

PRIME MINISTER

WORKING MINERS AT MANTON COLLIERY

Giles Shaw reported this morning that there had been an alleged attempt to kill one of the two working miners at Manton Colliery who are responsible for the writ which was served on Mr. Scargill on Monday. The Home Office tell me that there are now some 80 policemen engaged at one time or another in guarding the two miners with officers permanently deployed at the front and back of their houses. They have panic buttons in their houses together with direct telephone links to police incident rooms. In addition they are accompanied at all times by policemen except when they ask that this should not be done. The incident to which Mr. Shaw referred occurred during a journey (for which the working miner had asked not to be accompanied by the police) to see his mother following his father's death. Two men have now been charged and are likely to appear in court tomorrow morning. One of them - the Secretary of the local branch of the NUM - is charged with "threatening to kill".

(under 516 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861)

*[Handwritten signature]*

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3 October 1984

VSCABS