

27 November 1986

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

HM The Queen opens extension to the Royal Hampshire County Hospital  
Prime Minister meets Moderator of the Church of Scotland

The Princess of Wales presents awards for Westminster City Council's Anti-Drug campaign

The Prince and Princess of Wales attend a dinner to inaugurate the Princes' Trust Youth Business Appeal, at the Mansion House  
Scottish rates Bill

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STATISTICS

DEN: Energy Trends (Sept)

DTP: New vehicle registrations (Oct)

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PUBLICATIONS

HM Customs Annual Report 1985-86

HMSO: Cancer statistics registrations 1983

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PARLIAMENT

Commons Criminal Justice Bill: 2nd Reading and Money resolution

Questions: Northern Ireland, Agriculture and Fisheries; Prime Minister

Business: Procedures for investigating disciplinary allegations against senior police officers, the case of Mr John Stalker (Mr T Lloyd)

Lords Family Law Reform Bill (HL): Second Reading  
Functions of Traffic Wardens (Scotland) Amendment order  
1986: Motion for Approval  
Suppression of Terrorism Act 1978 (Application of Provisions)(United States of America) Order 1986: Motion for Approval

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTREAGAN/IRAN

- Meese admits "some other people" had taken part in funnelling Iranian arms money to Contras.
- Reagan under pressure to go.
- Reagan announces a thorough review under the National Security Council.
- Star says at the very least Reagan has been badly battered but people should stop cracking Spitting Image-type jokes and reflect on the real consequences since he is the leader of the West. No one will gain if a lame duck president sits at the conference table.
- Sun says it is absurd to talk of another Watergate - that was a criminal conspiracy, whereas Reagan has done nothing wrong.
- Today says Reagan orders a witch hunt; leader says it looks like the tip of a monstrous iceberg and one big enough to sink the "Good Ship Reagan. Is he capable of exercising the authority and grasp of affairs his job demands?"
- Express: Reagan in turmoil as crisis simmers; feature on Col North - "Downfall of Reagan's cowboy colonel".
- Mail leads with Reagan goes on holiday leaving behind confusion, dismay and talk of conspiracy. Colonel North is rapidly emerging as the classic American spook.
- Mail leader says what has been uncovered is a double double-cross of Congress by two men answerable to the President. Did Col North go ape on his own initiative or was he given the nod, and if so by whom? Your instinct is to support Reagan and do nothing to compound his difficulties. That's not sycophancy; its sound and prudent statesmanship.
- Times: A trio of "wise men" under former Texas senator John Tower, will investigate the National Security Council; initial investigations exonerated all the President's top officials, although Congress challenge the finding.
- Geoffrey Smith, in Times, says nobody can be sure that changes - no matter how sweeping - will restore the credit of the Reagan Administration. But it will not be established without them.
- Times leader says it is not measures but men whom President Reagan should change. A thorough house-cleaning is in order.
- FT leader says the President needs help if paralysis on a Nixonian scale is not to ensue.
- Independent: Reagan fails to quell disbelief. Leader says it is not so much President Reagan's integrity as his competence that is at stake.
- Telegraph says Reagan and senior members of his Cabinet have allowed themselves to be questioned in Department of Justice's own inquiry. David Owen, in Telegraph, says the rapid resotation of Reagan's authority is in all our interests.
- Guardian says Reagan is floundering and Bush is a sitting duck; leader wonders why Administrators do these undercover things and why they never seem to learn since they are found out.

