

4 February 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prince and Princess of Wales attend premiere of film "Mosquito Coast" in aid of the Prince's Trust at the Odeon Theatre, Haymarket, London SW1

National Economic Development Council

Social Services Select Committee hears DHSS evidence on AIDS screening

Trade and Industry Select Committee takes evidence from GKN on motor components

STATISTICS

DEM: Overseas travel and tourism (Nov)

DEN: Advance energy statistics (Dec)

PAY

University non clerical academic staff; 35,900

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Environment; Scotland; Foreign and Commonwealth

Business: Until about seven o'clock, Second Reading of the Rate Support Grants Bill, afterwards, Second Reading of the Parliamentary and Health Service Commissioners Bill

Motions on the Rent (Relief from Phasing) Order and the Protected Shorthold Tenancies (Rent Registration) Order

Adjournment Debate

The definition of seasonal workers (Mr A Rogers)

Select Committees: FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Subject: Cyprus
Witnesses: Rt Hon Baroness Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: Motor Components Industry
Witnesses: GKN (at 10.45 am); ASTMS and TAPP (at 11.30 am)

HOME AFFAIRS

Subject: Prisons
Witnesses: Prison Reform Trust (at 4.15 pm); Howard League for Penal Reform (at 5.00 pm)

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Subject: Forestry Commission: Review of Forestry Objectives and Achievements
Witness: G J Francis, Forestry Commission

Select Committees (Cont'd)**SOCIAL SERVICES**

Subject: The problems associated with
AIDS

Witness: Department of Health and
Social Security

TRANSPORT

Subject: Merchant Shipping
Witnesses: National Union of Seamen
(at 4.15 pm); International Association
of Navigation Schools (at approximately
5.15 pm)

ENVIRONMENT

Subject: Pollution of Rivers and
Estuaries

Witnesses: Department of the Environment
Officials

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: Motor Components Industry

Witnesses: AEU (at 4.45 pm); TGWU
(at 5.15 pm)

Lords: Debate to call attention to problems which have arisen in certain
local authorities and to the policies pursued by them

Patents (Amendment) Bill: Committee
UQ on take-up of benefits

MINISTERS -See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- Anger at sentences in Ealing rape case compounded by 14 year sentence on leader of burglary who was not accused of rape and remarks of Vicar. Young man bludgeoned in raid says rapist should be castrated. Reinforces campaign for Appeal Court to be able to review lenient sentences.
- BBC/Zircon coverage divided between Kinnock losing his cool and Attorney General's lunch with Campbell. Mail says workers at GCHQ are under suspicion for leaking top secrets.
- Terry Waite said to be still in West Beirut; nominated for Nobel Peace Prize by MPs.
- Tough controls to be brought in for police use of guns.
- Two armed robbers in Herts, in hospital after shoot out with police.

MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Express claims Reagan and Gorbachev are planning a summer summit.
- TASS union ordered to re-run election after block vote frauds.
- Brezhnev's son-in-law arrested in Russia on bribery and corruption charges.
- White House communications head, Patrick Buchanan, resigns.

BBC/ZIRCON

- Sun: Maggie slaps down "Raging Bull" Neil. She claims 'hysterical' secrets raid attack. Kinnock's own front benchers had to restrain him.
- Star: Attorney General becomes centre of attention with allegations he entertained Campbell.
- Today: Kinnock and Thatcher in spy uproar - you accuse Kinnock of becoming hysterical.
- Mirror: Spy raid blast at "Spiteful" Maggie - you are accused of sweeping aside civil rights and liberties to get revenge over leak; leader says that if you believe that Attorney General was acting only in his judicial role you will believe anything; George Gale says there are times when your Government seems determined to lose the next election with its cackhanded handling of this affair, with overbearing behaviour .
- Express P2: Havers in storm over 'lunch with writer'.
- Mail P2: My lunch with Havers on the BBC; Campbell says he met Attorney on several occasions during the making of the Zircon film.
- Telegraph: Hunt for Zircon mole switches to GCHQ. Feature asks if Attorney General is being made the fall guy.
- Guardian: Commons source points to high level GCHQ mole. BBC raid fury rebuffed with hint of arrest.
- FT: Senior ministers believe that the identification of the person who leaked project Zircon will justify the raid on the BEC HQ in Glasgow.

