

28 May 1986

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses UN Special Session on Africa  
North Atlantic Council meets, Halifax Nova Scotia (to May 30)  
Labour Party NEC  
TUC General Council  
Environment Secretary and Mr Waldegrave launch UK response to World Conservation Strategy, London

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STATISTICS

DEM: Overseas travel and tourism (March)  
DTI/ Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures  
CSO (April)  
DTp: New vehicle registrations (April)

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PUBLICATIONS

HO: Annual report of Metropolitan Commissioner of Police  
NAO: Insolvency Services (Accounting & Investment) Act 1970 - accounts 1984/85 (11.00)  
NAO: Greenwich Hospital & Travers Foundation Acts 1984/85 (11.00)  
NAO: Intervention Buying Account 1984 (11.00)  
SO: Highlands & Islands Development Board annual report (11.00)

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGEST

ISRAEL

- Sun: Leader says "the professional moaners are as ever, faster than greased lightning to sneer at the Premier's trip to Israel". But it was brave of you to go and brave to offer concrete proposals. The Israelis, at least, respect true grit.
- Today: You fly back undismayed by the failure of your proposals. But whatever they think of your peace ideas, the Israelis have taken you to their hearts.
- Derek Jameson says he was not surprised that you wept at the holocaust memorial "I met Mrs Thatcher a couple of times in private during my days as an editor and found her to be a warm, friendly lady, nothing at all like her image".
- Mirror: You refuse to be cowed by criticism.
- Mail: You are considering a high risk gamble - to by-pass Yassar Arafat and will explore the possibilities when you meet King Hussein in three weeks' time.
- Express: You have a vital role to play in smoothing the way for top secret peace talks.
- Very supportive article by Peter Hitchens (Express) says first you bewitched the Israelis (during your visit to the memorial) then you baffled them by urging them to compromise with the Arabs.
- Leader says that by telling the Israelis what to do you have fallen victim to the delusion that outsiders know what is best for them.
- FT: Leader says there are few western leaders who, in the space of a few months, have been cheered through the streets of a Palestinian refugee camp and through the streets of Israel. Your visit was a success within the limited objectives you set yourself.
- Telegraph: Thatcher aims to freeze out the PLO.
- Times: Your visit must be counted a significant success.
- Guardian: If your intention was to promote a new Middle East peace process or even shed some light on how this might be done, the visit has been a failure.

LITTER

- Sun: The sight of scruffy London on your return from Israel has prompted you to appoint a Minister for Litter. You intend to discuss the problem urgently with Nicholas Ridley.
- Mail P1: You feel ashamed that Israel, a comparatively poor country, is so tidy while Britain, which is wealthy is also filthy. You are determined to do something about it.
- Leader says if you can lead the nation in a pilgrimage against pollution then your trip to the Holy Land will have been worthwhile.
- Express: You have ordered 'Operation Clean Up'.



INDUSTRY

- Sun: A CBI report says firms should abandon annual pay deals in favour of profit sharing.
- FT: Ministers are considering a way to encourage profit-sharing that would differ from that suggested by the Chancellor because it is feared his scheme would not attract employees.

TERRORISM

- FT: Gorbachev says Moscow will maintain arms supplies to Libya - but warns against terrorism.
- The Foreign Secretary and Home Secretary are in Washington lobbying for ratification of the extradition treaty.

TOURISM

- Today: Unlike Americans, British holidaymakers are said by travel agents to be ignoring a Basque terror campaign to try to stop them visiting Spain.
- Telegraph: 'Spain bomb threat fails to ruffle calm John Bull'.
- Florida decides not to fine BA for its 'come to the UK' promotion after all.

WHITELAW TRIP

- Today: Leader criticises Denis Healey for displaying to the Russians differences of opinion within the all-party group. He has no right to give the impression he can speak for Britain.
- President Reagan has warned Russia that America may be forced to abandon the nuclear missile limits of the SALT II treaty by the end of the year because of violations by the Soviets.

