

16 July 1986

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

HM The Queen re-opens restored West Ham Town Hall, London;
later takes salute at Royal Tournament, Earls Court

Prime Minister meets Football Association and Football League;
later ~~addresses Conservative Peers~~, HoL; attends MENCAP 40th
Anniversary reception

Malaysia decides on its participation in Commonwealth Games

Neil Kinnock addresses Royal Commonwealth Society on
South Africa

EC Budget Council, Brussels (to July 117)

Lord Chancellor expected to announce his decision on barristers'
fees etc

New anti-heroin advertisement campaign launched (Mr Mellor (HO)
and Mr Dunn (DES) attend)

Association of County Councils AGM, London

Council of Local Education Authorities annual conference,
Coventry (to July 18)

Cricket: England v. New Zealand, Headingley

STATISTICS

CSO: Cyclical indicators for the UK economy (June)(11.30)

HMT/CSO: Public sector borrowing requirement (June)(14.30)

PUBLICATIONS

DES: Report of Review Group on Special Complementing in the Research
Councils

DES: Government response to Education, Science and Arts Select
Committee's report - "Future of Science Budget"

HO: Statistics of experiments on living animals in Great Britain 1985
(1430)

FCO: Government response to Foreign Affairs Select Committee report on
Anglo/Soviet relations (1400)

HOC: 36th Report Public Accounts Committee - effectiveness of
Government's financial control over nationalised industries (Noon)

HOC: 37th Report Public Accounts Committee - HMSO trading fund - review
of first 5 years of operation (Noon)

PAY

DEM: NHS dental technicians; (800); 13% sought; settlement date 1.4.86

DEM: British Waterways Board manuals; (2,300); 4.35% has been rejected
1.6.86

PARLIAMENTCommons

Questions: Trade and Industry; Environment

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Abolition of vehicle registration
prefix (Mr D Hoyle)

Opposition Day (19th allotted day): Subject of Debate to be
announced

Motion on the Control of Pesticides Regulations

Motion on Secretarial Allowances

British Council and Commonwealth Institute Superannuation
Bill: Remaining Stages

Adjournment Debate
Problems of mentally handicapped and mentally ill persons in
prison (Mr T Clarke)

Select Committees SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE CHANNEL TUNNEL BILL

ENVIRONMENT

Subject: Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments
Witness: Lord Elton, Minister of State, Department of
the Environment

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: British Steel Corporation
Witnesses: Mr R Scholey, CBE, Chairman and Chief
Executive, Mr M E Llowarch, Deputy Chief Executive,
and Mr I M P Evans, Corporation Secretary

AGRICULTURE

Subject: Cereals Policy
Witness: Rt Hon Michael Jopling
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

SOCIAL SERVICES

Subject: Primary Health Care
Witness: Mrs Julia Cumberlege, Chairman, Community
Nursing Review

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: The situation in South Africa
Witness: Dr Cedric Phatudi

COMMITTEE ON A PRIVATE BILL
Harwich Parkeston Quay

UNOPPOSED BILLS

Blyth Harbour [Lords]

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)Lords

Crown Agents (Amendment) Bill: Committee
 Latent Damage Bill (HL): Consideration of Commons Amendments
 Public Order Bill: Committee (1st Day)

Patronage (Benefices) Measures

Outer Space Bill (HL): Consideration of Commons Amendments
 Weights and Measures Act 1963 (Miscellaneous Foods)
 (Amendment) Order 1986. Motion for Approval

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTSOUTH AFRICA/COMMONWEALTH GAMES

