

SCARGILL: WE ARE DEEPLY SHOCKED



United . . . Scargill and Kinnock at last night's rally

'Don't blame union'

By TREVOR KAVANAGH and JIM OLDFIELD
MINERS' leader Arthur Scargill was "deeply shocked" last night over the killing of the South Wales taxi driver.

And he "dissociated" his union from the violence that cost cabbie David Wilkie his life.

Mr Scargill told a rowdy Labour Party rally at Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs: "I want to make it clear on behalf of the NUM that we were deeply shocked by the news of the death."

At that point he received applause from everyone in the hall — including Labour leader Neil Kinnock.

Mr Scargill went on to condemn Premier Margaret Thatcher's "pious words" that the strike should now be ended.

He said it should have ended when two miners — David Jones and Joe Green — died on picket lines five months ago.

In March Mr Jones, 24, died in a riot outside Ollerton Colliery, Notts. He had been struck on the head by a brick.

Mr Green, 55, died in June after being hit by a lorry at Castleford, Yorks.

Delayed

At one point the rally was interrupted by a police chief who warned that a "bomb threat" had been received.

A hoaxer claimed two bombs would be thrown from the audience at Mr Scargill on the platform.

Mr Kinnock praised Mr Scargill for continuing to speak rather than clear the hall.

He said: "Arthur, you have got guts, and that's for certain. And I tell you, you are speaking for many, many people here tonight."

Earlier, Shadow Energy Minister Stan Orme slammed the violence that led to the taxi driver's death.



This evil deed, by Premier

ANGUISHED Premier Margaret Thatcher told yesterday of her horror at the murder of taxi driver David Wilkie.

And describing her reaction after the news of the killing was broken to her in Paris—where she is meeting President Mitterrand—she said:

The word murder went through my mind immediately. And then anger — anger that anyone could do this.

Then I wondered how his family were feeling.

He was doing a good deed — he was taking someone to work who wanted to work and support his family.

Summit

And then you had this calculated, malicious deed

That anyone could descend to such depths is utterly appalling. I felt: Surely, surely now the strike will be off.

No decent, right-thinking person could have a strike sustained like that.

Through my mind went a vision that everyone might say: "This has gone too far".