

13 March 1986

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

National Association of Head Teachers possible strike (lunchtime)

Anglo-German Economic Committee, Aachen

Home Secretary speaks on crime (Hammersmith and Fulham National Conference on Housing, Crime and Society)

TUC Industry Women's Conference, Leicester (to March 14)

EC Environment Council, Brussels

Giotto spacecraft due to encounter Halley's Comet

President of World Bank visits UK (to 14 March)

STATISTICS

HO: Statistical Bulletin; Prison population projects (up to 1994)

HO: Statistical Bulletin; Notifiable offences recorded by the police, England & Wales Q4 1985

HO: Statistical Bulletin: Summary Fire Statistics 1984

DTI: Provisional figures of vehicle production (February)

PUBLICATIONS

HOC: Third Report Energy Select Committee, Session 1985-86 (HC 262) - "Government's response to the Committee's Report on the Energy Efficiency Office" also commentary by the Committee (11.00)

HOC: Sixteenth Report of the Committee of Public Accounts - housing association grants (Noon)

DEn: Government Response to Energy Select Committee on regulation of the gas industry (11.00am)

PAY

DEM: NHS ancillary workers; (204,700); substantial pay increase sought; settlement date 1.4.86

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Treasury; Home Office; Prime Minister

PARLIAMENT (cont'd)

Business: Consolidated Fund (No 2) Bill: All Stages
 Followed by debate on subjects raised by Members

Adjournment Debate
 Pay in the National Health Service
 (Mr J Corbyn)

Select Committees: AGRICULTURE
 Subject: The effect of pesticides on human health
 Witnesses: National Farmers' Unions;
 Agricultural and Allied Workers' National Trade Group

Lords Local Government Bill: Report.
 Land Registration Bill (HL): Second Reading

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DICESTSELLAFIELD

- William Waldegrave says nuclear industry has got to do better - in response to highly critical Environment Select Committee report and promises re-appraisal of Thorn plant.
- Civil Service Union says Committee's arguments technically unsound, economically flawed and socially catastrophic.
- Press divided - but the presentation of several is doom laden.
- Irish Parliament calls for European inspection force to monitor plant.
- D/Star: The world's deadly dustbin. Leader says Select Committee has published the facts and the findings will send a chill down the spine. The nuclear watchword must be that no level of risk to the general public is acceptable if Sellafield can't provide that guarantee it must be closed.
- Sun P2: Worried MPs brand Britain's nuclear plant "The Doom Dump". Report raps secrecy, confusion and errors. A devastating attack.
- Mirror P2: ~~Down~~ report slams nuclear shambles. Sellafield branded worst in the world; leader says the problem is that the Government refuses to accept there is a problem. The future of the plant needs to be considered with an open mind. Sellafield is a threat not just to us but to unborn generations.
- Today P6: MPs call for curbs on nuclear waste; leader tries to put risks in perspective of other energy industries. But none of these facts can excuse or explain away the damning indictment of both Ministers and

SELLAFIELD (CONT'D)

industry leaders. Report tells a sorry tale of profit being put before public peace of mind. Only option now is to take urgent action no matter what the financial cost to put their nuclear house in order.

- Express says Government was in muddle last night - William Waldegrave said he would have a look again at cost of Thorp plant while D/Energy expressed complete support for expansion. On another page "Sellafield 'shambles' - MPs question plan for new £1.4bn project".
- Mail: MPs damn nuclear danger plants for error and secrecy; leader says the dread is over the unquantifiable yet cumulative effects of radiation discharges. Public concern must now be met head on. It is time to face the facts and fears because closure of Sellafield is not an option. But cleaning it up and opening up its functions is.
- Telegraph: MPs attack nuclear waste "shambles". Leader complains of a tendency in the report to elevate fears into facts. The safety record is second to none. On the flimsy evidence against Sellafield closure is not even worth considering
- Guardian Pt: MPs say work on £1.4bn new Sellafield plant should be halted; leader says Sellafield has become an intolerable burden on the nuclear industry.

PBS reports - Admission anti-nuclear.

BNFL - New top manager. -

CEG.B - Reprocessing contracts next month.

- credit + success along with
all been.

Nationwide - Pro-nuclear campaign

(N.B Sizwell - Sept.)

BL

- Ray Horrocks attacks your ^ddeadline of privatisation which was hanging around the company's neck like an albatross; 100,000 jobs would have been lost through a Ford takeover. Accuses you of "cruel and shameless persecution" of firm. Claims he has been disciplined by Paul Channon.
- Mirror: Keep out! BL chief blasts Thatcher.
- Today leads with your involvement in a new row for ignorance a letter proposing a management buy-out for Land Rover - we say it was passed to DTI who say they did not reply because of developments.

