

10 April 1986

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Fulham by-election

Interception of Communications Act 1985 comes into effect

British Medical Association, scientific meeting, Oxford (to April 12)

Defence Secretary visits Rome

Lord Trefgarne addresses NATO Defence College, Rome

Observer corruption trial begins, Old Bailey

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STATISTICS

BOE: Financing of the Central Government Borrowing requirement (4th qtr)

BOE: UK banking sector statistics (4th qtr)

BOE: Money stock (4th qtr)

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PUBLICATIONS

HOL: 10th Report EEC Sub-Committee D farm price proposals (08.30)

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Treasury; Prime Minister

Business: Airports Bill: Conclusion of Remaining Stages

Armed Forces Bill: Remaining Stages

Adjournment Debate

Capital expenditure requirements for school repairs and maintenance in Brent (Mr R Freeson)

Select Committees: COMMITTEE ON A PRIVATE BILL  
Great Yarmouth Outer Harbour Bill

Lords Gas Bill: Second Reading

UQ on aftercare of prisoners

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTMAIN POINTS

- West Germany expels 2 Libyan diplomats; Reagan seen as on the brink of retaliation against the Mad Dog of the Middle East - Gaddafi. Express says Reagan is set to hit Libya - threat of all-out war.
- Ulster Coordinating Committee calls for an end to attacks on RUC; Times says Lord Whitelaw has doubts about the agreement and that there is growing speculation there will have to be some concession to Unionists. Mail: Maggie stands firm on Ulster.
- D/Star leader on the good news around in reply to "professional misery mongers".
- Norman Tebbit gets a lot of coverage for the legacy of the permissive society. Express applauds. Mail says only in the Tory Party could a politician like Mr Tebbit flourish, and come an election the Tebbit factor will certainly count.
- Humberside vicar at centre of child sex allegations in court today on indecency charges.
- Express reports that a swingeing cut on BAOR overseas allowance is on the way.
- Frank Chapple, in Mail, says he is not surprised TUC and Labour Party are lukewarm to Murdoch's offer of £50m plant - they can't face overmanning, restrictive practices and unofficial strikes. Sunday Times journalists call for strike ballot if there are no concessions to printers by April 30.
- Swan Hunter workers say the "macho" launch of HMS Coventry was provocative; now those who were working normally aren't.
- Talks with Prison Officers break down, increasing threat of strike; Today says they must not be allowed to exploit the crime wave.
- Land Rover gets £40m worth of orders from Middle and Far East. Pay Horrock (AR) again attacks Government's handling of BL and the highly damaging uncertainty it caused. Management buyout group hints at withdrawal because misled by DTI (FT).
- 40 Conservatives declare their opposition to Shops Bill (Sun); Mirror says 50 will vote against and up to 20 abstain. Keith Waterhouse in Mirror points up the absurdities in the present law. Express says opponents of the Bill were claiming last night there would be a free vote after Second Reading.
- Today feature on nurses which claims that famous hospitals would close down if agency staff were banned tomorrow; one in three nurses leaves the profession because too much is asked for too little pay.
- Telegraph feature on Ian MacGregor's ironic fight to keep pits open - a reference to his fight over use of oil and coal in power stations.
- Express says MPs and sales organisations are calling for a change in the law to block 'pernicious' pyramid selling which is on the increase.
- British Gas is cutting off interruptible supplies to some big industrial customers because of Norwegian oilfield strike.
- Mail says BOTB is about to miss a golden opportunity to promote British goods in Japan - it has made no approach for help by Prince Charles and Princess Diana.
- Chirac announces sweeping privatisation plans a la Thatcher (Mail). Mitterrand says he will oppose privatisation of banks and others nationalised before he came to power.

MAIN POINTS (CONT'D)

- Sun leader says it took 54 cleaners to clean up after the GLC festival and 14 plumbers to repair and cleanse lavatories. Let's hope that if the GLC ever does come back Red Ken and his supporters will be house trained. Paul Foot, in Mirror, says the man who ran South Bank has been replaced with a vast quango of top people.
  
- Max Madden MP calls for Palace to review ban on T-shirts with Prince Andrew and Miss Ferguson on them.
  
- Bob Cryer MEP gets a cabbage known as 'Niggerhead' renamed as 'Red Drumhead' or 'Red Danish' because it is racist.
  
- Airlines rushing to cut Trans Atlantic fares to Miami to compete with Virgin's cut prices.
  
- Society of Valuers and Auctioneers say some poeple are taking on too much in buying homes.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- Guardian says you stuck by the Agreement in spite of Lord Moyola's appeal for you to suspend the deal.
- Peter Robinson DUP says Labour MPs are cowards and hypocrites for claiming he was behind attacks on RUC. Express: chilling feature on Robinson.
- Paisley condemns attacks, too, but brands you a "criminal" for imposing the Agreement which has caused the violence.
- Today leader asks whether Enoch Powell can any longer be regarded as a true loyalist to Parliament. Is it not time to relieve him of his membership of the Privy Council.
- Mail feature on trials of RUC and says Ulster surely is sliding towards ultimate madness with the sheep now savaging the shepherds.

