10 Copy No 1 of 19
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Daily Coal Report - Friday 8 March 1985

Return to Work

97 per cent of NUM men are now not on strike. Only 6,100 are still on strike, mainly in Scotland (2,400), Kent (1,700) and Markham (1,300). There is to be a return to work at Markham on Monday, and a mass meeting in Kent tomorrow at which a return will be discussed.

100 pits are now producing coal, including 16 in South Wales.
This number will rise as essential safety work is completed.

All NCB coke ovens are now working.

NUM

Mr Kinnock met Scottish NUM leaders today and called for an inquiry into the management of the Scottish coalfield during the dispute.

Coal Movements

By yesterday evening almost a million tonnes had been moved. Deliveries are now expected to build up steadily.

150 coal trains ran yesterday. All the coal available to British Rail was moved. No railmen were sent home for refusing to co-operate: an encouraging sign.

High Court

An application by the South Wales NUM for the discharge of an injunction preventing mass picketing at five pits in the area was today adjourned for two weeks.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Law and Order

Little change.

There have been few reported incidents of recrimination against working miners, beyond verbal abuse.

West German Bomb Attack

A left wing revolutionary group has claimed responsibility for today's bombings in three German towns, and claimed that these were in support of British miners.

Line to Take

Life in the coalfields is now returning to normal. Despite all the efforts of Mr Scargill and the militants to prolong the dispute the commonsense of the miner has prevailed. It is only by the management, the unions and miners themselves working together that the industry can have a prosperous future.

Daily Coal Reports We shall muss you!

Because the situation has settled down coal reports will no longer be issued on a daily basis. Members of MISC 101 will of course be kept informed as necessary of future developments in the dispute.

Members of MISC 101, Paymaster General Distribution: Sir Robert Armstrong, Mr Gregson (Cabinet Office)

Michael Reidy, PS/SOS for Energy, Tel: 211 6070 Enquiries: