

# Judgment day for Scargill

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Mr Arthur Scargill will not be legally represented in court today for judgment concerning allegations that he is in contempt of court.

After hearing evidence last week that the miners' president had acted in direct and "wilful disobedience" of court orders, Mr Justice Nicholls adjourned the proceedings to give Mr Scargill time to reflect and consider the desirability of legal representation.

But it is understood there has been no change of mind by the miners' leader. He has declared he is prepared to go to prison for what he has said.

The contempt proceedings are being brought by two Yorkshire miners concerning breaches of injunctions that they obtained against the National Union of Mineworkers and its Yorkshire area.



Mr Justice Nicholls (left), aged 51, who must decide today whether to jail Mr Arthur Scargill, has been no stranger to publicity as a High Court judge.

Appointed to the Chancery Bench in August last year, he was called on in May this year to rule on the will of Dick Emery, the comedian. He gave three-quarters of Mr Emery's estate to his widow and a quarter to his mistress.

Earlier the judge, in an action brought against the National Trust about the building of a nuclear war control centre on land in the Chilterns, held that the Trust had not acted unlawfully in leasing land to the Ministry of Defence.

They will also today make a second committal application about three fresh alleged contempts.

The first contempt proceedings arose because of injunctions granted to Mr Bob Taylor and Mr Ken Foulstone

More than 500 supporters of Mr Scargill, including left-wing MPs and trade union leaders, have signed a declaration in the

name of the Mineworkers Defence committee, that says the NUM leader is right in calling the strike official.

Many of them will attend the High Court today to show their support for Mr Scargill. Among those who signed are: Mr Tony Benn, MP; Mr Tony Banks, MP; Mr Jeremy Corbyn, MP; and Mr Ken Livingstone, leader of the GLC.