- Mail: "New Move by Queen on Africa". The Queen is insisting on seeing Commonwealth leaders over South Africa. She is delaying the start of her Balmoral holiday next month to meet you and the six other heads of government. There will be a dinner at the Palace on 3 August. It is seen as a clear indication that nothing should undermine the unity of the Commonwealth.
- The Queen made known to you last night her growing concern about the developing split between Britain and the rest of the Commonwealth.
- Lord Whitelaw now holds a pivotal role in keeping relations between No 10 and the Palace. With the support of Sir Geoffrey Howe he is bringing his heavy guns to bear to prevent a Commonwealth split.
- Star: India denies it has plans to stage rival Games.
- Gambia and Swaziland say they are definitely sending teams.
- Mirror: Malcolm Rifkind says the Games will be the biggest and best ever.
- Sir Sonny Ramphal calls on all Commonwealth countries to keep their options open. Many leaders are angry with you, but this is no reason to snub the sporting event.
- Sun: Neil Kinnock gave a Nazi salute during Question Time yesterday during the clash on South Africa.
- Express: "Queen in crisis talks. Maggie quizzed on sanctions. Royal fears of Commonwealth break-up". The Queen spelt out her growing fears to you last night. Senior Cabinet ministers are deeply concerned that she may be dragged into the political squabble. Some Commonwealth leaders may try to go over your head and appeal directly to her for help. Lord Whitelaw has been dragged in to help ease tension. He is anxious to stop you becoming too dogmatic.
- Today: "Thatcher under seige as peace hopes fade". Fretoria is unlikely to offer Sir Geoffrey concessions. Although South Africa welcomes your anti-sanctions stance it does not feel under any obligation to reward you.

SOUTH AFRICA/COMMONWEALTH GAMES

- Leader says international sport is far too popular to be more than temporarily upset by the impetuous withdrawal of a minority of countries and the Commonwealth is far too important to allow these withdrawals to rip it apart.
- Times: "Cabinet fears Royal clash on sanctions". Some of your closest colleagues are now worried that the South African crisis is in danger of producing a head-on constitutional clash between you and the Queen. Buckingham Palace may intervene privately to prevent a Commonwealth break-up.
- Senior ministers are convinced that public indifference could change and opinion swing against the government if the Commonwealth is seen to be under threat.
- The Caribbean islands may join the Games boycott.
- Sonny Ramphal, in what was taken as a swipe at you, said it would be supreme irony if any Commonwealth leader "succumbed now to the Afrikaner propensity of intransigence". Sanctions should be substantial and concerted but at this point they need not be comprehensive.
- Seven African states ended a two-day Summit in Nairobi yesterday with a warning for Britain and others that if they refused to back sanctions it would not be forgotten.
- Article by George Hill says it would be difficult for the Queen to stay silent if the point came where the Commonwealth was in serious danger of breaking up.
- Telegraph: "Ministers fear Queen faces South Africa row". Last night there were signs that you are bowing to pressure for a more flexible stance. These "signs" appear to be the wording of the Government amendment to today's Labour motion.
- Guardian: Senior Parliamentary figures have been made aware in informal contacts with the Palace of the alarm in the Queen's circle at the prospect of a Commonwealth split. Lord Whitelaw is acutely concerned and together with a number of his colleagues he wants you to be more specific about the measures you are prepared to take.
- Rajiv Gandhi is anxious to avoid a hasty stand on the sanctions issue, but domestic pressures on him are growing.
- The US senate began considering sanctions yesterday. Expect a tough, anti-apartheid package.

PROFIT-RELATED PAY

- Mail: Leader says the proposal is no instant or magic formula for evaporating the dole queues and for moderating irresponsible pay increases, but it could have a steady and beneficial effect on both.
- This is the latest goodie planned for next spring's crucial pre-election budget.
- Star: "Nigel dangles a tax-cut carrot".
- Mirror: "Tax-free profit handouts". TUC chief Norman Willis warns the plan could be just another formula for pay reductions.
- Sun: "Tax-free pay rise plan by Lawson". Leader says the Chancellor should "cut the cackle" and put his bright idea into practice.
- Express: "Tax carrot for profit sharers". The CBI and Institute of Directors welcome the news. Leader says the idea is a good one and should be given the strongest support.
- Today: "Lawson waters down profits plan". His Green Paper allows workers a smaller share of profits and smaller tax cuts than originally planned.
- Times: Leader says tax relief would help to start things rolling at the faster pace necessary to have an effect on employment. But it should then live by its own considerable virtues.
- Guardian: Leader says the plan deserves a fair hearing. But a scheme is needed that will survive a change of government.
- FT: Welcomes the proposal, but points out it is no panacea.

UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES

- Guardian: A new method of calculating the number of people in work is to be launched by the government tomorrow in what opponents will regard as the latest attempt to put a gloss on the unemployment figures. Including 2.6m self employed in the total help reduce the jobless proportion by 1½%.

