

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister gives interview to Italian TV

Prince and Princess of Wales attend an Observance for Commonwealth Day, Westminster Abbey

ECOFIN Council, Brussels

EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels (to March 11) (Mrs Chalker and Mr Clark (DTI) attend)

European Parliament Plenary Session, Strasbourg (to March 17)

Informal Meeting of EC Ministers on the status of women (to March 11), The Hague (Mr Lang (DEM) attends)

Lobby of Parliament on Sunday Trading (approx 1,000 people) (14.30)

Commonwealth Day

Prince Edward's birthday (22)

STATISTICS

HO: Statistical Bulletin: Reconviction and recall of life licencees

DTI: Credit business (January)

DTI: Retail sales (Jan-final)

DTI: Producer price index numbers (Feb-prov)

PUBLICATIONS

DHSS: SI 1986 No: 368. The Road Traffic Accidents (Payments for Treatment) (E&W) Order 1986

HIC: 11th Report Select Committee on European Legislation (11.00)

PAY

DEM: Civil Service industrial grades; (105,000); restructuring proposals to be discussed; settlement date 1.7.86

PARLIAMENTCommonsQuestions: Energy, TransportBusiness: Debate on a Motion to take Note of the 1986 Farm Price Proposals and the Proposed Milk Outgoers Scheme

Debate on a Motion on the Second Report of the Privileges Committee in Session 1984/85 (HOC Paper No 555)

Adjournment Debate

The case of Mr J A Singleton (Mr J Watts)

Select Committees: EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ARTS
Subject: Achievement in Primary Schools
Witness: The Geographical AssociationENVIRONMENT
Subject: Planning
Witness: Mr G Eyre, QCTREASURY AND CIVIL SERVICE
Subject: Long-term trends in Resources and Public Expenditure
Witnesses: Department of Health and Social SecurityPUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Subjects: Dockyards - operation and manpower (Cmd 9638); Incorporation of Royal Ordnance Factories (Cmd 9696);
Ministry of Defence dispersal to Glasgow
Witnesses: Sir Clive Whitmore, KCB, CVO and Vice Admiral Sir Anthony Tippet, KCB, Ministry of DefenceLords

Museum of London Bill: Report

Education Bill (HL): Second Reading

UQ on what steps HMG are taking to improve counselling and other services for young people in order to combat the increase in the number of abortions performed on teenagers, particularly the increasing number performed late in pregnancy.

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTPOLITICS

- Kinnock in difficulties - backs a hardship fund for 81 Liverpool and Lambeth councillors who face bankruptcy.
- Guardian and Times say you and Norman Tebbit have started work on a radical Conservative manifesto excluding most Cabinet colleagues from the process because they would favour a more timid approach.
- D/Star says top earners face a real clobbering if Labour get to power; prints an interview with Kinnock - the first, it says, of interviews with party leaders - in which he plans to create 1m more jobs in 2 years spending £5bn more a year and tapping British money invested abroad.
- Sun asks which is the real Kinnock - hard or soft? - a reference to his warning there would be no indemnity from a Labour Government for surcharged councillors and now his backing a hardship fund for them. The sad truth is that if Labour does achieve power he will be the dupe of the extremists who are the real bosses.
- Express says Lambeth Tories are demanding Ted Knight hauls down Red Flag flying over Town Hall in defiance of court decision.
- Telegraph says Labour Party is now likely to turn its attention to another hard Left council - St Helens. Guardian says 12 Liverpool Militants face expulsion.
- Young Conservatives chairman says Norman Tebbit is a political mugger; party chairman has to be a vote winner.
- Sun finds it a relief that Peter Walker does not want to become Prime Minister.
- Michael Foot profile of David Owen's "passage from Socialism" in Guardian.
- Ian Aitken, in Guardian, says an increased number of Labour MPs are expressing the view that their election prospects would be greatly enhanced if Denis Healey were leader.

