

CONFIDENTIAL

press office
22 September 1986

PRIME MINISTER

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

Liberal Assembly, Eastbourne (to Friday)
Foreign Secretary in New York (all week) UNGA
David Waddington in Hong Kong (all week)
Commonwealth Finance Ministers, St Lucia
David Mellor press conference on South American drug visit
EC Employment Ministers, Edinburgh (to Tuesday)
EC Fisheries Council
CBI monthly trends (September)
Cyclical indicators (August)
Manufacturers' and distributors stocks (2nd Q)
BBC Panorama on Euro Terrorism

TUESDAY

Sir Robert Haslam meets NUM leaders
Tony Newton addresses Third International Congress of
Psychiatric Nursing
Kenneth Baker addresses Committee of Vice Chancellors and
Principals, Edinburgh (Loans?)
Prime Minister sees Scharansky, (3.45)
NEDC
?Dockyard redundancies announcement
BBC Radio 4: Scottish Secretary interviewed on devolution

WEDNESDAY

Trade figures (August)
New construction orders (July)
Pensioners' Action Day
IAEA special conference on Chernobyl (2 conventions to be
signed), Vienna (to Friday)
Kenneth Clarke speaking at Industry Year lunch
Tim Renton visits Sudan (to Saturday)
McLelland report on AIDS in Scotland

THURSDAY

EC Ministers meet on terrorism, London
Prime Minister speaks at Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference,
London
David Trippier opens Carrington Business Park, Manchester
CGER (2nd Q)
Money Supply (2nd Q)
Bundesbank Central Council, Frankfurt
Eric Heffer publishes book critical of Kinnock's politics
Thames TV "This Week" interviews Owen/Steel

FRIDAY

G5 and Central Bankers, Washington (to October 3)
Prime Minister visits Open University, Milton Keynes
Lord Young, Kenneth Clarke visit Area Manpower Boards, Notts
Steel consumption and stocks (2nd Q)

SATURDAY

IMF, Washington
Tim Renton in Egypt (to Monday)

PRESS DIGEST

MACGREGOR/PRIOR BOOKS (AND KILROY-SILK'S)

- Peter Walker dismisses Macgregor's claims that Government lured miners into a March strike.
- McGahey said to have leaked NUM plan for strike four months in advance.
- D/Star leader says the two books, in their different ways, have a common theme - your absolute determination to stick to your beliefs.
- Sun leader says Peter Walker is putting on a display of outraged innocence in the face of MacGregor's criticism. Everyone knows that MacGregor is perfectly justified in complaining about Walker's disloyalty.
- Mirror leader on Jim Prior's claim that your quoting St Francis of Assissi in 1979 was humbug; it says that to add to Prior's evidence MacGregor reveals you discussed a strike with months before it began.
- Today says Peter Walker, furious with MacGregor's criticism, is to write his own book on the strike.
- Express claims Bob Parry MP acted as messenger for Militant in trying to oust him from Knowsley N.
- Mail says the new disclosures about the miners' strike make it clear we were lucky to win it, in view of the appallingly low quality of the NCB and D/Energy bureaucracies. But you were also lucky in your enemies who have always helped you. If only the same could be said of your Ministers.
- Mail news report says Prior's attacks on you were discussed yesterday by John Carlisle MP as "the weasel words of a has-been".
- Telegraph leader finds the books somewhat disappointing but makes the point he speaks with authority about the Treasury. He had to fight the the ignoramuses there for every extra penny for such whelk stalls as De Lorean and Lear Far.
- Guardian says MacGregor's 'enemies within' strike back. Ned Smith says an examination of the press cuttings would show that the book was not "factual or sensible". Peter Walker says something similar. In another story the Guardian says Mr Prior's barbs are unlikely to hurt you.
- Ian Aitken in Guardian says Mr Prior's account of life with you is a timely warning to the Alliance of the consequence of choosing tough and determined leaders solely on account of their toughness and determination. If you are an example of such a leader, so is Owen.

LIBERAL ASSEMBLY

- Clash over defence policy this week widely trailed. Steel, in interview says he would push nuclear button if necessary.
- Sun says David Steel's days as leader are numbered - many Liberals will vote for Owen when they come to choose a single boss.

