

THURSDAY, 16 OCTOBER

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister meets President Mitterrand; later meets Swiss Defence Minister.

Chancellor of the Exchequer makes Mansion House speech

Commonwealth Broadcasting Association Conference, Edinburgh (to October 20)

National Association of Probation Officers annual general meeting, Bournemouth (to October 19)

STATISTICS

BOE: London sterling certificates of deposit (Sept)(14.30)

BOE: UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-Sept)

DEM: Labour market statistics: unemployment and unfilled vacancies (Sept-prov); average earnings indices (Aug-prov), employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes (11.30)

HMT/
CSO: public sector borrowing requirement (Sept)

PUBLICATIONS

HOL: Special report from Committee of Privileges - Peerages in abeyance (08.30)

PARLIAMENT

Lords

Financial Services Bill: Report (2nd Day)

Rates (Amendment)(Northern Ireland) Order 1986: Motion for Approval

Financial Provisions (Northern Ireland) Order 1986: Motion for Approval

PRESS DIGESTSUMMITRY

- Arms negotiators in Geneva pick up where Reagan/Gorbachev left off.
- Shultz optimistic that the tremendous opportunity, post-Iceland, will be seized.
- Mirror says hopes of a Euro-missile deal rose yesterday; so does Express.
- Today says talks are under way to arrange a new Summit, and you are involved as a third party.
- Frank Chapple, in Mail, says there is a lot of naivete about the breakdown in Iceland. We must not fall into the trap of wanting arms control agreements so badly that we close our eyes, ears and memories to Afghanistan, Poland and Soviet psychiatric hospitals.
- Guardian says Reagan is urging a separate deal removing intermediate range weapons from Europe.
- FT says George Shultz says powers such as Britain and France might be asked to join the US and Russia in reducing their nuclear arsenals. You are expected to visit Washington; evidence that Russia is more advanced with SDI-type systems than they admit.
- Times: David Owen says Reykjavik marks the beginning of serious arms control negotiations.

IMMIGRANTS

- 100 Asians decide to fly home instead of waiting to be processed at Heathrow.
- Sun leads with the "1000 Whoppers" told by Asians seeking to get into Britain - and the biggest lie of all is that they intend to return home having got into this country. Inside, the Sun quotes Kaufman as saying "Let them all come in; they are only tourists".
- Rajiv Gandhi accuses Britain of applying racist controls.
- David Waddington says the Government was absolutely correct to introduce the new visas system and the events of the last 48 hours show how right it was.
- Sun leader agrees and says the flood proves the Government was absolutely right and Gandhi's talk of racism is a load of codswallop. The Home Secretary's only mistake was to signal his decision in advance. That error must not be repeated.
- Mirror features Kaufman's call for Douglas Hurd to quit for making "a complete mess of things."
- Express: Visa clampdown is right, says Minister; leader headed "Silly, Gandhi" says it ill behoves Rajiv to accuse Britain of being racist when he leads a country whose caste system is the very embodiment of racism.
- Telegraph says Heathrow's Terminal 3 was still a shambles last night after the first full day of compulsory visas.
- Guardian: Hurd's head demanded in debacle over visas; leader says Heathrow puts us all to shame and not the way a civilised nation should behave.
- Times: MPs are to lose their automatic right to intervene in immigration cases to secure the temporary admission to Britain of passengers refused entry at air terminals and ports. A big row is expected when Douglas Hurd announces the change next week.
- Independent: Home Office unmoved by visa chaos, on P1. The scenes at Heathrow of the last few days have been sad and shaming says its leader.

ECONOMY

- Today leader says that our bad state of economic health is the real indictment against the Government. After 7 years of your Government we have record unemployment, oil income sliding, manufacturing industry not earning enough abroad to make up the difference, wage increases far too high and balance of trade shifting against us.
- Christopher Monckton says the £ is weak because our vampiric public sector is not only the largest in Europe but also the least productive and inefficient in the world.
- CBI reports biggest spending boom for 2 years, but much of the demand is being met by imports.
- Telegraph says you will not join EMS until after next election; Opposition parties want to know cost of propping up £ during party conference; Guardian says Labour dropped its hostility to the EMS yesterday.
- FT: Consumer debt is 60% higher than official figures suggest, according to market researchers, Mintel.
- Article says there is cause for anxiety, but not panic, over personal debt.
- Star Chamber wrangles could delay Chancellor's autumn statement, according to Independent. Main areas of over-spending are social security, health, education and defence.

