

7 April 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, opens a new leisure pool at Clewer Mead, Windsor

The Princess of Wales attends a luncheon at Marlborough House to mark World Health Day

The Duke and Duchess of York attend a dinner on board SS Canberra, Southampton

Prime Minister attends dinner at Institute of Economic Affairs

EC: Consumer/Internal Market Council

Irish Congress of Trade Unions Annual Conference, Downpatrick

Home Office announce 'Poop Scoop' byelaws

Bathing waters in the UK announcement by DOE

Zeebrugge ferry to be raised

DES announce national curriculum plans

Defence Secretary attends EH.101 roll out

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STATISTICS

OPCS: Infectious diseases, December quarter 1985

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PUBLICATIONS

DTI: Invest in Britain Bureau annual report 1986.

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PAY

Local Authority Manual Workers; 999,600; 1 September

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Social Services; Education and Science; Prime Minister

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Local Government (Supply of Goods and Services) (Mr John Heddle)

Debate on Foreign Affairs on a Motion for the Adjournment

PARLIAMENT (cont'd)Business: (cont'd)

Family Law Reform Bill (Lords): 2nd Reading

Afterwards,  
Minors' Contracts Bill (Lords): Remaining Stages

Recognition of Trusts Bill (Lords): Remaining Stages

Reverter of Sites Bill (Lords): Remaining Stages

Adjournment Debate: Education Maintenance Allowances and Social Security disregards (Mr A Bennett)

Select Committees: Education, Science and Arts:  
Scrutiny Session Witnesses: Rt Hon Kenneth Baker, MP, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and officials from the Department

Lords: Abolition of Domestic Rates etc (Scotland) Bill: Committee (6th day).

Parliamentary and Health Service Commissions Bill: Committee

Petroleum Bill: Third Reading

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- TV-AM Harris poll puts you 13 points ahead of Labour with Alliance third 43/30/26. MORI poll for Times predicts 92 seat majority.
- Election fever cools a little as May 7 is "ruled out".
- Lifting of Zeebrugge disaster ferry due to begin this morning: Belgium inquiry said to have revealed "a catalogue of errors and misunderstandings. Calls for skipper and some crewmen to be charged.
- Express says Gorbachev may be in trouble over Maggie, a reference to his calling off his visit to Czechoslovakia because of a cold - a story put out only in the West. Mail leader says Gorbachev is the toughest high risk gambler with Soviet destiny and should take more care. Telegraph says Gorbachev visit was postponed because of rows in Kremlin.

MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Civil Service strikes attract some attention; 10,000 teachers to stage half day strikes this week.
- Flood of applications for teacher posts, up by 80%, after pay award.
- Royal College of Nurses' conference boos Lord Glenarther over pay/brain drain
- New car sales increased 8% in March over March 1985 and imports fell 5% to half.
  
- Bill Jordan (AEU) complains you are 8 years too late in tackling Japanese over trade and have only moved because City has complained.
  
- Fraud Squad interested by share buying by Keith Best and Eric Cockeram. Mail leader says Best gives popular capitalism a bad name and should resign.
  
- Queen Mother said to be helping mentally handicapped niece, believed dead, who is in Redhill NHS mental hospital. Sun says three more cousins of the Queen spent almost 50 years in the same hospital and two are still alive. Mirror accuses Sun of trawling the depths of inhumanity in its coverage of the story. Today: If the Royal Family cannot spare the resources to look after its own in trouble, who can?
  
- IRA terrorists' funeral halted after 4 hours of tension when 1000 police engulf IRA stronghold in Northern Ireland.
- NIO adopts a tough line towards Loyalist prisoners who have taken over wing of Magilligan prison, refusing to send food in.
  
- Food convoy relieves Shatila Palestinian camp in Beirut.



ELECTION

- Star: Maggie rules out election in May: you are to take a week's holiday at Easter.
- Sun: Here we go! Maggie soars to 13% lead; another story claims that Kinnock is planning a back door deal with Steel to split the Alliance if there is a hung Parliament.
- Today: Thatcher pressed for June.
- Daily News says Times' Mori poll shows Alliance support is growing at expense of both Labour and Tories and only one point behind Tories in seats where SDP/Libs came second in 1983.
- Express: Tories get a double poll boost; pressure increases for June.
- Mail: "Landslide for Maggie" - new pointer to a June election date as the Conservatives surge ahead in polls; Paul Johnson goes so far as to speculate on who will be Labour's next leader. Kinnock is isolated. All the arguments point to John Smith but that is certain to run into trouble with the Left.
- Times P1 lead says MORI poll shows Tories advantage in marginals is diminishing. Tactical voting could boost Alliance hopes. David Owen admits he was wrong about 7 May; Government's improved showing produces more optimism in City. Sterling, shares and Government stocks all rise sharply.
- Times: Key members in your Cabinet will stay if you win next election.
- Times leader discusses the battle for the centre. As Alliance rise in polls continues, Labour caught not only by deep-seated strategic error but in an immediate tactical trap too.
- Telegraph: June poll prospects increase - especially if future polls confirm Harris' finding that Alliance is third.
- Guardian: Senior Tories back June amid polls chaos.
- Independent: Volatile electorate gives you food for thought. Peter Jenkins says the Tories light might stay at amber with you determined to win, Labour to lose and the Alliance now an established player in the game there may not come a time when you can go to the polls with the same certainty as in 1983.