LIBERAL ASSEMBLY (Cont'd)

- Steel, writing in Today, says he doesn't think they could do a post election deal with you; coalition isn't part of your temperament.
- Owen denies he wants nuclear deal with France because he does not trust USA.
- Paul Johnson, in Mail, sees in Liberal preoccupation with rights for all the danger of a litigious society.
- Des Wilson, new president of Liberals, appointed chairman of election committee.
- Guardian leader says the Liberals face an exceptionally difficult conference. Unless the Liberals start to inject some true, creative Liberal values and position with the Alliance, it will be difficult to see any longer what the Liberal Party stands for in British politics.
- Telegraph leader makes the point that 10 times as many people in the Harris poll think the Tories will win the election as the Alliance.

POLITICS

- Mail says Harris poll for BBC shows that most people - 41% - think you will win next election.
- Sun says moderates are trying to remove Heffer from Labour Party NEC.
- Fabian Society pamphlet says Militant has a stranglehold on Young Socialist movement.
- Mail leader, noting the programme of further privatisation, says a country in which most people own property is a changed country and unless political leaders come to terms with that they could find themselves echoing yesterday's slogans.
- Green Party to stand against Dr Cunningham in his Sellafield constituency.
- Labour Ken Weetch MP wants to know why Militant were given legal aid to fight expulsions from Labour Party.

EAST-WEST SUMMIT

- Hopes high for Reagan/Gorbachev summit, with strong hints of a Daniloff settlement this week.
- Stockholm conference ends in deal to prevent war breaking out by accident.
- D/Star wants Reagan and Gorbachev to fix a date soon - the world would breathe easier then.
- Express says too much should not be read into Stockholm deal, but Europe is a marginally safer place as a result.
- Guardian leader finds itself perplexed with the US/Soviet pre-Summit position.

ECONOMY

- Phillips & Drew forecasts rise in inflation next year to 4.4% and £2.5bn trade deficit.
- But Credit Suisse says unemployment could fall below 3m before next election.
- CBI says industry is recovering from summer setbacks but optimism endangered by high pay settlements. Industrial Relations Services claim basic pay increases are moderating.
- Hopes rise for a cut in West German interest rates after weekend meeting of EC Finance Ministers.
- New Gatt round goes ahead.

INDUSTRY

- Holiday Inns searched in vain for 8 months for six bell hops for Heathrow hotel.
- CBI says industry faces a drugs crisis from boardroom to shop floor; Express says CBI's cry for alertness must not be ignored.
- Telegraph reaches agreement with print unions on Dockland printing, with binding arbitration and major manning cuts up to 60%.
- Future of Austin Rover plant at Cowley in doubt.

EDUCATION

- Professor John Vincent, Sun columnist, to take a year off because of threat of more violence by Left. John Carlisle MP says it is "utterly appalling".
- Sun leader notes that Bristol University authorities identified 7 chief culprits but allowed them to escape any kind of punishment. In giving in to thugs the university has not only failed Professor Vincent, but also thousands of decent and responsible students and ought to be ashamed of themselves.
- University leaders are on the point of agreeing to student loans.

RAIL CRASH

- One driver killed, 74 injured in express crash in Midlands.
- Edwina Currie visits injured in hospital.
- Trainee driver in one of cabs not apparently rostered for duty.

AIR CRASHES

- Today wants duty free facility to be withdrawn in the interests of passenger safety and duty free shops to be set up at point of arrival.

AIDS

us

- Mirror wants to follow Saudi Arabia in refusing to admit anyone who doesn't have a medical certificate showing they are free from AIDS.
- Guardian says FCO and DHSS are at loggerheads over screening of visitors.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- Tom King ready to talk about devolution, but without suspension of Anglo-Irish Agreement.

SPORT

- On the first time they were allowed to attend an away game after previous trouble, Leeds fans set fire to chip van at Bradford City's new ground; match held up for 20 minutes as fans scrambled to safety; 60 hooligans arrested and charged.
- Exeter City bans Cardiff City fans after violence at Saturday's game.
Bradford
- Today leads the paper with / violence under heading "Put an end to this". The incident was one of the most depraved and disgusting in England's long history of squalid football hooliganism. Leeds United fans have the dubious distinction of being the worst in the country. There is now only one way it can be stopped - ban all visiting fans.
- Today news report says soccer officials yesterday demanded Government action.
- Mail says the FA is to mount an urgent inquiry and quotes Bert Millichichairman, as feeling in a state of utter frustration and despair.

SOUTH AFRICA

- Recruiting 1000 black constables for townships.

TERRORISM

- France paying the price for going soft on terrorists (Mirror); BBC Panorama will tonight say that those terrorists now waging war in Paris were once given sanctuary there.

BERNARD INGHAM