

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister meets President Momoh of Sierra Leone

Prime Minister meets Mr Kilfedder; later attends Airey Neave Memorial Trust reception to launch book

Prime Minister attends Greater London Area Council AGM

NEDC meets

Statement on bids for BL Trucks and Land Rover

Michael Heseltine gives evidence to Trade and Industry Select Committee on Westland plc

Appeal Court judgment on Liverpool/Lambeth illegal budget cases

Institute of Housing - Scottish Branch, Dunblane (to March 7)

Defence Secretary visits exercise "Anchor Express", Norway (to March 6)

British Medical Association considers right of patients to see their medical records

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STATISTICS

DEN: Advance Energy statistics (Jan)

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PUBLICATIONS

MOD: Minute dated 5.3.86 concerning a non-statutory contingent liability undertaken by MOD (14.30)

FCO: EC No 9. (1986) Exchange of letters concerning clause 2 of Arrangement between EEC and Argentine Republic on trade in mutton and lamb (14.00)

DHSS: Research and Development work on equipment for disabled - Part I and Part II (14.30)

DHSS: The Occupational Pension Schemes (Contracting Out) Amendment Regulations 1986 (SI 1986 No: 317) (14.30)

M&MC: Monopolies and Mergers Commission report - Postal franking machines - a report on the Supply, maintenance and repair of postal franking machines in the United Kingdom (15.30)

HOC: 2nd Report Scottish Affairs Committee - Session 1985/86 - Fisheries Protection Vol. 1 (11.00)

HoC: 14th Report Committee of Public Accounts - Control of Nursing Manpower (Noon)

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PAY

DEM: NHS admin and clerical grades; (3,700); claim is for a flat-rate increase of £20 a week (worth 27.4%), substantial restructuring, a shorter working week, additional holidays and the right to unilateral arbitration

PARLIAMENTCommons

Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Trade and Industry

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Right to co-operate (Mr D Alton)

Debate on a Government Motion to take Note of the White Paper on Developments in the European Community January to June 1985

Motion on the Annual Report from the European Court of Auditors for 1984

Adjournment Debate

The proposed closure of the maternity unit and accident and emergency unit at Orsett Hospital (Dr O McDonald)

Select Committees:

## DEFENCE

Subject: The defence implications of the future of Westland plc  
Witness: to be announced

## ENERGY

Subject: The Coal Industry

Witnesses: The British Association of Colliery Managers (at 10.30); the Union of Democratic Mineworkers (at approximately 11.15)

## EMPLOYMENT

Subject: The Manpower Services Commission's Corporate Plan 1986-90

Witness: The Manpower Services Commission

## PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Subject: Provision of legal aid in England and Wales (HC 182)

Witness: Sir Derek Oulton, KCB, QC, Lord Chancellor's Department; Mr D Edwards, The Law Society

## SOCIAL SERVICES

Subject: Prison Medical Services

Witnesses: Prison Officers Association; Prison Governors Branch, SCPS; Association of Chief Officers of Probation; National Association of Probation Officers

## ENVIRONMENT

Subject: Planning

Witnesses: Association of County Councils; Association of Metropolitan Authorities; Association of District Councils

PARLIAMENT (cont'd)

## TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: Westland plc

Witness: Rt Hon Michael Heseltine, MP

## UNOPPOSED BILLS

Isle of Wight

City of London (Various Powers)

Swansea City Council (Tawe Barrage) [Lords]

## JOINT COMMITTEE

Lothian Region (Edinburgh Western Relief Road) Order  
Confirmation BillLordsShort Debate on the operation of the law relating to charities, and in particular the responsibilities of the Charity CommissionShort Debate on the case for a new structure for the governance and funding of the universities and polytechnics

Museums and Galleries (Prohibition of Admission Charges) Bill (HL)

