

MAIN EVENTS

House of Commons resumes

At the invitation of The Queen, The King of Norway pays a state visit to the United Kingdom. His Majesty will stay at Windsor Castle (to 15 April)

Guinness defendants appear at Bow Street Court

STATISTICS

Bank of England: Quarterly analysis of bank advances (Feb)

HO: Metropolitan Police Fund estimates 1988-89

OPCS: Deaths by cause, September Qtr 1987, registrations

OPCS: Deaths from accidents and violence, September Qtr 1987 registrations

PUBLICATIONS

HO: The North Report on Road Traffic Law

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Social Services; Education and Science; Prime Minister

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Blacklists (Access to Information)
School Boards (Scotland) Bill: 2nd Reading and Money Resolution
Motion on the Church Commissioners (Assistance for Priority Areas) Measure

Adjournment Debate: The Green Belt in Bearsden and Milngarrie District (T. Wortnington)

Lords: Starred Questions
Immigration Bill: Report
Town and Country Planning (Compensation for Restrictions on Mineral Working) (Amendment) Regulations 1988: Motion for Approval
Criminal Injuries (Compensation) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988: Motion for Approval
Minors' Contracts (Northern Ireland) Order 1988: Motion for Approval

Ministers: See Annex.

PRESS DIGEST

MAIN NEWS

Hijack continues after gunmen kill a second passenger when Cypriots refuse to refuel plane. Hijackers panic when they believe air-conditioning is being used to gas them.

Sun claims you are angry because you feel Cypriots have bungled negotiations by giving them food, drink and rest.

Express says hijackers have threatened to murder more hostages.

Mail says power of international terrorism yesterday seemed to paralyse will of Western world to help victims. Britain is only country with specialist troops in Cyprus capable of such action.

Arafat claims hijackers are getting orders from Iran (Telegraph).

Threat of an all-out strike at Jaguar grows as talks over speeding up production break down.

Mortgage rates expected to fall today; shares up 30 points as dollar recovers; sterling falls against Deutschmark and dollar. Oil prices up one dollar.

Government launches counter-attack over Social Security reforms. Robin Cook calls them "a tax on thrift" and Robin McCrindle calls for changes.

Mirror prints case of dying woman and seriously ill husband who will lose £25.10 because of cuts in housing benefit.

Express reports John Major as saying changes will encourage more people to work.

Telegraph reports Nicholas Ridley trying to head off community charge revolt.

Survey finds that nowhere else in Europe do young people set such store on wealth as in Britain, though idealism is not lacking.

Cambridge heart specialist quitting because he believes heart transplants are costing the lives of other patients.

Today says you want the sale of Britain's 94 coal mines placed at the top of privatisation agenda when electricity privatisation is complete. You have a vision of miners earning £25,000 a year in high productivity pits.

Tyne-Tees TV withdraws from national agreements in favour of local deals - new showdown with unions expected.

Ronson to invest £100 million in Heron petrol stations.

Michael Heseltine claims North, Wales and Scotland are being bypassed by prosperity; wants an English Development Agency and more dispersal of Government jobs.

Case of a Camden council tenant who has just made £164,000 profit in 8 years in selling his house.

Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work finds many social workers are unfit for their jobs and often don't know the most basic laws governing their dealings with children, teenagers and families.

Special Constables drafted in to help fight crime have shown in Bradford they can cut burglaries dramatically.

AIDS kills another 33 in Britain. Airline pilots, according to their Guild, should be tested every six months. Telegraph says it may hasten introduction of euthanasia in USA.

Max Hastings in Telegraph says the time has come to give Prince Charles a real job.

Peregrine Worsthorne, on Panorama, says spectacle of Commonwealth doing its best to humiliate you over South African sanctions, coupled with the Queen's position as its head, gave the impression the Queen was implicitly backing it against you.

Hugo Young, in Guardian, says role Prince Charles has chosen, in emphasising community, could hardly bring monarchy greater esteem.

Israel expels 8 Palestinians and orders it for 12 others accused of violence on West Bank and in Gaza Strip.

Some reports suggest 1000 dead in Pakistan arms dump explosion.

BBC documentary to claim Britain would not have won the Falklands war without American help. (Mail).

Peking to stage first beauty contest since Communists came to power 39 years ago.

Bruce Kent, CND, marries.

HIJACK

Star says thousands of Britons are under threat in Kuwait from extremists; leader says the fanatics' crime is unspeakable beyond belief and callousness plumbs depths of evil. If the scum meet the same fate as their victims few will mourn. Whatever happens world must never give in.

Today leader says the agony of the hostages ought never to have lasted this long. The kidnappers should have known that wherever they landed they would be stormed by troops. Governments which shelter terrorists are as guilty of warmongering as those who encourage spread of bomb.

