

PRIME MINISTER'S ENGAGEMENTS

At noon the Prime Minister will receive a short courtesy call from the President of the European Commission, Mr. Roy Jenkins. The Prime Minister will be in the House this afternoon for the Debate on industry and employment. At 4.30 she is to meet the Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Sonoda, who is visiting European capitals prior to the Tokyo Summit. Tonight Mrs. Thatcher will attend a dinner given by the US Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance at the American Ambassador's Residence, Winfield House.

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DDRB

A decision this week was "reasonably certain".

MPS' AND MINISTERS' PAY

We had not yet received the report.

WASHINGTON AMBASSADOR

We did not foresee any early announcement. On the subject of Mr. Heath, Lobby were reminded of the Prime Minister's remarks at the formation of her Government, when she told the Lobby that she would want to make the best use for Britain of Mr. Heath's services. It followed from this that if a particular post came up for which he might be suited Mrs. Thatcher would, as a matter of course, consider him.

INDUSTRY DEBATE

We could not help with any announcements or decisions that might become public this afternoon.

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Lobby were told of three "running" PNQs:

Ian Paisley to Northern Ireland - (shooting and weekend bombings)

David Madel to Trade - (third London airport)

Gordon Wilson to Energy - (oil imports).

It was agreed with the Lobby that in future we would provide them, on a purely operational basis, with details of PNQs we knew to be running. It would be left to members of the Lobby to check whether the questions had been accepted.

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This morning's briefing was repeated. Additionally, Mrs. Thatcher had received a short call from Crown Prince Salman Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia at 1430.

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CALL BY MR. ROY JENKINS

Lobby could assume that the question of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget had been discussed.

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ANSWERS OF INTEREST

1. Norman Fowler on Tachographs.
2. Tom King on Community Land Act grants.

AW