INDUSTRY

- Norman Tebbit, on TV-AM, accuses Ted Heath of "wildly inaccurate statements" about GM's bid for BL; Express says backers of the campaign to keep Land Rover British were given a boost by Mr Tebbit yesterday - talks of compromise with GM. Mail reports the idea of an Anglo-American partnership of shared control. Telegraph says Midlands Tory MPs are increasingly confident Land Rover management buy-out will go ahead.
- Bruce Anderson, in Times, says Government is in a no-win situation over E

- Women winning equal pay for equal work concessions as a result of Euro Court ruling.
- James Gulliver, head of Argyll Group, to stay on after errors revealed in his Who's Who? entry.
- Four Welsh workers being taken to Japan to pass on tips to Sony workers on making television sets.
- 4000 companies thought to have been conned into paying up to £1000 to a Euro telex directory.
- Mail claims to have tracked down a fugitive Lloyds underwriter, accused of syphoning off £7m, to a luxurious home in Virginia, USA.
- Telegraph, commenting on state of Government policy after Westland, says that if you are not careful the assertion of collective Cabinet responsibility is going to begin to make the Government look "a patsy".
- NCB relents over non-payment of pay rise to UDM members where they are in a minority.
- Dealings in British Gas delayed to avoid October 27 clash with City "big bang".

ECONOMY

- Low Pay Unit says low paid are heavily over-taxed.
- Express says Institute of Directors is right in wanting taxes cut in Budget - this will mean more spending, investing, risk taking and job creation.
- Today says Britain is demanding (at today's EC Foreign Affairs Council) a Euro-trade war with Japan.
- Wynne Godley et al. call for "an imaginative strategy for industrial recovery which can unify the people and guarantee a new sense of common purpose".
- Times says Chancellor will restore M3 as a target in Budget; there will be no scope for tax cuts; expects a cut in base rates.
- FT says report shows number of people in poverty trap has grown fivefold since 1979 because of income increases wiping out benefit cuts and tax.

UNIONS

- Inland Revenue Staff Federation votes overwhelmingly to create a political fund.

SUNDAY TRADING

- Sun says there must be no back-peddalling by Government. The issue is a simple one: freedom or no freedom.

MEDIA

- Maxwell's Daily Record in Scotland does not appear because SOGAT refuse to set a hostile leading article unless given right to reply - row over the paper's argument, printed in Mirror, why Scottish Labour Party conference, in comparing Maxwell's treatment of workers is the same as Murdoch's, shames the party.
- 75 arrests in Wapping on Saturday night. Guardian says leaders of SOGAT and NGA call for a stepping up of action against Murdoch.
- Times diary says Eddie Shah has refused idea of a knighthood.
- Murdoch's deputy says they have won; won't have unions inside Wapping.

TRANSPORT

- B/Rail driver dies and 30 injured in head-on collision in Derbyshire.

LAW AND ORDER

- Much coverage of service at Ealing Church where vicar assaulted and daughter raped; curate asks for forgiveness for offenders. Sun prints picture of girl leaving church with face obscured.
- Claims that youngsters of 15 are being held in Thorp Arch remand centre with adult killers and sex offenders.
- Mirror says Home Office is to introduce legislation to give employers right to records of men seeking jobs in children's homes who have been convicted of sexual offences against children.
- Express feature on the dangers of Tube and rail travel; it says manning cuts must be made in such a way as not to turn stations and trains into happy hunting grounds for thugs.
- Local councils back Express campaign to ban crossbows.
- Mail feature on woman expert on the relationship between inner city design and crime, vandalism and riots.
- Judge Pickles says some Lord Chancellors have misused their power and practised nepotism - but not Lord Hailsham.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Most London householders will pay lower rates from April 1 (Times).

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Claims that 50,000 NHS nurses will lose their homes under plans to sell off property, according to Shelter.
- Labour Party wants inquiry into Steptoe/Edwards plan for a surrogate mother scheme. Mirror says doctors may have the technology but they should not play God; Telegraph says pressure is growing for a clear Government line on surrogacy.
- Chief Executive of Private Patients' Plan says private medicine will price itself out of the market unless hospitals and doctors moderate increases in fees.
- Guardian says doctors are pressing the GMC to withdraw its guidance denying absolute confidentiality to girls under 16 seeking pill prescription.
- Guardian says Government is facing an all party revolt over plans to phase out special help for the poorest pensioners of families to insulate their homes against cold weather.

EDUCATION

- Today features Sir Keith Joseph article on what future he seeks for our schools after a year's disruption. Too many children, he says, complete their schooling unable to read or write, go beyond simple arithmetic or express their ideas clearly.
- Right Wing 92 Group calling for return of grammar and technical schools and creation of an Education and Training Ministry.
- No-strike teachers' union calls for review of Burnham machinery.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- Garret Fitzgerald, in Washington, says you will not back down on Anglo-Irish Agreement.
- Inter-Governmental conference to take place tomorrow amid tight security UK Government threatens to close down Assembly until all party talks start.