Guardian says crisis is moving inexorably away from peaceful solution Cyprus had hoped for.

Times Pro-Iranian militants in Beirut threaten to hang kidnapped US Marine if plane is stormed; Britain prepared to use SAS to storm plane, but Cypriots anxious to try for negotiated solution.

Times World's airlines to press for creation of international force to take control of any future hijack and for hijackers to be tried by new international court.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Mirror leader says despair, desperation and destitution began yesterday for millions of decent men and women and their children and many didn't know the full extent of what was happening. Not since means tests of 1930s has a British Government taken away so much from those who have so little.

Express leader says you must ignore the poverty lobby and those who protest within your own party. The basic concept is on target. The welfare state has bred dependency in many and you are now seeking to undo the harm. Beveridge would be on your side.

Independent Resentment and resignation greet introduction of major reforms in social security payments. First sign of Tory backbench revolt over cuts emerges as pensioners demonstrate outside Downing Street and DHSS clerical staff picket Ministers. Scottish churchmen condemn the shake-up as "offensive"; leader concludes that those who have misgivings about the changes should force you and the Treasury to raise the limit for housing benefit to £10,000. Peter Jenkins says that although they can hardly be said to be turning back the Beveridge clock, they will cause large numbers of fairly hard-up people to be out of pocket: the poor are caught helpless in the cross-fire.

Times You and John Moore, as you face questions in House today, will stand firm on social security changes in spite of worries about effect on local elections next month; leader says that overall the Government's reforms make some useful, if not uncontroversial, changes to the structure of the benefit system. To expect agreement also on the level of benefits would be expecting too much.

Telegraph features anguish of single mothers who lose out.

Guardian says shake up hits elderly first and highlights hard cases of elderly in care who can't sell their homes to realise their assets.

ECONOMY

Today leader, worrying about credit, says you set the right example by chopping up your credit card when your credit limit was raised without consultation.

Times London conference told that economic success of country in next decade will depend on investing in people rather than machinery.

Guardian says Heseltine is right and is right to go on pressing his case for narrowing of North-South divide.

POLITICS

Express feature says Kinnock's conversion to policy changes is a huge breakthrough for you in your aim to destroy Socialism. But in Kinnock's case voters may well disbelieve he is a convert.

Mail says North-South divide, always a favourite Heseltine theme,

is now beginning to look as out of date as Heseltine himself. He is being overtaken by events.

Telegraph says Kinnock has decided that at all costs Labour must be led towards realities and Benn has decided the opposite.

Times David Steel set to stand for leadership of SLDP and is clear favourite as he is almost certainly not to be opposed.

Times Lord Chancellor drafted in by Conservative Party leaders in Scotland to wind up conference debate in an attempt to head off a growing grass roots rebellion over devolution.

INDUSTRY

Times leader urges CPSA members to follow advice of their general secretary and vote in large numbers for a new leadership provided by the National Moderate Group.

Times Government expected to announce that it is taking a stake in the launch of European satellite in place of RADARSAT.

Independent British Coal is lobbying government to change health and safety legislation to clear way for new working practices to increase efficiency.

Independent SERC expected to approve creation of national research centre to develop materials for future generations of electronic computer chips at Imperial College.

Financial Times Rover Group will be left with a cash surplus from Government's planned £800million injection of new capital.

Financial Times Ministers expected to approve Airbus cost cuts in Madrid today.

Financial Times BP announces sweeping changes in Britoil board, with SDA chairman, Sir Robin Duthie, as the new chairman.

Financial Times Manufacturing firms continue to suffer from steel-delivery delays, partly because of EC production quotas, according to John Trafford, head of Iron & Steel Consumers Council.

Financial Times House of Lords science and technology committee calls for an extra £75million Government funding for research; leader argues for Interdisciplinary Research Centres to be set up. Academics have put forward ideas for 70 but so far there are funds for no more than two or three a year.

NHS

Times Brilliant young doctors turning away from careers in vital areas of medical research because of cuts in spending on basic research.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Sun, picking up rumours that John Stanley is to replace Tom King as Secretary of State, says he would be a disaster. It would prefer Terry Wogan. And more generally it says that instead of placing naive trust in treacherous Dublin Government the UK Government must rely on strength and outlaw Sinn Fein.

IDB announces record 5,300 jobs created in province last year.

T E Utley in Times, examines stirrings of a new political initiative in the province but his heart is not lightened. A devolved parliament would give Sinn Fein a unique opportunity to disrupt the political life of the province in the interests of the IRA.

LAW AND ORDER

Independent Board of Visitors at Leicester Prison warns Home Office that conditions could "blow up" at any time as result of moves to streamline prison officers' working patterns in one of Britain's most overcrowded prisons.

