

PRIME MINISTER

THE WEEK AHEAD

A newsy week with statements on Bettaney and gas privatisation; the VE Day commemoration; President Reagan in Spain and Portugal and addressing the EuroAssembly; the GLC/MCC Abolition Bill in committee in the Lords for two more days; the NUM's kangaroo court "trial of the Notts leaders followed on Friday by the NACODS overtime ban ballot result; the Welfare State Cabinet; and the Scottish Conservative Party Conference. The Pope visits Holland from Saturday. On Thursday the Queen unveils a statue to Earl Alexander of Tunis.

Details:

INTERNATIONAL

- President Reagan in Spain (today); addresses EuroAssembly (tomorrow); in Portugal (from Thursday)
- World Health Assembly, Geneva (Thursday)
- Unesco meets in Paris (Thursday)
- Pope visits Holland (from Saturday)
- Bilderberg conference, New York (Friday to Wednesday next week)

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

- EuroAssembly (all week)
- Councils: Internal Market (today)
- Political Committee, Rome (to Wednesday)

PARLIAMENT

- Commons debates: Committee Stage, Finance Bill (today and Wednesday)
10-minute Rule Bill on licensing hours (tomorrow)
Multi-Fibre Arrangement (Thursday)
- Lords debates: GLC/MCCs Abolition Bill (4th & 5th days) today and Thursday
- Select Committees: Michael Heseltine before Defence on defence estimates (Wednesday)
Lord Gowrie and Sir Robert Armstrong before Treasury on acceptance of outside appointments by Crown Servants (Wednesday)

STATEMENTS/PUBLICATIONS

- Your statement on Economic Summit (today)
- Your statement on Bettaney (Thursday)
- Peter Walker statement on gas privatisation
- Inquiry to be announced into Stafford legionnaires' disease outbreak
- Pupil-teacher ratio in Scotland (Wednesday)
- Lynda Chalker statement on M1 roadworks plans (Wednesday)
- Green Paper on home improvement grants (Thursday)

LAW AND ORDER

- Trial starts today of 3 Welsh miners accused of murder of miner in taxi
- Police Complaints Board annual report (Wednesday)

UNIONS/PAY

- Conferences: TSSA (to May 10); Trades Councils (Friday to Sunday); NUR (Saturday and Sunday); Banking, Insurance and Finance Union (from Saturday)
- Pay talks; NHS administrative and clericals (Wednesday)
- NUM kangaroo court "trial" of Notts NUM leaders (Thursday)
- Sir Robert Armstrong to see Civil Service unions on GCHQ (Thursday)
- NACODS overtime ban ballot result (Friday)

INDUSTRY

- B/Airways preliminary results (tomorrow)
- B/Aerospace share offer opens for applications (Friday)
- Union Carbide report on \$5m compensation plan for Bhopal victims (Friday)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

- today: money supply; producer price index (both April); credit business; housing starts and completions (both March)
- Thursday, usable steel production (April)
- Friday vehicle production (April)

MINISTERS

- Lord Gowrie addresses Confederation of Arts and Design Associates (today)
- Norman Tebbit begins 3-day visit to USA (tomorrow)
- Foreign Secretary addresses West India Committee's 250th Anniversary banquet (today); Scottish Conservative Party (Thursday)
- Lord Young addresses London University Conservative Association (Wednesday)
- Patrick Jenkin on Humberside (Friday)
- Home Secretary addresses Scottish Party Conference (Friday)

MEDIA

- BEC TV 1 Question Time (Thursday) with Lynda Chalker; Harriet Harman, and Gordon Wilson
- BEC Radio 4 Any Questions? (Friday) with Peter Marsh (company chairman); Sue Slipman (NUPE) and John Palmer (London Enterprise Board)

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister gives statement on Economic Summit, HoC; later attends reception for Young President's Organisation

Finance Bill: Committee Stage (1st Day), HoC

Local Government Bill: Committee Stage (4th Day), HoL

EC Internal Market Council, Brussels

EC Political Committee, Rome (to 8 May)

STATISTICS

BOE: Provisional estimates of monetary aggregates (mid-April)

CLCB: London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-April)

DOE: Housing starts and completions (March)

HO: Young offenders under Criminal Justice Act

DTI: Credit business (March)

DTI: Producer price index numbers (April-prov)

DTI: Retail sales (March-final)

PAY

DEM: University non-clinical academic staff; (36,400); claim is for an independent committee of enquiry to look into falling value of salaries over past 5 years; offer of 4 per cent on salaries rejected; settlement date 1.4.85

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Employment; Social Services; Prime Minister

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Abolition of Fourth and Tay Road Bridge Tolls (Mr G Brown)

Finance Bill: Committee Stage (1st Day)

