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# The Miners' Dispute. A Catalogue of Violence.



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From the first day of this dispute until 7am Wednesday 3rd October, 7121 persons have been arrested for offences in connection with the dispute, 790 police officers have been injured, of whom 65 suffered serious injuries, 2 miners have committed suicide, 2 have died as a result of picket line violence and 255 miners have been reported injured.



The working miners are in the front line of the fight for freedom and democracy in Britain today.

Since the beginning of this dispute every working miner, every day, as he leaves his home to go to work, must face the possibility that his wife, his children, his family will be abused, threatened, or even attacked whilst he is away.

The National Working Miners Committee was formed to assist working miners and wanting-to-work miners to assert their right to work and to provide compensation for loss or injury.

We have published this Catalogue of Violence to remind political leaders, union leaders and members of the public that the operations of the present leadership of our union, the systematic intimidation, the planned attacks, the unplanned violence arising out of the miners' dispute has led to unprecedented hardship, injury and material loss for significant numbers of ordinary working people - miners, their families, police officers, their families - as well as very considerable loss of and damage to property belonging to the National Coal Board, our employer.

The present leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers consistently blames the police for the violence. As will be seen from the evidence set out in this pamphlet, working miners and their property, National Coal Board employees and property have come under constant attack from striking miners since the beginning of the dispute.

This catalogue is not exhaustive. It could not be. Quite apart from the numerous unreported attacks and minor assaults on working miners we do not have the resources to compile an exhaustive catalogue. We would like to hear from any persons who are aware of incidents that are not set out in this pamphlet. We intend to publish further catalogues containing more information in the future.

This catalogue does not contain and could not contain a list of the thousands of threatening telephone calls, often late at night, often many times a night received by working miners or of the hundreds of thousands of personal threats of physical abuse endured by working miners and their families.

National Working Miners Committee, 5th October 1984.

ATTACKS ON WORKING MINERS  
AND WORKING MINERS'  
PROPERTY



#### MARCH 13TH.

Three hundred flying pickets from Yorkshire forced the closure of a Nottinghamshire pit after fights and scuffles with miners who wanted to continue working.

At Bilston Glen many miners who arrived intending to work were intimidated into a hasty about-turn by the prospect of running a gauntlet of about three hundred strikers.

#### MARCH 14TH

Five arrests were made at Ollerton colliery as pickets sought to prevent sixty men going in to work.

#### MARCH 15TH

The sole working Yorkshire miner conceded defeat after three days' defiance of the pickets. Mr. Robert Copping, 51, went to work at Houghton Main Colliery near Barnsley. Later he found his car over-turned. Its windscreen had been smashed with a lump of concrete.

#### MARCH 17TH

Two pickets were arrested at Lea Hall Colliery after clashes with local miners. Both were later fined by Rugeley magistrates.

Terry Werrett, 25, of Avenue Road, Askern, Doncaster, was fined £300 after admitting using threatening behaviour. His younger brother, Thomas, 20, of Airstowe Road, Askern, was fined £150 after admitting obstructing P.C. Darrell Johnson.

#### MARCH 24TH

Five men from South Wales were fined between £100 and £175 each by Stoke-on-Trent magistrates for behaviour likely to cause a Breach of the Peace at Hem Heath. At Hem Heath working miners found their car windscreens smashed, tyres ripped and concrete and metal objects strewn in the roads. Pickets had urinated into plastic bags and thrown them at men going into work.

#### MARCH 26TH

A young miner opposed to the strike was found hanged after being branded a scab. Ian Tarren, 25, was discovered dead



by his fiancée, Denise Atkinson, in their flat in Peterlee, County Durham. Her father said that Mr. Tarren had been mercilessly taunted and continually threatened because of his views on the strike.

#### APRIL 5TH

Violence flared at Silverdale Colliery, Newcastle-under-Lyme where pickets smashed windows of cars transporting miners to pits.

#### APRIL 13TH

Cans and fruit rained down on Ray Chadburn, the Nottinghamshire miners' President and fellow NUM officials Trevor Bell and Henry Richardson.

#### APRIL 17TH

A miner from Grimethorpe Colliery, near Barnsley, who volunteered to work unpaid so that pensioners would receive their coal supplies, found cardboard stuffed in a fuel tank holding 45 gallons of diesel. It had just caught fire.

#### APRIL 19TH

A miner was punched when he lowered his car window to talk to pickets at Hem Heath Colliery in North Staffordshire. At the same colliery, a working miner's car window was smashed by a brick.

