

23 March 1988

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister visits Ideal Home Exhibition, later meets Mr Djuranovic for talks and lunch, then gives interview to Turkish Television

The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh open the Royal Bank of Canada Centre, London

EC: Economic and Social Committee, Brussels (to 24 March)

EC: Political Committee, Bonn (to 24 March)

TUC General Council

NSPCC Child Sex Abuse conference, London

STATISTICS

HO: Notifiable offences, 1987

PUBLICATIONS

DEM: HSE guidance note on safety in swimming pools

HO: Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons Report on Stocken Prison

PAY

DEM: Water service craftsmen; 4,500

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Scotland; Foreign and Commonwealth; Trade and Industry

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Hospital Consultants (Transfer and Revision of Contracts)
Education Reform Bill: Progress on Remaining Stages (2nd allotted day)
Motions on Housing Benefit Regulations

Adjournment Debate: Postal surcharges for the Highlands and Islands (Mr J Wallace)

PARLIAMENT (cont'd)

- Select Committees: TRADE AND INDUSTRY
 Subject: Petrol Retailing
 Witnesses: Shell UK Ltd; BP Oil Ltd
- FOREIGN AFFAIRS
 Subject: The Gulf
 Witnesses: Sir John Moberly, Phillip Robins (Chatham House)
- WELSH AFFAIRS
 Subject: Inward Investment into Wales
 Witnesses: Officials from the Department of Trade and Industry
- ENERGY
 Subject: The Structure, Regulation and Economic Consequences of Electricity Supply in the Private Sector
 Witnesses: Chairman and officials from the South of Scotland Electricity Board and the North of Scotland Hydro-electric Board
- FOREIGN AFFAIRS
 Subject: Famine in the Horn of Africa
 Witness: DGviii of Euro Commission
- TRANSPORT
 Subject: Government responses to recommendations made by the Committee, 1983-87
 Witness: Department of Transport
- HOME AFFAIRS
 Subject: Broadcasting
 Witnesses: Advertising Association; Incorporated Society of British Advertisers
- PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
 Subject: Export Credits Guarantee Department
 Witness: Mr M G Stephens, Chief Executive
- SOCIAL SERVICES
 Subject: Resourcing the NHS
 Witnesses: Rt Hon John Moore, MP, Secretary of State for Social Services and Rt Hon Tony Newton, MP, Minister for Health
- ENVIRONMENT
 Subject: Air Pollution
 Witnesses: Nature Conservancy Council
- TRADE AND INDUSTRY
 Subject: Petrol Retailing
 Witnesses; Kuwait Petroleum; Esso Petroleum Co Ltd
- TREASURY AND CIVIL SERVICE
 Subject: The 1988 Budget
 Witnesses: HM Treasury officials
- DEFENCE
 Subject: The Royal Navy's Surface Fleet; Naval Manpower
 Witness: Ministry of Defence

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

Select Committees:

JOINT COMMITTEE ON CONSOLIDATION, & c. BILLS
Subject: Court of Session Bill [Lords]
Witness: Mr Fleming Wallace, The Scottish Law
Commission

Lords: Starred Questions
Debate on the state of the National Health Service
General Assistance Grants (Abolition) (Northern Ireland) Order
1988: Motion for Approval
UQ to ask HMG what weight they will give to the views of
Berkshire residents and their elected representatives when
making their decision on the revised Berkshire Structure Plan

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

You call on BBC and ITN to make unused film of lynching of soldiers available to RUC. Strong support from Sun, Today, Express, Mail, Times. Qualified in Telegraph and Guardian against you and behind TV. Independent says you were misguidedly simplistic in claiming journalists are on the side of justice or on the side of terrorists.

Michael Checkland, BBC, says only legal action will force him to hand it over.

RUC to go to court to try to get it.

100 Tory MPs sign protest motion on TV refusal; clash of opinion between David Steel (who backs TV) and David Alton (who doesn't). Bishop of Down and Connor calls on all Roman Catholics to leave IRA after Black Saturday.

Michael Stone charged with six murders - three of them at Milltown Cemetery after his grenade and guns attack.

Nicholas Soames criticises cameramen for not going to help soldiers - does news come before ordinary decency?

Fine Gael MP alleges Irish police saluted coffins of IRA terrorists on their return from Gibraltar.

