

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister gives interview to Malcolm Rutherford of the Financial Times; later meets President Museveni of Uganda

Supreme Soviet  
Peter Wright case begins, Australia

EC Finance Council

EC Agriculture Council (to November 18)

Food and Agriculture Organisation Council, Rome (to November 28)

Announcement of arts budget, including Arts Council allocation (provisional)

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STATISTICS

DTI: Retail Sales (Oct-prov) (11.30)

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PAY

DEM: Local authority youth workers and community centre workers; (2,600); discussions to continue on job and grade structure review; settlement date 1.4.86

Fire Service; 41,300; negotiations to begin in accordance with pay formula 7 November.

Local Authority Youth Workers and Community Centre Workers; 2,600; discussions to continue on job and grades structure review.

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PARLIAMENT

Commons Debate on the Address (4th Day) - local government and Scotland

Questions: Wales; Energy

Business: Debate on the Address (4th Day) - local government and Scotland

Adjournment Debate

Compulsory winding-up of the McDonald Wheeler Investment Trust (Dr O McDonald)

Select Committees:

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2.  
PRESS DIGEST

YOUR VISIT TO USA

- Glowing praise from Today, Express, Telegraph and Guardian for your performance and future role.
- Kinnocksaid to be going on the offensive on his nuclear defence policies, NATO support and conventional arms build up.
- Mirror P2: Hardline Maggie warns Russians - you return in triumph from USA winning a pledge that come what may we shall retain our nuclear deterrent.
- Sun P2: Arms cut 'fixit' job for Maggie; you have been asked to play a key role in arms talks between USA and Russia. Only international figure trusted by both.
- Today P1 lead claims an exclusive - "Enter Maggie the Minder" as "American fears rise over ageing, fumbling Reagan". You have been pitchforked into taking the lead on crucial arms talks and will represent USA and possibly rest of Europe when you go to Moscow: Reagan's advisers watched in admiration as you knocked some shape into chaotic US policy; leader says your political love affair with Reagan shows no sign of cooling even though he has behaved diametrically in conflict with your views on dealing with terrorism. It rather thinks this is part of a political ploy to keep arms control talks on the rails.
- Express P2: Maggie holds the peace baton. You will try to convince Gorbachev Star Wars need not be a barrier to major reductions in nuclear weapons; leader on "The vital prize Maggie won for Europe" says with a bit of luck you may have halted the post-Reykjavik drift. In Moscow you will emerge not as a Euro go-between but as a major participant in the East-West power game. Your reputation as the West's most fervent international statesperson will be clinched beyond doubt.
- Telegraph P1 lead: Thatcher Trident Triumph - Reagan pledge on arms control. MPs anxious to have a statement. Leader says you return with the assurances you sought over Trident. You have laid fears that the USA had moved into a completely different gear to rest - witness to the force of your personality and the special relationship. But will Trident survive a new President? And were you right to go along with American negotiations with Iran?
- Guardian P1: PM brings Reagan back to earth. You have in effect extracted a promise he will end his flirtation with the campaign for nuclear disarmament;
- Guardian leader says that with the SDI the USA is consistently providing the Soviets with the tools to drive a wedge between Atlantic partners.
- Times: 'Thatcher talks fail to bridge chasm'. A fundamental difference of approach to arms control between the US and Western Europe remains unresolved. Europe has a cautious approach, America has a grand vision. Leader on the talks concludes it was "a Saturday well spent".

YOUR VISIT TO USA (CONT'D)

- FT: You have secured US support for modernising Britain's independent nuclear deterrent and refuse to be drawn into the controversy over the US sale of arms to Iran.
  
- Independent: Reagan heeds Thatcher on Europe's misgivings.

