

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit the Royal College of Pathologists, London, on its 25th Anniversary

Mr Waldegrave addresses CPRE on ALURE

Scottish Prison Officers' Association annual conference, Grangemouth

Campaign for Freedom of Information Awards presentation (including The Independent)

? Statement on Austin Rover

STATISTICS

DTI: Capital expenditure and stocks

CSO: Cyclical indicators

PUBLICATIONS

British Library/OAL: Public and Private Sectors: Provision of Library Services report

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Treasury; Prime Minister

Business: Remaining stages of the banking bill

Adjournment Debate

St Christopher's hospice and the treatment of AIDS (Sir P Goodhart)

Lords: Territorial Sea Bill (HL): Committee

Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1984 (Continuance) Order 1987: Motion for Approval.

Debate on the Report of the Select Committee on Science and Technology on Civil Research and Development (1st Report, 1986-87)

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- British Leyland Trucks to go to DAF.
- Big row between Whips brings 'truce' in personal attacks after Speaker refuses motion critical of the Leader of the Opposition. Times says Tory attack backfired.
- Charles Haughey wins Irish General Election.
- The media claws are out in the Edwina Currie v. Glenys Kinnock war.
- Withdrawal of Local Government Bill clauses seen as clearing decks for June election.
- Big row in Labour Party over Ken Livingstone's disparaging remarks about MPs.
- Substantial media support for Government's stance on Tamils.
- British soccer fans arrested in Spain; 3 slightly stabbed in Madrid by Spanish youths.
- Case of the Irish Trawler pulled backwards across the Irish Sea by a submarine.
- Vosper Thorneycroft calls in receiver.
- Eurotunnel loses another senior executive - finance man Michael Julien goes to Guinness.

BUDGET/ECONOMY

- Today: Leader says the test of the Budget will be what the Chancellor does for the disadvantaged, and the unemployed and how he heals a divided nation.
- Times: Signals from economy and financial markets pointing firmly to early general election - interest rates in London money markets fall in readiness for cut in base rates around Budget day.
- FT: CBI President urges Chancellor to deliver Budget aimed at providing climate for early cut in interest rates to help industry expand.

POLITICS

- Express says you are holding a fistful of election aces - bookies make you 5-2 on; forthcoming Budget; soaring share prices; economy on course for growth target; long term jobless and out of work youngsters falling. Kinnock's lurid predictions of looming economic catastrophe are unconvincing.
- Gallup poll in Telegraph gives Conservatives lead of 1.5% - 36/34.5 (down 5 Alliance 27.5 - up 4%).
- Telegraph says Hattersley primed Shadow Cabinet for offensive against tax cuts and for higher spending on public services.
- Conservatives claim local poll shows Greenwich victory is in sight.
- Telegraph leader says your denigrators are showing signs of desperation - and no wonder; but it feels the time has come for prudence by lenders and by the Chancellor.
- Labour Whips, according to Sun, insisting that Ken Livingstone should not be allowed to stand as an MP after saying "Many MPs never see London beyond wine bars and brothels of Westminster". Mirror: Brothel slur gets MPs wild.
- Another indication of Government ready to go to polls as Central Office now completed 500 page candidates guide for next election (Times).
- Seven former Labour and SDP councillors launch new Moderate Labour Party in Mansfield - described by some East Midlands Labour leaders as Mavericks - Times.
- Times: Mr Kinnock says Labour Government would double spending on overseas aid within 5 years of taking office.

EDWINA CURRIE - Once agains the subject of controversy. She taunts Labour MPs to give up their seat for Glenys Kinnock.

- Star says you gave Mrs Currie the message "Go get 'em Edwina"; says you are delighted with the combative, no holds barred style of Mrs Currie who has virtually demolished Labour's carefully laid plans to use Mrs Kinnock as their secret weapon in the election. Star even goes to lengths of a sex appeal contest in which the two contestants draw 68-68 (out of 100).
- Star says with every day that passes Kinnock looks more and more like a luckless poker player on a losing streak. Latest ace stealer is Edwina Currie. Her attack on Glenys Kinnock was devastatingly funny; a master card.
- Sun: Mrs Currie being tipped for a top Tory job after scoring a bullseye. Feature quotes a former Labour Minister, unnamed, as saying "Kinnock will not make a decision of any importance without her (Glenys's) approval".
- Women's writer in Today says if that's all Edwina Currie can say she should shut up. Glenys Kinnock is actually more credible than Neil.
- Mirror leader says Mrs Currie has done more harm to the cause of women than you. Her remarks are an insult to every woman.
- Express: Two pages on "Women at War". Leader says it is rich that Gwyneth Dunwoody was outraged by Mrs Currie's onslaught because Glenys Kinnock could not answer back when she is a member of a party which never hesitates to use the Commons as a forum for doing just that.
- Mail leader says nobody can hit the funny bone with such unnerving accuracy as Edwina Currie. Utter bunk for some Socialists to suggest she was being unsporting. Glennys Kinnock's public profile is far from low and she is a fair target.
- Mail features 2 pages on "Cruella de Vil versus Glenys the Menace".