INDUSTRY

- Appeal court rules TSB privatisation can go ahead; 'but issue now goes to Lords.
- Sun says fears are growing that B/Airways privatisation could be scrapped. Nicholas Ridley defied some senior Cabinet colleagues by announcing a second postponement; leader says Mr Ridley is stuck in the middle while Lord King is raring to go. Telegraph says it will be a disaster if the gamble over time for sell off in this Parliament does not pay off.
- Brian Sedgemore claims TD was a beneficiary in a land fraud which destroyed a 74 year old man's business.
- FT: The Government's policy of promoting wider share ownership has had only a superficial effect on public attitudes towards stock market investment, according to Audience Selection research. BT investors are overwhelmingly middle class.
- FT: Leader says the latest delay in the plans to privatise BA is a blow to the Government and the airline. If, in the Bermuda Two negotiations, the US decides to "go up to the wire" the UK could be seriously embarrassed.
- FT: The London Metal Exchange yesterday completed the £150m fixed price settlement of its traders' outstanding tin contracts. The Trade and Industry Committee wants to know more about the involvement of ministers and officials in the tin crisis.
- Times: Latest survey shows only 5% of people are seriously interested in shopping on Sunday.

UNIONS

- London bus drivers vote 2-1 for an indefinite bus strike over plan to close down 5 garages and conversion to driver only buses.
- A miner suffering from brain damage will claim on BBC TV tonight he was hit by two policemen with their truncheons during pit strike.
- Big row over £4 (5.2%) offer to farmworkers.
- Mail says NACODS faces humiliating defeat over call for an overtime ban in protest against colliery closure.
- Overtime ban hits newly privatised Swan Hunter.
- The AUEW wants traditional immunities covering strikes to be restored by Labour.

ECONOMY

- Share prices put on record £5.5bn yesterday. £ up to \$1.48.
- Fall in interest rates predicted more confidently.
- Express leads paper with Boom Boom! Shares and £ soar as buyers go on a spree; leader thinks Chancellor is in a virtuous spiral.
- FT: Exports of manufactured goods are expected to grow at a rate sufficient to offset the decline in revenues from oil exports, the BOTB predicts.
- Telegraph says it is worth remembering bull markets are followed by declines.

MEDIA

- Sun claims that Wapping pickets have prevented some schoolchildren living in nearby flats from having a decent night's sleep for six weeks.
- Fast Euro-satellite TV company launched includes Maxwell.
- Two printers injured by lorry at Wapping last night - Labour MP alleges unacceptable level of
- Guardian says Sir Frank Cooper has come out in favour of freedom of information.

TRANSPORTRoads

- Rondo Maintenance Condition Survey says our roads are increasingly cracking up under the weight of traffic.
- Select Committee wants toll charges on major bridges and tunnels to be scrapped.
- About 15,000 bus services have so far been registered to run from October under the Government's bus route deregulation policy.

RAPE ETC

- Figures out today will show an alarming increase in sex attacks - rapes up 40% in London.
- Six being held in connection with rape at Ealing Vicarage; you have sent a personal message of sympathy to girl.
- D/Star leads with report that an eminent doctor was arrested and questioned over the undoubted rape of a girl of 8 but say doctor's guilt can't be proved. Private prosecution being considered. Norman St John Stevas says it is a very worrying case.
- Express reports growing fears by women of rail and Underground travel.

- Sun wants Mr Justic Pain to hang up his wig for failing to understand the feelings of 2 jurors who wept after finding sex offender not guilty of killing girl.

LAW AND ORDER

- Express feature on soaring crime figures - up go bureacracy and brutalit it says; down come morale and detection, the question for Commissioner Newman.
- Home Affairs Select Committee wants banks to be empowered to inform on customers suspected of laundering drugs money.
- Evelyn Glenholmes, wanted for questioning about 6 IRA bombings, arrested in Dublin.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Birmingham City Council declares Scots an ethnic minority; they will be able to claim sort of money set aside for special projects (Express).
- FT: The future of the Greater London Enterprise Board, set up to provide venture capital for job creation, is in doubt following a Government decision not to allow a further grant of £8m.

EDUCATION

- Claims, on eve of head teachers' strike today, that problems of lunch-time supervision are turning children to pubs → and drink.
- Malcolm Rifkind tells Scottish Affairs Committee that no limit was being set on extra funding for teachers pay in Scotland, contrasting strongly with Government statement concerning England and Wales.

£ 1 1/4 bn - repudiated jointly
Add to Scotland.

Scottish dev 5.5%
Provision with
1/2 to 10-12%
higher

HEALTH/WELFARE

- ↑ BMA report says old people will die or be forced to beg in the street unless the Government changes its health policies.
- Mirror feature on the "killing" to be made out of looking after old folk.
- Express leader on West Lambeth LHS refusing to turn over 16 of 847 beds at one hospital to private patients to raise £750,000 and plans instead to close 3 wards - a perfect example of Left wing dogmatism in action.
- Guardian says Conservatives are vetting 191 health authority chairmen

POLITICS

- Conservatives recover ground in Marplan poll - Labour 35; Con 32; SDP/Libs 31.
- Paul Foot, in Mirror, reports on 5 questions tabled by Wandsworth Police Consultative Committee on one aspect of Sara Keays affair - burglary at her home.
- Labour Party has lifted its boycott of News International papers to get maximum publicity for their campaign.
- Times leader says that manifestos need writing. There should be no Cabinet divisions over a radical Conservative programme. It need not be unpopular.

