

Prime Minister

A fair copy, plus
a few additional lines
to those I suggested
over the 'phone.

I am sure the
country is just waiting
for you to take this
gentleman apart.

R. B.

16/7/84

THE COAL STRIKE

Deliberately, repeatedly and with calculation the miners' leader stands words on their head.

Over and over again he seeks to justify his political strike by referring to his union as "independent, free and democratic".

Under his leadership, independent of what?
The Truth?

Under his leadership, free to do what?
To bully, browbeat and use brute force against thousands of his own members, their wives and even their children, in their homes and villages?

Under his leadership, democratic as what?
As the countries behind the Iron Curtain are democratic?
As failure to ballot his members is democratic?

When I hear this twisting of language, when I listen to words used in the exact opposite of their true meaning, I'm reminded of George Orwell's "1984".

For this scar across the face of our country, ill-motivated ill-intentioned and political inspired, is the very essence of Orwell Man.

Under the guise of telling his members the truth, he is deceiving them.

Under the guise of preserving their jobs, he is destroying them.

Under the guise of union solidarity, he is tearing it apart.

Hypocrisy can hardly go further, and any political leader who fails to condemn it or, worse still, lends it his support, is unworthy of the people's trust or the post he holds.

RONNIE MILLAR

16.7.84