

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister hosts lunch for King and Queen of Spain

Prince of Wales visits community architecture projects, Burnley

King of Spain addresses both Houses of Parliament, Royal Gallery, HoC

Transport Committee of the European Parliament begin visit to London (to April 25)

Lady Young attends Committee of Ministers of Council of Europe meeting, Strasbourg (to April 24)

TUC General Council

British Association of Social Workers conference, Sheffield (to April 26)

Handover of first BAe 146 to Queen's Flight

St George's Day

Football: England v Scotland, Wembley

STATISTICS

HO: Statistical Bulletin on deaths reported to coroners 1985

DOE: Construction - new orders (February)

WO: Index of production and construction for Wales (4th qtr)

PUBLICATIONS

DES: HMI report on aspects of adult education in Sheffield

DEM: Labour force survey

NAO: Erskine Bridge toll accounts (11.00)

NAO: Health & Safety Commission/Executive accounts (11.00)

NAO: Severn Bridge toll accounts (11.00)

HMT: Economic Progress Report

PAY

DEM: NHS ambulancemen; (18,800); 7% increase sought; settlement date 1.4.86

DEM: NHS ambulance officers; (3,700); restoration of pay differentials sought; settlement date 1.4.86

PARLIAMENTCommons

Questions: Environment; Scotland

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Company Political Donations
(Government Contractors) (Mr A Mitchell)

European Communities (Amendment) Bill: 2nd Reading

Adjournment Debate

British old age pensioners living in Canada (Sir J Farr)

Select Committees: TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: To be announced

Witness: To be announced

ENERGY

Subject: The coal industry

Witnesses: Representatives from the Coalfields
Community Campaign

EMPLOYMENT

Subject: Discrimination in employment

Witnesses: Representatives from the Trades Union
Congress

HOME AFFAIRS

Subject: Rules for the Redistribution of seats

Witnesses: Home Office officials

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Subject: Redundancy Payments to University staff

Witnesses: Sir David Hancock KCB, Permanent
Secretary, Department of Education and Science, Sir
Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, Chairman, University Grants
Committee, and Professor E Marsland, Committee of Vice
Chancellors and Principals

TRANSPORT

Subject: Financing of Rail Services

Witnesses: British Railways Board officials

ENVIRONMENT

Subject: Property Services Agency's Main Estimates
1985-86

Witnesses: Property Services Agency officials

UNOPPOSED BILLS

Gull Island Protection [Lords] Ipswich Port Authority

Lords Debate on the serious increase in violent crime and the need for
measures to protect innocent persons
UQ on the Forestry Commission

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTLIBYA

- Times suggests Gaddafi has lost out to a 5-man junta of whom he is one.
- Handawi in court; his brother interviewed by West Berlin police investigating disco bombing.
- UK Government gets rid of 21 Libyan activists; you are examining other cases (D/Star). "21 Mad dogs get the boot" (Sun).
- EC halts sale of cut price butter to Libya after protests by British MEPs. Reagan applauds Euro action.
- You dismiss claims that US 'planes from British bases dropped cluster bombs. Left raise spectre of US being allowed to carry nuclear weapons.
- D/Star under heading 'Britain sets the pace', says that while Europe whimpers Britain roars, once again setting the pace in the battle against world terrorism.
- Sun asks why expel only 21 Libyan students? All of them should be sent home; John Vincent, columnist, says the British public is off its rocker on Libya. Those who are queasy at the sight of Libyan blood but are content to let their own people be killed off by terrorists, without much distress, deserve only contempt.
- Express heads its leader "Kaufman shoots from the hip as Libyans go home" and accuses him of seeking cheap political capital and distortion.
- Guardian says you increased your personal political exposure when you disclosed you had given the Americans carte blanche to choose the weapons for the raid; Washington correspondent says Reagan will try to harness heightened Euro response to Gaddafi-sponsored terrorism through a collective statement at Tokyo Economic Summit.
- Times says detectives believe plot to blow El Al airliner was linked with West Berlin disco bombing, leader says that if Gaddafi aims another bomb against the Americans, Reagan will be able to justify another raid by reference to the continuing febleness of Europe.