VISIT TO ITALY

- Today with picture of you with Craxi, says "Si si they have a deal" - a reference to extradition treaty.
 - FT: Britain is to press for Italy to be allowed to take part in discussions of exchange rate policy in the Group of Five.
 - Telegraph back page half column on your support for Sikorsky deal with Westland and Italian stake in it.
 - Guardian: Britain and Italy cooperate on terrorism - with picture.
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PEOPLE

- Lord Gowrie wins substantial damages from the Star over implications of drug taking.
- Commons backs Clare Short by giving her Bill to ban Page 3 nudes a first reading (Express)
- FT: Leon Brittan makes his first public, though indirect attack on Michael Heseltine. "The key to sound Government is not departmental reorganisation but sensible policies coordinated across the board within Government and then loyalty and consistently followed by all ministers."

SAUDI ARABIA

- Ian Wilkinson, held for a year under arrest, is to be allowed home.

SPAIN

- Votes to stay in NATO

CANADA

- Mirror reports eventual victory over the killing of baby seals - a rally is to be held in London on Saturday to celebrate the extent of the EC ban on import of pelts.

FRANCE

- Express leader says while appreciating French feelings over Beirut hostages, it says the French Government deserves scant sympathy, curryin favour with very zealots who now menace French lives.
- Reports that Mitterrand is to quit if Right win (Mail).

FALKLANDS

- Our former military commander sets out options for Government in defending Islands.

LIBYA

- Mail reports Gaddafi as wanting to patch it up with Britain; wistful about High Wycombe where he studies.

INDIA

- FT: The Indian Parliament was told yesterday of India's displeasure over Britain's failure to take action against Sikh extremists.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- Times: The Government is preparing a publicity offensive to "sell" the Anglo-Irish Agreement: leader says the Government is giving the impression of being unsure of itself in defence of the Agreement. It must not suspend the Agreement but it must keep talking to the Unionists.

SWEDEN

- Guardian says you are virtually alone in deciding not to attend Palme's funeral.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DOE: Mr Baker meets 'Group of Eight', London

HO: Mr Hurd addresses National Conference on Housing, Crime and Security

DTI: Mr Channon lunches with Nick Comfort of the Daily Telegraph

MAFF: Mr Gummer visits Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft

DEM: Mr Trippier visits Bromley Enterprise Agency, presents Business Idea of the Year awards

DEN: Mr Buchanan-Smith addresses International Association of Drilling Contractors dinner, London

DOE: Sir George Young attends Age Concern inaugural meeting of Agency Home Improvement Schemes

DOE: Mrs Rumbold visits Hampshire

DHSS: Mr Hayhoe lunches at Spastics Society, London

DHSS: Lady Trumpington visits Wellcome Laboratory Research Laboratory, Beckenham later visits Wellcome Institute, London

HO: Mr Waddington visits Manchester

SO: Mr MacKay attends 'Dining-in Night', Scottish Police College, Tulliatlan Castle

DTI: Mr Clark lunches with George Innes of the Sunday Times

DTI: Mr Morrison addresses 'Britain Means Business' reception, London

DTI: Mr Butcher attends the Faculty of the Royal Designers for Industry annual dinner, London

DTp: Mr Mitchell addresses the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) (Wessex Division) conference, Worthing

WO: Mr Robinson speaks at Rates Green Paper seminar, South Glamorgan County Council

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

DOE: Mr Waldegrave visits The Hague re radioactive waste sites

DTI: Mr Pattie visits Darmstadt, FRG (one-day visit)

TV AND RADIO

"Medicine Now"; BBC Radio 4 (10.00): Repeat of Tuesday's programme

"Analysis"; BBC Radio 4 (11.00): Repeat of Wednesday's programme

"Union World"; Channel 4 (18.30): Programme for and about trade unionists

"40 Minutes"; BBC 2 (21.30): Looks at the case of sacked miner Adrian Simpson accused of maliciously wounding a police officer

"TV Eye"; ITV (21.30)

"Question Time"; BBC 1 (22.00): With Tom McNally, Jane Reed, George Robertson MP and Peter Bottomley

"Voices"; Channel 4 (23.00): First programme in new series features author Saul Bellow and Martin Amis discussing the future of the cultural tradition of enlightenment, humanism and classical literacy

"Halley's Comet: the Encounter"; BBC 1 (23.00): Live report on the Giotto spacecraft's encounter with Halley's Comet
