

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

HM The Queen opens new Henley Royal Regatta HQ

Debate on Libya

Informal meeting of Ministers for Development, Luxembourg

United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister visits UK

Rating and Valuation Association, Scottish conference,  
North Berwick (to April 17)

Advisory Committee on the Misuse of Drugs field trip to Birmingham  
(to April 16)

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STATISTICS

CSO/HMT: Public sector borrowing requirement (March)

DEM: Labour market statistics; unemployment and unfilled vacancies  
(Mar-prov); average earnings indices (Feb-prov), employment,  
hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes

WO: Welsh Economic Trends

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PUBLICATIONS

FCO: Treaty Series No 21 (1986) Convention on recognition of studies,  
diplomas and degrees concerning higher education in the States  
belonging to Europe Region (1400)

FCO: Treaty Series No 23 (1986) Amendment to schedule of fees annexed  
to the regulations under the patent co-operation treaty done at  
Washington on 19 June 1970, adopted by the Assembly of the  
International Patent Co-operation Union 1 October 1985 (1400)

DHSS: Primary Health Care (possible)

M&MC: Monopolies and Mergers Commission report - Southern Water  
Authority etc (1530)

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PAY

DEM: Further education teachers in England & Wales; (80,400); claim is  
for 20.2% increase of salaries; settlement date 1.4.86

DEM: NHS ancillary workers; (204,700); claim is for flat-rate increase  
towards target of two-thirds national average earnings and other  
concessions; employers propose restructuring as basis for offer;  
settlement date 1.4.86

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PARLIAMENTCommons

Questions: Trade & Industry; Environment

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Mental Handicap (Exemption from Criminal Proceedings)

Debate on Libya

Opposition Prayer on the Education (Schools and Further Education) (Amendment) Regulations

Media on the Commission on Disposals of Land (Northern Ireland) Order

Adjournment Debate

Government policies towards the maintenance of services in Islington (Chris Smith)

Select Committees:

## SCOTTISH AFFAIRS

Subject: Hospital Provision

Witnesses: Representatives from the Common Services Agency; Scottish Home and Health Departments Officials

## DEFENCE

Subject: The Defence Implications of the Future of Westland Plc

Witnesses: Mr Norman Lamont MP, Minister of State for Defence Procurement

## WELSH AFFAIRS

Subject: Rail Services to and in Wales

Witnesses: British Railways Officials

## PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Subject: Effectiveness of Government Financial Controls over nationalised industries

Witnesses: Sir Brian Hayes KCB, Permanent Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry; Mr P L Gregson CB, Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy; Mr Alan N Bailey CB, Permanent Secretary, Department of Transport

## ENERGY

Subject: The Coal Industry

Witnesses: South of Scotland Electricity Board Officials; Northern Ireland Electricity Service Officials

## ENVIRONMENT

Subject: Department of the Environment's Main Estimates 1986-87

Witnesses: Department of the Environment Officials

Lords

Short Debate on the present situation at Grendon Prison with special reference to the number and training of staff necessary for a therapeutic regime.

Short Debate on the importance to the economy of the United Kingdom of the tourist industry

UO on Sizewell

PRESS DIGESTLIBYA

- Mixed press reception:

For you: D/Star, Sun, Mirror, Express, Mail, Times

Against: Today, Telegraph, Guardian, FT

- Only Canada, Britain and Israel back USA. Mirror says you were toasted in USA - our greatest ally.
- Gaddafi's adopted daughter killed in raid; 2 sons injured.
- Widespread protests over US action across the world and 160 arrested in Whitehall; Russia calls off meeting between Shultz and Shevardnadze.
- Britain on "red alert" for terrorist backlash. Libyan motor launch attacks US communications base on Italian island; reports that the Fleet is ready to rescue Britons from Libya.
- Opposition leaders given briefing on evidence of Libyan complicity in terrorism.
- £4.7bn wiped off value of shares in UK stock market. £ moves up by \$1.4825.
- Star: Reagan was right - Britain is with you - Maggie. You came out with all guns blazing but you have still plenty of explaining to do to calm anxious Tory MPs.
- Leader: Something had to be done about Gaddafi; only history will tell whether you and Reagan were right or wrong. But there was a terrible stench of hypocrisy across the world and in the Commons. Foreign Secretary should have fought harder for tougher action from EC. In the end it is not America which should be isolated from international opinion but Gaddafi.
- Sun: Thatcher in blast at cringers. Report claims Reagan gave you an ultimatum - he would bomb with or without our permission.
- Leader: Reagan shows what can be done about terrorists; have the guts to fight them back. The Sun applauds the courage and strength of the US President. We are proud too that after some caution Margaret Thatcher has done the right thing. EC demonstrated once more that they are a busted flush.
- Mirror's treatment contrasts sharply with its supportive leader: its front page is taken up with the picture of an injured child beneath heading of Reagan's quote "We did what we had to do".
- Leader: What was the alternative? In what other way was Gaddafi to be forced to understand he had a price to pay for his terrorism? UN, Arab neighbours and Europe - each in its spineless way made yesterday's air attack on Libya inevitable. But the blows struck are enough and the evidence that Gaddafi is planning more terrorist outrages should be published quick.