LABOUR'S NEW PROGRAMME

- Brings down the red flag and goes for young vote on schools, crime, health and housing. Left wingers claim party NEC has not yet approved the campaign.
- Meanwhile Sun devotes nearly a page to what might happen if Labour gets in, under heading "The Nightmare of Kinnock at No 10" - unions get their own way, income tax up 6p in £ and P3 gets banned.
- Mirror hails it as manifesto of the future. If there is to be a new beginning for Britain after the next election it can only come from Labour.
- Today - Labour plays it down the middle.
- Express feature says the show, presenting the new proposals, was not for Labour members or trade unionists who paid for it but for the voters.
- Mail comes up with a splendid headline - "More Habitat than (Keir) Hardie for Kinnock".
- Guardian: "Kinnock opens Labour's second front amid admen's razzmatazz". Leader says the campaign is a really positive step forward in political rehabilitation of Labour. Call it stealing the Tories' clothes if you like; it is also practical, political commonsense
- FT says the Labour Party is beginning to look like a credible party of government, at least in the sense that it wants office and may achieve it. But there is not too much new about Kinnock's campaign. The approach is refreshing, rather like the younger Mrs Thatcher. The Alliance and the Tories will have to note. After all, he has learned from them.

POLITICS

in you

- Graham Turner, in Telegraph, says 7 years in the job have produced/not an itch to go but a determination to stay for another 4 or 5.

HEALTH

- Sun applauds proposal to reward doctors who are good at their jobs; the same prescription would be a marvellous tonic for teachers.
- Today finds primary health care document not the radical document once promised but it makes some positive proposals.
- Mail leader says that if you thought defeating Luddism on the shop floor was a tough job, its nothing to the struggle it is going to take to reform the professions and few can blame Mr Fowler for deciding at this stage to sweet talk the rigger scrum of the medical profession.
- Guardian says Government wants to privatise supply of spectacles by NHS hospitals to 250,000 patients, many with severe eyesight problems.
- Times says primary/care needs reform. Mr Fowler has chosen a smoother path to the next election by preferring to hope for change through building consensus overtime. The document is not an important reformer's manifesto.

EDUCATION

- Conservative MPs attack fall in student grants.

HOUSING

- Express leader hails reappearance of fixed rate mortgages, being offered by Lloyds, as signal money men really do believe you have inflation firmly under control.

INDUSTRY

- Company directors earned £42,099 on average last year - up 9.7% - Sir Peter Parker, chairman BIM, says they are relatively poorly paid.
- Nissan turns out its first Bluebird car from Washington, Co Durham plant.
- Petrol has fallen 11p a gallon since the Budget to national average of £1.68, according to AA.
- CBI launches 25 year economic programme to raise our living standards above American levels.
- Telegraph says US is to tax discriminate against Scotch Whisky in reprisal for Spain cutting imports of American corn.
- 10th offshore licencing round to go ahead as Shell/Esso announce abandonment of £2.5bn development of cluster of 5 North Sea oil and gas fields - a small company says they need new offshore exploration "like a hole in the head".
- Lord Young says virus of British disease - enmity between two sides of industry - lies dormant.

MEDIA

- AUEW bans Sun from its annual conference (and votes to expel Militant supporters from Labour Party).

UNIONS

- Scottish TUC renewing call for devolution.

