (Yorkshire) and occupied winding towers and coal preparation plant. They left after several hours. 38 arrests were made.

Near Bilston Glen 2 men were arrested for breaking into a working miners home.

These incidents apart, picketing has been generally light.

Industrial Relations

At the time of writing the Coal Board's meeting with the pit supervisors union, NACODS, is still in progress. The Secretary of State will report on the outcome at tomorrow's meeting of MISC 101.

A delegates conference of TGWU opencast workers today passed a resolution aimed at blocking the movement of stockpiled coal produced from opencast sites. There is to be a national ballot. The opencast workers in question are employed by contractors, rather than the Coal Board. The union's bone of contention is that these workers should have conditions of employment (particularly redundancy terms), similar to those available to miners employed by the Coal Board. However, given the timing it is also undoubtedly an attempt at solidarity with the NUM. The Coal Board are considering carefully the implications of this move: stockpiled coal is not at present being moved, so in this sense the union's threat may not have an immediate impact unless there is parallel action to interfere with current production.

The power unions and the NUM, who met yesterday at the TUC, are to meet again on Friday. Though Scargill claimed last night that

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the GMWU, TGWU and AEUW had indicated their willingness to take supportive action, the failure of yesterday's meeting to reach a unified conclusion suggests that the main power worker unions are taking a robust line. Gavin Laird's claim afterwards that there would inevitably be power cuts in 6 to 8 weeks is surprising from a so-called moderate but could reflect the fact that AEUW elections are imminent.

Line to Take

As yesterday, stress key elements of Coal Board offer. Avoid direct comment tonight on NACODS or TGWU situations.

Distribution: Members of MISC 101, Mr Gregson (Cabinet Office)

Enquiries: Michael Reidy, PS/SOS for Energy, Tel: 211 6070

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