

11 MAY 1988

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Princess of Wales visits the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital

The Prince Edward attends the premiere of the film Jane and the Lost City, Odeon, Marble Arch, London

National Association of Co-operative Officials annual general meeting, Brandon

Fire Brigades Union annual conference, Bridlington (to 13 May)

Scottish Conservative Party conference, Perth (to 14 May)

Shultz/Shevernadze prepare for Moscow Summit, Geneva

Polish Parliament debates emergency powers to push through economic reforms

Launch of Ariane space rocket, Guyana

PUBLICATIONS

DHSS: Regional Health Authority Chairmen's survey on recruitment and retention (prov)

HO: Police Complaints Authority annual report and triennial report

PARLIAMENT

Commons:

Questions: Trade and Industry; Environment; Scotland

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Dock Labour (Amendment and Limitation)
Opposition Day (11th allotted day): There will be a debate on an Opposition Motion on P&O dispute
Motion to take note of the European Commission's Proposal on the Approximation of Indirect Taxation. Details of the EC Documents concerned will be given in the Official Report.

OPPOSED PRIVATE BUSINESS

Associated British Ports (No 2) Bill

Adjournment Debate: The A249 road to Sheerness (Mr R Moate)

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)Select Committee:

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: The political impact of the
process of Arms Control and Disarmament
Witnesses: Officials from the FCO and MOD

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: BAe and Rover merger
Witnesses: Graham Day and Prof. Roland
Smith

ENERGY

Subject: The structure, regulation and
economic consequences of electricity
supply in the private sector
Witnesses: Representatives from the
Electricity Supply Trade Union Council

EMPLOYMENT

Subject: Urban Development Corporations
Witness: Southwark Borough Council

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: The political impact of the
process of Arms control and Disarmament
Witness: Prof. Lawrence Freedman

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Subject: Financial problems at Universities
Witnesses: Sir David Hancock, KCB, Permanent
Secretary, Department of Education and Science;
Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, KBE, Bt, Chairman,
University Grants Committee

SOCIAL SERVICES

Subject: Resourcing the NHS
Witnesses: Royal College of Nursing;
National Union of Public Employees and
Confederation of Health Service Employees
(at 5.00 p.m.)

TRANSPORT

Subject: Airline Competition: CRS
Witnesses: Guild of Business Travel
Agents; Consumer Association

TREASURY AND CIVIL SERVICE

Subject: Future Financing of the Community
Witness: Rt Hon Peter Brooke MP

COMMITTEE ON A PRIVATE BILL

Hampshire (Lyndhurst Bypass) [Lords]

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGEST

EEPTU to hold ballot on continued affiliation to the TUC - if they leave it is thought AEU might, too.

No sign of break in NUS/P&O now, with 600 trucks queuing on M20 and blocking Dover and other ports.

Mr Clarke prepared to give P&O one last chance to go to negotiating table.

NUS refuses to accept Sealink offer of 450 jobs.

Today says lorry drivers are threatening to jam Europe.

Scotland Yard launches corruption investigation after 11 alleged soccer thugs discharged from Court after judge says detectives' logs were not safe to rely on.

Gorbachev admits that his reforms have created panic in Communist Party.

Polish strikers surrender, led by Walensa.

Denmark moves slightly right, Schluter expects to retain power, but no resounding endorsement of Danish role in NATO comes out of General Election.

Reports that a Soviet spy satellite is plunging out of control towards the earth and could crash in months scattering radioactive debris.

Row over future of Green Belt continues after Mr Ridley's speech last night in which he says it remains inviolate but more houses will have to be built on green field sites outside Green Belt.

Claims that thousand of railwaymen are earning four times basic rate by clocking up large amounts of overtime.

Government gives cool response to MPs' calls for Rowntree inquiry, warning against erecting barriers against foreign investment in UK.

CEGB confirms intention to seek PWR planning permission in Anglesey and to investigate possibility of third nuclear power station at Sizewell.

PRESS DIGEST

Bradford University blames Government's "lamentable record" for "national disgrace" in Britain of food poisoning.

Sun says advertising industry survey of young people - Thatcher's Children - shows they are much more contented than their parents. Today headline says today's youngsters are less rebellious, less promiscuous, more caring and can't wait to become adults. Express: study reveals generation of new realists. Telegraph - Sixties idealists have produced a generation of utterly pragmatic realists.

NALGO rejects 4.4%.

Air traffic controllers claim they are being forced by management to hush up near-misses.

