

PRIME MINISTER

Derbyshire

The Home Secretary's Private Office gave me an account of a meeting he had this morning with Mr. Hall, the President of ACPO.

Mr. Hall believes that recent incidents point to a change of tactics on the part of the NUM. Frustrated by the failure of mass picketing, he thinks they are taking to "guerilla warfare", based on intimidation of individuals and companies.

Mr. Hall reported that the Chesterfield Division of the Derbyshire Constabulary have logged 30 cases of assault, 269 cases of causing damage and 132 of intimidation. As you will be aware, their response includes the provision of "freephone" lines to police stations, the establishment of dedicated detective squads to counter intimidation, and the provision of uniformed patrols in villages.

The senior police officers concerned recognise the need for better co-ordination across forced boundaries, and there is a meeting to discuss this tomorrow. In addition, mutual aid is available through NRC, as for picketing. Mr. Hall is himself going to Derbyshire tomorrow to speak to the Assistant Chief Constable who is temporarily in charge.

DAVID BARCLAY

6 August, 1984

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