Adjournment Debate

The financial position of the South Manchester Health District (Mr T Lloyd)

PARLIAMENT (cont'd)

Select Committees: EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ARTS
 Subject: Achievement in Primary Schools
 Witnesses: National Foundation for
 Educational Research (10.30);
 National Association of Chief Education
 Social Workers (11.30 approx)

TRANSPORT
 Subject: Tolled Estuarial Crossings
 Witnesses: Royal Automobile Club;
 Freight Transport Association (at 5pm approx)

Lords Local Government Bill: Committee (4th Day)
 Representation of the People Bill: Report (2nd day)

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTPOLITICS

- Kinnock accuses you of creating Fascist conditions - Government shows contempt for many of the values and liberties which are essential ingredients in our democracy. Times prints much of speech.
- Mail and Sun describes it as an "astonishing attack"; Mirror uses headline "Thatcher 'breeding Fascism' and says John Selwyn Gummer described it as an "vulgar abuse".
- Express leader says Kinnock spent his holiday doing what he does best - going over the top. "Better Maggie's Mirage than Neil's Nasty Nonsense"
- Mail says Francis Pym says speech displayed a totally unrealistic judgement and John Cartwright, SDP, says it was an extraordinary use of VE Day; Mail leader on the "ill-judged" speech says it was the wrong speech at the wrong time - offensive. The kindest thing to say is that Kinnock's political maturing still has some way to go. Others, less charitable, may conclude he is not as nice as he looks.
- Kinnock likely to take over chairmanship of party in election year instead of Skinner.
- David Owen's price for collaboration in a coalition will be a veto over Queen's Speech; and he hopes Queen won't grant a dissolution of Parliament immediately before Labour or Tory scented victory.
- Express says Owen wants Queen to act as referee.
- Hattersley says Government's plan to abolish SERPS will cost it the next election.
- Mail says you face a difficult week; Edward du Cann says Tory message was put across with "striking ineptitude".

POLITICS (CONT'D)

- Labour Housing Group backs right to buy for council tenants - and right for owners to sell to council and continue living in the house for rent.
- Sheffield Council may set an illegal rate today.
- Guardian leader comes out in favour of Liberal/SDP amalgamation so that they present a united front at General Election.
- Hugo Young in Guardian says Peter Walker's recent speech was based on a dubious premise - it seriously believed in the possibility of a change in Government policy. But nothing important will change before the General Election.

UNIONS

- More evidence, according to Sun, of ballot rigging in TGWU election - 1000 unused papers found ripped up among rubbish at N. London block of flats.
- Low Pay Unit says low paid workers will lose up to £11 a week if the Government abolishes Wages Councils.
- TUC claim that City financiers are making a killing out of privatisation - assets going at outrageously low prices.
- NALGO HQ closes today as 400 staff strike over sacking of press officer.
- Dockers who defied last year's strikes to sue Moss Evans challenging the legality of his actions against them.
- Civil Service unions finalising their GCHQ case for EuroCourt.

MINERS

- D/Star says at last moderates in the NUM are getting together to curb Scargill's excesses. Scargill needs to be kept on a tight rein for the good of his union and the coal industry.
- Benn calls on a future Labour Government to free miners jailed for offences during pit strike - wants a complete amnesty; Kinnock retorts it would be absolutely wrong for any Government to exercise political control over system of law.
- Freedom Association trying to organise free holidays for working miners to get them away from it all.
- Heathfield says proposed NUM rule changes do not represent an attempt to centralise the union but to update the rule book and protect NUM from High Court actions.
- Times thinks talks on a new closure procedure will end in failure and NACODS overtime ban.

ECONOMY

- £ down to \$1.1830 in New York.
- CBI urges Government to allow more capital spending by Councils - and Telegraph says you are being urged to take the lead in getting across to the public that huge sums are being spent on new hospitals, roads and railway electrification.
- Telegraph leader says French were surely right in Bonn to insist that currency misalignments are the root cause of pressure for protectionism and we should clearly be urging Japanese to correct value of yen.
- Times reports rising Conservative concern over unemployment leads to first stirrings of criticism of you by erstwhile loyalists.

INDUSTRY

- Sun leader in praise of turn round in B/Airways achieved in 4 years - this week it is expected to declare profits of £300m.
- B/Rail to make announcement of BREL closures - 6000 jobs expected to go; unions threaten strike; Express leader says the last thing BR needs is more disruption - unions should cooperate with management to put this massive subsidised industry on the right tracks.
- Youthaid say 75% of large companies operating the YTS do not want the second year.
- Institute of Fiscal Studies says Sunday trading could create 23,000 jobs. (Guardian); Times says 30,000.
- Times says fight against unitary taxation in USA is at a crucial stage - UK campaign needs to be stepped up.
- NNC and Westinghouse close to deal on Anglo-US nuclear company based in Britain.

