

# Scargill to face new legal action

By Frances Gibb

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Mr Arthur Scargill, the president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and 28 other miners' leaders have been accused of conspiracy to assault and intimidate working miners in another High Court action. They also face damages for £50,000 or more.

The proceedings started yesterday by 19 working Yorkshire miners also seeks court orders to ban the union from organizing mass pickets and from spending money on such picketing which, the working miners say, is neither lawful nor peaceful.

The action, which comes to court for a preliminary hearing on Thursday, will be the first legal challenge to mass picketing at a national level.

The Yorkshire action has been led by Mr Walter Sharp, of Armthorpe, near Doncaster, who works at Rossington colliery. The men claim both general damages and special damages for loss of wages as a result of the alleged intimidation. They have been granted legal aid to bring the action.

Those also named include Mr Michael McGahey, the union vice president, and Mr Peter Heathfield, the general secretary. Other pit news, page 2