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Daily Coal Report - Thursday 13 September 1984

Pit categories

		Number	plus on holiday
(i)	Working normally	45	
(ii)	Turning some coal	9	
(iii)	Some men present	15	2
(iv)	On strike/picketed out	83	20

Two more South Yorkshire pits are now on holiday.

In Scotland and the North East attendances are as yesterday.

32 men have reported in Yorkshire (Allerton Bywater 5, Kellingley 2, Gascoigne Wood 2, other Selby sites 4, Yorkshire Main 5, Markham 2, Carcroft workshops 1, Kiveton Park 6, Brookhouse 3, Silverwood 2).

In North Derby numbers at Bolsover are down to 210, with 155 at Shirebrook. But there are 161 at Warsop - a new record.

Attendances remain good in Nottinghamshire, Lancashire and Staffordshire.

Coal Movements

Another excellent day.

168,000 tonnes moved yesterday.

46 coal trains ran - the highest number since 19 June.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

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Law and Order

4500 pickets at Yorkshire Main - buses stoned, some injuries, 7 arrests.

Also in Yorkshire, 5000 pickets at Edlington. Some skirmishing.
11 arrests.

20 pickets were arrested outside Lea Hall colliery in Staffordshire last night after a lorry had been set on fire by the pit gate.

Talks between the NCB and the NUM

To be resumed tomorrow. Despite predictable NUM pressure the Coal Board are standing firm on uneconomic pits.

Threatened Action by Colliery Supervisors

The pit supervisors union, the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfirers (NACODS), has voted to ballot its members on striking over the Coal Board's decision to stop the pay of members who do not make genuine attempts to cross the picket lines. A two-thirds majority is required for a strike to be called.

During the current dispute NACODS has already balloted its members on a strike proposition. That was in April. Though the strike call failed under the two-thirds rule, it was supported by 53.17% of the membership.

The Coal Board obviously wish to avoid new difficulties with NACODS, and are considering their position carefully.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

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Line to Take

Welcome fact that the negotiations with the NUM are continuing. Sure that the vast majority of miners want an early solution.

The question of uneconomic pits has to be dealt with. Up to both sides to find a formulation which recognises the realities of the situation.

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