POLITICS

- Bernie Grant attacks Hattersley for criticising his efforts to promote a black section of the Labour Party - and warning Grant and Linda Bellos not to attend Birmingham meeting. Express says Kinnock is heading for a showdown with black extremists.
- Hattersley, meanwhile, says Tory policies are still widening the gulf between rich and poor - crime has risen 50%; homelessness doubled and pensioner couples are £11 a week worse off. Meacher claims pensioners have been cheated of £11bn during Tory years.
  
- Northern Regional Councils' Association report claims North's economic position has worsened. Michael Fallon says the report is 'one-sided, dishonest and totally negative'.
  
- Mirror reports Lloyds Bank report on economy as you "fiddling with the truth" about growth rates.
- Express says Britain's inner cities and towns are to face a major clean up under the next Tory Government - you are to mount a powerful initiative to create jobs, improve housing and cut crime. Mail says you are planning to bring Yuppies back to decaying inner cities.
- Telegraph: Tory manifesto will spotlight inner city decay.
- FT: MSC expects major reorganisation as both Conservatives and Labour have plans for changes.
- FT; Labour Government unlikely to be able to meet pledges of £3bn a year public spending on construction.
- Times: Tories plan attack on urban decay and dereliction. FT: Government planning to broaden UDCs in rundown inner city areas to include public sector housing which would be taken out of local authority control.
- Guardian says Kinnock at Tribune Group last night was congratulated on how he is running the party.
- Sir George Young in Guardian, argues for a fresh partnership between the public and the private sector on social reform.
- Independent: Editorial on honour among MPs says that an MP who transgress has a clear duty to submit his resignation to his local party and come clean about all the circumstances.

LAW AND ORDER

- Judge James Pickles, on TV, wants Lord Chancellor replaced by a Minister of Justice.
- Times: Labour MPs call for publication of internal Scotland Yard report criticising Government and Opposition crime policies.
- Independent: Watch schemes helping to cut crime, Hurd says.
- Independent feature on looming crisis of overcrowded prisons.

NHS

- Nurses shout down Lord Glenarthur when he addresses RCN conference in Glasgow. Today says Government must head off a strike by giving nurses their due.
- Express leader on "Why nurses really are a special case" says that unless the Government does something to staunch the flow of departures and increase the flow of recruits, its record on the nursing front will look sick.
- Times: Doctor says Government and police must attempt "softly, softly" approach towards drug addicts to prevent further spread of AIDS among heroin abusers.
  
- Edwina Currie tells boozy doctors to take the cure themselves before advising alcoholic patients.

TRANSPORT

- B/Rail under fire for proposing on the spot fines for travelling without tickets - an offence against basic justice (Star) with closed ticket offices and long queues at those which are open.
- Times: Almost £30m to be spent on strengthening and re-surfacing Severn Bridge.

HOUSING

- Times: TSB launches new home loan scheme with cut-rate mortgages.

SPORT

- Hurricane Higgins, snooker star, fined £12,000 and banned for 6 months for attacking a tournament director.
- RSPCA reveals, after death of Dark Ivy in Grand National, that 132 steeple chasers died last year; it wants improvements to courses.
- Elton John reported to be willing to sell Watford AFC for £3.5m but not to property developers.

INDUSTRY

- Daily News says a Home Office working party formed to study lessons of Chernobyl has not yet held its first meeting a year after the tragedy.
- 12 Kent miners, sacked during coal strike, get their jobs back but 35 refused reinstatement.
- Mail says Boeing is offering to bail out Westland but only if MoD orders more Chinooks.
- Andrew Alexander on the cash problem facing Airbus and the Chunnel - EuroTunnel postpones invitation to the public to subscribe £750m this summer.
- Times: Jaguar car sales soar by 58% in March - success of new XJ6 - but Austin Rover shares down.
- Times: Rolls Royce loses Airbus engine race by failing to meet deadline for launching new engine. Rolls Royce employees to have £70 free share issue.
- Times: Michael Howard reports moderate progress in first day of talks with Japanese.
- Times: BP's bid to buy 45% of US Standard Oil not enough.
- FT; Postal workers reject 4% pay offer as "derisory".
- Local government workers accept seven-month pay deal adding 5.5% to basic wage.
- FT: UK seeks intellectual property pact with South Korea.
- B/Coal considering blocking new investment in pits being hit by lightning walk-outs.