Students Union at London University College vote to collect money for families of Gibraltar terrorists.

Customs arrest six for alleged illegal trading deals with Iran - in court today.

Ford confirm they will not be going to Dundee - instead either to Ireland or Austria. You attack outmoded unions. Mirror says Ford should think again.

Express notes that Kinnock yesterday refused to lift a finger against TGWU. And Mail asks what is Kinnock - the man to lead the Labour movement kicking and stuggling into the modern age or a grinning marionette whose strings are pulled by block vote blockheads.

Talks to try to settle P&O Dover strike to go on with deadline lifted by company. P&O announce £275m profits.

Land Rover strike expected to end after a month. Times says

unions fail to win any new money.

Electricity supply workers to get 7% pay rise.

National Motivation Week to be introduced in June - only 20% record Britain as competitive, according to survey; and 12% as appreciative of those who succeed.

Mitterrand announces his intention to stand for a second term.

Alcohol abuse committee to look at making it more difficult for those convicted of drink driving to get their driving licences back. Today's headline: "Breath Test No 1 and your banned for life".

Repairs on Britain's motorways to go on to 1992 - Sun says there will be roadworks jams to 2000 AD.

Unleaded petrol could account for 25% of market by end of 1989, according to forecasts.

Woolwich Building Society says community charge will push up price of houses by 15% because it will make it cheaper to own larger homes.

LWT announces job cuts of 249 out of workforce of 1,600 within a year.

Home Office agrees that MORI findings are broadly in line with results of their own research into fear of crime and violence in Britain.

Metropolitan Police to get extra 300 officers and 50 civilian staff this year.

Sir Edward Gardner QC leads company to design, build and run remand prisons.

John Moore sacks chairman of Gloucester Health Authority, the man Express describes as providing Prince Charles with information about NHS cuts.

Tony Newton to unveil plans tomorrow to halt the loss of 30,000 a year from NHS.

You back the idea of an internal NHS market.

Government report says smokers should be completely segregated in work places to cut down effects of "passive smoking".

Graham Turner, in Mail, examines French health service - public and private partnership.

Mail says Government has agreed to foot the £20m repair bill to save Settle-Carlisle railway line.

Prince of Wales issues "cosmic alert" about changes to the environment.

Patrick Steptoe, test tube baby pioneer, dies from cancer amid many tributes.

Armenia calls general strike from Saturday.

Mail says Reagan has intervened on UK side to allow us to build nuclear subs for Canada.

IRELAND

Star: TV veto angers Maggie.

Sun P1: Maggie fury as TV men hold up IRA film; leader headed "No neutrals in this war" says the photographers were not just private citizens in the cemetery to make a home video. They were the eyes of the public and that puts an extra obligation on them. They have a duty to the nation.

Mirror: TV chiefs "must hand over massacre film" - your duty, says Thatcher.

Today: Does BBC support terror? asks Maggie; leader says "TV must toe Maggie's line". No journalist will find your black and white view easy to take because it could make every cameraman a moving target for terrorists. But the thugs want to make an impact through the media. There is something curiously hypocritical about declarations of journalistic independence from BBC and ITN which are nothing but creations of the state.

Express: Hand in pictures of mob, Maggie tells BBC chiefs; leader on "TV's duty to hand over the evidence" says anger over their refusal is understandable. But the media's argument is not altogether unreasonable. But it does not have great force in the circumstances of last Saturday's lynch murders.

Mail: Furious Maggie blasts BBC on Ulster - an outraged Mrs T virtually accused BBC of dodging the law and taking side of IRA. Leader says the film must be handed over. There are sound journalistic reasons for not handing it over, but on this occasion the BBC and ITN also have to consider the criminal savagery in

their footage. If necessary the Attorney General must force their hand.

Telegraph P1 lead: TV chiefs reject Thatcher plea on murder film. Leader says if journalists choose to defy or appear to hamper the law they must accept the consequences, of which intense public unpopularity is likely to be one. BBC's position somewhat weakened by its willingness to hand over film of Wapping disturbances in support of a complaint by Kate Adie. The sensible course is for legal rather than casual demands to be made to news organisations.

Guardian P1 lead: Thatcher attacks TV "aid to terror"; leader says the job of the media is to report events, not to supplement the role of the Special Branch. The predicament of media men on the ground is dangerous enough already. If court actions were to succeed, the media would face a desperate choice between honouring their obligations to report and safeguarding lives of those they employ. To represent their position as supporting terrorism is a shameful calumny.

