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## DOCUMENT A

**GB 84, David PEACE, Faber and Faber, 2004**

Extrait de *Part II, Two Tribes, June – August 1984*

### The Sixteenth Week

Monday 18 – Sunday 24 June 1984

Terry had sat with his office door open all Sunday night. He had watched them stagger back from the Wakefield Gala. A few of them had had to be carried in. They had stuck them in rooms where the President wouldn't look. He was still in Wakefield —

*Rallying the troops.*

5 Terry had kept the office door open all night. He had listened to them making their plans. Listened to them talk about the death of the picket at Ferrybridge. The siege of Maltby. The police reprisals. They were waiting for the President —

*Their general.*

'Comrade —'

10 Terry looked up. The President was stood in the doorway. He was wearing his baseball cap. Len and Joan were standing behind him. They were carrying maps. Plans —

*Battle-plans.*

'Comrade,' said the President, 'we're going to need more envelopes.'

15 Terry nodded. He opened his bottom drawer. He took out the requisition forms. He completed the order. He initialled the forms. He stood up. He walked over to the door. He handed them back to the President.

'Thank you, Comrade,' said the President and passed the order to Joan.

Terry watched the President walk away down the corridor —

*To his tent and to his dreams.*

20 Terry closed his office door. Terry had his own plans. His own dreams —  
Soon it would be dawn : Monday 18 June 1984.

'Have you ever, ever, seen anything like this before, Neil?'

Neil Fontaine shakes his head. He never, never, has seen anything like this before:

*The Third English Civil War.*

25 Neil Fontaine closes his eyes. He never, never, wants to see anything like this again.

'Thank you, Brixton,' shouts the Jew. 'Thank you, Toxteth.'

Tell the world that you're winning —

The morning after the day before:

30 *The miner was cowering. The miner was wearing just a pair of jeans and trainers. The miner had his shirt tied round his waist. His back to the car. His palms up —*  
*The policeman had a shield and a helmet. The policeman had a baton.*  
*The policeman hit the miner with his baton. Hit him —*  
*Again. Again. Again. And again —*  
The TV showed the policeman hit the miner.

35 The President watched the TV. The President touched the back of his neck —  
The President said, 'These bastards rushed in and this guy hit me on the back of the head with his shield and I was out.'

The President had spent the night in Rotherham District Hospital.  
The police had cheered as he'd been taken to the ambulance.

40 The nation was outraged —  
Not by the assault on the miner. Not by the assault on the President. No —  
The TV had lied again. They had cut the film. They had stitched it back together —  
Stitched up the Union with it —  
Miners threw stones. Miners hurt horses. Miners rioted —

45 '*— the worst industrial violence since the war —*'  
Police defended themselves. Police upheld the law. Police contained the riot —  
*That was it.*  
The lorries had emptied the place of coke. The miners had lost —  
*That was it.*

50 Meanwhile, Nottingham had continued to produce coal. The power stations power.  
'*The President of the National Union of Mineworkers slipped off the top of the bank and hit his head on a sleeper,*' said the Assistant Chief Constable of South Yorkshire. '*He was not near a riot shield. The officers with the riot shields were on the road and he was off the road. They did not come within seven or eight yards of him.*'

55 The President was a liar. The President had lost —  
*That was it —*  
End of story. Finished.  
The President switched off the TV. The President went upstairs.  
The National Co-ordinating Committee was meeting in the Conference Room —

60 For the first time —  
Today was the hundredth day of the Great Strike to Save Pits and Jobs.  
Terry picked up the phone. *Click-click.* He had tears in his eyes. In his dreams —  
*Tell the world that you're winning —*  
The hundredth day.

65 *Malcolm listened to the tapes. He played it all back. Listened to the tapes. To them pay it all back —*  
'*If a highwayman holds you up, it is always possible to avoid violence by handing over to him what he wants.*'  
EVERY WOMAN'S GOT ONE —  
'*— shields up —*'

70 [*— sound of body against Perspex shield —*]  
'*— breach of line at middle holding area. Request —*'  
BUT MARGARET THATCHER IS ONE —  
'*— heads —*'

