Transcript of an interview with Harry Watson conducted by Margaret Morris, 1975

In order to listen to this clip you will need to have either Windows Media Player or Real Networks Real Player installed on your PC. If the clip does not play automatically you will need to download a suitable player from the following sites:

Windows Media Player

Real Player

Choose a clip to suit your connection:

Slow connection (56k):

Windows Media Player mms://LGU-STREAM5.lgu.ac.uk/gendial2.wmv

Real Player rtsp://stream4.lgu.ac.uk/taurus/gen2dial.rm

Fast connection (512k+)

Windows Media Player mms://LGU-STREAM5.lgu.ac.uk/gen2 512.wmv

Real Player rtsp://Stream4.lgu.ac.uk/taurus/gen2 512.rm

You know the TUC used as one of their excuses for calling off the strike that violence was mounting. What do you think about that?

The violence may have been mounting in the sense that the police were becoming more and more, not only truculent as they were in the beginning, but vicious. When they were attacking the workers they didn't discriminate whether you were a man or a woman – a boy or a girl – or what, if you was one of the people who was massed there then you were fair game for their truncheons - and they used to bring them down an' all! And I might say that subsequent to the ending of the strike many an old score was settled between the men and some of the police, particularly those who had been more vicious than the rest of them. And they were all vicious but some of them more so. But they more than paid the price – several of them had to be retired afterwards because of the damage that had been done to them by the men and women in the area where they had been assaulted by the police.