

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister sees 75,000th Motability car for the disabled (photocall)

The Queen and the Queen Mother attend premiere of the film "Offshore Island" about HMS Ark Royal

All-party group of Peers and MPs visit Gibraltar (to 30 April)

Rolls Royce share price announced

Press Day for Exercise ARDENT GROUND, Salisbury Plain

STATISTICS

CBI: Industrial Trends Survey

PUBLICATIONS

DES: HMI Report: Curriculum Matters, Maths 5-16 Response document

DES: HMI Report: Quality in Schools: The initial training of teachers

DTP: "Policy for Roads in England, 1987"

PAY

Further Education Teachers in England and Wales; 80,400; 1 April

Civil Service: Industrial grades; 105,000; 1 July

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Education and Science; Defence; Prime Minister

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Pensions Trust (Sir Brandon Rhys Williams)
Opposition Day (12th allotted day). Until about seven o'clock there will be a debate entitled "Housing: A Major Cause for Concern". Afterwards there will be a debate entitled "The Proposed Privatisation of Rolls Royce". Both debates will arise on opposition motions.

Motion on the Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement limit order.

Adjournment Debate: The Manpower Services Commission and the industrial dispute at Senior Coleman Ltd, Sale, Cheshire (Mr K Eastman)

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

Select Committees: EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ARTS
 Subject: Special Educational Needs
 Witnesses: Officials of the Department of Education
 and Science

TRANSPORT

Subject: Decline in the UK registered Merchant Fleet
 Witnesses: Lloyds Register of Shipping; British Ports
 Authority (at approx 5pm)

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATION

Subject: Reports of the Parliamentary Commissioner for
 Administration for 1986
 Witnesses: Mr C W France CB, Permanent Secretary,
 Department of Health and Social Security and officials

Lords: Housing (Scotland) Bill: (Council): Committee on Re-commitment
 Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc (Scotland) Bill: Report (1st Day)
 Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust Bill (HL): Second Reading

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- Newspapers preoccupied by blunders which caused Zeebrugge ferry disaster, as revealed in the inquiry which opened yesterday. 4 more bodies recovered.
- Contempt proceedings against Independent, Standard and Daily News predictably gets a battering from Independent, Mail, Mirror and, of course Guardian and Today. Labour MPs demand statement from Attorney.
- Campbell Savours identifies in EDM Harry Wharton as "one of leading conspirators in treasonable plot to bring down Wilson".
- £ at best level since 1982 at \$1.6658: opinion hardening to June 11 election (Telegraph)
- Tom King says he will look seriously at Opposition demands for more troops to be sent to Northern Ireland; Daily News says he is to give Army a bigger role.
- Norman Tebbit says Conservatives will "walk" the election, provided the Government stands on its record and sets opposition policies against its own.

MI5 CONTEMPT

- Mirror: Decision shows Government has grown arrogant with power. Everything to do with vanity of an administration which cannot bear to be defied. Independent's version is littered with inaccuracies and absurdities.
- Today leads front page with "Stop this Farce" - only one thing matches the shambles of Britain's Secret Services - the farce of Government attempts to prosecute those who expose them. Only you can stop it.
- Daily News story says you are under pressure to order an inquiry into Wright's allegations and to drop legal proceedings in Australia; leader complains of bad manners in announcement being made before it was told and claims it would have been providing a very poor service to Londoners if it had not run Independent newspaper. News gathering it appears has become an offence.
- Mail: Security of State is not best served by permitting its former secret agents to write their memoirs. Independent has taken a legal gamble, and with consistency beginning to verge on the obsessional the Attorney General announced proceedings of contempt. You and the Attorney are being manoeuvred or manoeuvring yourselves into a position where you are in more danger of showing contempt for the public interest than are newspapers showing contempt for the law.
- Times : Attorney General takes swift action against 3 newspapers over Peter Wright's banned book. Mr Campbell-Savours demands statement from you on what disciplinary action has been taken against Harry Wharton "one of the leading conspirators in treasonable plot". Speaker rejects emergency debate call.
- Independent leads with Campbell Savours motion; Labour MPs claimed that the issues raised by yesterday's Independent report went to the heart of parliamentary democracy; Speaker ruled that the Attorney's decision made discussion in the House sub judice so the subject will not be raised at PM's Question Time today.
- Independent undertakes in the High Court not to publish further extracts from Spycatcher book. Heinemann claimed such extracts were a breach of copyright.
- Guardian leader argues the only sensible course is the abandonment of legal gags and legal delays. The Government should stop attempting to suppress the truth and begin investigating it.
- Guardian says a section of MI5 contemplated murder of Dr Paisley.