MI5

- Lord Rothschild to centre stage - with media raking up questions over whether he is Fifth Man.
- Australian judge says he must see secret papers - presented as another setback for UK Government.
- Star: Was Rothschild a spy? Labour MPs ask; both Rothschild and Sir Arthur Franks, MI6, face prosecution.
- Sun - Rothschild must face Secrets Act probe.
- Today: Secrets row peer may be charged; Christopher Monckton feature says the Secret Service must stay secret and agents in the field need to be protected at all costs, but he argues the Government and Sir Robert have played their hand with disgraceful incompetence.
- Mirror: Secrets charge threat to peer. Another story asks whether Rothschild was a Soviet agent - taking its cue from Sedgemore's PQ; leader says all who work for British Intelligence have the duty to take their secrets to the grave and the Government is right to seek to ban the publication anywhere of Wright's memoirs. You deserve support for saying he owes a lifelong duty of confidentiality to the Crown. But there are questions to be answered, eg did you authorise a plot before it was hatched or accept one afterwards?
- Express P1 lead: Rothschild: was he the fifth man? Labour MPs demand an answer. Meanwhile, Chapman Pincher accuses Labour Party of a dirty tricks campaign to shame the Government over the "bungled Sydney trial". Pincher also says lawyer Turnbull wants to make a name for himself and has admitted to him over the 'phone that he is playing dirty; leader says Rothschild has some serious questions to answer. On whose behalf was he acting when he encouraged Wright to publish? He should say. And Wright's admissions have made your case for protecting confidentiality.
- Mail: Maggie challenge over fifth man. Worried Tory MPs are under no illusion Labour's aim is to damage your credibility. Colin Welch says Tory Backbenchers are getting increasingly vexed about Labour allegations against people outside the House in bogus points of order.
- Times: Dr Owen has questioned the political neutrality of Sir Robert Armstrong; Chapman Pincher has attacked the manner in which Lord Rothschild and Sir Arthur have become embroiled in the political controversy.
- FT: "MI5 case judge attacks UK secrecy ploy". Britain is doing its damndest to stop anyone getting near the document.
- Independent: Government may charge Rothschild. You confirm that Sir Michael Havers met Chapman Pincher on New Year's Day 1983. The bizarre question as to whether Sir Michael would consider taking legal action against himself might be raised. A well-informed source last night said you had not been fully informed of the detailed case against Hollis.
- Telegraph P1: DPP looks into Rothschild claims; leader says Rothschild owes a public explanation but it seems extraordinary unlikely you were privy to what he was up to. You must make a vigorous counter offensive with the fullest possible statement.
- Guardian says a number of influential Tories now believe you will order another security inquiry to try to settle the issues.

ECONOMY

- NIESR says unemployment will fall below 3m next year, but inflation will rise to 6%. But forecasts record trade gap.
- Living standards in Britain may soon be overtaken by those in Italy, says the National Institute (Times).
- Sir Geoffrey Howe warns against delaying full membership of the EMS.
- Sam Brittan in FT, says the north/south house price divide is a major cause of unemployment.

INDUSTRY

- Scott Lithgow make 1500 men redundant.
- Lonrho denies a report in the British magazine "Eusiness" that it is negotiating to take over US interests in Libya.
- Sir Adrian Cadbury calls on Government to save manufacturing; says Britain cannot rely on service industries to create jobs in special study of unemployment for Foundation for Business Responsibility.
- Reading academic accuses electricity industry of bogus accounting in claiming phasing out of nuclear power stations would raise electricity bills 50%; rise would be 10%.
- Britain's top managers earn an average of £72,000 a year, according to Institute of Directors.
- Frank Chapple, in Mail, says life has taught him that most of the time you get what you pay for and it pays to pay our bosses much more.
- Full-page advertisements appear for GEC's Nimrod and against AWACs headed "Both will defend Britain. Only one will defend British industry.
- The construction industry is being boosted by increasing orders for offices, factories and shopping centres.

INDUSTRY (CONT'D)

- All-party support for a campaign to stop the privatisation of Rolls Royce is growing and is likely to stop the plan being implemented before the next election (Times).

UNIONS

- TUC split over support for Wapping print workers; votes 24-21 against taking action against EETPU for collaborating with Murdoch.
- More than 1m fewer workers are covered by closed shops.
- Guardian says this marks the effective end of the most significant phase of the dispute.