RAPE CASE

- Vicar suggests that if victims of rape and brutality had not coped so well, those charged would have got tougher sentences.
- Sun says sentences were outrageously low. If a rapist faced 15 years there would be fewer rapes.
- Star says all Britain is asking the question of the leader of the burglary sentenced to 14 years - what about the rapes?
- Today describes rape sentences as 'insulting' to girl and "almost frivolously light". How did the judge justify making crimes against property count for more than against the person? Government must look at law which makes allowances for rapists who admit their crime and Judge should never be given another rape case.
- Mirror leads with "disgusting, outrageous, shameful" comment by woman's editor.
- Express: Appalling - now the three vicarage rape victims attack "soft" judge: "all concessions made to defendants"; leader headed "A sentence against justice" says the sentences are an affront to the victim. Average time a rapist now spends behind bars has dropped to 20 months.
- Mail leads with quote from Vicar: "This cannot be justice"; leader says they find it impossible to stomach the leniency and prissy logic of the judge's grotesque imbalance of his sentencing. Ten years for rape must be the minimum and if judges won't dispense adequate justice they must be disciplined by the law.
- Telegraph P1 lead: Rape case burglar gets 14 years; leader headed "A disturbing case" says there is reason to be disturbed by the sentences. The scale of the sentences is awry because it does not accord with the priorities a civilised society should be enjoined to observe.
- Guardian: Victims attack 'soft' rape terms.
- Times: The rapists sentenced yesterday for 8 and 10 years will be eligible for parole in 2½ years; leader says the rape sentences strengthen the case for the Government pressing ahead with plans for a review system for controversial cases.
- Independent: Vicars join MPs to protest about "abysmal and lenient" sentences. Leader says sentences do not reflect guidelines laid down by Court of Appeal.

LAW AND ORDER

- Extradition proceedings begin against 26 British soccer fans allegedly involved in the Heysel soccer tragedy.

POLITICS

- Times: Labour has taken the extraordinary step of reprinting a key part of its manifesto for the May local elections after the original version was leaked by the Times two weeks' ago. It has watered down its line on bringing the police under "democratic supervision".
- Labour is facing a difficult internal dispute over an attempt by the Left to change its policy on Northern Ireland so that Protestants would not have the right to veto the formation of a United Ireland.
- Mr Tebbit may have to wait 18 months to get his libel writ against the Guardian heard.
- Independent: Four North East families pinned letters to the gates outside Dulwich calling on you to scrap new law cutting mortgage payments to the unemployed.
- Nicholas Ridley warns voters that every worker could pay supertax at 60p if Labour gained power, some of it financing mad schemes by Left councils.
- John Vincent, in Sun, says that while you strain every nerve to bring City fraudsters to book it is obvious that Kinnock is "wholly powerless" to restrain Left councils like Brent.
- BBC Newsnight poll suggests Labour are 22 points ahead in Greenwich.
- Today says Michael Heseltine's message to Tory Party is "The Conservative Party will never govern Britain from the South of England. It will govern as a national party or not at all".
- Mail says Kinnock put on a brave face yesterday for a photocall by Deirdre Wood, Greenwich candidate.
- Telegraph says Left wing councils in London have accused Kinnock and party leadership of "outdoing the Tories" in their criticism of "Loony lefties".

LABOUR LAW

- Sun says Government wants to outlaw strikes in public services; Today says you are pushing ahead with plan to ban such strikes to appear in manifesto.
- Express: Maggie hints at ban on strikes in key jobs.

UNIONS

- B/Telecom march in London today.
- EETPU and NUR in row over electricians' plan to recruit railway workers.

ECONOMY/BUDGET

- You slap down Archbishop of Canterbury (Sun) - handing out more money is not the way to end poverty and riots. Express, noting Archbishop has been slow to address the moral issues raised by AIDS, says we would perhaps all be better off if he concentrated on spiritual leadership rather than with giving duff economic advice.
- TUC calls for £6.5bn package to boost construction, social services, health and education.

ECONOMY/BUDGET (Cont'd)

- Today reports more than 200,000 jobs are going begging because of a shortage of skilled staff.
- Lord Young says more people are setting up their own businesses than at any time since 1920s.
- FT leader offers its own recipe for a successful budget. The British economy is thriving and should be the envy of the developed world. The Budget Judgement is therefore clear: Mr Lawson must be cautious and improve incentives rather than simply raise incomes in the short term.
- FT: Inland Revenue mis-management of computer project led to losses of £16.5m says a National Audit Office Report.
- Times: Half of Britain's overseas trade last year was with the EEC.
- Independent: At an exhibition for entrepreneurs in London yesterday, Lord Young "got into a spat" with a lady from Oxford who criticised the Enterprise Allowance Scheme.

CITY

- FT: London Stock Exchange soon to unveil ambitious plans to become the world's leading trade centre in international shares.
- FT: Mr Stewart announces new powers to be given to the Bank of England to control acquisitions of large stakes in UK banks.