DEFENCE

- Euro MP wants inquiry into an alleged radiation leak from a nuclear submarine in 1971 or 1972, leading to deformed children being born to crew members.
- Guardian says NATO can live with a Spanish referendum which rejects membership.

PEOPLE

- Speculation grows of a Royal engagement (Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson) according to Express.
- D/Star states authoritatively (!) that the Queen will ^{not} abdicate on her 60th birthday.
- Six Irishmen reported detained in Australian airports because of fears of IRA assassination attempt on Queen during tour.
- Penelope Mortimer's book on Queen Mother, published this week, describe as "repellant muck-raking".

EAST/WEST

- Mail leader says by ordering Russians to cut its diplomatic establishme at the UN, he might abort the Summit. If the two leaders don't limit their posturings they will never limit the nuclear arsenals. But the Guardian thinks this episode will have little impact on Summit or its timing. Times adopts wait and see posture.

SHUTTLE

- Cabin and crew of ill-fated Challenger shuttle found on seabed; concern among astronauts about safety of shuttle launches.

EC

- Sun says Michael Jopling should not hesitate about selling cut price butter to our pensioners - the nation prefers to spend the money on our old folk than on Russian comrades who use the money saved to buy guns.

BEIRUT

- France sends envoy to Syria to try to negotiate release of four French TV crew kidnapped in Beirut.

FALKLANDS

- Times leader advocates a lower British military profile to help normalise relations with Argentina.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DES: Sir Keith Joseph visits Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, London

SO: Mr Rifkind meets Lord Provost of Dundee; visits Napier College, Edinburgh

DTp: Mr Ridley hosts lunch for Chinese Ambassador, London

DEM: Mr Trippier visits Start Scheme, Preston Job Centre; later presents "Fit for work" awards, Stockport

DOE: Mr Patten lunches with RIBA

DOE: Mr Tracey receives delegation from Monterrey, Mexico re World Cup forward planning

HO: Mr Mellor visits Liverpool (victims of violence scheme)

SO: Mr Stewart meets sports Minister and football authorities about World Cup, London

SO: Mr MacKay meets Health Board Chairmen, Edinburgh

DTI: Lord Lucas attends GDR Ambassadors lunch, London

DTI: Mr Pattie visits Pinewood Studios

DTI: Mr Howard attends Cattle Cure Myers lunch, London

DTp: Mr Bottomley holds press conference on improvements to M63, Barton Bridge, Manchester

WO: Mr Roberts visits Development Board for Rural Wales' Area

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

MAFF: Mr Gummer visits agriculture salon, Paris

DEM: Mr Lang attends EC informal meeting on women's employment, The Hague (to March 11)

FCO: Mrs Chalker attends EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels

DTI: Mr Clark attends EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels (to March 11)

TV AND RADIO

"Money Box"; BBC Radio 4 (10.00): Repeat of Saturday's programme

"Micro Live"; BBC 2 (17.30): The Rt Hon Shirley Williams and Bob Latin of STC speculate on the future effects of computers

"4 What It's Worth"; Channel 4 (18.00): first of two repeated editions to mark Energy Efficiency Year looks at use and misuse of energy in the home

"Open Space"; BBC 2 (19.30): Kathleen Cripps talks about her dismissal as a magistrate for taking part in a CND demonstration outside the Derbyshire court where she worked

"Horizon"; BBC 2 (20.10): examines French high technology

"World in Action"; ITV (20.30): Talks to residents of Bradwell as they plan a protest campaign over the possible nuclear dumping site in their village

"Panorama"; BBC 1 (21.30): 'France: Au Revoir Socialism' looks at the about-turn in French politics

"Survive"; Channel 4 (22.00): Contends that a limited nuclear war would leave some survivors and examines civil defence plans in Britain, Canada, Switzerland and the USA

"Pete Murray's Nightline"; LBC (22.00): Lord Ennals opposes Baroness Lane-Fox's idea to fund worthy areas of the NHS by a lottery

"The Eleventh Hour"; Channel 4 (23.00): 1984 film on South Africa featuring writer and poet Rashaka Ratsnitanga who works in the 'independent state' of Venda