INDUSTRY

- Guardian: Swan Hunter protests bitterly at getting only one Type 23 order
- FT: BSC to axe 310 jobs in Scotland.

WESTLAND

- Guardian: Sir Michael Havers is expected to be criticised in the Westland report for pushing for an inquiry into a leak when he already knew how it had happened.

POLITICS

- Mail: A Labour government would ban cigarette advertising and end the industry's sponsorship of sport, says a party paper on health.
- Neil Kinnock's coup in forcing Labour to adopt secret ballots on strikes and union elections is seen as a major election platform plant.
- Star: The TUC yesterday revealed its plan for creating a million new jobs in two years. Basically more public spending.
- Labour would abolish all prescription charges, Michael Meacher announced last night.
- Sun: John Vincent says it is the fashion among the well-heeled and trendy to sneer at you. But you have a knack of getting done what you say you will. Your achievements are beginning to add up.
- Times: David Steel is confident the Alliance parties will merge after the general election.
- Mail: Labour broke its 'Buy British' policy by selling imported T-shirts with the labels cut off, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

ROYAL FAMILY

- Mirror: Young members of the Royal Family, including Charles, Diana and Andrew, have been given secret training by the SAS to combat terrorists.
- Sun: "SAS school for Royals. They learn to battle it out with terrorists"

MI5

- Guardian: MI5 has finally persuaded you to drop your ban on publication of two official histories of the wartime activities of the security service.

BY-ELECTION

- Mail: Unless the Alliance produce a sensation or the Tories a miracle, Mrs Golding looks set to join the small band of wives who take the political baton from their husbands.
- Express: Peter Hitchens says Dr Owen's dream of power is fading fast. Labour continues to hold on to its heartland and if it cannot win the next General Election it may well survive to win the one after that.
- Times: Independent observers expect Labour to win in a low poll, with the Alliance beating the Tories into third place.
- Telegraph: "Alliance hopes of spectacular poll victory soar".

UNIONS

- Mail: John Ellis, the defeated moderate candidate for the general secretaryship of the CPSA, will run the union while allegations about ballot rigging are investigated.
- Workers at Whipps Cross Hospital, East London, went on strike when they feared they would not be made redundant. They wanted "golden handshakes".

TIN

- Times : Hopes of saving the three mines owned by RTZ receded when Paul Channon refused to give any sign of supporting the call for financial help.

ECONOMY

- Today: City editor says the plunging pound means that Nigel Lawson faces the desperate choice between higher mortgages and higher prices.
- £ recovers as oil prices steady.
- FT: Industrial output down 1.5% in May.

CHANNEL TUNNEL

- Guardian: More than 400 Kent residents are threatening to take the Government to the European Court over a last-minute attempt to shift the motorway link for the Channel Tunnel.

UK 2000

- Today: Labour MPs are demanding an investigation into Richard Branson's appointment. They claim you put undue pressure on him to take the job. And they are asking if his airline's new Falklands contract is linked with his chairmanship of UK 2000.

EDUCATION

- Times: Local education authorities are being told to harden their line against teachers who refuse to take the lessons of absent colleagues and to dock their pay.
- Telegraph: Articles and poems that refer to the police as "pigs", blame you for unemployment and call for unilateral disarmament are contained in a magazine published by Hampstead High School.
- Guardian: Kenneth Baker plans to call for the scrapping of the Burnham Committee at a local authority conference on Friday.

HOUSING

- Express: Your special election "A team" is to consider increasing the level of mortgage eligible tax relief from £30,000 to £35,000.
- Today: The "A team" is also being told by Tory MPs that hospital waiting lists must be cut and education in inner cities improved.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Mail: A social worker who was sacked for gross misconduct after the death of four-year-old Jasmine Beckford has landed a £9,000 a year job with Wolverhampton council - lecturing students on social care.
- Mirror: Norman Tebbit attacks the Mirror's criticisms of the NHS as "scurrilous". Leader says the paper is proud to be called this because at least it is getting under his thick skin.
- Doctors at King's College Hospital have been told to cut the number of blood and urine tests by 20% to save cash.
- Times: Furious activity by the Whips prevented the government suffering its fourth defeat in the Lords on the Social Security Bill, Proposals to scrap free school meals for children of low-pay families went through.