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTNORTHERN IRELAND

- Chief Constable of RUC to review complaints about his force's behaviour and alleged inactivity during strike.
- D/Star P8: No surrender to Ulster's violence - Tom King.
- John Vincent, in Sun, says strike to people in Britain will seem like driving down a fast line to nowhere. But you appear to have overlooked the fact that while in normal life it takes two to make an agreement, it takes three in Ulster.
- Mirror leader says fundamentally the Anglo-Irish agreement was a nonsense. Time is long past when North and South should be brought to reality: that sometime or other they will be made responsible for their own affairs. That time will come when the British Government has the sense to start its withdrawal from Northern Ireland.
- Express P2: No surrender, King warns Ulster thus; leader says it is a time for courageous leadership. When Paisley begins to look moderate, things have come to a pretty pass. It has always doubted the wisdom of the agreement, but it has no doubt now about the wisdom of sticking to it. Unionist politicians were elected not to follow the mob but to guide the great mass of responsible citizens.
- Mail P2 says Loyalists are split by violence and says most official Unionists, appalled at the way the hoodlums took over, would prefer Molyneux to emerge from Paisley's shadow.
- Mail feature on Peter Robinson, the man who makes Paisley look moderate - one old Ulster hand, unnamed, says Robinson is the nastiest and most malevolent political bigot he has clapped eyes on.

NORTHERN IRELAND (CONT'D)

- Telegraph P1 lead: Thatcher to woo Unionists - a reference apparently to your meeting today with Kilfedder when you will try to revive dialogue; leader says it would not be wholly impossible for Dr Fitzgerald effectively to freeze the Agreement for 2 months by waving right to meetings. The gesture would be wise and bold.
- | Guardian reports Molyneaux and Paisley "desperate" to regain control of the situation from hardliners.
- FT: The Government reacted with "cold fury" to the day of action. Ministers are under pressure for a much tougher crackdown on Loyalist demonstrations in future, with a heavy army presence. The RUC is widely blamed for failing to keep roads open.
- The Government may be prepared to be flexible with the timetable of inter governmental conference meetings.
- Times says Molyneaux and Paisley tried to regain the political initiative from hardliners by saying they wanted dialogue. Government say door remains open; leader says that by playing it low key the Government, it could be argued, maximised the chances of talks rather than another strike. But these chances were always slight. There does not seem to be any good reason why the Army was not asked to remove road blocks.
- Today: Leader says that the Unionists are ensnared in their own trap.

BL

- Anthony Beaumont-Dark says smear by Terry Davis MP about an implied connection between you and your family and GM was "disgraceful" (GM recently took over Lotus).
- Express P2: Furious Maggie hits at smear in Land Rover row.
- Mail says union management, Tory MPs and party leaders are closing in on you sensing the Government is moving to another crisis. You are warned that if you let Land Rover end up in US hands your popularity could sink to zero. Leader says the Government would be crazy not to keep Land Rover British and Bedford Trucks need Leyland as much as Leyland need Bedford. That does not mean GM should be allowed to get away with Land Rover as well. You cannot afford to dismay your natural supporters.
- Telegraph notes the Foreign Secretary, in speech to Institute of Directors, emerged as a qualified Euro-nationalist who believes Europeans must unite to compete with USA and Japan, but says Europe, at present, is like an early Victorian railway - "You can't travel from one end to the other because of constant changes of gauge".
- FT: Four main contenders to buy parts of BL emerged last night as the Government's deadline passed - GM (Trucks and Land Rover); Land Rover Management Buy-out, Lonrho and Aveling Barford (Land Rover).
- Bob Lutz, Chairman of Ford Europe, says he is willing to restart talks about a possible takeover of Austin Rover. He said the Government had panicked.
- FT: In a speech to the Institute of Directors, Sir Geoffrey Howe urged European companies to increase cooperation with each other, in spite of their frequent preference for partners outside Europe.
- Times says Ford yesterday held out spectre of factory closures and job losses after Government veto of its continued talks with Austin Rover.

POLITICS

- Three by-elections pending in Fulham, West Derbyshire (because Matthew Parris is to replace Brian Walden) and in Ryedale where John Spence dies. Jon Akass, in Express, says Fulham is the by-election no party can afford to lose.

- Mail says Britain's Communist Party is facing a crisis of survival with membership at a new post war low.

