

Monday, 24 November 1986

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

HM The Queen visits Harrow School

Foreign Secretary attends EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels  
(to 25 November)

Debate on EC Draft Budget Documents

The Pope visits Australia

Deadline for Government's decision on surrendering of documents  
in connection with Wright case

World Heritage Committee meeting, Paris (to 28 November 28)

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STATISTICS

CBI: CBI monthly trends (Oct)

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PUBLICATIONS

None

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PARLIAMENT    Treasury and Civil Service Committee  
The Committee will take evidence on certain aspects of  
harmonisations of VAT in the EEC.

Commons        Petroleum Bill: 2nd Reading, Money and Ways and Means  
Resolutions.

Questions:    Energy; Transport

Business:     Adjournment Debate  
The future of Altrincham Geriatric Hospital  
(Sir Fergus Montgomery)

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PRESS DIGESTMI5

- Demands for a Privy Counsellors committee to be set up to review allegations against the Security Services.
- New revelations of treachery expected this week with publication of Joan Miller's book in Ireland.
- David Owen urges Government to drop court case in Australia.
- You are to be questioned about allegations that MI5 kept Harold Wilson under surveillance when he was Prime Minister. Joe Haines, in Mirror, says he will need a lot more convincing that the watch on Wilson was ever more than the work of a small, disgruntled group of paranoid Right wingers acting unofficially.
- Sun leader says beyond the "blunders and near farce" of the case in Sydney lies an issue vital to our national security. You have a duty to try to stop Wright from disclosing secrets entrusted to him and all politicians concerned with the national interest should support you. Yet Kinnock is doing everything possible to sabotage the Government's efforts.
- Express quotes Chapman Pincher as saying Wright's book will embarrass both Tories and Labour. Claims you and Foot reached a deal to play down spying allegations about Tom Driberg.
- Mail says your attempt to prevent publication has boomeranged but the efforts of the leader of the Opposition to exploit it seem doomed to failure. "For little Kinnock is the last man to pontificate on the nation's security".
- Telegraph says you have decided to press ahead with the Australian case, reinforced by concern in Whitehall that there could be a spate of revelations if you failed to stop Wright's book.
- Guardian says Labour has devised new Parliamentary techniques to bypass a Government block on Commons discussion of the Wright case, they are to concentrate today on our Lobby briefing on Friday which said Ministers felt Kinnock was not serious about becoming Prime Minister by playing games with national security.
- Times: Peter Wright's motive for helping Chapman Pincher to write his book "Their Trade is Treachery" was not that of a crusader exposing alleged traitors in MI5; he received 50% of the royalties.
- FT: Labour to step up attack on Prime Minister over MI5 case. John Hunt examines Opposition plans to make political mileage from the row with an election looming on the horizon.
- Independent: Havers may be spy case sacrifice. Opposition MPs believe story that Attorney General was responsible for decision to investigate Wright case in Australia who leaked in order to distance you from the decision.
- Independent: Brian Sedgemore MP has written to you asking why Jim Coe was used at Friday's Lobby briefing to launch "a vulgar party political attack" on the Labour leader.

KINNOCK

- Sun says Teddy Kennedy has turned down an approach by Kinnock for support for his defence policies. Strength of American feeling about his policies has shaken leader of the Opposition; political editor quotes Dr John Gilbert as saying Kinnock will be hard put to find a single Democrat who will give him a shred of comfort and leader says Americans, faced with his efforts to persuade them to trust a Labour Government, will judge they would be safer sharing a sleeping bag with a rattlesnake.
- Express, on P1, reports Kinnock as saying he is much closer to USA than you; his "astonishing" remarks made in New York Times interview and seen as a shallow attempt to win over the American people. His promise that American nuclear warships can use British ports will be seen as an empty gesture. There is no way he can pretend to rival your very special relationship with the ordinary American people; leader says Kinnock is whistling in the dark.
- Mail: Kinnock's defence U-turn to woo America - a reference to his accepting that American nuclear armed warships could use British waters and ports.
- Telegraph: "Young Kinnock" claims he is attuned to the US because he is 17 years younger than you.

