

PRIME MINISTER

HIGHLIGHTS

The Weekend

Mr Heseltine's resignation will dominate the weekend media. Other issues will be the Channel link, crime, and economic issues including the Treasury meeting at Chevening, the Lloyds inquiry, rates and unemployment. Sir Geoffrey Howe's visit to the Middle East may also figure.

Mr Biffen is appearing on "Weekend World" (Sunday, ITN 12 noon); Mr Ridley on "A Week in Politics" (Friday, Channel 4, 8.15 pm); and Mr Bottomley on "Talking Politics" (Saturday, BBC Radio 4, 10.05 am). Sir John Cuckney appears on "The Business Programme" (Sunday, Channel 4, 5.15 pm)

Main Events

On Monday the House of Commons resumes. You give lunch for an Anglo-Japanese delegation from the Committee 2000, and give a group interview to Mr Sterling Slappey and other American correspondents. Liverpool councillors contest their surcharges in the High Court.

On Tuesday the Westland shareholders meet. The Transport Secretary meets the French Transport Minister in London. You give an interview to the Newspaper of Israel. The International Tin Council meets.

On Wednesday the Public Expenditure White Paper is published. You attend a reception at the Spanish Embassy and look in at the Lobby Party. The Home Office hold a media seminar on drug misuse.

On Thursday the Popplewell Inquiry Official Report is published and the Home Secretary makes a statement. Industry Year 1986 is launched. The US/USSR Arms Talks resume in Geneva. You meet M Barre and then host dinner for King Hussein.

On Friday you make a regional tour of the Eastern Area.

Parliament

A busy week in the Commons, with the Second Reading of the Public Order Bill on Monday and the Second Reading of the Financial Services Bill on Tuesday. Wednesday brings an Opposition day debate and on Thursday there is a debate on Hong Kong.

Other Events

- Monday: Producer price index for December published.
- Tuesday: Retail sales figures for December published. Metropolitan Police Commissioners' Strategy Report published.
- Wednesday: Average earning figures for November published. Lord Young appears before the Employment Select Committee on the work of his Department, and Mr Mellor before the Home Affairs Committee on drugs.
- Thursday: Consumer expenditure figures for 1985 Q4 published. Mr Lamont appears on "Question Time" (BBC TV 1, 9.55 pm).
- Friday: RPI and PSBR for December published. Mr Brittan addresses the Royal Institute of International Affairs. Mr Renton departs for visit to China, Hong Kong and Thailand.

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