FULHAM

- MARPLAN poll in Guardian gives Labour nationally only a 3% lead/35/Con 3: SDP/Lib 30 - confirms you have largely recovered from Westland (Guardian Guardian leader sees a connection between Mr Tebbit's speech and Fulham and says it is pretty pathetic to blame the wrongs of today's world on the Wilson era.
- Sun says there is little doubt Labour will win; no harm in a sharp kick in the pants for the Tories. But it won't make Kinnock. He is a party leader in name only.
- Sue Cameron in Today says that, notwithstanding what happens in Fulham today, the question niggling away in Labour Party managers' minds is whether Labour voters are becoming a dying breed as the old working class disappears.
- Express says Tories fought to a finish; leader says Labour are the favourites but people like Bernie Grant should be in voters' minds today. If anyone needs a painful reminder it must smarten up its act it is sure: Labour. Raynsford, Fulham candidate, doesn't represent the true nature of Kinnock's party.
- Telegraph takes the opportunity to state the arguments for voting Conservative. Kinnock has not quelled his Left wing and Alliance offers failed Labour policies. A good case can however be made for Tories on every major issue confronting the nation. But a conspicuous failure today could decisively affect the Government with a lack of nerve.
- Times Labour clear favourite.

POLITICS

- Sun feature says the person who has the biggest influence on Labour's defence policy is not Denis Healey or Denzil Davies or Kinnock, but Mrs Kinnock.
- Hugo Young, in Guardian, explains why Kinnock is just right for his party - embodies in his person all the socialist contradictions.
- Ronald Butt says the Government has reached that point in the life of every administration when achievements are taken for granted and all attention is focused on faults and failings.

OTHER ITEMS

- Continued speculation about a further cut in interest rates.
- Third World charity Action Aid seeks 25 businessmen to help it cash in on the Chancellor's new tax reliefs.
- Britain's coastguards saved 10,000 lives last year.
- Lord King says Bristow's allegation of a Knighthood by way of a bribe is ridiculous. GEC buys 6% stake in Westland from Bristow.
- Mail leader calls on Foreign Secretary, who last night attacked EC food mountains in speech, to fight, fight and fight again against the inanity of CAP when he becomes president in July. Mail report says food subsidies will cost taxpayers in Europe, the USA and Japan £30bn this year.
- Guardian says Chancellor at IMF strongly resisted pressure to expand British economy.
- GCHQ officials who rejoined their union after 1984 ban have been told they will be disciplined (Guardian).
- No prosecutions planned of JMB or its employees over alleged VAT offences.

OTHER ITEMS (CONT'D)

- Times: A report says an unacceptably large number of people remain blind, deaf or physically handicapped because of over-long waiting lists for surgery.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- MAFF: Mr Jopling attends British Paper and Board Industry Federation annual dinner, London
- DEM: Lord Young speaks at UK Module Association annual dinner, London
- HO Mr Hurd addressed Prison Trust, London
- DTI: Mr Channon meets Mexican ambassador; attends launch of 'Penguin Business Library'
- MAFF: Mrs Fenner attends Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry annual dinner, London
- DEN: Mr Hunt visits Turner & Newall, Rochdale to open their new coal-fired boiler
- DEN: Mr Goodland attends Energy Efficiency and Industry Year seminar organised by the Paper and Board Industry
- DOE: Sir George Young speaks at handover ceremony to mark 2000th Council house sale, Sutton; later visits Southwark re-housing
- DOE: Mrs Rumbold begins regional visit to South-west (to April 12)
- DES: Mr Patten visits Leeds
- DHSS: Mr Hayhoe speaks Alarms seminar elderly, London; later speaks Association of British Pharmaceutical Industries annual dinner, London
- DHSS: Lady Trumpington visits Camberwell area Office; later attends Association of Pharmaceutical Industries annual dinner, London
- HO: Mr Waddington speaks on inner cities at meeting of social affairs reform
- DTI: Mr Clark meets Ambassador of Seoul
- DTI: Mr Pattie addresses American Chamber of Commerce regional luncheon
- DTI: Mr Morrison visits Nottingham
- DTI: Mr Butcher addresses annual luncheon of Agricultural Engineers Association, London
- WO: Mr Robinson speaks at rates Green Paper seminar, Mid Glamorgan
- WO: Mr Roberts attends Welsh launch of National Parks Campaign, Cardiff

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

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## TV AND RADIO

"Another Countryside"; BBC Radio 4 (19.40): Looks at the conflict of maintaining the British farming industry and preserving the countryside

"Tomorrow's World"; BBC 1 (20.00): A survey of the next generation of spacecraft on the drawing board including designs from the UK

"Worldwise Reports"; Channel 4 (20.00): First in a series of programmes on the environment - looks at the threat by tourism and development to the "cultlands"

"TV Eye"; ITV (21.30):

"Question Time"; BBC 1 (22.00): With Margaret Beckett MP, Dr Rhodes Boyson MP, Simon Hughes MP and Peter Riddell

"Newsnight By-Election Special"; BBC 1 (23.55): David Dimbleby introduces coverage and analysis of the result with Professor Ivor Crewe of the University of Essex

"Modernity and Its Discontents - The New Politics"; Channel 4 (23.25) Ralf Dahrendorf and Alan Touraine discuss the politics we need today

"Fulham By-Election Special"; BBC Radio 4 (12.00): Anthony Howard presents coverage of the by-election, analysis by James Naughtie of The Guardian, the Rt Hon Peter Shore MP and Simon Hughes MP

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