HEATH'S SPEECH

- Relatively modest press coverage as compared with radio and tv.
- Ignored by D/Star; buried away in 18 lines in Sun which reports him demanding a U-turn on economic policy.
- Mirror P2: "Heath blasts BL 'secret deal'. Sale to Americans sticks in his gullet.
- Express P2: Heath's doom warning on jobless.
- Mail P2 tags speech to end of its BL story; Frank Chapple says that the fact you are the longest serving post war Prime Minister must have pierced Heath's heart and fuelled his envy.
- Telegraph P2 treats it soberly "Industry's lack of will attacked by Heath".
- Times gives little coverage - P2: Heath fear of social collapse.
- FT: Edward Heath, speaking in Birmingham, attacked the takeover of BL subsidiaries by GM. Any GM guarantees were worthless. The Government should change its industrial policy and become more involved.
- Today: Lonrho accuses you of favouring GM. Criticises lack of time given to other bidders.

ECONOMY

- Oil down to new low of \$11.86.
- Times says Foreign Secretary last night hinted that the Government is considering joining the EMS.
- FT: British investment in Canada soared to £488m last year - nearly three times higher than in 1984.

INDUSTRY

- Mail says Thomas Cook is offering armed guards for business travellers in West Africa and South America.
- Dover Chamber of Commerce briefing solicitors to go to EuroCourt to try to halt Channel Tunnel until a public inquiry has been held.
- BP seeks planning permission to spend £265m on expanding Wytch Farm onshore oilfield.
- Guardian says Government has again backtracked on sale of Vickers.
- FT: The sale of 6 European Airbuss to India was clinched yesterday in the signing in London of a 393m dollar loan agreement.
- FT: The Stock Exchange yesterday clamped down on controversial share-buying techniques which have merged in recent large takeover battles. New rules include the need to get prior approval of shareholders before large share blocks are bought.
- Some manufacturing and service companies are finding it difficult to recruit senior finance staff because of high salaries paid in the City, according to a pay research group.
- Times says Industry Select Committee censured DTI officials for failing to inform Ministers up to £350m in public money was at risk if tin prices collapsed.

SELLAFIELD

- Mirror says 96% of its readers say they believe Friends of the Earth.
- FT: Leader says the Government needs to improve public understanding of nuclear power; otherwise we risk dropping out of the industry altogether.

UNIONS

- Sogat sequestrators given permission by court to take possession of union's 79 cars.
- Farm workers claim 56% rise - Low Pay Unit says a quarter of them have to claim social security.
- FT: The TUC yesterday attacked recent industrial relations practices of some of its members - such as strike-free deals and employee flexibility, as a trade-off for high pay and job security.



MEDIA

- Eddie Shah says they will get Today newspaper right within a fortnight.
- Maxwell announces 30% (300) job cuts in Glasgow.
- FT: The Government will introduce a levy on blank audio tapes, but not on video tapes. The levy is likely to be 10 per cent of the retail price.

EDUCATION

- NUT declines to accept pay deal and says it will not bring peace. Sir Keith Joseph condemns union which also comes in for strong newspaper criticism.
- D/Star: In spite of picking up £15 a week - 40 times latest rise in pension - teachers are to continue classroom sanctions. It is too childish for words. How well it illustrates the self inflicted decline of teachers.
- Sun, under heading "Sour face Fred has spoiled it" says NUT will pick up the money but will still do their worst. Instead of being grateful for their good fortune - shortest working day and longest holidays - they scratch around for more like a pack of monkeys. It is fitting they should be led by Jarvis who would grumble about a sunny morning.
- Guardian says no potential Government sees a prospect of a return to Houghton. The numbers and figures are too daunting.

HEATING ALLOWANCES

- Mirror: Maggie freezes out old.
- Today P1 lead: "Keep the old warm. Thatcher faces fury over plight of the aged". You are denounced by Labour but you hit back. Leader says when it comes to handing out money to those who desperately need it the Government lumbers into action like a tortoise.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Sun says all it needs is a one-clause Act to stop GLC and MCCs going on a terminal £105m spending spree.
- D/Environment announcement about availability of £500m to keep down rate increases in low spending authorities gets no coverage in pops. Page 2 in Telegraph.
- FT: Local authorities should be allowed to use the proceeds of future council house sales to improve their housing stock, says the Audit Commission.