JUDICIARY

- Sun: Lord Hailsham, asked if he will take action against rebel Judge Pickles, says: "We'll have to wait and see. It's always the nut cases who cause the bother you know."

EDUCATION

- Today: Head teachers have warned they will take their first industrial action on salaries if Mr Baker refuses to offer extra cash.
- Times: The Government will introduce an amendment to the Education Bill in the Lords next week that will guarantee freedom of speech at universities and colleges.



ZIMBABWE

- Sun: At least seven Britons are still being interrogated by security police after a wave of arrests in Zimbabwe following South Africa's raids on the country.

MINISTERS

- Sun: John Vincent says Kenneth Baker is good future Prime Minister material, John Moore is good senior minister material and Nicholas Ridley is good vote-loser material.

UNIONS

- Sun: Black members of NALGO have formed their own group and are inviting only black journalists to their first meeting.
- FT: Public sector workers are regaining the initiative on pay. Article examines recent deals.
- SOGAT has decided to put Rupert Murdoch's £50m peace deal to ballot.

SPORT AID

- Express: After raising millions for starving Africans, Bob Geldof is now a victim of snipers, according one of his aides. It is denied that he is making money for himself out of the fund.

POLITICS

- Mail: In India, Neil Kinnock yesterday promised to scrap immigration laws, causing controversy within the Labour Party.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- FT: Speculation continues to mount over the future of the Northern Ireland Assembly. The Government may be preparing to table a Parliamentary Order to cancel the Assembly due in October.
- Telegraph: P1 lead: 'Axe over Ulster Assembly'.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Times: The General Medical Council is proposing to relax its strict rules on advertising to allow information booklets to be freely available to patients on doctors' services.

NUCLEAR

- Times: The EEC is moving towards a new system for monitoring radiation in imported foodstuffs to replace the outright ban on East European imports imposed after Chernobyl.



LAW AND ORDER

- Mail: Leading society and showbusiness personalities are to be questioned by police investigating a series of homosexual killings following the discovery of a diary containing 100 names.
- Muggings in Brixton have shot up by 70% this year.
- Lord Hailsham rules out the idea of a Minister of Justice.
- Government proposals to merge dozens of small benches of magistrates in rural areas are likely to be strongly resisted by JPs.

JIM COE



MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DOE: Mr Ridley speaks at National Federation of Housing Associations AGM, London

SO: Mr Rifkind hosts reception for Scottish Parliamentary Lobby, Edinburgh Castle

HMT: Mr Lawson addresses Association of Economic Representatives, London

MAFF: Mr Gummer attends Royal Bath and West show

MAFF: Lord Belstead opens Kingdom AGM, Market Towers

DEM: Mr Lang opens community routes self-help '86 exhibition, Kensington Exhibition Centre

DOE: Mrs Rumbold visits Ordnance Survey and Southampton City Council

DOE: Mr Tracey opens Abbeylands sports centre, Weybridge

DHSS: Lady Trumpington speaks at Counsel and Care for the Elderly AGM, London

HO: Lord Glenarthur visits Portland Prison (to May 29)

SO: Lord Gray attends Hotelier of the year Award, Edinburgh

SO: Mr Stewart attends South of Scotland Electricity Board annual meeting, Glasgow

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

DHSS: Mr Hayhoe attends EEC Health meeting, Belgium

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TV AND RADIO

"You and Yours"; BBC Radio 4 (12.00)

"File on 4"; BBC Radio 4 (16.05): Repeat of Tuesday's programme

"In Business"; BBC Radio 4 (19.20)

"Groundswell"; BBC Radio 4 (19.45): Looks at Britain's environmental groups

"Analysis"; BBC Radio 4 (20.15): How the Government in Jakarta proposes to save Indonesia's economic miracle

"The Africans"; BBC 1 (21.30): How the outside influences of Islam and the West shaped the African civilisation

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