

5 May 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister presents life saving packs to children (photocall)

The Queen attends a reunion of the Officers of HMS Vanguard at the Naval and Military Club, London

The Prince of Wales opens the new Semiconductor plant at the Plessey Company, Roborough, Plymouth, Devon; later the Princess of Wales presents the national awards for the British Red Cross Young Community Champion Competition, Cafe Royal, London

EC: Fisheries Council, Brussels

Closing date for comment on Green Paper: Trade Unions and their members

Prison Officers' Association votes on Fresh Start package (to 7 May)

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STATISTICS

Bank of England: Capital issues and redemptions (Apr)

HMT: UK officials reserves (Apr)

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PUBLICATIONS

HMT: UK official reserves

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PAY

London Regional Transport: Drivers and Conductors (London Buses Ltd); 17,100; 28 March

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Defence; Employment; Prime Minister

Business: Proceedings on the Chevening Estate Bill (Lords)

Remaining stages of the Landlord and Tenant (No 2) Bill

Motion on the Rate Support Grant Supplementary Report (England) (No 1) 1987-88 followed by motion of the Welsh Rate Support Grant Supplementary Report 1987-88

Motion relating to the Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Employment) Order

Parliament (Cont'd)

Adjournment Debate: The proposed building of a Motorway Service area on the M11 between Bishops Stortford and the entrance to Stansted airport (Mr B Wells)

Select Committees: EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ARTS  
Subject: Special Education Needs  
Witness: Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Schools

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATION  
Subjects: Reports of the Northern Ireland  
Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration for  
1986  
Witnesses: Mr Hugh Kernohan, CBE, and Mr J Conway

Lords: British Railways (Stansted) Bill: Third Reading  
Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust Bill (HL): Committee (to be discharged)  
Housing (Scotland) Bill (HL) (Consolidation): Third Reading  
Debtors (Scotland) Bill (HL): Consideration of Commons Amendments  
Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc (Scotland) Bill: Report (3rd Day)  
Deer Bill (E Radnor): Second Reading  
Debate on EEC Report on the European Farm Prices Review (L Gallacher)

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- Further pressure for cut in base rates as £ takes wings.
  - Reprieve for rural schools threatened with closure expected this week. Guardian says Kenneth Baker is expected to hold out an olive branch to teachers unions tonight on negotiating rights.
  - Mail says John McDonnell, Livingstone's former deputy at GLC, could be suspended by the Labour Party for a savage attack on Kinnock in the Revolutionary Communist Party journal, blaming him for Labour's expected defeat in general election
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- Labour attacks "unfairness" of community charge and says you would be the first to benefit, saving £2000 a year; Philips & Drew forecast a big credit squeeze, smaller pay rises and less spending on welfare and housing if Conservatives re-elected.

MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Labour's Clare Short rocks the boat over Sharon Atkin but is to be allowed to campaign for her reinstatement; she backs down after call from Kinnock (Today). But claims Callaghan should have been disciplined for his views on defence policy.
- Was 12 year old boy found murdered in High Wycombe victim of bullies? Was he kicked to death?
- Other bullies in Birmingham throw 6 year old into canal - rescued by 9 year old.
- Mail expects DPP to give go-ahead for charging of MoD official over Zircon leak; suspect known to Ponting.
- Washington Post publishes Peter Wright extracts; Labour MPs want ban on publication ended.
- Airbus deal between Government and B/Aerospace expected today. Independent predicts £450m launch aid for Airbus and £200m for space.
- Bedford Vans calls on unions to end demarcation and sign no strike agreement to confirm link up with Japanese company to save Luton factory.
- Over 100 unemployment social security offices closed in London this week by Civil Service strike.
- Daily News says Animal Liberation Front has begun a new campaign of violence in London, threatening 'maximum destruction' to 'animal abusers'.
- Mail says Peter Bottomley wants immediate ban on drivers who fail a breath test; leader says this operates in France and W. Germany and it believes majority are ready to accept it <sup>here.</sup>
- Express wants Tom King to respond positively to IRA terror. Times says a bigger role is likely for RUC.
- Royals: Star, after a week serialising Penny Junor's book on Prince Charles asks its readers what job should he be given.
- Gary Hart runs into trouble - blonde alleged to have spent night at his home
- Waldheim to sue USA for its ban on his entry.
- Riot police quell South African election demonstration at Witwatersrand University.
- Prime Minister Karami, of Lebanon, resigns - new crisis.
- Arafat proposes peace talks with Israelis.

CONSERVATIVES

- Star speculates on who will be in - and out of - your third term Cabinet - out: Walker, Biffen, Mailsham, Jopling and Edwards.
- Sun says Foreign Secretary is key to shake up - you want him to take Lord Mailsham's job, but he is against it. Walker, Channon and Biffen to be sacked.
- Telegraph reports launching of local election advertising campaign today and to fight complacency.