POLITICS

- Today claims that you will sack the Chancellor if you have a late election because he is barely on speaking terms with other members of the Cabinet.
- Kinnock trying to block election of a TGWU Militant nominee to the National Consultative Committee of the Labour Party.
- Liberal Party Council has bowed to Steel's demand that it withdraw its request for a special party conference and back the leadership's position on nuclear weapons.
- Mick McGahey, NUM, in interview with FT, says the main issue today is how to roll back Thatcherism because this is a new phenomenon in British politics.
- FT; Mr Healey tells Glasgow rally Scotland could have its own elected assembly in operation within two years of a Labour win at the next election.

ECONOMY

- CBI's buoyant forecast of falling unemployment to below 3m in 1988, steady growth but higher inflation and a balance of payments deficit. Midland Bank economists broadly support this outlook.
- Mail says this lends weight to those Ministers who want you to go for an early election.
- Telegraph says the reports show that growth is gathering pace with two years of improvement in prospect.
- Times leader says tax cuts and tax reform should not be put back on the shelf again.
- London Business School says a cut in basic rate to 27% is possible in the next budget without any increase in Government borrowing.
- Times: Prospects for manufacturing output are brightening, according to the results of the CBI's latest monthly trends inquiry.
- FT: West German economy likely to show average real growth next year of just over 2%, lower than originally expected.
- FT: Sam Brittan argues that with the collapse of monetary targets, the only possible framework relates to the exchange rate.

INDUSTRY

- Tesco offering staff who have been saving since 1981 chance to take £3,900 with interest or buy shares, now £4, at their 1981 price of 48p.
- Friends of the Earth say Government is not doing enough to stop acid rain pollution.
- Institute of Directors says companies are becoming weighed down with quasi legal codes of practice which are likely to restrict the number of new jobs.
- FT: Leyland Vehicles loses £103m as bus subsidiary problems continue.
- Independent: B/Caledonian fights B/Airways attempt to take over its Gatwick-Atlanta route.

UNIONS

- Alan Sapper, ACTT, reprimanded by his executive over a report of high living in the union; motion of no confidence to come before union general council on Sunday.
- Today says Eric Hammond, EETPU, will take the TUC to court if he is ordered to tell his members not to cross the Wapping picket line; he is before the TUC F & GP Committee today.
- SOGAT '82 may have to sell its head office and two convalescent homes to pay legal bills in its dispute with Murdoch.
- Leader of MoD's no-strike staff association says the Civil Service is becoming increasingly de-unionised as a direct result of ultra-Left policies in Whitehall unions.

TEACHERS

- Telegraph Gallup poll says most teachers support the Government's aim of introducing a new career structure which provides additional pay for better and senior teachers but are deeply divided over the extent to which those at the top should be rewarded at the expense of those at the bottom; leader says the preference for the LEA/unions deal rather than Kenneth Baker's is not so strong that an overall majority would willingly strike to enforce it but the NUT and NAS could risk one.

EDUCATION

- Star leader on Royal Society report on schools that 20% of secondary schools in city centres have no qualified maths teachers says this is a far bigger problem than the pay dispute.
- Sun criticised by Press Council for bracketing all members of Manchester City Council as Militants.
- Paul Johnson, in Mail, worries about English ceasing to be the main language of instruction in areas of high immigration where Labour ideologues are in control. Kenneth Baker must take steps to counter this insidious effort to undermine English as Britain's national language.
- Harry Greenaway says many parents in Ealing are near to violence against councillors who are responsible for pushing homosexual propaganda through schools.
- Times: A radical plan to impose a national curriculum on schools is being drawn up by a group of Right-wing ministers and backbenchers for inclusion in the Conservative manifesto for the election.
- Independent: Teachers are afraid to speak out against anti-racist educational policies, according to book by former deputy head of English at a London comprehensive.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Kinnock planning a fightback against Tory criticism of loony Left councils; will try to highlight Labour councils allegedly trying to protect services in the face of Tory "cuts". Cunningham intends to argue that the real enemies of community services are extremists like Messrs Tebbit, Ridley and Lawson.
- Warlock and Sheppard, Liverpool clerics, support report which accuses Militant dominated Liverpool City council of racism.
- FT: Mr Ridley plans more urban development corporations - but without the financial support of Whitehall.
- FT: Study by London Business School says local authorities can save £80m a year by putting refuse collection out to tender.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Allegations that doctor in BBC "Childwatch" programme has wrongly diagnosed sex abuse in families; Star, still campaigns for you to appoint a Minister for Children.
- Mirror attacks on Government continued, says West London Hospital is to shut down its unit famous for caring for premature babies because of Government cuts.
- Times: Health authorities are being forced to pay huge sums to private locum agencies providing temporary medical cover as more doctors opt for high private rates.
- Times: The Prince of Wales will announce on Thursday a "Band Aid for inner cities" initiative. He hopes it will help unemployed and badly-housed people in the same way that Bob Geldof's campaign helped the starving in Africa.