TRANSPORT

- Government launches new Christmas drive against the drunken motorist.
- Civil Aviation Authority to spend £1.6m on research into Chinook helicopter safety.
- Times: Alcohol Concern has attacked the £600,000 Drink/Drive campaign as being seriously underpowered.

MEDIA

- Sun launches the Sun Scholarship of Journalism.
- Sun criticises choice of Sir Donald Maitland as deputy chairman of IBA - "how marvellous if one day the top jobs in TV went to people who actually knew something about TV".
- Sun notes that Derek Hatton tried to charge BBC £1000 for an interview - nice to see a lad wanting to get on, but he will have to learn his true market value: 5p.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Sun says ratepayers of Tower Hamlets are paying £5000 a week to keep 21 Asian families who conned their way into Britain in hotels.
- Times: The publication today of the Bill to establish a new rating system for Scotland marks the beginning of the end of a 13-year quest by you to reform the rating system throughout the country.

INNER CITIES:

- Prince Charles seeks help of Band Aid advisers to help improve the environment in cities by raising momey.

TEACHERS

- Scottish teachers decisively reject offer.
- Government looks certain to impose pay deals after today's Cabinet.
- Sun: Maggie to force the teachers to accept deal; you will bring in the law.
- Mirror: Teachers' pay deal blocked.
- Times: Cabinet will today agree legislation to impose a settlement in the teachers' dispute. Kenneth Baker will make a statement announcing a Bill to scrap Burnham and giving him enabling powers to implement his package.
- FT: "Legislation ready to impose pay deal on teachers."

TEACHERS (CONT'D)

- Independent: Baker to veto teachers' pay deal. But highly placed Government sources said last night that the final details of proposals going to Cabinet this morning were "far from being set in concrete".



EDUCATION

- Express reports that boys and girls are being forced to use the same lavatories because of sex equality policy at ILEA school in Greenwich.
- Mail says Brent Council has hit back with a vengeance - Miss McGoldrick must face a disciplinary hearing and it is now gunning for the governors and parents of her school.
- Labour peers will have a free vote next month on a private peer's bill to curb pro-homosexual bias in some Labour-controlled schools.
- Independent: Employers will be able to claim tax relief for providing temporary science teachers under new scheme.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Smoking may be costing the economy £4bn.
- Owen and Steel launch campaign for more housing repairs and insulation to minimise hypothermia.
- Mirror says a heart unit at Westminster Hospital is to close because it has caused a cash crisis by saving too many lives.
- Times: Patients should be told more about the risks of medical treatment, rather than receiving "benevolent deception", says a report by the Office of Home Economics.

AIDS

- More full page adverts today.
- English Collective of Prostitutes says they are totally against a Ministerial plan, according to Mirror, to license brothels to limit spread of AIDS.
- Mirror has a cartoon with you surrounded by Cabinet members with their hands in the air over a caption; "Come now gentlemen, you can't all be Minister of Brothels".
- Frank Chapple, in Mail, thinks the adverts are a complete waste of money because they are mealy mouthed.
- The number of people treated for AIDS in the first 10 months of this year was 267, compared with 161 for the whole of 1985.
- Independent: Leader says Cabinet must decide this week whether to choose the lesser of two evils by giving free sterile syringes to drug addicts.

TERRORISM

- Lord Paget, in Lords, attacks Terry Waite for giving terrorists publicity.
- Hindawi's brother gets 14 years for terrorism in Berlin.

LAW AND ORDER

- 2 men being questioned over 3 murders and 27 rapes in South East.
- Man detained in hospital charged with murder of policeman killed in fall from fifth floor of Stoke on Trent block of flats.
- Assistant Commissioner Dellow believes that the Mr Bigs of British crime could be funding international terrorism with drugs and arms proceeds.
- Douglas Hurd, supporting Mail campaign, is keen to get action against weapons which can be freely bought in shops.
- The average home is burgled once every 35 years - the Government is approaching the general election without a programme of law and order. Instead, it will rely on its record (Times).
- Independent: Recession and industrial decline has been a key factor in crime increase, according to Home Office working paper on criminal justice.
- Guardian claims that the Government is concealing the rise in crime in its report.

