

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Pune Minutes

36

12/10

## Daily Coal Report - Friday 12 October 1984

	<u>Number</u>	<u>plus on holiday</u>
(i) Working normally	45	-
(ii) Turning some coal	10	-
(iii) Some men present	23	-
(iv) On strike/picketed out	96	-

Very little change since yesterday's report. There were good attendances in the working areas. NACODS worked normally, except in Scotland where numbers were down at 7 pits. Otherwise no new notable features.

Coal Movements

180,000 tonnes were moved yesterday.

40 coal trains ran.

Coal Board deliveries to power stations this week are estimated to be 624,000 tonnes compared with 637,000 tonnes last week.

Deliveries to BSC have been maintained and planned production of steel is being achieved.

Deliveries to industry this week are estimated to be 127,000 tonnes, the same as last week. The CBI continue to report no supply problems.

Law and Order

3,500 pickets caused disturbances at Brodsworth pit (Yorkshire) this morning, but they failed to prevent 3 miners reporting for duty. 11 policemen and 3 pickets were injured. A brick was dropped from a road bridge through the windscreen of a police van. There were 12 arrests.

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A petrol bomb went off last night outside the security office at Mansfield colliery and another was found before it ignited. Police also searched the surface at Hem Heath after telephone claims that firebombs had been planted. Nothing was found.

NCB/NUM Negotiations

Scargill's claim after yesterday's discussions that the NUM had accepted the independent formula proposed by ACAS was deliberate deception on his part, as Mr MacGregor made clear on the radio this morning. The "formula" was merely the suggestion which the NUM had themselves made to ACAS in preliminary discussions.

An ACAS formula - which attempted to bridge the gap between the two sides - was, however, discussed at today's negotiations. Essentially this provides for an independent advisory body to make recommendations in cases of dispute about pit closures. It provides that the Board would give "full weight" to the advisory body's recommendations. But the final decision would rest with the Board (and indeed the Board could not delegate its statutory responsibilities for managing the industry). At the time of writing it is understood that the Board have accepted such a formula, but the union has not.

Line to Take

(Subject to further developments in the negotiations). The country, and ordinary working miners are sickened by the violence which is sustaining this senseless strike. The Board's original offer was a good one and they have reaffirmed to ACAS their desire for an early solution. The Marxists and militants who have prevented ordinary miners from having their democratic say bear a heavy responsibility. They will not succeed.

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

Enquiries: Michael Reidy, PS/SOS for Energy, Tel 211 7214

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