QUEEN'S VISIT TO CHINA

- Telegraph leads with Britain's huge economic bonus from Queen's visit - 14 contracts worth hundreds of millions.

INDUSTRY

- Sealink strike called off.
- British Coal agrees to backdate a wage deal with NUM to last November on condition that if the NUM ever goes on strike again members will lose pension entitlement; widely presented as a climbdown. Mail leads its story "Scargill's victory on pack pay".
- Hertz, Godfrey Davis and Kenning car hire firms order Rover 800s worth £2.6m.
- Nicholas Ridley tells PSA to come up with plans for privatising 2000 properties.
- The Government cannot justify on economic grounds tax relief for employers who introduce profit-related pay, according to a Surrey University study. But Sam Brittan says PRP is a "chance to avoid national suicide".
- Group Lotus seem likely to build a new sports car plant overseas rather than in the UK.
- Leyland Trucks is considering whether it should continue with its own engine development and production or buy in from outside.
- Few companies are showing interest in buying Royal Ordnance as a whole.
- The Rover 800 is a hit at the Berlin Motor Show.
- Britain is lagging behind France, Germany, the US and Netherlands in science funding, says the Advisory Body for the Research Councils.
- Decision on Sizewell B will follow on quickly from Layfield report (Independent).
- Paul Channon refuses to comment on speculation of Cabinet R & D review.

UNIONS

- Times: Norman Willis told print union leaders yesterday that they must produce their own solutions to the Wapping dispute.

MEDIA

- Grampian TV says it will take legal and disciplinary action against any technician who blacks out South African produce advertisements.
- Lord Barnett, vice chairman BBC, says unfair and thoughtless criticism could destroy BBC.
- Telegraph says you have authorised Ministers to block any attempt to break up the Lobby.

EC

- Dockers at Plymouth send back two truck loads of frozen chicken in retaliation for French hijacking of a British lamb lorry.
- 14 MEPs spent £36,000 on 'phoning home from Indian Ocean on official visit.
- French farmers yesterday intensified their campaign against British lamb imports. More lorries carrying British sheep were seized (FT).

KINNOCK IN BERLIN

- Little or no coverage in Sun, Star, and Mirror. Today says he loudly championed his ban the bomb policy at the Berlin wall.
- Express leader on a piece about "Kinnock, face to face with reality of Socialism - Berlin's evil symbol that mocks Labour's disarmament policies says even the Wall did nothing to remove his alarming complacency, but revealed his equally alarming ignorance. He seems to be unable to grasp that NATO strategy is based on the assumption that we cannot prevail in any conventional war.
- Mail report is headed "Kinnock up against the wall without an answer". Leader says the unilateralism of Labour would not only deprive Britain of its independent deterrent but also enfeeble the will of NATO. Kinnock cannot see that. He is a Welshman drunk on words, a barrage balloon of a politician inflated by wishful thinking.
- Telegraph: Short piece with picture headed "Berlin wall stupidity in concrete, says Kinnock".
- Guardian: Kinnock confronts Tebbit at Berlin Wall.
- Kinnock defends 'no-nuke' policy to West Berlin forces.

- Mail reports that NATO General Rogers says Labour Party defence policy might be the straw which breaks the American camel's back.

POLITICS

- Cleveland trying to get rid of James Tinn MP 12 months after re-selecting him.
- Hattersley to be opposed by Asian trader on behalf of Conservatives in Sparkbrook.
- Ronald Butt, in Times, says for all its emollient publicity, Labour is deeply damaged by the grisly light which its defence policy has shed on its wider claim to moderation.
- Labour says its ready for a snap election in November (Independent).