HEALTH/WELFARE (Cont'd)

- Independent: Frank Dobson MP accuses health ministers of "burying the bad news" of NHS waiting lists by announcing it in a written answer on Friday afternoon after the AIDS publicity launch.

TRANSPORT

- Calls for public inquiry into safety of Swan Hunter cargo vessel series after 28 seamen rescued by RAF off Ireland when Master abandons ship.

MEDIA

- Express says a BBC producer faces disciplinary action after admitting he had made a blatantly one-sided programme about smoking.
- Channel 4 to discuss tomorrow idea of severing its ties with ITV and sell its own airtime.

AIDS

- More full page adverts offering advice.
- Peter Bruinvels MP wants brothels to be legalised and licensed to counter the spread of AIDS.
- Mirror leads with report that 18 teenage vice boys, aged 14-18, are roaming the streets of London spreading the disease and are determined to infect as many clients as possible; leader says this call of revenge has to be stopped and every person charged with prostitution must be tested.
- Today says scientists may be close to a breakthrough on a vaccine.
- Edinburgh consultant calls for free heroin on the NHS to slow down the spread of AIDS.

LAW AND ORDER

- Independent: A major overhaul of prison standards to prevent them operating in a "moral vacuum" is called for in a critical report commissioned by Director General of the Prison Service. Inside, two pages are devoted to the state of Britain's jails. Leader says the system is under severe strain; responsibility for penal policy reform stretches beyond the next election.



LAW AND ORDER (CONT'D)

- Sun claims a witness police wish to interview in the Harvey Proctor spanking case has disappeared.
- Some doctors calling for random breath testing at Christmass.
- Mirror claims that a private detective agency was paid £500,000 secretly to tap the 'phones of British industrialists; second Essex policeman suspended as inquiries proceed. Mail says the case involves millions of pounds.
- Telegraph says 50 executives may be bugged.
- Times: A £2.75m programme to tighten security on 12 crime-ridden council estates will be announced today by John Biffen.
- Tory MPs likely to back Select Committee report which will recommend end of imprisonment for almost all aged under 18.

MOORS MURDERS

- Hindley said to be about to return to Saddleworth Moor to help police find further bodies.
- Express say police are studying a claim that Brady buried another six victims on the Moor.
- Mail leader says Myra Hindley, for motives of her own, is staging this macabre show. What this evil woman wants is to slough off some of her guilt on to the broken Brady and to secure her own freedom. The police would do well to ask themselves: who would be taking whom for a ride?
- Guardian leader wonders what is going on. Should the Moors murders rank so high in the priority of a force which has 150,000 unsolved crimes each year. Now we have a sordid and self serving carousel whose main effect seems to be to provide shock horror headlines for the tabloid press. For the present the only thing that can be found on Saddleworth Moor is publicity. No good can come of the search.

ENVIRONMENT

- Independent: Today's EC Environment Council is unlikely to improve Britain's image as the "dirty man" of Europe. The most that William Waldegrave can hope for is one or two workable compromises on vehicle and power station emissions.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- 5 soldiers hurt when terrorists mortar bomb police and army post from just inside Republic.
- FT: Anglo-Irish accord praised by SDLP.