POLITICS

- Sun leader thinks the country is going slightly mad in Labour's reaction to revelation that workfare could remove 1m from unemployed register when workshy are allowed to sponge off rest we already have forced labour by the saps who foot the dole bill. Kinnock apparently believes that is just.
- Express features heart and mind of Bryan Gould "Labour's glamour boy".
- Neville Sandelson refuses to resign from SDP for disloyalty.
- Patrick Minford, in Telegraph, wants a precise manifesto.
- Times: report says Mr Tebbit's attack on BBC over Libyan coverage was "partisan and dishonest".
- MPs are urging you to go for snap election on 4 June, but conviction remains that June 11/18 are most likely dates (Independent).
- Telegraph leader, on housing, advocates cuts in taxation in step with cuts in mortgage tax relief; but it says the first priority after the election must be offering captive council tenants choices other than purchase.
- Guardian says Owen is switching his attack to Tories after finding from local elections that Tories could offset losses to Alliance with gains from Labour.
- Hugo Young argues in Guardian for Heseltine's return to Government.
- FT: Political spotlight is turning to economic squeeze on the defence budget, a key issue in the gathering election campaign.
- FT: Political editor, Peter Riddell, draws up probable highlights in a Conservative manifesto. They include: privatisation of electricity, British Steel, water, Post Office, and parts of British Rail and British Coal; legislation on closed shop; abolition of domestic rates; national core curriculum; more UDCs; revival of private rented housing.
- Scottish Tory Party conference at Perth next month could be election launch, according to Iain McCrone, president of Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association. (Independent)

INDUSTRY

- Times: your hint that supplementary benefit may end for young people who refuse Government training schemes has mixed reception among companies providing YTS places.
- Times: Government planning reorganisation of its support for research and development to attract more finance and involvement from private industry.
- Rolls Royce valued at £1.36bn.
- Sainsbury's given £15m to help reverse the brain drain and remedy the Government lack of funding for scientific research; money will go to set up and run new plant disease laboratory over the next 10 years.
- Times: Nigel Lawson and Paul Channon to have critical meeting next week over role of Takeover Panel as a supervisor of takeovers and mergers.
- FT: ICL consortium wins RAF contract worth £70-£100m.

UNIONS

- Certification officer reports union strength down to 10.8m in 1985.
- Times: Members of CPSA warned of an alleged "communist-led plot" to take control of its finances.
- Times: TUC attacks Government's Green Paper on Trade Unions as "charter for harassment."
- CPSA and SCPS dispute over pay will hit passport office; union members in London and South East expected to strike on May 7 and 8.

ECONOMY

- FT: Scottish economy is being harmed by takeover of firms by groups from outside the country, according to Strathclyde University report commissioned by Scottish Office.

- FT: Yen rise prompts bigger Tokyo stock market fall, Nikkei index plummeted by 831.32 as dollar slumped to record lows against Japanese currency.

- Lex columnist says it now looks unlikely that the dollar can hold up until the Venice summit without some change of policy somewhere.

- FT: Share trading between Stock Exchange firms has more than doubled since November.

EAST-WEST

- Sun says Reagan should heed Kissinger/Nixon on warnings over arms control deals.
- Lord Chalfont, in Express on why we shouldn't be dazzled by disarmament and warns of the horrors of 'conventional' war.
- Times: Euro-missile accord now within grasp. Washington appears to share increasingly Moscow's wish to make roller-coaster unstoppable. Europe ponders but deal on medium-range looks highly probable.
- WEU considers reply to Gorbachev arms proposal. UK and France favour nuclear mix.
- Richard Nixon says US should trade its SDI for cuts in long-range Soviet offensive missiles.
- Times leader discusses the Nixon/Kissinger warnings over Gorbachev's latest initiative. His challenge cannot be ignored by Western Alliance. Our fear, justified in light of experience, is that the challenge is in reality a ruse.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Sun leader agrees with Tory candidate in Camden over displaying homosexual leaflets showing naked men in sex acts in public libraries; councillors belong in the dock.
- Bernie Grant standing down as Haringey leader to fight general election.
- Police arrest 6 and carry two Labour councillors out of Tower Hamlets meeting during discussion of Alliance decision to evict 120 homeless Bengali families from bed and breakfast hotels.

EDUCATION

- Mills, in Star, says teachers, by their cupidity, stupidity and incompetence are condemning millions of children to a fate like their own: as non-players in the game of life.
- Express says you are sending a message to parents' rally in Liverpool tonight that private schools are safe in your hands.
- Telegraph says two main teaching unions signalled that they would call off their strikes if you (with whom they are seeking a meeting) agree to restore negotiating rights.
- A Labour Government would extend full mandatory grants to all part-time students, said Giles Radice.