#### APRIL 21ST

Angry demonstrators surrounded Mr. Sydney Vincent when he arrived at Sheffield City Hall for the NUM Special Delegates Conference on Thursday. They shouted abuse and jabbed fingers into his chest.

#### MAY 4TH

At Cotgrave Colliery, eighteen pickets were arrested for throwing stones at working miners.

#### MAY 10TH

Police began watch on the house of a Warwickshire miner who received an anonymous note threatening to damage the kidney dialysis machine which keeps his son alive.



MAY 12TH

Chunks of metal sawn from steel rods were catapulted at working miners at Rufford Colliery in Nottinghamshire.

MAY 18TH

Three Yorkshire pickets alleged to have attacked a Nottinghamshire miner on his way to work were charged with intimidation under the Conspiracy and Protection Act at Mansfield magistrates' Court.

JUNE 27TH

The windows of two buses and a car were broken following an ambush by pickets as miners at Shirebrook drove into work. Seven arrests were made and two police officers were hurt.

JUNE 21ST

Working miner, James Clay, committed suicide after his twelve-year-old daughter was threatened with violence by pickets.

JULY 27TH

At Bilston Glen, fifty-two arrests were made after a three hundred strong picket failed to prevent twenty-two men from going to work. Some of the strikers tore down fencing and started a bonfire but the most serious incident involved the arrest of forty pickets who surrounded the nearby home of a working miner, Mr. Philip Inverarity.

JULY 28TH

The first picket to be arrested at Bilston Glen was fined £500 for a Breach of the Peace. Michael Hogg, 21, aimed a punch at John McDonald, 18, a miner's craft apprentice opposed to the strike.

AUGUST 8TH

At Birch Copice Colliery in Warwickshire, stones were thrown at working miners' coaches as they approached the pithead. Two arrests were made.

In Cumbria, twenty three pickets from the North-East of England were interviewed by police after lorry drivers were attacked and injured at a coal loading point at Maryport.



Two lorry drivers were taken to hospital and five men charged with criminal damage and assault.

The brake pipes of a car belonging to a working miner from Hucknall Colliery, Nottinghamshire were severed.

Bricks and paint were indiscriminately hurled at overseers as they reported for their shift.

#### AUGUST 9TH

There were violent scenes at Harworth Colliery when about one thousand demonstrators gathered at noon and attacked working miners who were arriving for the afternoon shift.

A group of twenty striking miners attacked a shopkeeper standing outside a wine bar in Rugeley, Staffordshire. They then entered and beat up a young working miner inside.

#### AUGUST 10TH

Monty Morgan, 54, went to work at Garw Colliery, South Wales. He was pelted with eggs, bricks and bottles by over three hundred strikers, their wives and children. Seven arrests were made and police were only able to escort him home three hours after the end of his shift.

The Nottinghamshire area of the Coal Board reported £150,000 worth of criminal damage. In addition, £40,000 worth of damage was caused to four hundred and twenty two vehicles, mostly belonging to working miners. Cars had windscreens smashed, headlights kicked in and bodywork attacked. Dirt had been poured into fuel tanks and brake pipes were found severed.

#### AUGUST 11TH

A £3,000 sports car owned by a working miner was destroyed in an arson attack outside the man's home in Laneham, near Retford, Nottinghamshire. Police examined the vehicle and found a candle stuck to a piece of petrol soaked sacking near the foot pedals.

#### AUGUST 17TH

The pregnant wife of a Staffordshire working miner collapsed with shock after a piece of concrete was thrown through a window at their home and landed in a cot. Mrs. Christine Williams, 23, of Landor Crescent, Rugeley, was expecting



twins the following month. She and her husband, Michael found the concrete in a nursery that they had prepared.

#### AUGUST 21ST

Fred Cantrell, who lives at Thurcroft, Near Rotherham, South Yorkshire and works at Bevercotes Colliery, Nottinghamshire had a brick hurled through his window on July 6th. Ten striking miners paid fines and compensation to Cantrell, totalling £2,135 after admitting threatening behaviour and actual damage.

#### AUGUST 23RD

Police are investigating five instances of windows being broken at the homes of working miners in North Derbyshire. A miner at Eckington had all four tyres on his car slashed and another miner on his way to Shirebrook Colliery had his car damaged by a picket wielding an iron bar.