AUSTRIA

- Star says you have barred Kurt Waldheim from Britain; meanwhile Greville Janner MP is considering naming 17 ex-Nazis believed to be living in Britain.
- General election produces swing to Right; though Socialists still likely to form next Government.

PHILIPPINES

- Mrs Aquino beats off coup and restructures Government.

SOUTH AFRICA

- Now Barclays to announce pull-out.
- International mining unions' conference calls on governments to stop importing South African coal.
- Times: By the end of the year, the UN Security Council will be presented with sanctions proposals that stand a strong chance of avoiding the US veto. If the initiative by Zimbabwe and Zambia succeeds it will force Britain and West Germany to take effective measures.

IRAN

- Tiny Rowland says he refused to help in the arms for Iran deal and Sir Antony Acland took up the issue with Poindexter who said the allegations of arms dealing were untrue.
- Mubarak and Hussein criticise Reagan for sending arms to Iran.
- Nancy Reagan calling for those responsible for debacle to be sacked - Regan, North and Poindexter in firing line.
- Independent: Sir Antony Acland, the Permanent Under Secretary at the Foreign Office, discussed anti-terrorism policies at the White House on the day (May 28) that Robert Macfarlane flew to Tehran in a plane loaded with American weapons.
- Times: George Shultz has admitted that he attended 2 White House discussions on arms sales, contradicting statements that he had only been "sporadically" informed.

ARGENTINA

- Times: Britain's ability to keep its European partners in line on the Falklands is expected to be delivered a further blow in the UN general assembly meeting today.

FRANCE

- Independent: France's privatisation programme gets under way this morning with share issue for glass-makers Saint Gobain.

EC

- Times: You are to propose that fairness in Britain and the rest of Europe take land out of production to rid the Common Market of its £8.7bn food mountains.

JAPAN

- Independent: Likelihood of Gorbachev visit to Tokyo in January fades.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Lord Young speaks at Permoglaze Paints 175th anniversary lunch, Painters Hall, London 12.30 am
- DEM: Mr Clarke at AIDS booklet ("AIDS and Employment") launch press conference, Caxton House, 11.00 am
- DEM: Mr Clarke addresses Union of Independent Companies lunchtime
- DOE: Mr Ridley speaks at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) press conference at the Institute of Civil Engineers
- MAFF: Mr Jopling, Mr Gummer, Mr Thompson and Lord Belstead attend Regional Panel Chairmen Meeting, Whitehall Place
- SO: Mr Rifkind hosts dinner for Scottish Television and Radio executives, Edinburgh Castle; Mr Lang and Mr Mackay attending
- CO: Mr Luce visits DHSS, Stoke Newington Office
- DEM: Mr Trippier speaks to National Association of Retail Furnishers Ltd, Tara Hotel, London, 11.30 am and later attends reception of Restaurateurs Association, Chesterfield Hotel
- DEN: Mr Howard addresses National Home Safety Seminar (ROSPA) in Solihull
- DES: Mr Dunn addresses CVCP conference on shortage subject teachers (CVCP: Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals) and later the Schools/Industry Prize Dinner
- DOE: Mr Patten visits John Laing's at Mill Hill to look at housing developments
- DTI: Mr Howard addresses National Home Safety Seminar (ROSPA) in Solihull
- DTI: Mr Shaw speaks at European Business Institute
- DTP: Lord Brabazon opens the A12 Chelmsford Bypass
- HMT: Mr Macgregor to address the political supper club
- HO: Mr Waddington addresses Muslim organisation at the Hilton Hotel
- HO: Mr Hogg presents an award of best Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Brentwood
- SO: Mr Mackay opens BP Fish Nutrition factory, Inverness
- WO: Mr Robinson visits BUPA hospital, Cardiff

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DEN: Mr Clark attends Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels
- DES: Mr Walden visits China
- DOE: Mr Waldergrave chairs the EC Environment Council Meeting - Lord Skelmersdale in attendance, Brussels

TV AND RADIO

"The World in Action"; ITV (20.30): No advance information available

"Panorama"; BBC 1 (21.30): Will feature Falklands and fishing