WELEPHANT ETC

- Picture and story in Express.
- Independent: PM jeered. Single paragraph story says you were booed at opening of new body scanner unit.

LABOUR PARTY

- Sun leader on Labour's latest glossy booklet says we still don't know what Kinnock's plans will cost; has he something to hide?

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Edwina Currie says she is coordinating women's health policy - Star says she appears to have promoted herself - and she now goes to work on smoking.
- Leaflets warning of the dangers of AIDS to be sent to every household - four months after Norman Fowler sought your clearance (Mail).
- Lords invllict 100th defeat on Government since 1979 opening way for hospitals to be prosecuted for breaking health and safety laws.

LAW AND ORDER

- Home Secretary tells police that it is pointless asking for more officers when they can't find recruits for jobs available.
- Kevin Taylor, businessman caught up in Stalker affair, suing Greater Manchester Chief Constable Anderton for conspiring to pervert justice.
- FT: Theft claims against insurance companies rose by 12.4% in the first half of this year.
- The Bar wants prisoners to be able to communicate direct with judges and magistrates from their cells via live video links to cut costs.
- Women Against Rape dismiss new Home Office guidance to police as public relations (Independent).

OLYMPICS

- Birmingham waits with bated breath to see if it's won the 1992 Olympics.
- Star doesn't think the omens are too good - nor do others - but let no one take away from Birmingham's swashbuckling sense of adventure.
- Mirror says, win or lose, Birmingham has put up a champion fight. It accuses other cities of bribes.
- Today says if hard work were the test for success, Birmingham would win; fears of terrorism boost Birmingham's chances because of its site security.

- Meanwhile, you refuse to bale out Commonwealth Games.

JERUSALEM

- One killed, 70 injured by grenades thrown at Wailing Wall.

RELIGION

- Christian churches in Britain have lost 500,000 members in 5 years; number of Muslims up one third to 852,000.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- FT: Proposals for a transition towards a united Ireland under a future Labour government were announced last night by Peter Archer.

SUDAN

- Times: Picture of you and Mr al-Mahdi.

SOUTH AFRICA

- FT: Shell has declared its opposition to Pretoria's policies.
- Leader says that in this political area business has no leverage and little competence.
- South Africa's defence minister has warned the frontline states that they must choose between the ANC or the SAG.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

SO: Mr Rifkind hosts reception for Commonwealth Broadcasting Association Biennial Conference, Edinburgh

DTI: Mr Channon addresses CBI Overseas Committee

HMT: Mr MacGregor addresses newly appointed Ministers

DES: Mr Dunn visits Bradford local education authority

DES: Mr Walden visits University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology

DEM: Mr Trippier launches Manchester Tourism Association

DHSS: Lady Trumpington visits hospital for sick children, London

HO: Mr Mellor addresses Conservative Association 'Drugwatch Conference', Chertsey; later addresses Rochford Magistrates' Association

HO: Mr Hogg addresses crime prevention seminar, Milton Keynes

OAL: Mr Luce speaks at Christies reception for Association of Independent Museums

SO: Lord Glenarthur opens seminar for Directors of Education and Chief Constables in Scotland on misuse of drugs, Edinburgh

SO: Mr Ancram opens Fife Regional Park

DTP: Mr Spicer launches the Aerobility International Conference on air travel for disabled people, London

DTP: Mr Mitchell opens A47 Billesdon bypass, Leicestershire

WO: Mr Roberts presents architectural awards - Chepstow Castle

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

MOD: Mr Hamilton visits DEFENDORI exhibition, Athens (to October 17)

DOE: Mr Patten attends OECD meeting on urban affairs, Paris

TV AND RADIO

"Brass Tacks", BBC 2 (20.30) - David Henshaw reports on the bomm in booze

"This Week", ITV (21.30) - Looks at sex education in schools

"Question Time" BBC 1 (22.00) - Sir Robin Day's guests are Cecil Parkinson MP, William Rodgers and Mary Ann Sieghart