#### AUGUST 24TH

David Lanning, 27, a strike official of Henryson Road, Dunfermline, was fined £250 and ordered to pay £100 compensation at Dunfermline Sheriff Court after he admitted assaulting a miner who went back to work.

#### AUGUST 29TH

A Polish born miner who has been off work for twelve months discovered his house daubed with swastikas and graffiti. Mr. Jan Rettinger, who worked at Silverdale Colliery near Newcastle-under-Lyme has a son employed at the pit.

A cable was strung at neck height across a public road. A working miner hit the cable and was catapulted off his motorcycle as he returned home from Renishaw Park Colliery.

#### AUGUST 30TH

Eighty seven strikers were arrested in Scotland when pickets congregated around the home of a working miner in the village of New Cumrock in the Ayrshire Coalfield.

#### AUGUST 31ST

Three men are being questioned by police after a petrol bomb attack on a car belonging to a miner who had returned to work after being on strike. Petrol bombs were thrown at the



car but bounced off the bonnet, exploded and caused slight damage.

Three men wearing combat clothing and balaclavas were seen running away from the home of Mr. Kim Barthorpe, 18, a working miner, of Cumberland Avenue, Warsop, near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

#### SEPTEMBER 5TH

Fifteen striking miners were being questioned by Derbyshire police last night about attacks on homes and other property of working miners.

Police in Derbyshire investigated a report that two children, aged 6 and 8, of striking miners at Shirebrook Colliery were approached in the street and told not to play with the children of working miners.

A lighted rag was pushed through the letter-box of a working miner in Shirebrook.

A striking miner who threatened the children of a working colleague was ordered to do 150 hours of unpaid work for the community at Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday. Alexander Gay, 24, of Duckies Road, Mayfield, Dalkeith, had shouted at the miner: "Your bairns will get it at the school. They will get their guts cut out. We can do anything we like and get away with it".

#### SEPTEMBER 6TH

Twelve striking miners from North Derbyshire were remanded in custody yesterday after appearing in court in Chesterfield on charges of Riotous Assembly in connection with an alleged attack on working miners in the county last week.

A maintenance worker at Betteshanger Colliery, Kent, was attacked and injured by striking miners when he emerged from the pit entrance to talk to pickets. He was taken to hospital and later released.

#### SEPTEMBER 28TH

John Philip Urwin, 29, a Staffordshire NUM official, appeared at Fenton Magistrates in Stoke-on-Trent charged with assaulting a working miner and damaging his car. The hearing was adjourned until October 3rd.



#### SEPTEMBER 22ND

Mr. Albert Taylor of Mansfield Woodhouse, and a surface engineer at Shirebrook Colliery, said that there had been up to two thousand five hundred pickets at his pit. Bricks had been thrown, hay bales set alight and attempts made to push the police under vehicles taking miners to work. Mr. Taylor stopped going to work for a period after finding three men outside his house who told him: "We will not stop you going to work but bear in mind you have got a wife and kids in there". He had frequently received threatening calls throughout the night and the word Scab had been daubed on his car.

John Roberts, a quality control inspector, from Markham Colliery, said that his car had been stoned, oil poured on his road, a ball-bearing hurled at his window and that another vehicle had swerved in a deliberate attempt to overturn his own car.

#### SEPTEMBER 29TH

A striking miner who set fire to a coach being used to ferry working miners to Bickershaw Colliery at Leigh, Lancashire, was given a jail sentence at Bolton Crown Court. Joseph Ashton, 37, was sentenced to nine months imprisonment, six months of which were suspended. He admitted arson.

#### OCTOBER 2ND

Boy Taylor, a working miner from Manton Colliery, Yorkshire was subject to an attempt to run his car off the road. He was driving near Worksop with his wife and children when a car containing five striking miners pulled alongside and forced his car off the road. They made death threats against him and his family and specifically threatened to kill his children.



ATTACKS ON THE POLICE AND POLICE PROPERTY



#### MARCH 15TH

Violence occurred at Ollerton Colliery near Mansfield, where seven police officers were hurt trying to prevent three hundred pickets from blockading the main gate as the four hundred and fifty man day shift arrived for work.

Five pickets were arrested, working miners were punched and police were pelted with bricks, lumps of wood, milk bottles and fireworks.

#### MARCH 20TH

Scuffles took place between miners and police outside the NUM's Barnsley headquarters. Five men were arrested for violent picketing and a police officer was hit by a brick.