IRAN

- Mail leads with President Reagan under pressure to sack Regan and Poindexter.
- Shultz, on TV, says he had only fragmentary knowledge, at best, of USA's arms sales to Iran; is against further sales.
- Jon Akass, in Express, says Reagan won't be able this time to separate himself from the disasters of his Administration. This time he has come unstuck.
- Land Rover deny reports that it is making a secret deal with Iran, but admits it has opened negotiations to sell 3000 vehicles worth £27m; pressure is growing on you to approve it. Mail says we should be delighted with sale.
- Times: William Casey, Director of the CIA, will testify before the Senate intelligence committee, possibly this week, about President Reagan's secret arms supplies to Iran.
- Britain has been supplying Iran with spare parts for Chieftain tanks for some years and is in no position to criticise the US, says Dr David Owen.
- FT: Ministers unruffled by Land Rover's pending sale of vehicles to Iran "almost certainly for military use".

SYRIA

- Assad denies his country is involved in terrorism and accuses USA and Britain of trying to frighten Syria - Reagan and Thatcher are the real terrorists, he says.

DEFENCE

- Falklands DSC Captain to be court martialled after plans to cut the Naval fleet found on Thames towpath.
- CND votes to step up protests at American military bases and to give higher profile to British withdrawal from NATO.
- Times: Looks at the possibility of 2,500 job losses at GEC and the writing-off of a £900m research project if the AWACs contract goes to Boeing.

TEACHERS

- Threaten disruption if Kenneth Baker vetoes a deal agreed by a majority of their unions. Mr Baker expected to do so because it costs £300m more than Government's £2.4bn offer.
- Mail says Mr Baker is taking the deal back to Cabinet for a decision.
- Guardian says pressure is mounting on Mr Baker to back down on his threat to impose a settlement.
- Times: Mr Baker could face a Cabinet battle if he tries to secure agreement for the deal reached by employers and unions on Saturday.
- FT: Government likely to seek modifications to the teachers pay and conditions package agreed by employers; leader urges pay system which can respond to market demands and reward good, individual performance.
- Independent: Teachers' pay deal fails to please Baker; leader says the deal struck by teachers should not be lightly rejected and acceptance need not be regarded as a defeat. It is not perfect but it would be absurd to pretend it is so bad that it is worth risking anger and bitterness in rejecting it.
- David Hart, general secretary of head teachers, say they cannot consent to the ACAS agreement since they think it is a recipe for stagnation and lack of incentive.

POLITICS

- Militant Tendency conference raises £28,000 to help turn their weekly newspaper into a daily. Mail feature says conference threw down a gauntlet of defiance to the Labour Party.
- Hatton launches attack on Labour Party and says Militant is here to stay.
- Today says UDM will today announce they plan to run their own independent Labour candidate in Mansfield against Labour's hard Left candidate.
- SDP/Liberal Alliance appoint an advertising man as its new image maker.
- Mail says a hard line Militant sympathiser has been elected to succeed Jo Richardson as chairman of the Labour Party's Black and Asian Advisory Committee.
- Norman Tebbit says Labour's policies would cost 859,000 jobs (Guardian).
- Conservatives planning election strategy believe left-wing councils could prove as big a vote loser for Labour as its non-nuclear defence policy.
- The Conservative manifesto for the next election is expected to contain pledges of further law reforms designed to make unions more accountable to their members.

INDUSTRY

- French cheese imports up 20% on last year.
- Up to 450 Midland Bank branches could be closed down where business has moved away.
- E/Airways expected to make £140m half year profit.
- Government to announce a £6m scheme to advise home owners on how to avoid cowboy builders.
- B/Rail expected to announce 5% increase in rail fares next week.
- Westland diversifying away from helicopters to prevent a gap in orders (Telegraph).
- Deceptive advertising designed to exploit borrowers already in severe financial difficulty has exposed serious weaknesses in the Consumer Credit Act.
- FT: Ministers consider big increase in Britain's civilian space budget to enable the country to take part in large programmes sponsored by the ESA.
- FT: Ford commercial vehicle sales fall by 15%.
- FT: Labour MPs say Treasury underpricing shares in British Gas.
- FT: A small team of civil servants has been set up by DTI to try and ensure UK companies win as much work as possible on the Channel Tunnel.
- FT: Government is moving towards accepting a 3-year extension of the 15 independent broadcasting franchises.
- Prices of imported cars could go up 20% next year because of weakness of pound.