CPSA vote to disrupt planned reforms of Civil Service. John Ellis, general secretary, explains in Mail how they set the union free from Militant.

Leftwing backlash against Kinnock's plans to ditch unilateralist policy.

Sir Trevor Jones resigns as SLDP leader of Liverpool Council.

Edwina Currie wants more competition for patients among hospitals and less bureaucratic rigidity between hospital districts.

Legionnaires disease has broken out at ITN - Mirror says there are fears of a major outbreak all over London and at Westminster where two peers and 40 Lords's staff have been taken ill.

Today says you are prepared to face a storm of protest to stop SAS men appearing as Gibraltar inquest witnesses. But Express says SAS witnesses will appear in person but only if you are satisfied their identities will be kept secret.

Guardian says FCO briefing paper on PIRA international contacts contains inaccurate, distorted and defamatory material.

Two millionaire London restaurateurs murdered with their wives in Italy - ? by Mafia.

Channel 4 now planning film on the less glorious side of Falklands - "real-life story of shell-shocked soldier bullied by his comrades".

PRESS DIGEST

Alan Wells, British Olympic sprinter, says Zola Budd has been "sacrificed to African states". If she had been black, he says, no-one would have protested about her running for Britain.

Zola's doctor says she was on the verge of suicide.

Mail interview with Zola Budd leads paper; she recognises her will and talent have been irretrievably broken.

Today says millions of ordinary parents won't understand Prince Charles being away on a painting holiday in Italy while Prince Harry has operation.

Benn wants legislation to end Queen holding position as head of Church of England.

Russell Harty has relapse.

You won't be recruiting an astrologer, you tell Julian Amory.

SEAMEN'S STRIKE

Sun leader says it has a great deal of sympathy for lorry drivers. They always seem to be caught in the middle. But it appeals to them to call off the blockade. Adding to the misery won't help them one little bit.

Express leader says the anger of the lorry drivers is understandable. But their behaviour in bringing Channel ports to a standstill is intolerable. The ferry companies should stop discriminating against them and drivers should end their outrageous blockade.

Times - NUS accuse P&O of "mindless militancy" in refusing point blank an offer to resume negotiations with ACAS. Meacher claims Government gave a nod and a wink to P&O to make changes that would put passenger safety at risk on ferries.

Times - Proposed flotation of Sealink called off because of strike.

Times - Sealink chief accuses P&O chairman of refusing to back down in dispute because he is afraid of losing face with Government.

PRESS DIGESTUNIONS

FT - Outcome of Electricians' union expected to show large majority against TUC membership.

Times - Electricians union set to be expelled from TUC after its leaders vote to break a series of TUC directives on no-strike agreements and not to attend the next TUC General Council meeting; the move paves the way in the longer term for the establishment of a rival TUC which is likely to be in place next year.

ENVIRONMENT

Today leader says if Nicholas Ridley had his way England's Green and pleasant land will start somewhere north of Birmingham by the end of the century. He should think again about allowing greenfield development outside Green Belt.

FT leader looks at Nicholas Ridley's planning policies for the South-East and thinks the issue is potentially as explosive for the Tories as any that has caused rumblings of discontent within their ranks during the past decade. It does not see Mr Ridley's trenchant speech as being enough to put it to rest.

Mail Tory anger at plans to loosen Green Belt.

Independent - Ridley failed to quell rising anger among Tory MPs over housing development in green belt areas.

Times - Nicholas Ridley provokes protest from Conservative backbenchers by insisting there should be further development of greenfield sites in rural southern England but claims that the Government has strenuously protected the Green Belt against development.

YOUR INTERVIEW WITH WASHINGTON POST

Picked up by:

Express - Reagan gets a strong call to Summit - you offer an upbeat message of support and hope.

Mail - Maggie tells US to back Soviet reforms in "long and controversial" interview. It also claims you took George Bush's side in presidential elections.

Guardian - prints "Mrs Thatcher parlour Summit" - a Washington Post summary of the interview.

PRESS DIGEST

Times include a reference in story on INF treaty ratification.

THATCHER'S CHILDREN

Express leader on advertising survey of Britain's youth says out in the real world youngsters find nothing repressive about Britain. On the contrary it fills them with confidence and fires them with ambitions. What really upsets our Left-leaning intelligentsia is that their own tastes and values are not shared by millions of ordinary Britons.

Times devotes whole page to MINTEL report which shows that youngsters are rejecting rebellion and nonconformity in favour of becoming model citizens enjoying the material benefits of Thatcherism. It adds that the first generation of young adults brought up under Thatcherism share your faith in family values, conformity and the work ethic - and want to be seen as model citizens.

