British unions vote to support coal miners' strike

United Press International

ain's 10-million-member Trades and electric workers — made in Union Congress Monday voted doubtful whether the most extreme overwhelmingly to support striking coal miners in a move that could bring the country to the verge of its first general strike in 58 years.

With a show of hands, the cheering 1,200 delegates to the TUC's annual conference voted to give "total support" to the National Union of Miners in its 5-month-old strike by prohibiting movement of coal and oil across picket lines at

power stations and factories.

United Press International BRIGHTON, England — Brit- unions — including the steelworkers doubtful whether the most extreme blockade measures proposed at the TUC's annual conference would go into effect.

Eric Hammond, secretary general-designate of the power station workers, rejected the TUC council's support for miners' Marxist leader Arthur Scargill as a "dishonest and deficient" act that would bring Britain to its knees. "Hitler would have been proud of

Britain's vote to support the striking coal miners ended with an emotional plea from Scargill, the miners' Marxist leader, for union support of the strike of 130,000 miners.

you lot," he yelled as hundreds of unionists in the hall booed and hissed him.

The vote ended with an emotional plea from Scargill for union support of the strike of 130,000 miners, which began March 12 to protest the

proposed lavoffs of 20.000 workers and the closure of 20 pits.

"What is wrong with asking this congress to support the basic tenets of trade unionism? When workers are on strike, you don't cross picket lines!" Scargill said. A loud ovation

followed from most every delegate except the steelworkers. An estimated 3,000 to 4,000 dem-

onstrators massed outside the conference center in the seaside town (60 miles south of London), but po-lice said the protests were peaceful and reserve officers were not called

One aircraft flew over the Brighton seafront trailing a banner that read — "Get stuffed Scargill."

The union movement has been torn by the coal dispute, with more than one in four of the nation's 175,000 miners ignoring Scargill's

movement's worst crisis si 1926 general strike, which a out of a minors' revolt.

Steelworkers argued that iting coal movements across lines would cripple their a and be equivalent to a general

Opponents have accused of using the miners' strike down Prime Minister & Thatcher. A miners strike 74 caused the downfall of the servative government of Pro-ister Edward Heath.

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Stewart said the mechan

fantry battalion's high mark

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no other reason. The National Guard lead

there has been increased

presence in South Texas

past year, and admitted the makes a "a pretty good ciro tial situation" for speculator

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For instance, Brownster Corpus Christi are among por

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guided missile destroyer and guided missile frigates - t Navy plans to station in the Mexico by 1990. Also, Stewart said the UA Reserve has established and ministrative unit in the Vale to att cause it is a good area for n

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Bald eagles come back; years of decline cease

United Press International

0602501WASHINGTON The endangered bald eagle pop-ulation in the continental United States is making an encouraging comeback after years of decline, the National Wildlife Federation reported Monday in its annual bald eagle survey.

The federation, the nation's largest environmental group, counted 11,819 eagles in 42 of the lower 48 states, up from 10,903 in those states last year.

The population of the national bird declined severely for many years due to pesticides — partic-ularly DDT — and shrinking habitat

It is officially endangered in 43 states and is listed as a threatened species in five others. It is plentiful only in Alaska. No bald eagles live in Hawaii

"The bald eagle isn't home free yet," said Jay Hair, federation executive vice president. "Slowly but surely, the bald eagle is making a comeback, and this year's survey demonstrates encouraging

progress." The federation on July 30 called for action to protect bald eagles in 30 states, saying the birds are threatened by lead poi-soning from eating prey con-taining shotgun pellets. A report by the group warned that in press by the group warned that in areas of five of those states — Arizona, California, Illinois, Missouri and Washington — eagles face a "high risk of lead poisoning" from the spent pellets left by hunters.

The federation, a pro-hunting organization, advocates use of non-toxic steel shot loads in shotguns — rather than lead shot —in areas where lead is known to be a

problem for fowl. It recommends establishing "emergency non-toxic steel shot zones" for the 1985-86 hunting season in those five states.

five states. According to the 1984 bald ea-gle survey, Washington state has the largest eagle population among the lower 48 states, with 1,525 birds. Next was Missouri, with 975; followed by Utah, with 901; Oklahoma, with 794; and Arkansas, with 639.

The federation's survey, con-

ducted each January, draws on voluntary state participation. In 1979, the federation's first survey in all the lower 48 states counted 9,815 bald eagles. In 1099 the most recent year a 1982, the most recent year a count was taken in the entire continental United States, 13,825 bald eagles were counted.

National Guard now more visible in Valle

United Press International

MCALLEN - Members of a battalion of the Texas National Guard outfitted in full battle gear have been more visible this summer than ever before in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

But an official of the battalion, which was made a round-out unit of the 1st Cavalry Division of the regular Army at Fort Hood a year ago, says Valley residents should not be overly concerned about the military activity.

The reason people in the Valley have been spotting Guardsmen marching and carrying out exercises marching and carrying out exercises in the proximity of the Rio Grande, said Sgt. Maj. Sherwood Stewart, is that the lease expired on their for-mer training site near remote Heb-bronville and they have been doing their weekend drills closer to home. "We're just training closer to the

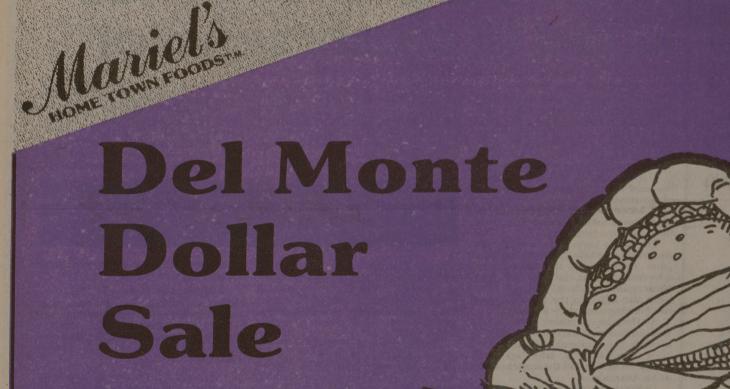
"We're just training closer to the armories. Normally we would go to Hebbronville," Stewart said when asked about a recent exercise south of Mercedes, and a report from an alarmed resident who claimed to have seen soldiers in camouflage fa-tigues who crossed the river into Brownsville.

"We had some of our people training behind the armory at Brownsville, right up against the river. They were in their battle dress uniform and were playing back

there," he said. When the National Guard in 1983 announced that the 800-member 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry (the Valley Battalion) — was being made a round-out unit of the 1st Cavalry, a Hispanic peace group alleged that the predominantly Mexican-American battalion was being "groomed as cannon fodder for Central Amer-

"We are a part of the 1st Cavalry," Stewart said. "If they (1st Cavalry) Stewart said. "If they (1st Cavary) went someplace, we'd go with them. We think we're as ready as anybody. But that (round-out action) was mis-interpreted that we were being made part of a Rapid Deployment Force. "We're available anytime, like it's always been the last 24 means like

always been the last 34 years I've been in it, but no more or no less.



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