Independent: You urge TV to hand over untransmitted film of the mob murder as enraged Tory MPs call for legislation to force them to do so by extending the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. Both BBC and ITN move to justify and explain their refusal of the RUC's request. Leader says the BBC is right to pause before deciding whether it cooperates voluntarily or not. It says you were being misguidedly simplistic in claiming journalists are either on the side of justice or the side of the terrorist.

Times leads with you leading a withering Parliamentary onslaught on BBC, ITN and RTE; leader says as a general rule BBC and ITN policy of not showing untransmitted film to outsiders is right. But there are times when seriousness of a crime outweighs any threat to the independence of the news organisations. This is one of them.

Connor Cruise O'Brien, writing in Times under the heading "Last rites for Hillsborough" discusses Mr Haughey's attitude to the Anglo-Irish Agreement, saying he would like to see it collapse in such a way that almost all Irish people put the blame on the Brits. He concludes that if he wants to wreck it let him. The sky will not fall. Mr Haughey might.

FT: Government yesterday found itself locked in open disagreement with broadcasting organisations over handing over to RUC unbroadcast film.

LITTER

Star: Maggie's war on litter with picture of you getting down on your hands and knees to clear it up.

Sun: Trash bash! Maggie in a war on litter.

Mirror devotes nearly 2 pages with pictures of your campaign and under heading "What a load of rubbish" says there was a whiff of dirty tricks about it because rubbish was collected and then dumped for you to pick up again for cameras.

Today: Maggie makes a mess of tidying up Britain.

Express with picture "Maggie launches drive to beat Britain's 'shame'.

Mail with picture: Spring clean in the part as Maggie launches war on litter.

Telegraph with picture: Tougher laws on litter threatened by Thatcher.

Guardian: PM lends helping claw in the drive towards rubbishing the litter louts.

Independent with picture: Thatcher aims for clean sweep of the streets, but Britain's reputation as the "Dirty Man of Europe" was confirmed at EC Environment Council when the government refused to accept new compromise plans for controlling power station emissions.

BUDGET

Sun leader asks: Who does Nigel Thatcher think he is - Margaret Thatcher? His courageous, imaginative and even historic Budget does not entitle him to behave like the Lord of the Rings. Maybe all the praise has gone to his head. It is time he calmed down. The nation could just about scrape along without him.

Express leader says Lord Young has no intention of remaining quiet on the issue of the strong £ and nor should he. All he is doing is reminding exporters that they are ultimately responsible for their success or failure. It is not the performance of the £ they should be preoccupied with, but their own.

Mail: Lord Young acts to calm sterling row. To meet Chancellor.

Independent: Peter Jenkins, looks at the morality of cutting taxes of the rich, instead of allocating resources to the alleviation of social need. He believes the egalitarian assumption built into post-war consensus may now be more in the minds of social scientists and Labour politicians than in the minds of the people. If people are now more willing to endure relative deprivation in exchange for real rising living standards, the Chancellor may be right in his belief that the Budget has dished Labour, branding it forever as the party of taxation.

FT: Lord Young moved quickly to clarify reports that he believed a return to exchange control would be a mistake. In the Commons you brushed aside Mr Kinnock's challenge on the issues.

POLITICS

Times: Kinnock will face opposition from the Left today when he sets out a revised statement of Labour Party values which accepts the operation of market forces in important sections of the economy.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

As Manchester and Liverpool City councils meet today to fix their rates, Independent contrasts the confidence of the former in attracting new business with the despair in the latter which seems to be in perpetual crisis.

LAW AND ORDER

Times: Home Secretary starts drive for big speed-up in jail building.

Times. National Children's Home says hundreds of thousands of children will be at increased risk of abuse because of next month's changes in social security system.

Times: School leavers looking increasingly to Armed Forces and police for a career.

FORD

Times: Kinnock suffers serious embarrassment as you lead a further Tory assault against trades unions for wrecking Ford's plans to build in Dundee. He remained seated for far longer than usual during Question Time; leader says there seems scant possibility

that Ford will reverse its decision, adding that Ron Todd's preference for his union rule book over jobs for Scottish workers is a timely reminder of the still greater power of militant trade union leadership.

