



Mr Ron Podmore, manager of a Trentham, Staffordshire, coach company, where fire yesterday destroyed three coaches costing £130,000 to replace. The company, which has ferried miners to work, saved two other coaches.

## CBI fears rise in militancy

By David Felton  
Labour Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry has warned companies that they face a hardening of the industrial relations climate in the next pay round through increased union militancy after the miners' strike.

In a guide to its 250,000 member companies on bargaining tactics, the CBI states: "The industrial relations challenge cannot be overstated" and argues strongly for settlements to be held "firmly below" 5 per cent.

It also calls for control on wages "drift", with reductions of at least 1 per cent in the real value of settlements, now running at 5 and 6 per cent.

"Companies will judge whether the CBI assessment is too harsh, but the task is daunting; that is why the CBI has called it the industrial relations challenge", the document says. It has been sent out to the regions and will be the focal point for briefing meetings of CBI members in the run-up, to the opening of the pay round.

It argues that there are uncertain times ahead, with industry's competitive position moving in the wrong direction and no likelihood of the Government relaxing its firm monetary control. Managers are told that employees' earnings increase at the expense of company profits.

But the real challenge that companies must face is the prospect of greater union militancy and the document says: "Overall industrial relations on the shop floor, away from the glare of the public-sector disputes, remain good, but confrontation such as that in the case of the miners is a reminder that greater turbulence is by no means impossible and may be catching.

The document, entitled *Pay and Productivity 1984-85*.

## Left attacks Kinnock on miners' dispute

By Phillip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Neil Kinnock's handling of Labour's response to the miners' dispute and Mr Denis Healey's attitude to the party's new defence policy were criticized in separate attacks from the left wing yesterday.

Mr Healey, the shadow foreign secretary, was challenged to make public what the left claims is his private opposition to key parts of the new defence policy, including the removal of American nuclear weapons from Britain.

Mr Kinnock was accused of "dancing to the Tory tune" with his regular denunciations of picket-line violence.

The strength of the attacks is a clear signal that the Party leadership faces trouble on both issues at its conference in September.

The left-wing journal *Tribune*, in an obvious reference to the disagreement by Mr Healey

and other senior figures with parts of Labour's defence stance at the last election, attacked the "Atlantic Alliance" wing of the parliamentary party.

It said Mr Healey, who is in America and could not be contacted yesterday, would play a major part in implementing the defence policy. It claimed he was already making clear in private "that hell would freeze over" before he supported the removal of American nuclear weapons.

The attack on Mr Kinnock comes in a leading article in the left-wing *Labour Herald*.

Referring to "a major drive" by the Government, the coal board and the media to make the strike crumble, it said Mr Kinnock seemed unable to mention the strike without a compulsory condemnation of picket line violence.

## Where accountants traced union funds

By Our Labour Editor

The High Court was told yesterday where the accountants Price Waterhouse had traced the funds of the South Wales miners - including £50,000 transferred to officials of the National Union of Public Employees and back again to miners' officials.

Mr Nicholas Padfield, counsel for the sequestrators from Price Waterhouse, told the court they did not think they would be justified in spending further union money to locate more union assets.

An oppressive sequestration might result if they had to chase every penny. But if circumstances changed they would return to court and seek authority to proceed with further seizure of funds.

Mr Justice Hutchison's order for retention of the seized fund means that the South Wales miners will not get the balance of their money back after extraction of the fine and costs until they purge their contempt. They can do that by attending court to explain or apologize for their breach of the injunction against interference with hauliers' lorries.

Mr Padfield said that the South Wales miners had transferred £200,000 to the headquarters of the National Union of Mineworkers in Sheffield three days before the fine was imposed on July 31.

He added that among the funds so far frozen was £458,000 in the Co-op Bank.

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## Dock strike closer over coal ship

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

The threat of another dock strike increased last night after steelworkers said they would unload coal from the Liberian-registered ship, *Ostia*, which is "blackened" by the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The National Dock Labour Board is expected to give a ruling within days on whether the *Ostia's* cargo of 95,000 tonnes of coking coal can be discharged at the Hunterston terminal of the British Steel Corporation without using dockworkers belonging to the TGWU.

Dockers belonging to the union have refused to handle the shipment which is destined for the Ravenscraig steelworks. They claim that if anyone else does the job it will be a breach of the dock labour scheme that will prompt another strike of the kind triggered by a similar dispute at Immingham ore terminal last month. That dispute led to a two-week national stoppage at most ports in Britain.

Last night, the main steel union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, put out a statement, saying: "There is some confusion in the media about who does what at Hunterston. The fact is that steelworkers belonging to the ISTC have always unloaded iron ore and coal destined for BSC's plant."

More than 1,500 dockworkers have opted to quit the port industry on special voluntary severance terms of up to £25,000 per man.

The special offer, which expires at the end of the month, was oversubscribed at all ports except Liverpool. In London, almost double the number of men applied for the place available, 680 for the capital's authorisation figure of 349. Maximum severance pay will revert to £16,000 when the scheme ends.

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By Philip Webster, Political Reporter.

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