#### MARCH 24TH

Between seven hundred and eight hundred pickets gathered at Cadley Hill Colliery in South Derbyshire where ten arrests were made after a police officer was injured and three police coaches were damaged.

#### MARCH 28TH

Eight police officers were hurt during scuffles on a picket line outside the NCB area headquarters in Doncastersr. One of them, P.C. Stephen Faircough, 23, collapsed during the scuffles and was taken to hospital. He was later released unhurt.

Fifteen miners who clashed with police during the Doncaster picket were later fined a total of £1,550 at Doncaster Magistrates' Court. In all, twenty two pickets appeared variously accused of Breach of the Peace, Assault and Criminal Damage.

#### MARCH 29TH

A police officer was dragged along in a car in a go-slow on the M1 on the South Yorkshire - Derbyshire border.

#### APRIL 4TH

In South Wales, eleven miners were arrested after pickets violently attacked police outside the Port Talbot steelworkers.



#### APRIL 6TH

Thirty nine arrests were made in clashes between pickets and police at Port Talbot steelworks, where three hundred and fifty men from Nottinghamshire and Northumberland had assembled.

#### APRIL 10TH

Seventy eight pickets were arrested and six police officers were hurt outside Cresswell and Babbington Collieries in Nottinghamshire.

#### APRIL 11TH

Police found four-inch nails welded into weapons on the ground on a picket line at Silverdale Colliery, near Stoke-on-Trent, North Staffordshire.

#### APRIL 13TH

A lead-filled bottle cap with four screws sticking out was thrown at a police line. One police officer was injured.

#### APRIL 19TH

Several police officers were injured at Wivenhoe Docks as pickets tried to stop coal imports.

#### MAY 2ND

Nine arrests were made when police stopped miners' cars on the A38 on the Derbyshire border. Stones were thrown at the police.

In County Durham a police officer suffered a broken arm during an incident at the Inkerman open cast mine and another was hit on the head by a missile thrown at Lumley Thicks open cast mine.

#### MAY 3RD

At Harworth Colliery twenty miners were arrested in clashes with police.

#### MAY 5TH

Nineteen pickets were arrested and one police officer was slightly injured when two thousand miners laid siege to



Hucknall Colliery, North of Nottingham. One is to be charged with Actual Bodily Harm or Assault.

MAY 9TH

Five men were arrested and two police officers hurt at Pye Colliery in Nottinghamshire where two thousand five hundred pickets had gathered.

MAY 10TH

A St. John's Ambulance Brigade hut used by police was burnt down at Gedling Colliery, Nottinghamshire.

At Creswell, there were thirteen arrests for criminal damage, public order offences and assaults on police. Twenty police officers were hurt in the scuffles and three required hospital treatment.

MAY 11TH

At Silverdale Colliery in Nottinghamshire, thirty arrests were made as police endured a barrage of stone throwing.

MAY 12TH

Three inch nails hammered into wood and put inside paper bags were found in roads near Newsbead and Annersley Collieries. Other such nails were concealed in cigarette packets. The motivation behind these tactics was to maim police horses.

MAY 15TH

Fifty-five men appeared in court facing charges including riot after Monday's mass rally in Mansfield. Eighty-eight arrests were made and forty police officers hurt during the affray.

MAY 22ND

Two police officers were slightly injured when a concrete block was thrown through a window of their van near Rufford Colliery, Mansfield.

MAY 25TH

At Wellbeck Colliery, North Nottinghamshire, forty-five men were arrested. Five miners tried to pass one hundred and



fifty pickets. Fights then broke out and two police officers were injured.

#### MAY 30TH

Eighty-four people were arrested and sixty-four injured at Orgreave. Stones, wooden fencing, a shovel and a bucket were thrown at police. They were also bombarded with smoke bombs and firecrackers and one officer sustained a broken leg.

#### MAY 31ST

At Orgreave, miners had left a telegraph pole, a battering ram, barbed wire and a burning portakabin across the road in order to frustrate the police.

Thirty-five pickets were arrested and sixteen police injured. Police horse, ARGYLE cut his leg.

Three miners were arrested outside an NCB office and a police officer was injured.

#### JUNE 1ST

At Orgreave, ten arrests were made and one police officer was injured in violent clashes.

#### JUNE 2ND

Nineteen men were arrested at Orgreave and twenty injured, including five police. According to police chief Tony Clement, "six officers were given a good hiding".

#### JUNE 7TH

Violence flared at Orgreave where twenty-three were arrested. Eight police officers were hurt and three burnt by paintstripper.

#### JUNE 8TH

One hundred and twenty arrests were made on the miners' march through London. Two police officers were injured and a woman was knocked down and trampled.

#### JUNE 15TH

Striking miner Robert Clay was convicted of obstructing a



police officer at a picket line at Tow Law. He was fined £50 and ordered to pay £50 costs.

#### JUNE 18TH

At Maltby, near Rotherham, twenty-nine arrests were made and one police officer had a suspected broken nose.

#### JUNE 19TH

At Orgreave, eighty were hurt and one hundred arrested following horrifying scenes at the coking plant. Stones, bottles, bricks, iron bars and jagged glass were thrown at police. Pickets set up a barricade of burning cars, lamp posts and of stones from a wall they had demolished. Wooden stakes had also been planted in the ground.

There were twenty-one arrests at Shirebrook Colliery, North Derbyshire, after clashes between police and four hundred and fifty pickets.

#### JUNE 20TH

Following incidents at Orgreave on 18th June, twenty-four were yesterday charged with rioting.

#### JULY 3RD

At Shirebrook Colliery, six were arrested for obstruction and five police officers were injured.

#### JULY 7TH

At Selby, North Yorkshire, violent scenes developed as pickets occupied a tollbridge. Ten police officers were injured.

Three miners were arrested as police vehicles were over-turned at Whitmore.

#### JULY 11TH

Stones were thrown and windows broken at Hemsworth Police Station. At Fitzwilliam pub nearby, officers were avalanched by stones and missiles.



#### AUGUST 14TH

At Cuckney, three miles from Welbeck Colliery in Nottinghamshire, two thousand pickets clashed with police. As police stopped cars at a road block, pickets hurled bricks and stones at police. Two officers were injured.

#### AUGUST 17TH

In scuffles at Gascoigne Wood one police officer had his nose broken and there were five arrests. Pickets set fire to rolls of straw dragged from a field nearby into the Colliery approach road. At they dispersed, they stoned two police coaches, shattering windows, and knocked a police motorcyclist off his machine.

#### AUGUST 18TH

There was violence at Gascoigne Wood. Bricks and clods of earth were thrown at police.

At Selston, near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire a brick was hurled through the windscreen of a moving police car.

A former Coal Board worker who punched and kicked a police sergeant was jailed for twenty one days. He was James Donnelly, 32, of Addenbroote Road, Keresley, Warwickshire.

#### AUGUST 22ND

At Silverwood Colliery, near Rotherham, almost one thousand pickets mustered before dawn to try to prevent a lone worker, James Massey, an electrician aged 54, from going to work. They burnt scrap cars, trees and supermarket trolleys in the road and launched a barrage of bricks and stones at police. Eight police officers were hurt.

There were ugly scenes at Hatfield, near Doncaster, where pickets set up a barricade of trees and set an old car on fire on a road close to the colliery. A police car had its windows smashed by stones in a neighbouring village.

#### AUGUST 23RD

Senior police officers admitted that they were deeply concerned at the emergence of a paramilitary style gang, apparently led by a woman, which spearheaded a day of unprecedented violence in Yorkshire pit villages. They were dressed in camouflage jackets, boiler suits and balaclava helmets.



Police tackled pickets in villages surrounding the pits of Bentley, Markham Main and Yorkshire Main after barricades were erected and set on fire, pit stores looted and equipment wrecked. At Bentley, fifty people led by a woman were spotted, uniformed, in the pit yard. They attacked spy cameras and stole donkey jackets and pickaxe handles.

#### AUGUST 24TH

Forensic scientists examined three suspected petrol bombs found by police after they had clashed with pickets in a Yorkshire pit village. They were discovered in the garden of a house in Armthorpe, Near Doncaster after running battles outside Markham Colliery.

#### AUGUST 31ST

Paul Wilkinson went to work at Easington. Arrests were made and several police hurt when pickets charged.

#### SEPTEMBER 1ST

A police horse was stoned to the ground and injured and three police officers had glass showered in their eyes when their coach was attacked in the worst violence so far at Kiveton Park Colliery in South Yorkshire. Windscreens were shattered together with two large windows of a metropolitan police coach at it was pelted with rocks.