EDUCATION

Times - Harris Poll shows 61% who live in inner London disapprove of Government's plan to abolish the ILEA.

Times - Ministers thinking about allowing businessmen to become teachers without going through the usual training requirements.

ECONOMY

FT leader looks at the Government's exchange rate policy and concludes that there has been an important but yet largely unclear shift in the regime. It sees a compromise between your view that monetary policy should be directed at domestic targets and that of the Chancellor that exchange rate stability is desirable. But it wonders whether the related uncertainty is desirable and believes the Government needs to throw out some new monetary anchor. It will probably be forced back on the exchange rate target in the end.

Independent - The Treasury is facing a challenge to its strict rules for private investment in public sector development.

PRESS DIGESTLAW & ORDER

Times - Lord Chief Justice says it is high time the prosecution had the right to comment when detainee produces a new line of defence to the charge at trial which the police had no chance to verify.

Times - Law Society helps set up legal information telephone service.

HOUSING

Times - Tower Hamlets again refuses to house 12 Bangladeshi families after being ordered by Appeal Court to think again.

INDUSTRY

Independent - Government refused to block Nestle bid before the OFT had made their recommendation. The Government stressed that it had to look beyond Britain when deciding whether a merger was anti-competitive. There has been speculation that Cadbury could merge with Rowntree. Their combined market share would be 56% in the UK and 20% in the EC. Leader says while retaining an open policy to inward investment, the Government should ensure that domestic firms are not disadvantaged by a parochial mergers policy.

Times - Cecil Parkinson overrules EC directive to allow building of private power station which would eventually use 3% of gas flowing from North Sea.

Times - Olympia & York Developments - you'll be meeting the Reichmanns when you go to Canary Wharf today - is the mystery investor negotiating to take a substantial stake in Stanhope Properties.

Times - Paul Channon rules out early response to calls for improved rail link between London and Channel Tunnel.

Times - John Banham, of CBI, warns that any French or West German company contemplating takeover bids for British businesses could face a monopolies grilling.

PRESS DIGESTMEDIA

FT - British Satellite Broadcasting announces detailed plans for building consumer equipment to receive its three new national TV channels.

FT - US publisher of the Birmingham Post and Mail plans to tackle urban regeneration through combined public and private-sector initiatives to revive industry in the Midlands.

Charles Jonscher, of Booz Allen & Hamilton, writing in the Times, says the row over TV documentaries on the Gibraltar shootings has strengthened calls for tighter regulation of television, but these calls should be resisted. He says that broadcasting needs to be subject to regulatory oversight of a kind different to most other industries and adds that it is better to have the media controlled inconsistently by many institutions than consistently by one - however well intentioned.

NHS

Times - DHSS ask all district medical officers to be on alert for people with symptoms of Legionnaire's disease in effort to prevent what threatens to be the biggest epidemic of its kind in Britain.

ASTROLOGY

Express - I'm the only star at No 10 says Maggie - You make it clear you won't approach an astrologer.

ZOLA BUDD

Sun leader says virtually the entire sporting world lined up against one frail, bewildered girl and beat her. How proud the dictators of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Nigeria must be today. But will it change South Africa's ways? Will it hell! There should be the deepest shame in this country about the episode.

Mirror leader says she was a pawn in a very dirty game. Daily Mail editor brought her to Britain for a newspaper scoop with the lure of cash and a British passport, Leon Brittan rushed her citizenship through so she might win a gold medal for us, BAAB encouraged the sharp practice. Now the willing pawn has been abandoned by her unprincipled masters.

Today on the "breaking of Zola Budd" says this only became inevitable when she was rushed into British citizenship and so became a tool that the anti-apartheid lobby could use. No-one

PRESS DIGEST

should blame her for that - she was still a child when she was brought here by the Mail. She is a memorial to the hypocrisy of politicians.

Mail leader on "The Breaking of Zola Budd" says her persecutors have won. What scheming hypocrisy it is that the gang of Third World politicians all claim they were only upholding the principles of multi-racial sport. It is the politics of race - nasty, cowardly and vindictive. Bullying was compounded by blackmail.

Telegraph leader says ever since a popular newspaper, a shady foundation for good causes, unwisely decided to exploit her talents she has been on an ill-starred course. She is not an innocent, though she has not been well advised. But we ought to be sad at her going - perhaps even a little ashamed.