UNIONS

- Claims that Trots are using Government 'phones to whip up support in CPSA election re-run. Said to be spending £100,000 to get Macreadie re-elected.
- Guardian diary feature on Tory trade unionists' conference.

GCHQ

- Independent: Motion calling for union rights to be restored at GCHQ defeated at the Conservative Trades Unionists annual conference.

MEDIA

- Chairman of BBC resisting Norman Tebbit's call for an independent inquiry into his allegations of bias.
- Mirror leader says the BBC has a copper bottomed case against the monstrous and malevolent charges and it should pick up the challenge and agree to a referee. Nothing could be better for the BBC or more devastating for Mr Tebbit.
- Guardian says Mr Tebbit is isolated from Cabinet colleagues in his row with BBC.
- FT: Mr Tebbit and the BBC agree to disagree over coverage of the US bombing of Libya.
  
- Michael Grade, BBC, denies reports he is going to Central TV.
  
  
- Mary Whitehouse demands resignation of Jeremy Isaacs, Channel 4, for screening a late night film showing homosexual acts.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Star, criticising the concept of a resident's charge, asks why the Government continues to stay away from a local income and sales tax.
- Independent: Government could face long and embittered campaign against its Community Charge proposal.
- Independent: Wandsworth's successful competitive tendering policies show the way for other boroughs, but contracting out health service cleaning could grind to a halt unless changes are made, claims director of Contract Cleaning and Maintenance Association.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- BMA's magazine claims Britain's best doctors are going abroad because of cash shortages here.
- Teenager becomes one of the first double lung transplants in operation at Harefield Hospital.
- Mail says NUPE is seeking revenge on 9 members of Clwyd health authority after voting to privatise some services; it has blacked all their business interests.
- South Birmingham Health Authority paying award winning nurse £17,000 a year for doing nothing because, she thinks, she has her own ideas how to run things.
- Times: The Royal College of Pathologists is trying to impose greater controls over private laboratories processing cervical smears as it fears that some companies are exploiting NHS staff and providing sub-standard services.

AIDS

- Norman Fowler and Edwina Currie warn at the weekend that AIDS is going to get worse before it gets better.
- Case of young married teacher who has caught AIDS after being given an infected kidney in transplant operation.
- Sun leader says AIDS has opened up the debate about the permissive society; can we afford any longer to encourage the idea that homosexuality is not a perversion?
- Times: Pregnant women who have the AIDS virus should be offered abortions, says a specialist writing in the British Journal of Hospital Medicine.

EDUCATION

- Express says ILEA is split over spending policies, Finance Chief Bundred resigns over its sacrifice of money required for education to satisfy socialist principles.

HOUSING

- Times: John Patten will announce today the setting up of 50 centres in high streets all over Britain to ensure that householders get value for money from home improvements and repairs. *Funded by whom?*
- Easy loans are a prime cause of sharp price increases for first-time buyers, says the Inland Revenue Valuation Office.
- Private landlords are lining their pockets with supplementary benefit payments made to the mentally ill, COESE says.
- Independent: A housing development is being planned on a derelict site where asbestos and cyanide have been dumped. DOE have been asked to investigate; National Housing Forum says housing problems are getting worse.

LAW AND ORDER

- Six Asians being questioned after a fire bomb attack kills three Tamil students in E London.
- Animal Rights fanatics threatening to fire bomb stores at Christmas.
- All-party Committee to investigate claims that 17 Nazi war criminals live in Britain.
- Express launches "Beat the Burglar" campaign.
- Three Britons fined £1m in French court for drug smuggling - and jailed for 2 to 8 years.
- Guardian says Britain's only centre which aims to prevent sex crime recidivism is threatened with closure because of spending cuts.
- Much coverage of the opening of the MI5 case in Australia. Guardian says Government will claim that intelligence cooperation among Allies could be damaged if Wright is allowed to publish his memoirs.
- Guardian says the Criminal Justice Bill is not an appropriate response to the crime figures and is particularly critical of the tampering with the jury system.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- At least 110 arrested and 70 injured in violence following Loyalist demo against Anglo-Irish agreement; 48 police hurt. You make it clear in USA you won't change your commitment to Agreement.
- Kinnock to meet Molyneux and Paisley tomorrow and will find the Unionists in a quandary, according to Today, faced with a Prime Minister who will not back down.
- FT: Ministers re-affirm that commitment to the Anglo-Irish accord and say there is no threat to unionism.