#### SEPTEMBER 7TH

Thirteen people including a policeman, were hurt at Kellingley Colliery, North Yorkshire, where four thousand pickets gathered. Police were showered with broken glass and pieces of concrete outside the pit, known as Big K, where two men are working. An ITN car was overturned and set on fire. £10,000 worth of camera equipment was stolen.

Twenty four men from Barnsley and Rotherham areas appeared before Selby magistrates on public order offences. They were remanded on bail for a week. Two policemen, PC's Peter Blackburn and John Burrows are now in Pontefract Infirmary with rib and head injuries.

#### SEPTEMBER 11TH

An array of weapons used by miners' pickets was put on show by police. Included were a heavy chain, ball-bearings and booby traps designed to maim men, horses and dogs.



Two pickets who covered a road with spiked belts to stop police escorting a miner to work were fined £750 each at Dunfermline Sheriff Court. The two men were names as Cameron Cowcher, 29, of Russell Court and Alex Kinninmouth, 35, of Orum Road, Dunfermline.



ATTACKS ON NATIONAL COAL BOARD STAFF AND PROPERTY



MARCH 14TH

A pit manager's car was slightly damaged in scuffled at Hucknall Colliery, near Nottingham.

MARCH 15TH

At Ollerton Colliery, one lorry window was smashed by a brick and Mr Charles Crawford, a passenger in one of the lorries, had a head injury caused by a missile.

MARCH 27TH

Two women Coal Board workers were knocked down and others said they were kicked and spat on when two hundred marauding pickets swamped a force of thirty police on guard outside the NCB's Doncaster headquarters.

APRIL 5TH

Women employees were spat on at Stoke-on-Trent Coal Board offices and a 41 year old man from the finance department was butted in the face by pickets of whom there were one hundred and fifty in total.

APRIL 17TH

At sutton Manor on Merseyside the tyres of two vans and a road sweeper were slashed during the night, causing estimated damage of £1,200.

MAY 2ND

Seventeen pickets were arrested outside Littleton Colliery, Staffordshire, and the window of a coach taking miners through a picket line at NCB's Trentham Workshops at Stoke-on-Trent was smashed with a crowbar.

MAY 8TH

Twenty three men were arrested at Hunterston as pickets tried to prevent a convoy from leaving. Three lorry windscreens were smashed.

MAY 10TH

Pickets in cars stopped a coach taking women coal board staff to work in Duckmanton, North Derbyshire and hurled bricks and stones through the windows, injuring several passengers.



Damage to NCB property has also been reported at Oxcroft Coal Preparation Plant in Derbyshire where an 11,000 volt electricity cable carrying the main supply was severed. Office windows were broken in the process.

At Pleasley Colliery, North Derbyshire, six heavy plant vehicles were damaged and sand was poured into the petrol tanks. Windows were broken in offices and outbuildings and the pit has been closed following the sabotage.

At Langwith Colliery, North Derbyshire, where only surface activity continues, a dumper truck was set on fire.

#### MAY 11TH

A coach taking twenty clerical staff to the National Coal Board office in Duckmanton, Derbyshire, was stopped and stoned by pickets and occupants were slightly injured. At Sherwood Colliery in Nottinghamshire, two belts carrying slag from the pithead were slashed.

#### JUNE 7TH

Seven pit-top conveyor belts were cut through during the night at Silverdale Colliery. Production was unaffected. Damage was put at around £5,000.

Damage of over £10,000 was caused to machinery and telephone wires at a private open cast mine in Lanarkshire.

#### JUNE 27TH

At the NCB Regional office in Doncaster, thirty seven people, nineteen of them women, were assaulted, hit by stones or otherwise threatened. One girl was taken to hospital after being punched in the mouth and another was told that she would be 'kicked back home' if she went into work. One man was spat on as he approached the office.

#### JULY 6TH

Two clerical staff at Shirebrook Colliery were stoned and abused.

#### JULY 10TH

Thirteen terrified NCB managers and maintenance staff were rescued by police after being held siege in a pit for eleven hours. Windows were smashed and other property damaged.



Four more South Wales haulage firms involved in convoys maintaining coal and iron ore supplies to Llanwern have been attacked. Thirteen lorries were damaged, paint was sprayed on windscreens, and sugar was poured into a fuel tank.

#### JULY 11TH

£100,000 damage was done to a drift mine near Llanwern and many vehicles were set on fire.

#### JULY 25TH

At Port Talbot, where 500 pickets assembled, five lorries had their windows smashed by missiles. Thirty four people were arrested, including seven women.

