

FACE

OF DEFEAT



'Traitor' taunt as Scargill Sun - 4 MAR 1985 caves in

By TOM CONDON and
TONY MAGUIRE

THE MARATHON pit strike ended yesterday with the scars of bitter defeat etched on Arthur Scargill's face.

Shouts of "traitor" and "sell-out" echoed around the miners' leader as he announced a return to work tomorrow.

Some pitmen crowding round seemed to spit at him. Others had tears trickling down their faces.

DECISION

Mr Scargill was finally forced to give in by his own members — **WITHOUT** a deal on pit closures and **WITHOUT** an amnesty for the 700 men sacked during the year-long dispute.

Surrender came after a narrow

Continued on Page Two

FULL STORY
Pages 2, 6, 13, 14, 15

Near to tears . . . beaten Scargill with deputy Mick McGahey yesterday.

Picture: DAVID HILL

SCARGILL CAVES IN

Sun - 4 MAR 1985

Continued from Page One

98-91 vote by an NUM delegate conference at the TUC headquarters in London.

The decision spelled a major victory for Premier Margaret Thatcher who was determined never to yield an inch to Mr Scargill.

The NUM president and his deputy Mick McGahey both seemed close to tears at the collapse of Britain's longest - ever major strike.

Deadline

Tomorrow was thought to have been fixed as the return date to allow the union 24 hours to inform its men officially.

But the Coal Board expects thousands to jump the gun and go back today.

Some strikers may stay out, though. "Fight on" rebellions are threatened in Kent and Scotland to win a sackings amnesty.

Mr Scargill told waiting

miners of the back-to-work decision from the steps of the TUC HQ.

"Following the decision of today's conference taken by the very narrowest of margins, there will be an organised and disciplined return to work on Tuesday."

As "Judas" insults were hurled, Mr Scargill, who wanted the strike to go on, added:

"I can only come out here and reflect the decision of this conference which has been democratically decided upon."

But even in defeat, Mr Scargill remained defiant.

He refused to concede he had lost and said: "This dispute will go on until we stop pit closures, stop job losses and win the right to return to work for all those dismissed."

Mr Scargill later made it clear he would not consider quitting as NUM chief.

He said: "I feel terrific. My only immediate plans



David Owen... "Scargill smashed by own men"

are to get some fish and chips—if that's all right with the Queen."

Mr Scargill added: "I regard the last 12 months as a tremendous achievement."

Decisions

"Not only has the Coal Board's threat to close five pits been withdrawn but the proposed closures for the last year have not been implemented."

But he rapped fellow-unions for leaving the NUM "isolated."

Finally, though, Mr Scargill crept away from the TUC building by a side-door.

Moderate Notts NUM

chief Ray Chadburn was jostled.

At the three-hour conference, hardliners from Kent and Yorkshire had called for the strike to go on until a sackings amnesty was agreed.

But a call by South Wales for an immediate return won the day after the executive were split 11-11.

The 98-91 verdict was a card vote, representing 98,000 to 91,000 union members.

SOCIAL DEMOCRAT leader David Owen said: "The harsh fact Arthur Scargill has to face is that he has been smashed by his own membership."

MINERS' right-to-work campaigner Chris "Silver Birch" Butcher said he feared bitter recrimination.

But Scottish NUM executive member Willie Clarke urged his men to be "disciplined when working with scabs."

PITMEN in South Wales will march proudly back tomorrow behind a band and with union banners fluttering.

IT could take six months for the industry to get back to normal — and two years for strikers to pay off their debts.

The Sun Says and Franklin's View—Page 6

AL0833 1 XXX 13
PA RUSH 031513 Mar 85
1 MINERS Conference
Miners' strike to be called off. NUM delegate conference
decided.
and brd.

How the news was flashed across Britain