LIBYA (Cont'd)

- Today leads with "We must not cringe before the terrorist - Thatcher says: I had no choice". Reluctant Tories prepared to back you, but only if you produce sufficient evidence of Libyans new terror plans. It gives the full text of your statement.
- Leader: Raid was wrong, unwise and is certain to have solved nothing. And your complicity in it has drawn Britain into the maelstrom that must follow. "We believe in being tough about terrorism, but only if tough action is effective".
- Express leads with the mystery of Gaddafi - lying low after raid, Libyan diplomat warns us that we are a target now; feature says Labour grounded its most effective weapon (Healey) and Kinnock made a wretched task of trying to attack your support of US.
- Leader: on "a vital blow for freedom" says American action was entirely justified and was not made any less so because some bombs missed their targets. You can be proud that you had the clarity of mind and strength of purpose to recognise that the time for hand wringing over Gaddafi is past. You can be assured, too, that most of British public will applaud your courage and wisdom.
- Mail leads with report that the USA has launched a second undercover operation aimed at toppling Gaddafi - CIA trying to contact Libyan Generals. Britain now in the front line for terrorists.
- Leader on "Mrs Thatcher's debt of honour" says it does not doubt Reagan had justification and is ready to believe you urged him to retaliate only with military precision. But you could not refuse him. His help in the Falklands was crucial. Yesterday you were at your best in the Commons; Kinnock was at his worst. US strike was carried out with less than surgical efficiency but it is no reason to put Reagan in the dock when he is attempting to do what everyone else has shrunk from doing.
- Robin Oakley, under heading "She was right and this is why", says you gave way to your gut instinct which tells you to line up with your friends. He expects you to begin climbing up the polls after taking what Owen describes as your most difficult decision.
- Colin Welch's sketch says that after the overnight betrayal on the Shops Bill you were in magnificent Boadicea form.
- Telegraph leads with a second alert in Libya last night.
- Leader on "a bad decision" says yesterday's events appear to commit the Americans to the destruction of Gaddafi.
- Bill Deedes says this is the biggest test in 40 years for our special relationship.
- Guardian leads with world angered by revenge attack. Sceptical Tories demand evidence to justify raid. You face a formidable political test today. Foreign Secretary appears to have been kept in the dark about the US decision to proceed until after the bombers had taken off.
- Leader: US were wrong to do it and we were foolish to help them. The tit for tat is established, and the issue of the use of US bases in Britain may gravely damage you.
- Times leads with US bombers 'kill 100' in Libya. Sketch writer says you proved to be a lioness in a den of Daniels; in article David Owen rejects bombing in favour of relentless pressure on Libya stretching it militarily, weakening it economically and undermining it publicly.

LIBYA (Cont'd)

- Times leader says you dealt determinedly with both Commons assault over Shops Bill and American raid, helped by the now predictably inept Kinnock performance. The justification for the US raid ought not to be in doubt in the Commons.
  
- FT says the bombing was futile, deplorable and almost certainly counter-productive. Mrs Thatcher's decision to assent to the use of US air bases in Britain is hard to justify and you were wrong to give in to US pressure on this occasion. What is now required are much more energetic non-military measures to detect and frustrate terrorism.

OTHER ITEMS

- Mrs Guinness released this morning from house in South Dublin; 2 men arrested.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Liverpool Council call for District Auditor to be dismissed and a public inquiry to be held after he issues highly critical report of city council management.

