

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

18th day of February

19 81

SUBJECT

1. The following information has been received from a reliable source:-

2. "Mike GRIFFIN of [redacted] Privacy [redacted] Privacy took part in the 1980 Right to Work march from South Wales to Brighton. He showed himself to be an extremely militant activist and totally dedicated to the ideals of extreme left socialism.

3. He is at present Secretary of Penrhioceiber Lodge at Mountain Ash and is actively engaged in promoting strike action within the coal industry as a result of the present dispute."

4. Attached herewith is an article from the 'Socialist Worker' dated 14.2.81 which makes reference to Mike GRIFFIN in a report dealing with the miners' dispute.

5. The Right to Work Campaign is dealt with on 400/79/135. Mike GRIFFIN cannot be identified as having previously come to our notice.

Reference to Papers

Mike GRIFFIN

1

Trevor Butler

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

TO [redacted]
20123190
P.A. IN

ECM: 300

14. 2. 81.

MINERS ALL SET TO FIGHT PIT CLOSURES

MINERS are preparing for a showdown on jobs. Despite the Coal Board's predictably veiled threat on the future of the industry last Tuesday—plans for strike action are going ahead.

And they are also getting ready to confront the Government over the Employment Bill.

For behind the Coal Board's bland press statement is a plan to cut coal production by eleven and a quarter million tonnes—resulting in the loss of 25,000-30,000 mining jobs and 9,000 jobs in the white collar sector.

At a conference in South Wales on Monday delegates decided on 23 February as a provisional date for all out indefinite strike action.

Strike committees have been set up this week. And South Wales Area President, Emyln Williams, warned delegates they could not afford to be fainthearted. They would have to be prepared to go to jail to defy the Employment Act, he said.

Plans for picketing power stations and the docks immediately have already been made. In Yorkshire Arthur Scargill has warned there will be industrial action 'within ten days' if the Board try and close Orgreave colliery near Sheffield.

ACTION

He said: 'Let me make it perfectly clear we are not bluffing. We believe that crunch time is here.'

Only two weeks ago Yorkshire miners gave their Executive an overwhelming mandate for industrial action against pit closures.

Miners from all over the country will be lobbying their National Executive when it meets this Thursday to press for national action over jobs.

If there is no leadership from Gormley and company, South Wales, Yorkshire, Scotland and Kent are prepared to go it alone.

After the lobby there will be a meeting of all miners at Friends House in London addressed by Scargill and Mick McGabey. That meeting is expected to get down to basics on combined action over jobs.

'There's no doubt about what has got to be done and that's strike action. It's the only answer,' said MIKE GRIFFIN, Secretary of Pen-

rhiwceiber Lodge in Mountain Ash.

'After Monday's conference we've already had a local District meeting and set up three strike committees—one for each valley.

'The feeling at my pit now is just one of waiting for the day. We were prepared to go on strike last February. The men know that if we don't take action they are going to lose their jobs, their mortgages, their communities and everything.

'The feeling at the pit is that we *have* to strike.

'As for the Employment Bill we will soon find out about that! We are making contingency plans. There's a lot of stocks in the country. We can't let it be moved so we will have to picket wherever it is. If coal is imported then we will go to the docks. We're bound to come across the picketing laws somewhere.'

'All I know is that we're certainly not going to put up with six on a picket line at Penrhiwceiber—or at Portishead power station come to that.'

DANE HARTWELL, Secretary of Blaengwrach Lodge in Glynneath said West Wales would be meeting on Tuesday night to set up strike committees.

He said whatever the Board's tactics on the announcement of closures: 'The South Wales decision is clear. As soon as the date of the first colliery closure is announced there will be industrial action.'

Although there were no details of pit closures on Tuesday, in a press statement the Board said they could no longer afford the burden on uneconomic pits. And they added that meetings between local Area NCB Directors and union representatives would take place as soon as possible.

South Wales Area Director Phillip Weekes meets NUM representatives this Friday where closure details are expected to be r