ISRAEL

- Lawyer defending Vanunu flies into London it is believed to see Government officials.
- Times: The Israeli Cabinet yesterday heard a secret report from Mr Shamir on the Vanunu case. He is likely to have expressed confidence that Britain will not ask further questions.

SOUTH AFRICA

- Black activists threatening to wreck Christmas for Republic.
- Times: BP, the largest investor in South Africa, has called for apartheid to be abolished and said it is ready to contribute to a multi-million pound plan to help bring this about.

NORTH KOREA

- Reports that Kim-il-Sung has been assassinated.

EC

- Bust up expected today over idea of tax on British lamb imports to France and CAP crisis looming.

PEOPLE

- Times: Half page feature on your interview for the BBC programme "An Englishwoman's Wardrobe".

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DES: Mr Baker visits Open University

MOD: Mr Younger addresses Berkshire East Industrialists dinner

SO: Mr Rifkind presents Government's donation to Scottish Wildlife Appeal, Bawsinch Reserve; later addresses and presents awards to Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland, Edinburgh

DEM: Mr Lee helps launch of UK 2000 Initiative with Richard Branson, Rossendale (possible)

DEM: Mr Trippier at Local Enterprise directors' meeting, Ingol, 11 am

DEM: Mr Trippier visits Merseyside Education Training Enterprise Ltd, Liverpool, 2.30 pm

DES: Mr Rumbold visits Dr Challoners Grammer School; later addresses NAHT

DHSS: Mrs Currie visits Age Concern's "Bernard Sunley House", Surrey

DHSS: Mr Major to appear in Years Ahead - Channel 4 - Exceptionally Severe Weather Payments - 3.00 pm - Molinaire Studios

DOE: Lord Skelmersdale meets Open Space Society on Commonland legislation

DOE: Mr Tracy visits Pendle, Lancashire

DOE: Mr Patten launches Agency Services Schemes in Lewisham

DOE: Mr Tracey visits Pendle, Lancashire

DTP: Mr Moore opens the PACTS Road Safety Exhibition, HoC

DTP: Mr Bottomley visits site of Okehampton bypass; later addresses South Eastern branch of the Institution of Highways and Transportation

DTP: Lord Brabazon addresses General Council of British Shipping lunch, London

DTP: Mr Mitchell addresses the Essex Federation of Taxi Drivers' annual dinner meeting, Basildon

DTP: Mr Bottomley addresses the South Eastern branch of the Institution of Highways and Transportation, 6.30 pm

DTP: Mr Mitchell chairs shared taxi steering committee, MS am

DTP: Mr Mitchell addresses expo lunch at COI, Hercules Road, 12.30 pm

DTP: Mr Moore opens PACTS local safety exhibition, House of Commons, 4 pm

HMT: Mr Stewart addresses Westminster and City Programmes

MAFF: Mr Gummer and Mr Jopling attend Agriculture Council, Brussels, to 18 November

MAFF: The Lord Trefgarne visits Cameroon, until 20 November

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC) CONT'D

- SO: Mr Lang visits Lothians and Borders Fire Brigade HQ: later opens new depot for Tennant Caledonian Ltd, South Gyle Industrial Estate, both Edinburgh and later visits Fire Services Training School, Gullane
- WO: Mr Edwards attends reception for centenary of aluminium industry, London
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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- MAFF: Mr Jopling and Mr Gummer attend EC Agriculture Council, Brussels (to November 18)
- DEM: Mr Clarke attends OECD meeting, Paris (to November 19)
- DTI: Mr Pattie Attends London Chamber of Commerce Reception (Community Trade Marks Office)
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TV AND RADIO

- Mr Lang appears on Border Television - Questiontime: 10.30-11.30 pm
- "World in Action"; ITV (20.30): Will include feature on the Black community - has the state let them down?
- "Panorama"; BBC 1 (21.30): Will feature North Sea Oil
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