SUNDAY TRADING

- D/Star forecasts a massive crackdown on Sunday trading after killing of Bill in Commons.
- Sun says this has killed licensing hours liberalisation this session.
- Mirror says stores were in confusion yesterday.
- Express says major stores now face prosecution; leader says neither you nor the Government have lost by the demise of the Bill, but the public has arrogantly snubbed by its representatives.
- Mail says passionate lobbyists have vanquished the faint hearted. Sentiment has propped up a discredited law. Government's defeat was as traditional and as English as a bag of old fashioned humbugs.
- Telegraph says serious questions are being asked of the Government's tactics and unsureness of Government touch.
- Telegraph says Government gained little credit for the Bill but the problem won't go away. The antis have failed to win the argument and the Commons has done society a bad and hypocritical turn.
- Jock Bruce-Gardyne says it is the motives of the rebels and the methods of the Government which he finds disturbing.
- FT says it is beginning to look as if there is a pattern - if sufficient people shout loud enough the Government can be deflected from its course. Such patterns can become self perpetuating. Has the Government lost its nerve?

INDUSTRY

- S.Wales coalfield showing profit for first time in 30 years; productivity up 45%.
- Post Offices threatened with staff walk out in row over shift changes.
- Three banks offering personal loans to young people for vocational training.
- Bar and Law Society set up joint committee to examine future of the legal profession.
- FT says the Government is planning laws to make more information on dumping of radioactive and other waste available to public.
- NCB Pension Fund acquires full ownership of Watergate Hotel in Washington DC.
- Treasury ready to alter ADR tax.

MEDIA

- Maxwell says he is to launch a new evening newspaper this autumn.
- NUJ excludes Times reporter, a member, from its conference.
- Telegraph papers seek legally binding no strike deal with printers.

TAPES

- Government to put a 10% levy on blank audio tapes.

SPORT

- Three soccer fans stabbed at West Ham v. Chelsea game where 250 supporters fought a vicious battle.
- Sports Council aims to end all sports sponsorship by tobacco companies within a year.

PEOPLE

- Gwyneth Dunwoody pays £6,671 owed in rent on flat.
- Stalin's granddaughter returns to school in Britain.
- Mail says King Hussein will attend tomorrow's memorial service for Glubb Pasha.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Imperial College sends "sick" rag magazine to Bradford University who promptly return it because of disgust over references to Bradford soccer fire.

EDUCATION

- Telegraph says Sir Keith hinted yesterday that more Government money might be available to preserve the loss of 10,000 poly student places.



MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- MOD: Mr Younger attends roll-out of European Aircraft Project aircraft, Warton
  - DEM: Lord Young speaks at local collaborative project in London Docklands (Mr Patten (DES) attends)
  - DEN: Mr Walker appears on LBC 'phone-in programme; later presents prizes for North Thames Gas energy efficiency competition for children; addresses CBI Council
  - DOE: Mr Baker attends Royal Town Planning Institute reception, London
  - FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses Conservative Group for Europe
  - HO: Mr Hurd addressed Economic Group, Reform Group
  - SO: Mr Rifkind meets Mr Patrick Chalmers, BBC Controller (Scotland), London
  - DTI: Mr Channon meets Mr Yeutter; later attends reception for Wellbeck Group, HOC
  - DTP: Mr Ridley addressed British Ports Association and International Associations of Port Employers luncheon, London
  - HMT: Mr Lawson addresses Lombard Association
  - MAFF: Mr Gummer attends National Association of Port Employers' lunch, London; later attends Frozen Food Processors Association, London
  - MAFF: Mrs Fenner attends ADC reception, London (Mr Robinson (WO) attends)
  - DEM: Mr Lang attends British Ports Association/NAPE lunch, London
  - DEN: Mr Goodlad visits CEBG generation development and construction division, Gloucester
  - DOE: Mr Patten visits Tamworth
  - DOE: Mr Waldegrave addresses National Economic Research Association, London; later attends ADC reception, London
  - DOE: Mrs Rumbold attends appeal launch of Worcester Conservation Trust
  - DES: Mr Walden attends SERC lunch and meeting
  - OAL: Mr Luce speaks on the arts at Westminster City Hall reception
  - DTI: Mr Howard addresses Society of Conservative Accountants, London
  - DTI: Lord Lucas attends Industry Year launch, Newcastle
  - DTP: Mr Mitchell visits BREL works, Derby to open new conference and exhibition centre
  - DTP: Mr Bottomley opens Bulwick bypass, Northants
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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

CO: Mr Luce begins visit to China and Hong Kong (to April 26)

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TV AND RADIO

"MOD" BBC 1 (20.05): "Expecting the Unexpected". Examines the long arm of British defence that still spans the world, often as junior partner to the United States

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