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- 75        *[— sound of rock hitting Perspex shield —]*  
           `— field operatives be advised horses imminent —'  
           DE DEE DEE DEE —  
           `— take prisoners —'
- 80        *[— sound of police truncheon against body —]*  
           `—DSGs D and E to Main Gate —'  
           DE DEE DEE DEE.  
           `— bodies, not heads —'
- 85        *[— sound of police truncheon against body —]*  
           `— Zulus in retreat. MP 4 and 5 stand down —'  
           HERE WE GO —  
           `— can't throw stones if they've got broken arms —'  
           *[— sound of police truncheon against body —]*  
           `— target is wearing white T-shirt, blue jeans and distinctive hat —'  
           HERE WE GO —  
           `—on then, fucking hit him —'
- 90        *[— sound of police truncheon against body —]*  
           `— officers down at topside holding area. MP 6, please respond —'  
           HERE WE GO —  
           `— fuck off back where you come from —'
- 95        *[— sound of police truncheon against body —]*  
           `— prisoners to be restrained in vans until further notice —'  
           HERE WE —  
           `— Commie bastards are going to lose and so is that bald bastard Scargill —'  
           *[— sound of police truncheon against body —]*  
           `— exceptional DSG B. Exceptional. Drinks are on us —'
- 100        HERE —  
           `We are going down the royal road in this country that Northern Ireland went down in 1969.'  
           *Malcolm listened to the tapes. He played it all back. The tapes never stopped. Listened to her —*  
           *The Union burying another one under the ground today —*  
           *Pay it all back (but she would never, never, never stop).*

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## DOCUMENT B

**Dan JARVIS, MP Barnsley Central**

### **Launch of the Miners' Memorial Garden Appeal**

29th October 2012

“Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen –

As Member of Parliament for Barnsley Central, a town synonymous with the mining industry, and as Shadow Minister for Culture, it is a great honour for me to be here today at the launch of the Miners’ Memorial Garden Appeal.

5 In Yorkshire, mining has been the fibre that has linked families, created friendships and is what many of our communities were built on – communities built on coal. It is our history and it has shaped our future. I believe we should be very proud of our mining heritage and what it has brought to our region.

10 What we have here, at the National Coalmining Museum, helps to bring the mining industry to life for those too young to remember it, and allows those who can, to revisit the times when it was a major part of their lives.

As you all know, there have been highs and lows in the mining industry and now, there are very few active deep pits left.

15 But one thing I do know, is that mining communities are incredibly resilient. The community spirit in the former minefield areas is among the strongest I have ever known. This is borne out of the principles of people working, living closely, and sticking together; through thick and thin.

20 The camaraderie that the men developed underground, when they knew their lives could be in one another’s hands, transcended from the confines of the pit below to the community above. Throughout the years, miners and their families have supported one another through the toughest of times, sharing their resources and doing it all in the steadfast belief that they were stronger when united, more formidable when as one.

25 And, amongst the most formidable groups that came out of the mining industry, were the inspirational Women Against Pit Closures. This was an incredible group of women, who supported the miners and their families. I pay tribute to the work they did when they were formed and as they continue today, supporting workers in dispute.

The mining community has also relied on the support of their trade unions. The importance of trade unions cannot be underestimated and they are just as important and relevant today, as ever before.

30 I am therefore, delighted to see support for the National Coalmining Museum from the three trade unions involved in the coal mining industry; the National Union of Mineworkers,

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National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfirers and the British Association of Colliery Management. I know their support is very much appreciated, so thank you to them. I also know, very well, just how important museums are to our society. Especially so, when we are talking about an attraction that allows people to, almost literally, step into the shoes of a miner and walk the dark tunnels, just as he did.

Today, there are just fifteen underground coal mines in the UK. Of those, just a few are in Yorkshire. Where Yorkshire Miners still hew the coal from the depths of the earth. Yorkshire's last remaining pits and miners. That is why this museum, where we are gathered today is so valuable. Because mining was not just a job. It was – and is – a way of life.

Miners kept the black stuff coming out of the ground continually; they served their communities and their country. Many forms of public service were recognised by previous governments and respected by the public, but it took time for the service of miners to be generally acknowledged. This was especially true during the Second World War, when the demand for coal meant that some conscripts were directed to the mines. Miners - and the Bevin Boys - were as much a part of the war effort as anyone in uniform.

Someone I know explained to me that his two grandfathers both served their country during the War; one in the sands of North Africa and one underground in South Yorkshire. This is a particularly good comparison of the level of respect miners had. Everyone knew it was an incredibly hard job with immense dangers and, as we now know, with a long-term risk to health.

When I was preparing for today, and as a former soldier it became apparent to me that there are many similarities between the camaraderie that exists between soldiers on active service and that which is so evident among coal miners. They experience a shared hardship, a common goal; they depend on one another and know that ultimately, their lives can lie in one another's hands.

They are both public servants, yet their work is not carried out in a public arena.

Whether in the deserts of Africa or the pitch black tunnels underground – here at home, they work for the people of our country. And as we all know, the death toll among miners was extraordinary, with individual disasters claiming hundreds of lives. So I believe the Miners' Memorial Garden will be a fitting tribute to our lost miners. Those who gave their lives while serving their country.”



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DOCUMENT C

Pit Tragedy 1919, by Laurence Stephen Lowry

Oil on canvas, 39 x 49 cm, 1919, The L. S. Lowry Collection