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL

- Sun: Tories rage at let off for Loony Left.
- Today: Tories get ready for June poll.
- Mail says ditching of clauses is the first hard clue you are going for a general election this year and by October.
- Telegraph: Tories clear decks for early election.
- Independent: Ridley puts Opposition on autumn poll alert.

MEDIA

- BBC pay undisclosed libel damages to Vivian Bendall over allegation that he waged a campaign of harassment and intimidation against tenants.
- Esther Rantzen to be sued for £1.5m by slimming tea makers.
- Michael Checkland, acting DC of BEC, accused Norman Tebbit of being a hooligan, according to Today. But he did not mention any names.
- FT: Government deeply divided on whether BEC should be unscrambled and voluntary subscription ultimately replace present licence fee system.
- Mr Mellor tells London conference Government attracted to Peacock Committee proposals.
- FT: Croydon Cable TV first recorded cable franchises to offer shares to small investors next week.
- Independent: Government ministers are split over the wisdom of introducing a universal system of pay television. The issue is one of several key broadcasting policy changes being considered by a Cabinet sub-committee chaired by you.

INDUSTRY

- Times: Manchester Airport officials negotiating no-strike agreement with unions.
- Civil Servants threatened industrial action over 15% claim could result in Budget changes not being processed (Times).
- Government being urged to bring forward proposed legislation to plug loopholes in Trade Union Act 1984 because of wide-ranging and damaging wildcat strikes in coal mining industry.
- Austin Rover's new management delays by 6 months launch of new Rover 600 so that model comes to market fully developed and proven - Times.
- Times: Vosper Ship Repairers collapsed yesterday with liabilities of £4.5m - little hope of saving 220 jobs.
- FT: Government look likely ^{not} to go ahead with its proposals to introduce £25 charge for applicants bringing unfair dismissal cases - opposition from virtually all quarters, CBI and EEF among most vociferous.
- Confidential TUC policy document says Government's Restart programme has failed both in increasing jobs and reducing unemployment - IT.
- Last ship to be built on Tees sails today.
- Mail says American electronics firms have selected Britain as the best European country in which to set up new factories - bringing up to 10,000 jobs in 3 years.
- FT: NERC to launch scheme to encourage scientists to set up in small businesses and exploit skills in the laboratory.
- Independent: Sellafield cancer link supported, as Government rushes out report on cancer deaths near nuclear installations.

BL

- Star says more than 20,000 jobs could go as a result of DAF takeover, taking account of suppliers.

COAL

- FT leader says when your achievements come to be assessed your success in dealing with long-standing problems of coal industry will carry special weight. Future of British Coal will be seen as the test case of your determination to root out inefficient practices from nationalised industries.

TAMILS

- Star says a great deal of pious poppycock is being talked about the so-called refugees. They are merely a motley crew of malcontents.
- Sun says the claims that 58 Tamils are refugees is outrageous. They got in as a result of an evil international racket in forged documents. They must be kicked out now.
- Today: David Waddington pledges to expel Tamils. Leader wonders whether Tamils lack of credentials could not be a sign of real desperation. They at least deserve a hearing.
- Times: Government to contest High Court order stopping expulsion of 58 Tamils. Mr Waddington says Tamils were victims of rackets and made bogus claims for asylum.

TAMILS (Cont'd)

- Express: Government has a duty to see that our immigration controls operate as intended and as the public wants.
- Mail, reporting from Kuala Lumpur, says it has tracked down profit making fronts for two terrorist movements who are packaging illegal Tamil immigrants to West; Home Office is considering tough new immigration rules because of racket. Sinhalese leaders in London accuse some Labour councils of using conflict in Sri Lanka to strengthen their image as champion of underdog.
- Independent: Hurd firm on Tamils policy. Leader says Mr Waddington's failure on this occasion was his failure to consult the UKIAS.
- Guardian says Home Office should not be allowed to get away with deportation. The Tamils are refugees and by refusing to treat them as such we are forcing them to behave in ways we then condemn. A nasty, grubby policy.

EDUCATION

- Left wing teachers in ILEA ban police from showing a video warning of dangers of sex abuse because they say force is 'racist'; Kenneth Baker says the ban is totally unacceptable. David Owen says ILEA must not give in to Militant Left.
- Express says NUT appeal, almost on the eve of strikes, for closer links with parents infuriated other teachers and parents.

AIDS

- BMA urges Government to issue widely free or subsidised condoms.
- Sir Dudley Smith wants inquests on AIDS victims to be made compulsory to concentrate public's mind.
- Chairman of new Health Education Authority to spearhead information on AIDS is faced with "frightening task" - Times.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Paul Foot, in Mirror, suggests one of DHSS's top Civil Servants who negotiated one of the biggest computer contracts in Europe with B/Telecom is about to leave for a much more lucrative job with BT.
- Times: Dentists should provide emergency treatment at weekends and evenings, says House of Commons select committee.
- Royal College of Midwives want to take over control from doctors the care of expectant mothers in hospital.
- Whole of Times leader devoted to research aid prospects referring to House of Lords debate today on scientific research and development - Britain has to change the way it sees science. You have unique opportunity to set the agenda for the future.