LABOUR

- Star says Clare Short reminds Kinnock that his problems are not confined to the rabble abusing fringe, Short hopes to be a Minister in any future Labour Government. Short to campaign for Sharon Atkin's restoration.
- Mori poll in Birmingham shows 3 in 4 Labour voters oppose abolition of grammar schools.
- Express leader on black sections, headed "Divided as usual", says if Kinnock had dealt with his extremists as firmly as he frequently promised they would not now be plaguing his election prospects. He has only himself to blame.
- Times: Michael Meacher says future Labour Government should assess value of women's unpaid daily work.
- Times: TUC affiliated union leaders being warned that they will be contributing to Labour's defeat if they fail to provide cash soon.
- Guardian says unions claim they are on course to raise £5m for Labour Party.

POLITICS

- Labour claims you would be the first to profit from an ending of rates while ordinary householders would be worse off.
- Mirror leader says Britain's decline has accelerated under you. But many others - civil servants, politicians, industrialists, military - are to blame. Robert Maxwell recommended 25 years ago we were spending too much on military R & D.
- Today leader highlights "unfairness" of present financing of political parties and calls for State funds; another story says trade union leaders are feeling unloved because Kinnock has decided to exclude them from TV election campaign.
- Mail story says an early general election with the loss of the airlines carriers Bill, could mean a new wave of bogus political refugees pouring into Britain.
- Mail leader on immigration says the Tories want to tighten controls, Socialists want to loosen them. And it is not the Tories who espouse policy which goes against the popular grain.
- Times says Ministers vying for DTI post should you win third term. Those named are John Wakeham, Norman Fowler, John MacGregor and John Moore. Cecil Parkinson also in running. It is unlikely you will make any changes.
- Independent: Asians could be warned about voting Conservative by their community leaders after a report that the party would use race as a weapon against Labour in forthcoming election; the Independent reported that Conservatives would use Labour's opposition to the Immigration Carrier Liability Bill, claiming that Labour would risk flooding the country with refugees.
- FT: Economic performance figures support North/South divide arguments, but with South redefined as South-East, according to Lloyds Bank Economic Bulletin; Government has abandoned plans for regional development agencies in England as inner cities take over policy priority.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

- Express devotes nearly 2 pages to the campaign, says a triumphant third general election victory will be signalled for you by even a modest defeat in local elections. Lord Chalfont, in part of feature, says the image of local government is being savaged by the activities of black racists who are doing more harm to race relations than the National Front have done in 25 years.

'HANDS ACROSS BRITAIN'

- Largely ignored today.
- Star says the demonstration did not achieve its objective. But it did remind us that 3m are still "paying a heavy price for the upturn in the country's fortunes".
- Hugo Young, in Guardian, contrasts the views of 10m people, according to opinion polls, that unemployment is the main political issue with the "flop" of a turnout on Sunday. It is a commentary on the pathetic condition into which opposition in Britain has sunk over the last 8 years.

SPIES

- Today: 2-page feature, aimed at "demystifying" security services, explains who they are, how they are recruited and where they operate from, with pictures of office blocks.
- Daily News: It is to be hoped Campbell-Savours is absolutely certain of his facts in naming alleged MI5 agents and knows precisely what he is doing. The risk is that one trickle will become a flood and the innocent poured out with the guilty. You can put a stop to this by setting up an inquiry.
- Times: Serving and former MI5 officers concerned about reputation of security service because of allegations. Campbell-Savours admits he is "being fed information from innumerable sources" including people in intelligence services.

SPIES (Cont'd)

- Chapman Pincher writing in Times, claims to show up the flaws in the MI5 expose with headline "How Wright got it wrong". He doubts Wright's memory of events and says he has proved by documents and witnesses that almost everything Wright said about him and Lord Rothschild in Sydney court is either flawed or false. He says little notice was taken when he disclosed the "conspiracy" story against Wilson in 1978. When Wright says it, there is a political furore.
- Key aim of alleged conspiracy by MI5 against Wilson was to leak details of an official security service investigation into a CIA claim that Wilson was a Soviet agent; suggestions that senior MI5 sources would welcome an inquiry (Independent).
- Guardian says senior Whitehall officials, meeting under Sir Robert Armstrong, are understood to have agreed that an inquiry into allegations of MI5 misconduct should be held.

INDUSTRY

- Times: Electronics workers say their talents are being grossly underused.
- Times: 200 licensed conveyancers set up business next week in direct competition with solicitors.
- Times: Cost of electricity to industry continuing to fall.
- Times: Warning that Britain will have to turn to Norway for gas in next decade unless gas pipeline in central area of North Sea is developed.
- Times: Number of Americans visiting Britain is rising, say airlines and ticket agencies.
- Times: Market for heavy trucks in Europe likely to grow.
- Telegraph says Government is to try to persuade City to develop Northern Ireland as a financial services market.
- FT: ICL plans its first overseas manufacturing plant in continental Europe.
- FT: Britain has lodged a vigorous protest over "buy American" legislation in Congress which threatens to exclude PCEC Marconi from a £778m contract to upgrade Voice of America radio equipment.
- FT: Current wage deals are running at a median of 5.7%, according to Industrial Data Services.