SPORTS HOOLIGANS

Star leader says 11 very nice chaps, cleared of being soccer louts, are now free to ask for their goodies back, seized when they were arrested - like ball bearings, telescopic steel truncheons and Stanley knives.

GIBRALTAR

Times - Gibraltar inquest on IRA shootings delayed because police have not yet been able to gather vital evidence in Spain about bomb; separate story says shootings have provoked a number of fundamental questions in the minds of the public.

EAST-WEST

Independent - The USA and Soviet Union indicated yesterday that they believed the sudden rush of last-minute disputes over verification of the INF treaty could be resolved, but whether in time to have the treaty ratified before Reagan/Gorbachev summit, still in doubt.

Independent - leader says the decision by the USA Senate to delay debate on ratification was, in part at least, designed to be a short-term snub to President Reagan, who had indicated his wish to present Gorbachev with a fully endorsed deal in Moscow. But a confident administration could, and should, accept the postponement as an opportunity to solve real problems.

PRESS DIGEST

Times - US Senate reluctance to begin its debate on ratification of INF Treaty stems from last minute haggling by Soviet Union over the language and interpretation of the text; Shevardnadze and Shultz meet to try to settle serious last-minute dispute; leader says latest Soviet obstinacy more likely to be an attempt by Russian military to squeeze the last possible advantage from the Treaty than to be a sign directed from the Kremlin. By indicating its refusal to be bamboozled, the Senate will have delivered a useful message to Moscow.

Telegraph leads with Moscow Summit threatened by crisis of trust; leader says your warning about the dangers of the US not ratifying the INF Treaty do have point. It would not serve the West's interests if bureaucratic reaction to defeat for Gorbachev's rapprochement turned to rancour.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEN: Mr Parkinson addresses the Norwegian Chamber of Commerce, Savoy, London
- DES: Mr Baker meets the National Association of Headteachers about the Interim Advisory Committee's report on teachers pay; later meets Tom Gretton, the organiser of the ILEA parents ballot; later greets USA/UK exchange teachers
- DTI: Lord Young meets Rone Yiren, Vice Chairman of Chinese National Peoples Congress, London
- FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe addresses Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, London
- WO: Mr Walker opens new factory, Otford Specialised Mouldings Ltd, Crumlin; later attends British Tourist Authority reception and dinner, London
- DEM: Mr Cope attends Action for Cities Breakfast Road Show, Manchester
- DEM: Mr Lee visits Reading; later attends Caterer and Hotelkeeper Hotelier of the Year award, London
- DEN: Mr Morrison opens the Energy Efficiency conference, Glasgow; later addresses the International Association of Drilling Contractors, Aberdeen
- DEN: Mr Spicer addresses Kleinwort Grievson coach seminar, QE II Conference Centre, London
- DES: Mr Jackson visits Royal Holloway and Bedford New College
- DOE: Lord Caithness addresses the launch of Wild Flower Week at the Chelsea Physic Garden
- DOE: Mr Trippier visits Manchester with the Action for Cities Roadshow; later visits Victoria Dock, Hull
- DOE: Mrs Roe visits Tower Hamlets (housing)
- DOE: Mr Moynihan addresses British Association of National Sports Administrators conference, London
- HMT: Mr Lamont addresses the Financial Times Conference, London
- HO: Mr Hogg visits Winchester Prison; later visits Rollerstone Camp
- MAFF: Mr Gummer visits Grassland South West, Shepton Mallet; later meets fishermen's representatives, Hilton International; on the M27

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- MAFF: Mr MacGregor attends Institute of Foreign Affairs conference, Munich
- DTI: Mr Maude visits USA (to 19 May)
- MOD: Mr Stewart visits Cyprus and Gibraltar (to 18 May)
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TV AND RADIO

- 'Today': BBC Radio 4 (6.30)
- 'The Twice-Promised Land': BBC Radio 4 (11.00) three programmes about ideals and reality in Israel
- 'Business Daily': C4 (12.30)
- 'The Parliament Programme': C4 (14.00)
- 'The Making of Britain': C4 (18.30) In place of fear - the welfare state
- 'Timewatch Special': BBC 2 (20.00) All the King's Men - SOE operations in France in 1943
- 'A Week in Politics': C4 (20.30)
- 'An Ocean Apart': BBC 1 (21.30) Part 4: Trust me to the bitter end
- 'The World Tonight': BBC Radio 4 (22.30) followed by 'The Financial World Tonight' and 'Today in Parliament'
- 'Newsnight': BBC 2 (22.45)
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