LAW AND ORDER

- Home Secretary tries to "beef up" rules governing bail to prevent recurrence of Silcott case.
- Star says all parties must ensure that Bill permitting video evidence in child abuse cases is not lost if an election is declared.
- Times: DTI inspector withdraws from conference on fraud and corruption as John Stonehouse and Dan Smith among other speakers.
- Independent leader says that to restore morale and engender more confidence in Northern Ireland, the two Governments must give public indication of ways in which cooperation in security matters has been stepped up.

HEALTH

- Barts having to cut number of patients by 225 a month to save £1.25m.
- South West RHA admits a blunder allowed private patients to jump queue for cervical smear tests.
- Times: World Health Organisation says 50-100million people may be infected with AIDS virus by 1991.
- Times: Women's National Cancer Control Campaign told thousands of women die each year from preventable cancers because of "sad travesty" of health screening and inadequate treatment.
- Labour unveils plan to help combat stress-related illness through system of country-wide clinics for women.

NAYLOR CARS

- Sun has picture of you at the wheel under heading "Maggie revs up for the election".
- Daily News: Picture of you behind wheel.
- Express: Even bigger picture of you waving from the driving seat - Vroom at the top!

ROYAL

- Star, continuing Penny Junor's book on Prince Charles, says Princess Diana is becoming increasingly depressed about her Royal pin up role and there is a widening gulf between their two life styles.
- Today continues Anthony Holder's analysis of Prince Charles.
- Express P1 heading: "Charles married the wrong woman", according to Penny Junor on radio yesterday.

EC

- Times: EC officials attack Britain for holding up solution to EC financial crisis by opposing extra cash to meet shortfall of nearly £4bn.

JAPAN

- Times: President Reagan hopes to end curb on Japanese goods as soon as possible.
- Japanese Prime Minister on eve of visit to US says both sides should be making efforts to solve trade imbalance problems.
- Japanese investors count their options as shares take an 831 points dive on Tokyo stock market
- Brussels is to reconsider proposals for common European Community action against Japan in the financial services field - only one year after blocked by Britain.

PORTUGAL

- FT: President Soares expected tomorrow to announce dissolution of parliament and a July election.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DEM: Mr Clarke relaunches inner cities initiative, London Docklands with Mr Lee; later attends BIC seminar on New Opportunities from Industrial change

DHSS: Mr Fowler speaks at the Association of County Councils AIDS conference, York

DEM: Mr Lee addresses Dartford Enterprise Club Dinner, House of Commons

DEM: Mr Trippier addresses COSIRA Seminar on lending to small firms; later attends discussion group of European Businesses and Parliamentarians

DEN: Mr Hunt opens Institute of Management Services Energy Management Conference, London; later attends Royal Institute of Naval Architects dinner, London

DEN: Mr Goodlad visits Flotta and CECG Wind Generator

DES: Mrs Rumbold addresses parents of children in independent schools, Liverpool

DHSS: Mr Newton opens New Linear Accelerator Radiotherapy Unit, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton

DHSS: Mrs Currie meets British Heart Foundation London; later speaks at meeting on nutrition and prevention, London

DHSS: Baroness Trumpington attends British Institute of Industrial Therapy, Care in the Community Conference, Westminster

DOE: Mr Patten launches Action for Cities Seminar, London

DTI: Mr Butcher visits Chemical Design Ltd, later visits BSI, Milton Keynes

DTI: Mr Pattie attends Rolls Royce press conference, London; later addresses Electronic Interchange Conference, London

DTI: Lor. Lucas hosts reception with delegation of Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology, London

DTp: Mr Bottomley attends the Spina Bifida Birthday Party to celebrate the Learner Driving Course for young disabled people, Ilkley

MAFF: Mr Thompson attends Country Standards Trading Officers Dinner, Cafe Royal, London

MAFF: Lord Belstead Meets FNSEA, French NFU

SO: Mr Mackay attends conference on countryside sports, Battleby, Perth

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

HO: Mr Hurd attends Trevi meeting, Brussels

DTP: Mr Spicer departs for India, Hong Kong and China (to 12 May)

TV AND RADIO

DES Minister Mrs Rumbold interviewed for Chronicle

"The Tuesday Feature"; BBC Radio 4 (20.30): First Lady of the Revolution - Rosario Murillo: Feature on and interview with the wife of Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega

"Two Nations"; BBC 1 (23.40): In Work and Out - Wasteland: Professor Richard Layard, Director of the Centre for Labour Economics at the LSE, offers a personal view suggesting three main ways in which a government can cut unemployment

"Moscow Link-Up"; ITV (12.00 pm): Sarah Kennedy presents a 'Daytime' special making television history when a studio audience in London talks direct via satellite to a studio audience in Moscow

"Their Lordships' House; Channel 4 (12.10)