DEFENCE

- Times: Ministry of Defence reject call for inquiry into alleged army bullying.
- Concern about possible cuts in the strength of the Royal Navy, which would break Government pledges to keep it at 50 warships, will be expressed by an all-party Commons Select Committee; Committee is also due to publish reports on Trident and UK participation in SDI (Independent).
- FT: Chancellor Kohl repeated after talks with M. Chirac that he would be taking his time to make up his mind on the Soviet Union's latest proposals.

EDUCATION

- Times: Head teachers warn Kenneth Baker that plans for financial management of schools should not be cost-cutting exercise.
- London comprehensive schools each losing up to 2,400 pupil hours a week because of teachers refusing to cover for absent colleagues (Times)
- Times: Ministers may be forced to bail out near-bankrupt University College, Cardiff.
- Times leader discusses resignation of Lawrence Norcross, ILEA headmaster, saying that nothing could more clearly illustrate why Government is so determined to free heads and schools of local authority control.
- Conservatives are planning reforms of FMI, according to Independent. One view is to give the inspectorate a much broader base and include representation by industry and commerce; Giles Radice fears for independence of FMI.

HEALTH

- A decision to bar admission to St Bartholomew's hospital of 2,700 patients a year from outside its district could be the beginning of the end of a NHS, said the College of Health yesterday (Independent).
- Independent: Trade unions at the Royal Free Hospital have protested that private patients will still be admitted this summer when 160 beds close for work on air conditioning system.

AIDS

- Times: Aids researchers launch fund raising campaign to fight disease in Africa where 10 million people are infected.

EC

- Times: Fear in Europe that June election could halt air fare cuts.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES, ETC)

DEN: Mr Walker addresses the British Nuclear Forum lunch, London

DES: Mr Baker speaks at General Certificate of Secondary Education, Guildford

DHSS: Mr Fowler attends Aids Press Conference, Lancaster House, London

DTI: Mr Channon visits Turner Collection, Tate Gallery

HMT: Mr MacGregor attends British Rail Promotional Run, new service between Norwich and London

WO: Mr Edwards attends European Year of the Environment exhibition of wildlife paintings, Wales Centre, Piccadilly

DEM: Mr Trippier opens ESP Print Group factory, Northampton; later presents certificate to YTS trainee, Rushton

DEN: Mr Hunt meets Mr Czipper, Hungarian Minister

DES: Mr Dunn meets the South Australian Minister, London

DES: Mrs Rumbold attends Ministerial Group on crime prevention, Home Office, later visits Redbridge LEA

DHSS: Mr Lyell visits Bridgend ILO; later visits Stormy Down Resettlement Unit, Bridgend

DHSS: Mrs Currie meets Cambridge District and Regional Health Authorities, later speaks at the Price Waterhouse dinner, London

DHSS: Baroness Trumpington visits Tooting Bec Hospital, London

DTI: Mr Clark addresses Conference on Trade with Eastern Bloc, London

DTp: Mr Mitchell visits Public Carriage Office, Pentonville Road; later lunches with Assistant Commissioner Maclean, New Scotland Yard

OAL: Mr Luce visits Dundee and Glasgow and speaks at British Sponsorship Incentive Scheme reception

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

MAFF: Mr Jopling attends Fisheries Council, Brussels

DES: Mr Walden visits Standing Conference of Euro Ministers, Helsinki (to 6 May)

DTI: Mr Pattie addresses International Tandem User's Group and later addresses Technology Seminar, Paris

FCO: Lady Young departs for Luxembourg, Strasbourg, Council of Europe (to 8 May).

FCO: Mr Eggar departs for Greece (to 8 May)

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TV AND RADIO

Party Political broadcasts by the Conservative Party: BBC 1, (21.00); BBC 2 (22.50); BBC Radio 4 (13.35)

"Comment"; Channel 4 (19.50). A guest speaker gives a personal view

"First Tuesday"; ITV (22.35). This week dealing with a "major scandal" on our farms involving children killed or maimed in "horrific" accidents. A second item looks at the fight by the Ardentinny community in remote Argyllshire to save their one-room, one-teacher village school. Ironically they are said to be able to see millions of pounds being spent on the new Trident missile base at Coulport on the other side of the loch

"Two Nations"; BBC 1 (21.00). Bill Jordan, Reader in Social Studies, Exeter University looks at the experiences of three families who have faced periods of unemployment and asks whether we should be thinking of a radical change to the social security and tax system to take account of the changing nature of work in Britain

"Their Lordships' House"; Channel 4 (00.15)

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