#### JULY 28TH

At South Shields, Tyne and Wear, pickets occupied NCB workshops and chained the gates. Thirty arrests were made.

#### JULY 31ST

Six articulated lorries which had been moving coal from Nottinghamshire pits to Power Stations were destroyed by arson, causing £200,000 damage. The vehicles belonged to a Midlands Haulage company.

Three other lorries were damaged. They were owned by bulk transport's Chief, Mr E J Meeks of Ashfield, Nottinghamshire and parked at the rear of the Company's depot.

#### AUGUST 4TH

About two hundred miner's pickets vandalized a Coal Board transport depot in Derbyshire. Fourteen lorries and two coaches at the South Normanton Depot had windows smashed and bodies dented. Damage was estimated at £4,000.

#### AUGUST 7TH

Ten vehicles used for hauling coal in the Derbyshire/Nottinghamshire coalfield were found damaged.

#### AUGUST 8TH

In the North-East, ten men were arrested when six hundred pickets tried to stop thirty white-collar union members reporting for duty at NCB stores at Philadelphia, near Sunderland.



Between fifty and sixty men stoned NCB offices in Doncaster. Fifteen windows were smashed and three people arrested.

#### AUGUST 9TH

Five Northumberland miners received suspended sentences of between three and nine months for an attack they made with a pickaxe handle and a sledge hammer on a fleet of lorries.

Ninety five people were arrested in Nottinghamshire as a public bus was stoned.

A privately-owned open cast mine at Westerhope/Westerthorpe, Near Newcastle-upon-Tyne suffered £7,000 damage after a sabotage raid.

#### AUGUST 13TH

Police are treating as arson a fire at J. Thompson Engineering Works at Pleasley Vale, North Derbyshire, in which five coaches belonging to the National Coal Board were destroyed after an inflammable liquid was thrown over them. An office block was also attacked and the total cost of damage caused was £30,000.

#### AUGUST 17TH

A 25 year-old miner appeared before magistrates at Stoke-on-Trent. He was alleged to have destroyed and damaged by fire three coaches and a van in an alleged arson attack on a vehicle park in Trentham early yesterday. He was remanded in custody for four days.

#### AUGUST 21ST

Six striking miners accused of arson, were remanded in custody by Stoke-on-Trent magistrates. The men, from Hem Heath pit, are alleged to have destroyed and damaged by fire two AEC coaches, one Ford coach and one Leyland minivan worth a total of £130,000.

A striking North Derbyshire miner who carried out a sabotage attack on a Coal Board Depot was jailed for nine months by a Derbyshire court. Andrew Stuart Bradley, 43, from Markham Colliery, admitted cutting through an 11,000 volt cable.

#### AUGUST 23RD

The office of a County Durham taxi firm used by the National Coal Board to take men into work was attacked. A window was broken, a telephone pulled out and a minibus vandalized.



#### AUGUST 25TH

After Paul Wilkinson returned to work, hundreds of miners went to Easington Colliery to protest. Police said that the men 'ran riot'.

Office staff were forced to shelter in corridors as bricks smashed windows sending glass flying and the five hundred strong pickets rampaged through the Colliery car park.

Six cars were damaged, including that of the Colliery Manager. An Audi was overturned. Five police officers were injured and four pickets arrested.

#### AUGUST 31ST

Two arrests were made in North Derbyshire when some pickets stoned a Coal Board bus.

#### SEPTEMBER 11TH

Thirty five men appeared in court at Chesterfield charged with Unlawful Assembly in connection with an incident in which £1,000 damage was caused to a Coal Board van and a police car near Whitwell Colliery, North Derbyshire, last week.

#### SEPTEMBER 20TH

Two striking miners were arrested and kept in custody for thirty-two hours after making a bogus 999 call to report a traffic accident. Frank Allen, 46, and son Kevin, 23, were charged with threatening behaviour, possessing a pickaxe handle as an offensive weapon and attempting to beset a place of employment, namely Bolsover Colliery.

#### SEPTEMBER 26TH

Miners' pickets in South Wales yesterday ambushed a 140 strong convoy of heavy lorries ferrying coal and iron ore fifty miles along the M4 from Port Talbot to Llanwern Steelworks.

Ten vehicles were damaged.

Police produced a 4ft wooden pit prop as one of the missiles hurled. Windscreens were smashed and a large stone crashed through one lorry's glass fibre roof.