SPORT

- Frank Bruno wins over South African on way to crack at world heavyweight boxing title; England beat West Indies in one-day test. And Woodrow Wyatt backs Sunday racing.

LAW AND ORDER

- Missing Northants girl, 6, found dead in attic near her home; man taken to hospital.
- Sun features case of 12 year old bride of 27 year old Iranian in Manchester who goes to school and to whose marriage teachers and welfare officials turn a blind eye; couple married in Iran. Geoffrey Dickens MP says it is outrageous.
- Gallup says half the women of Britain, and half the people over 65, are afraid to go out at night in areas within a mile of their homes.
- Today: Douglas Hurd is planning to boost compensation for crime victims in the Criminal Justice Bill White Paper to be published tomorrow.

GCHQ

- Today: Article says GCHQ intercepts communications of banks, oil companies, commodity dealers, newspapers and embassies to gather information that might give Britain the edge in an export order, provide early warning of an oil price crisis or help to save the pound.

EC

- D/Star says Commission wants to change background colour of car number plates from yellow to blue.

SOUTH AFRICA

- Botha announces two concessions to world opinion (Express) - lifting of state of emergency and independence for Namibia, subject to conditions.

DIPLOMACY

- Record number (25) of diplomats sent home from Britain for law breaking last year.

SWEDEN

- Police offer £50,000 reward for information leading to Olof Palme's assassin.
- FT: Stockholm police believe a professional killer murdered Palme.

PHILIPPINES

- Mirror says wife of Marcos gave Prince Charles an expensive speedboat which he used once in 4 years. He sold it to a car dealer and bought an all purpose boat with the proceeds.

ANGOLA

- UNITA seize 2 British engineers among 130 captured expatriates.

AFGHANISTAN

- Guardian says you are to see an "Afghan rebel leader whose group takes credit for planting a bomb at Kabul airport which killed a dozen civilians."

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEN: Mr Walker opens Mecca '86 Exhibition for ESTA, Stoke-on-Trent
- DTI: Mr Channon meets West African Committee
- WO: Mr Edwards attends Industrial Soiree with Royal Society, London
- MOD: Mr Lee visits Royal Ordnance factory Burghfield and Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, Aldermaston
- DES: Mr Patten gives opening address, "Swann in the Counties" at Buxton conference
- DES: Mr Walden visits Bolton College of Higher Education
- DEM: Mr Trippier makes presentations to winners of Young Person Industry Awards, London
- DEN: Mr Goodlad visits Kennedy & Donkin, Surrey
- DOE: Mr Patten visits housing estates, Basildon, Essex
- DOE: Sir George Young opens and concludes joint DOE/DHSS seminar on report on the elderly, "Staying at Home"
- DHSS: Lady Trumpington addresses Livery Dinner, Apothecaries Hall, London
- DHSS: Mr Newton speaks at Sedwick Employees Pensions Conference, Witham
- FCO: Lady Young addresses the Latin American Newsletter Conference
- OAL: Mr Luce visits Burrell Collection, Glasgow
- DTI: Mr Howard attends Union Discount Co lunch, London
- DTI: Mr Pattie opens new extension Page Engineering

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DOE: Mr Waldegrave attends EC Environment Council, Brussels (to March 7)

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TV AND RADIO

- "You and Yours"; BBC Radio 4 (12.00): Junior Schools are the subject of a third report on teaching methods
- "File on 4"; BBC Radio 4 (16.05): Repeat of Tuesday's programme
- "Out of Court Special Update"; BBC 2 (19.10): Reviews the controversy over the allegedly harmful Dalkon Shield contraceptive device as the April deadline for legal claims approaches
- "Women - Equal Sex?"; BBC Radio 4 (19.20): Investigates the scarcity of women in business and industry boardrooms

TV AND RADIO (cont'd)

"All Our Working Lives"; BBC 2 (20.00): Chemical workers explain developments in their industry since 1914

"Analysis"; BBC Radio 4 (20.15): Adrian Hamilton probes the likely effects of tumbling oil prices

"Diverse Report"; Channel 4 (20.30): Christine Chapman looks at regulation of the drug industry

"Five Minutes to Midnight"; Channel 4 (23.00): Industry Year is discussed by industrialists, teachers, designers and commentators

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