FT: Ford considers single-union deal for Dundee plant. Meanwhile union officials claim they were told in January that the plan had been shelved following a review of Ford's European operations.

INDUSTRY

FT: PAC will consult today MPs' calls for investigation of sharp rise in DTI's spending on advertising.

DEFENCE

Independent: Pledges that thousands of jobs and business worth millions of pounds would flow into Britain as a result of the Government's decision to switch a £860m order for early warning aircraft to the US Boeing AWACS are not being fulfilled. Boeing is unable to identify any jobs created in British firms.

FRANCE

Independent leader says the prospect of a tried and respected President (in Mitterrand) is increasingly attractive to many French people.

EC

Times: Trade ministers agree to new directive obliging local authorities throughout EC to open up contracts for public supplies to free competition across EC borders.

Times: Government issues strong warning to EC partners saying it wants British-style, free market solutions to problems still to be overcome in creating a truly common market by 1992.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DEM: Mr Fowler attends lunch for Yugoslavian Prime Minister, London

FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses the Coningsby Club, London

HO: Mr Hurd addresses Prison Governors conference, London

MAFF: Mr MacGregor receives courtesy call from Spanish Ambassador, Jose J. Puig De le Bella

WO: Mr Walker attends export breakfast, Bodelyyddan Castle, Llandudno; later opens Delyn Exhibition and tours Delyn Enterprise Zone and Deeside Industrial Park; also visits Data Magnetics Factory

DEM: Mr Lee visits Newcastle (to 24 March)

DEM: Mr Cope visits East Midlands

DEN: Mr Morrison cuts ribbon for Greenland reclamation, Landfill site power station; later addresses reception to launch the Aitken oil and gas joint venture, Ritz Hotel, London

DES: Lady Hooper addresses the 2nd National PICKUP conference, Lancaster University; later attends reception for the Equal Opportunities Commission

DES: Mr Dunn attends DES stand at the Ideal Home Exhibition, London

DES: Lady Hooper attends reception for the Equal Opportunities Commission chairman designate

DOE: Mr Waldegrave visits Birmingham (housing)

DOE: Lord Caithness visits the Royal Armouries in the Tower of London

DOE: Mrs Roe visits South Hams (rural housing)

DOE: Mr Trippier opens Coates Viella Home Furnishing, Bolton

DTI: Mr Atkins visits Spring Fabex exhibition, Earls Court

DTP: Mr Mitchell tours Channel Tunnel production facility, Isle of Grain; later chairs the 13th Channel Tunnel Joint Consultative Committee meeting, Ashford

DTP: Lord Brabazon visits Guernsey and Alderney

HO: Mr Renton addresses Voice of Listener conference on future plans for radio

MAFF: Mr Gummer attends British Leather Confederation annual luncheon, St Helens Place, London; later attends British Agricultural and Garden Machinery Association dinner, Hotel Norwich

WO: Mr Roberts attends HRH Prince of Wales at the launch of Gerald of Wales exhibition, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff

MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

DTI: Mr Clarke on "A Week in Politics", Channel 4

TV AND RADIO

"Today": BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

"Getting On": ITV (11.30). Includes item on how the EC food mountain is distributed

"Schools, Teaching CDT": Channel 4 (11.41) series made at invitation of DES

"Business Daily": Channel 4 (12.00)

"You and Yours": BBC Radio 4 (12.00)

"The World at One": BBC Radio 4 (13.00)

"PM": BBC Radio 4 (17.00)

"An Outside Chance": Channel 4 (18.30). Discussion of non-custodial alternatives to prison with MPs Clive Soley, John Wheeler and others

"In Business": BBC Radio 4 (19.20) (repeat of yesterday's programme)

"Comment": Channel 4 (19.50): A Conservative MP speaks in this political slot

"A Week in Politics": Channel 4 (20.30). Details unavailable at time of going to press

"The Judges": BBC Radio 4 (20.45). A new series of interviews with judges on aspects of their job. Today Mrs Justice Booth of the Family Division on the High Court

"Up North": BBC 2 (22.20) 'Beyond Jarrow' looks at John Hall's plans after the Metro Centre

"The World Tonight": BBC Radio 4 (22.30) followed by "The Financial World Tonight" then "Today in Parliament"

"Newsnight": BBC 2 (22.50)