LAW AND ORDER

- Prison officers say end of their dispute is in sight after Home Secretary's peace offering (Mail).
- Case of girl, 4, raped by 2 boys, 11, who cannot be charged with rape.
- Man kills wife and 4 sons, aged 2-16, in Cornwall and then turns gun on himself.
- Letter bomb, similar to one sent to Malcolm Rifkind, posted to Bob Scholey BSC.
- Home Office admits that another sex attacker is to be released from Park Lane mental hospital, Liverpool, on medical advice, even though he might still be a danger to public.
- Mail feature considers whether insurance protection encourages kidnaps.
- Graham Bright MP wants "horrific" video game showing scenes of mutilation banned.
- 77 inquiries in a week from coloureds during drive to recruit them to police in Haringey
- 2002 complaints against police alleging assault causing actual bodily harm lodged in 8 months last year.

DEFENCE

- HMS Hermes sold to Indian Navy for £60m.

SPORT

- Zola Budd expected to be banned from Commonwealth Games to avert a black boycott.

AUSTRIA

- Outgoing president virtually absolves Waldheim of wartime charges.

EC

- British woman wins first round of her fight to secure right to allowance for married women who care for relatives - could cost UK Government millions.
- Telegraph leader says a farm policy which aims at self sufficiency and easy markets for the surpluses will sooner rather than later hit the buffers.

SPAIN

- Relations cemented with Royal kisses on visit of King Juan Carlos. Mirror says no British Prime Minister has been to Spain - you should put that right. And it canvasses joint rule of Gibraltar.

EAST-WEST

- Russians condemn further US underground nuclear test yesterday.

USA

- Series of arrests, including a Briton and US lawyer living in London, in £1.3bn plot to sell arms to Iran.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- Unionist leaders expected to announce a rates strike against Anglo-Irish Agreement.

MIDDLE EAST

- Telegraph says you are intending to use the economic summit and your visit to Israel to try to revive the Middle East peace process.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

ANNEX

- MAFF: Mr Jopling attends luncheon in honour of King and Queen of Spain; later attends Corporation of London reception and banquet, London
- MOD: Mr Younger addresses Society of British Aerospace Companies' lunch
- DES: Sir Keith Joseph addresses BTEC conference on engineering change, Manchester
- DEM: Lord Young speaks at Careers Service National Conference, London
- DTI: Mr Channon lunches with Building Societies Association
- DTP: Mr Ridley addresses Transport Committee of the European Parliament, London
- MAFF: Mr Gummer attends Food and Drink Federation Resources Committee dinner, London
- DES: Mr Patten visits Sheffield Polytechnic
- DEM: Mr Trippier visits South West; addresses Confederation of Business Organisations, Torquay; attends Business in Community dinner, Falmouth
- DEM: Mr Lang visits Queen Elizabeth Training Centre, Leatherhead
- DEN: Mr Hunt lunches with The Observer (Geoffrey Lean)
- DOE: Mr Tracey attends England v Scotland international football match, Wembley
- HO: Mr Waddington visits Langtry Walk refugee hostel
- SO: Mr MacKay addresses Scottish Police Federation annual conference, Peebles; later visits Naidex exhibition, Glasgow
- DTI: Mr Clark addresses the International Chamber of Commerce annual meeting; meets Zimbabwe Minister of Energy
- DTI: Mr Howard lunches with Thornton Baker
- DTI: Mr Butcher addresses the "For Public Office", London
- DTI: Lord Lucas attends Education Computer Software launch; attends British Institute of Management launch, London
- DTP: Mr Bottomley visits Wincanton Transport, Wincanton; hosts dinner for visiting European MPs, London
- DTP: Mr Spicer launches inaugural passenger airship services

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- FCO: Mr Eggar departs for Strasbourg to attend Council of Europe meeting (to April 24)
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TV AND RADIO

"Jimmy Young"; BBC Radio 2 (11.00): With the Rt Hon David Steel MP

"The King of Spain's Address to Parliament"; BBC Radio 4 (11.48): Live coverage of HM King Carlos's speech at Westminster - the first time in parliamentary history that a visiting monarch has been invited to address both Houses

"MOD"; BBC 2 (20.10): 'A Touch of Gold-Plating'. An examination of the MOD's attempt to reduce costs by exposing the three services procurement programme to market forces