POLITICS

- Labour Party said to be likely to disband the Knowsley N Labour Party.
- Hattersley intercedes to secure re-admission of 3 activists who were expelled from his constituency party.
- Mail leader wants to hear some commonsense on race, of the kind shown by two Labour councillors in Berkshire about racial awareness courses.
- Frank Chapple, in Mail, says Kinnock's all talk and no action over PC Blakelock, of Broadwater Farm. Why doesn't he disown Bernie Grant; and he gives the hypocrite of the week award to Larry Whitty for attacking the UDM's decision to field their own candidate in Mansfield against official hard Left candidate.
- The Alliance has pledged a £2.8bn spending boost to overcome housing problems.
- Labour Party now sets up inquiry into recent events in Liverpool which made Byrne leader of the council.

PEOPLE

- Claims that King George V's death was speeded up by drugs and timed to catch the morning newspapers.
- Edwina Currie says she is allergic to household dust and that rules out housework.

FALKLANDS

- Sun salutes Belize, Oman and Sri Lanka who backed us in the UN vote.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Mr Clarke at launch of Princes Trust Youth Business Appeal, Mansion House
- DES: Mr Baker visits Sefton LEA
- DEN: Mr Walker and Jimmy Tarbuck present Monergy microwave Cook of the Year Prizes, Sharps, Vere Street
- DEM: Mr Trippier at International Conference on Tourism and the 1990s, Gloucester Hotel, Kensington
- DEM: Mr Trippier at Training for Success event, Bristol
- DEM: Mr Lee visits Harrow
- DES: Mrs Rumbold visits Oxford
- DHSS: Mrs Currie to attend launch of Women and Smoking publication, 78 New Oxford Street
- DHSS: Mr Newton to attend RHA/DHA Chairmen's meeting, St Bartholomew's Hospital
- DHSS: Baroness Trumpington attends Primary Care Review Consultation meeting, London
- DOE: Mr Patten visits Stratford-upon-Avon to look at housing projects
- DOE: Mr Tracey opens Burgess Field Housing Scheme for the elderly (Kensington and Chelsea)
- DTI: Mr Howard speaks at the Soap and Detergent Industry Association Annual Dinner; Addresses 2 Day CBI Conference on International Competition Law and Policy
- DTI: Mr Butcher appears on central TV's "Central Lobby" about freeports
- DTP: Mr Mitchell addresses Bradford Chamber of Commerce
- FCO: Mrs Chalker addresses South Africa Foundation
- FCO: Mrs Chalker addresses Industry and Parliament Trust
- DTI: Lord Lucas visits Holland, EC Internal Market (2 Days)
- HO: Mr Waddington addresses Ealing Muslim College
- HO: Mr Hogg visits Sussex police
- HO: Mr Mellor addresses Westminster Ribbon Awards (Drugs) luncheon in presence of HRH Princess of Wales
- MAFF: Mr Thompson opens FAWC Education Seminar, Stoneleigh; later attends Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons reception, Belgrave Square
- OAL: Mr Luce starts a two-day visit to various arts institutions in Yorkshire and Humberside
- WO: Mr Robinson visits Business in the Community, Newport and attends Neath Town Twinning ceremony
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TV AND RADIO

"Advice Shop"; BBC 1 (09.45): How to get help with fuel bills this winter

"Union World"; Channel 4 (18.30): Trade Unionists in the spotlight

"Open Space"; BBC 2 (19.25): 36 hours in a busy general hospital casualty department

"This Week"; ITV (21.30)

"Question Time"; BBC 1 (22.00): With Sir Robin Day are Becky Bryan, John Moore MP, and Clare Short MP

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