NUCLEAR

- Times: Scientists in Scotland claim to have discovered how to reduce radioactivity in sheep in half the time it takes naturally.

LAW AND ORDER

- Mail: NUPE members, accused by police of seriously hampering the hunt for the murderer of two old men at a council home in Stockwell, will today be urged by Lambeth council officials to give police their fingerprints.
- A hired gunman, who took part in six terrifying robberies, is jailed for 18 years.
- Sun: Sir John Hermon has complained to the government over "malicious" leaks in the Stalker affair.
- Times: A controversial new questioning technique recorded on videotape in cases of child sex abuse has been strongly criticised by a High Court Judge.
- Guardian: The RUC made at least two tape recordings of the incident in 1982 in which a 17-year-old youth was shot, but John Stalker concluded more than a year ago that both copies had been destroyed.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- Times: Peter Barry last night delivered a stinging rebuke to Britain over the handling of the Loyalist parades. Dublin feels recent events have seriously undermined the Agreement.
- FT: Ulster Protestants have lost their appetite for revolt. And the Anglo-Irish Agreement has had no effect either way.

RUSSIA

- Mail: "Howe hands £355m to Russia" (reference to the deal on Russian bonds).
- Times: President Reagan has accepted a Soviet proposal for talks in Geneva next week on his decision to ignore Salt II arms limits.
- Telegraph: Russia is to pay Britain £45m for "Tsarist debts".

EEC

- Telegraph: The amount of New Zealand butter which Britain will be allowed to buy is in doubt after Ireland's blocking yesterday of a vital Common Market deal.

DOCKS

- Times: A proposed multi-million pound expansion of Felixstowe dock was placed in jeopardy last night after a Conservative procedural blunder in the Commons. Sir Eldon Griffiths failed to object to an Opposition clause which he had said could wreck the Felixstowe Dock and Railway Bill.

JIM COE

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- MAFF: Mr Jopling, Lord Belstead and Mrs Fenner attend British Veterinary Association reception, HcL
- MOD: Mr Younger lunches Trevor Kavanagh of The Sun and John Deanes of the Record; gives interview to Armed Forces Journal
- DES: Mr Baker visits schools in Wiltshire
- DEM: Lord Young launches tourism annual report at British Travel Centre, London
- DHSS: Mr Fowler launches drug misuse campaign
- DTP: Mr Moore meets Directors General of European railways
- MAFF: Mr Gummer attends East of England Show, Peterborough
- MAFF: Lord Belstead meets Korean Vice Minister of Agriculture
- MOD: Mr Freeman and Mr Lee attend House of Commons boat race on Thames
- DES: Mr Dunn addresses Voluntary Organisations on Communications and Language (VOCAL), London; later at BAFTA press conference on advertising to combat drug abuse
- DEM: Mr Trippier opens Kettering Business Venture Trust
- DEN: Mr Goodlad visits Trawsfynydd power station
- DOE: Mr Waldegrave meets Dr Wallman FRG Minister, London
- DOE: Mr Patten visits Huntingdon
- DHSS: Mr Newton, Mr Whitney and Lady Trumpington attend MENCAP's 40th anniversary reception
- DHSS: Mr Hayhoe attends Charity Concert, Royal Hospital, Chelsea
- SO: Mr Stewart attends meeting with FA and Football League, No 10
- DTI: Mr Morrison addresses Industry Year Conference, Cambridge University
- DTI: Mr Clark addresses ECGD, Advisory Council dinner, London
- DTI: Mr Howard attends City Dialogue Luncheon Club
- DTP: Lord Caithness visits Epsom to see Atkins Research & Development
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TV AND RADIO

- "File on 4"; BBC Radio 4 (16.05): Repeat of Tuesday's programme
- "Analysis"; BBC Radio 4 (20.15): Nuclear power after Chernobyl
- "Diverse Reports"; Channel 4 (20.30): Everyone is opposed to racism, but are we all anti-racist?
- "The Africans"; BBC 1 (21.30): A clash of cultures
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