YOUR INTERVIEW

- Sun describes it as moving; in its vision of a classless Britain and says the task of the good teacher is to discover the spark and hidden qualities in each child.
- Kinnock describes your vision as "Maggie's mirage".

MEDIA

- Rupert Murdoch buys 7 US tv stations for more than £1.5bn.
- Scottish Tories claim BBC is biased against the Government.
- Shape of satellite broadcasting in Britain expected to be determined this week.

HOLIDAY STORIES

- Everton win Football League championship.
- 4 boys feared dead when swept out to sea in Cornwall; questions about how party from Stoke Poges came to be at bottom of cliff.
- 19 injured in collapse of funfair ride at Felixstowe.
- 2 boys die in house fire at Pinner during party; possibility of arson.
- Mail says Lynda Chalker will tomorrow give drivers 2 months warning of traffic jams of horrific proportions on a 4-mile stretch of the M1 which is to be rebuilt.

EDUCATION

- Express says a massive rise in classroom vandalism is costing £500m a year; Home Office planning a national scheme to combat it; Express leader says the sum amounts to 4% of total education bill. A Government sponsored inquiry should be initiated without delay.
- Sir Keith Joseph's constituency target for teacher walk-outs today; local authority leaders to review pay position today but situation complicated by Alliance gains in county council elections.
- Telegraph says schoolchildren are trying to form a pupils' union with the help of the far Left.
- Mail says Walthamstow Council is investigating an organisation which tries to fix up places for Moslem boys at schools with a special multi-racial education policy.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Death toll in Legionnaire's disease outbreak rises to 30 - public inquiry expected to be announced.

LAW AND ORDER

- National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders says number of people in jail awaiting trial is a "national scandal".
- Robin Corbett MP calls for "Fortress Britain" to halt the tidal wave of killer drugs.
- Police in East London acutely concerned at increase in reports of racial attacks.

SOCCER HOOLIGANISM

- Pitch invasion stops Notts County and Manchester City game for 30 minutes safety fencing gives way under pressure.

MI5

- You are set to announce an MI5 shake-up.

PARLIAMENT

- Andrew Alexander in Mail on how MPs are "turning public service into self-service" - eg car allowances.

ROYALS

- Tour of Italy by Prince and Princess of Wales expected to lead to further European tours of West Germany and France and the placing of as much emphasis on Europe as on the Commonwealth in future tours policy (Telegraph).

EAST-WEST

- Reagan to make major arms control proposal in VE Day speech to EuroAssemb tomorrow; yesterday Reagan called for re-unification of Germany Express).
 - To seek new hot-line between military commanders (Telegraph).
- Telegraph says Labour MEPs added to their reputation as "enfants terribles" of EuroParliament by trying to block Reagan's visit tomorrow - rejected as inadmissible by other MEPs, including Socialists.
- Telegraph says Reagan is emerging from Bitburg with guarded praise for his dignified speeches.

SOUTH AFRICA

- Mad Mike Hoare, mercenary, released from prison after serving only 3 of a 10 year sentence for hijacking under an amnesty.

POLAND

- Retaliates to American expulsion of 4 Polish diplomats by suspending US air courier service to Warsaw.

EC

- Changes in rules for allocating Social Fund's £1.2bn will lead to a reduction in money coming to Britain.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- MAFF: Mr Jopling lunches with Regional Panel Chairmen, London; attends New Zealand Dairy Board reception (Mr MacGregor also attends)
- DEN: Mr Walker attends Cardiff 40 towns Breakfast Special meeting
- FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses West India Committee 250th anniversary banquet
- OAL: Lord Gowrie addresses Confederation of Art and Design Associates, London
- SO: Mr Younger opens 'AYE' - first Japanese restaurant in Edinburgh
- MAFF: Mrs Fenner attends RSPCA reception in association with Jardine Glanvill UK Ltd, HoC
- DOE: Mr Gow visits Bournemouth re-housing
- DOE: Mr Macfarlane visits East Midlands
- SO: Lord Gray meets Mr Wada, President of Japanese Oil Co, London
- DTI: Mr Trippier visits East Surrey College, Redhill
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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- MOD: Mr Heseltine attends SHAPEX, Brussels
- DTI: Mr Tebbit departs for USA (to 12 May)
- DTI: Mr Channon attends EC Internal Market meeting, Brussels
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TV AND RADIO

"File on Four"; Radio 4; (19.20): South Africa: Reform or Revolution? Report on growing black militancy in the Eastern Cape and the challenges to the Government in the tribal homelands

"Their Lordships' House"; Thames; (23.45): Continuing coverage of Abolition Bill