AFGHANISTAN

This issue gives the Sun an excuse to say that the Guardian represents much that is sick and rotten and perverted in our society. This is because it says the Guardian claims that a Russian invasion never actually happened. The Kremlin merely joined in a civil war in its sphere of influence.

TIBET

Independent leader looks at the current visit of the Dalai Lama to UK and says it is extraordinary that the Foreign Office should turn its back on him. It urges Sir G Howe to instruct one of his senior Ministers to contact him and says the Chinese Ambassador should do the same.

SOVIET UNION

Times leading Soviet economist calls for vital radical Western-style reforms if ailing Soviet economy is to survive growing conservative backlash being mounted by the enemies of Perestroika.

ANNEX

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DEM: Mr Fowler gives opening address at Human Resource Development conference, Barbican

DES: Mr Baker attends and addresses launch of Engineering Industry Training Board Bursary Scheme; later attends State Banquet in honour of the King of Norway, Windsor Castle; also meets Professor Geoff Thompson, Chairman of Science Working Group and later the Rt Hon Richard Luce MP, Minister of Arts about the Horniman and Geffrye Museums

DOE: Mr Ridley, Lord Caithness, Mr Waldegrave and Mrs Roe attend launch of the Rural Development Commission in London

DTI: Lord Young meets Mr Wei Yuming, Chairman of the Board of China, World Trade Centre

HMT: Mr Major addresses the Guardian Tuesday Conference

DEM: Mr Nicholls attends Hotel and Catering Training Board lunch

DEM: Mr Cope addresses Peat Marwick McLintock 3i's seminar, Stoke on Trent

DEM: Mr Lee visits EJB for budget presentation

DEN: Mr Spicer visits Selby Pit, Yorkshire (prov)

DES: Mr Jackson visits Humberside College (prov)

CHSS: Mrs Currie meets the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, London

DOE: Mr Waldegrave opens Thames Valley Housing Association

DOE: Mr Chope visits Portsmouth

DTp: Mr Bottomley visits the York Thermostar Factory, Harelaw, County Durham

FCO: Lord Glenarthur addresses Pakistan National Defence College, London

HMT: Mr Brooke addresses the Industrial Participation Association on profit related pay, London

HO: Mr Patten addresses CBI Small Firms Council; later addresses PAPPAG on alternatives to custody for 17-20 year olds, London

MAFF: Mr Thompson attends Inauguration of Rural Countryside Commission, Lancaster House

MAFF: Baroness Trumpington lunches with Seed Crushers and Oil Producers Association, London

MINISTERS UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC) (Cont'd)

- DTP: Mr Bottomley visits the York Thermostar Factory, Harelaw, County
Durham
- FCO: Lord Glenartnur addresses Pakistan National Defence College,
London
- HMT: Mr Brooke addresses the Industrial Participation Association on
profit related pay, London
- HO: Mr Patten addresses CBI Small Firms Council; later addresses
PAPPAG on alternatives to custody for 17-20 year olds, London
- MAFF: Mr Thompson attends Inauguration of Rural Countryside Commission,
Lancaster House
- MAFF: Baroness Trumpington lunches with Seed Crushers and Oil Producers
Association, London

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- HMT: Mr Lawson departs for IMF Meetings, Washington
- DES: Mr Jackson attends CERN meeting, Holland
- DTI: Mr Clark visits Romania and Bulgaria (to 20 April)
- DTP: Mr Mitchell attends EC Meeting on High Speed Trains, Paris
- HO: Mr Renton attends Broadcasting Ministers of Council of Europe
conference, Vienna on the Council of Europe Convention on
Transfrontier Broadcasting

MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

- DES: Mr Dunn interviewed by TV AM on Conductive Education, ITV (08.15)
- ODA: UNICEF's Children First magazine interview Mr Patten

TV AND RADIO

- "Today": BBC Radio 4 (6.30)
- "You and Yours": BBC Radio 4 (12.00)
- "Business Daily": Channel 4 (12.30)
- "The World at One": BBC Radio 4 (13.00)
- "The Parliament Programme": Channel 4 (14.00) covering both Houses of
Parliament
- "In Business": BBC Radio 4 (16.05). Details not available at time of
going to press. (Repeated Wednesday)
- "P.M.": BBC Radio 4 (17.00)
- "Workforce": BBC Radio 4 (19.20). Prospects for the long term unemployed
(repeated Wednesday)
- "Moneyspinner": Channel 4 (20.30). New financial series features
broadcast from Northern Ireland and feature on pensions
- "Newsnight": BBC 2 (22.40)
- "The World Tonight": BBC Radio 4 (22.30) followed by "The Financial World
Tonight" then "Today in Parliament".