RESEARCH

- Times: Lynda Chalker says Government needs time to study details of £3.5bn EEC research programme.

MEDIA

- Times: Douglas Hurd to be told that phasing out TV licences and replacing them with subscription system not economically feasible.
- Guardian: Reports strong all party support for BBC World TV News Service.

EDUCATION

- Times: Deaf push for sign language in schools.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- FT: Government planning to broaden scope of urban development corporations in rundown inner city areas to include public sector housing which would be taken out of local authority control.

ARMS CONTROL/DEFENCE

- Lord Chalfont, in Express, reporting on SACEUR's view that an arms control agreement between the USA and the Soviet Union on INF could place Western Europe in grave danger.
- Times: Future collaborative projects with our NATO European partners at risk after expected announcement that Government is to withdraw from European defence programme to build military helicopter for late 1990s.
- Independent: Air force battle computer behind schedule; article lists all the problems from NIMROD to US built radar. Editorial says NATO should consider assigning more AWACs and fighters to UK to bridge the gap in our defence until our own forces are ready.

PEOPLE

- Deaths of Chief Jonathan, Lesotho and Jean-Baptiste Doumeng, France's richest Communist.

SAUDI ARABIA

- Times; King Fahd promises British Muslims to relieve restrictions on pilgrims to Mecca.

EC

- FT: Trade tensions between Brussels and Tokyo could worsen following further rise in Japanese cars to EC.
- FT: EC in disarray over Turkey's application for membership.

AFGHANISTAN

- Independent: Russian moves to quit Afghanistan seen as genuine by both you and Mr Junejo as you both detect change of mood in Russia.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Lord Young opens and speaks at Spring Open/Human Resource Development Conference, London; later launches Open College prospectus
- DEM: Mr Clarke meets Signor Zapatero, Spanish Permanent Secretary of Labour; later speaks at Industrial Society Conference on employment law and policy; in the evening attends Windsor Fellowship Seminar dinner
- DES: Mr Baker appears before Education, Science and Arts Committee, House of Commons; later addresses annual conference of General Certificate of Education Board, Oxford
- DOE: Mr Ridley speaks at National Housebuilding Council annual lunch, London
- DTI: Mr Channon meets Prime Minister of Pakistan, London
- FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses Institute of Economic Affairs Trustees dinner, London
- HMT: Mr MacGregor addresses South West Cambridgeshire Industrial Advisory Group dinner
- HO: Mr Hurd speaks at Diplomatic Writers Association annual banquet
- MAFF: Mr Jopling addresses Landowners Group, Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly
- MOD: Mr Younger attends EH 101 roll out at Westland's, Yeovil; later meets Deputy Prime Minister of Pakistan, London
- DEM: Mr Trippier visits South West
- DEN: Mr Buchanan-Smith opens Institute of Petroleum Council Symposium; later attends launch of Taywood Kellogg offshore joint venture
- DES: Mrs Rumbold visits the School Curriculum Development Committee, London
- DES: Mr Walden attends National Advisory Board special meeting, Metropolis House
- DOE: Mr Waldegrave addresses Chemical Industries Association/Society of Chemical Industries Conference, Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London
- DOE: Lord Skelmersdale attends luncheon at Commission for New Towns, London
- DTI: Mr Pattie attends Policy Search Reception, London
- DTI: Mr Butcher addresses International Conference on Spheroidal Graphite Iron - The Next 40 years, Warwick University
- DTI: Lord Lucas lunches with the Prime Minister of Pakistan, London
- DTI: Mr Shaw attends IBB Press Conference, London
- DTP: Mr Bottomley opens Traffix '87 Exhibition, Brighton
- DTP: Mr Mitchell addresses the Institute of Mechanical Engineers Conference on diesel locomotives for the future, York; later visits Harrogate Independent Travel

MINISTERS (UK VISIT, SPEECHES ETC)

HMT: Mr Lamont addresses the Westminster Industrial Brief, London  
HO: Mr Mellor addresses Southwark Drug Misuse Trust  
MAFF: Mr Thompson addresses Womans Farming Union conference, Nantwich  
MOD: Mr Hamilton visits Aldermaston and Burghfield  
OAL: Mr Luce speaks at Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme reception

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

DTI: Mr Howard attends Consumer Affairs Council, Luxembourg; later  
leaves on tour of Korea and Japan (to 17 April)  
DTp: Mr Moore visits USA (to 10 April)

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TV AND RADIO

"Their Lordships' House"; Channel 4 (14.15): Repeat of last night's  
programme

"Two Nations"; BBC 1 (23.10): New series. 'Scars of Struggle': In 1987,  
Sheffield City Council responded to rising unemployment in the city by  
setting up the first municipal unemployment department in the country.  
The programme looks at how the department has tackled its problems and  
assesses its achievements.

"Their Lordship' House; Channel 4: (00.10)

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