INDUSTRY

- FT: Caterpillar stand firm on closure.
- FT: BT talks could lead to a revised basis for negotiations and pave the way for a settlement of the strike.
- FT: Only 14% of sacked Wapping members lack jobs says SOCAT.
- FT: London ambulance service threatened by call to withdraw goodwill for seven days.
- Independent: Big fall in forecast price of coal puts question mark over economic case for Sizewell B.

WAITE/LEBANON

- US has 22 warships off Lebanon.
- Sun: You are courageous and right to refuse to bargain with criminal bands in Lebanon. Blackmailer always comes back for more.
- Independent: Waite is 'insurance' against American attack. Islamic Jihad did not mention Waite by name but said its hostages "would perish" if the US attacked.

DRUGS

- Star says a 'reformed junkie' who appeared on Esther Rantzen's 'Drugwatch' programme appealing to children not to get "hooked" was a sham; he is "pushing" heroin from his mother's council flat.
- Mail says Sellafield workers are to be medically tested to see if they are drug takers.

AIDS

- CBI tells firms not to sack people with the disease; they could face unfair dismissal claims.
- Government may put another £15m into fight against AIDS.
- BBC and ITV joining forces to launch week of daily programmes about the disease.
- Times: The Government is to hold a meeting of international experts to look at projection of the epidemic over the next five years.

PEOPLE

- Jean Rook's rather bitchy report from Dallas on Mark Thatcher's new home.
- Times: A book by Nigel West, to be published next month is claimed to clear Sir Roger Hollis "once and for all" and could undermine claims made by Peter Wright. Mr West says he gave the manuscript of 'Mole Hunt' to the MoD who advised changes but indicated that no legal moves would be made if the book was published.

IRELAND

- Reports that McGlinchey has appealed to INLA factions not to avenge his wife's death.

SOUTH AFRICA

- Mail notes that the word 'sanctions' has faded from the political vocabulary in a welter of hypocrisy.

US/USSR

- Times: America yesterday conducted its first underground nuclear test of 1987. Russia condemned it and said it would be forced to abandon its unilateral test moratorium.
- Britain is to continue to play a leading role in the search for an international ban on chemical weapons, despite bitter criticism from Richard Perle.

EC

- Independent: New European Commission farm price package is likely to suggest 11% price cut for cereal growers.

FRANCE

- About to choose AWACS in preference to NIMROD.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Lord Young, Mr Clarke, Mr Lee and Mr Trippier at Press Reception for Labour and Industrial correspondents, Tavon House, London
- DES: Mr Baker visits Herefordshire LGA
- HO: Mr Hurd visits UK Immigrants Advisory Service, London
- MAFF: Mr Jopling visits Ind Coops Brewery, Burton-on-Trent
- DEM: Mr Lee visits Riverside Wharfs with the London Wharfingers Association
- DEM: Mr Trippier visits Beaulieu, Hampshire
- DEN: Mr Hunt attends British Coal Enterprise Seminar, Newcastle
- DEN: Mr Goodlad attends EBU Energy Efficiency Presentation, Welham Green, Herts
- DES: Mr Malden attends Design Council prize giving ceremony, London
- DHSS: Baroness Trumpington visits Phipps Respiratory Unit, South Western Hospital, London
- DOE: Mr Patten meets the National Economic Development Council, Millbank, London
- DOE: Mr Choqe addresses Local Government Communications Seminar at Kensington Town Hall, London
- FCO: Mrs Chalker addresses the Cornhill Club, London
- HO: Lord Caithness visits HM Prison, Btyal
- MAFF: Lord Belstead visits International Food Exhibition, Olympia
- MAFF: Mr Thompson meets British Association of Canned and Preserved Food Importers and Distributors Ltd, Whitenall Place, London
- OAL: Mr Luce speaks to Courtauld Institute Student's Union, London
- SO: Mr MacKay visits the International Food Exhibition, Olympia, London

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DEN: Mr Buchanan-Smith addresses New York Mercantile Exchange dinner, New York
- DTI: Lord Lucas visits Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Qatar (to 13 February)
- DTP: Mr Spicer visits Paris for talks with M Douffiagues, French Minister of Transport
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TV AND RADIO

"Brian Hayes 'Phone-in"; LBC (12.00): Ewina Currie takes calls from listeners

"Comment"; Channel 4 (19.50): With a Conservative MP

"Diverse Reports"; Channel 4 (20.30): In the light of forthcoming privatisations, Robin Blackburn, editor of New Left Review reports on how Labour plans to meet the challenge of the Government's 'popular capitalism'

"Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Party"; BBC 1 (21.00): BBC 2 (22.30); ITV (21.55)
