

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister launches Battersea leisure park and addresses Press Association lunch.

The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh open the new Science Block at Westminster School

COMARE report on Dounreay leukaemia clusters published.

Press Day at RAF Greenham Common and RAF Molesworth in preparation for implementation of INF Treaty

Hungerford Gallantry awards

STATISTICS

DEM: Overseas travel and tourism (Mar)

DEM: Detailed analysis of employment, unemployment, earnings, prices and other indicators

PUBLICATIONS

HO: Annual Report of the Parole Board 1987

HOC: Report by Comptroller and Auditor General: PSA Management of the Civil Service

Metropolitan Police report 1987

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth; Trade and Industry; Environment

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Alcohol (Health Warning) Bill

Opposition Day (13th allotted day): There will be a debate on an Opposition Motion entitled The Failure to Refer the Nestles Bid for Rowntree to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission

Afterwards,
There will be a debate on an Opposition Motion entitled The British Aerospace Bid for Rover

Motion to take note of EC Documents on Spray Suppression and Sideguards. Details will be given in the Official Report

PARLIAMENT (cont'd)

Adjournment Debate: The availability of factory space in the Northern Region (Mr G Radice)

Select Committees: FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: The political impact of the process of arms control and disarmament

Witnesses: Dr Paul Rogers, Mr Philip Towle and Dr George Urban

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: Information Technology.

Witnesses: CCTA, MOD

ENERGY

Subject: The structure, regulation and economic consequences of electricity supply in the private sector

Witnesses: Lord Marshall of Goring, Chairman, Central Electricity Generating Board

TRANSPORT

Subject: Airline Competition: CRS

Witnesses: Galileo; BA/Travicom; American Airlines/Sabre

SOCIAL SERVICES

Subject: Resourcing the NHS

Witnesses: Rt Hon Tony Newton, MP, Chairman, and officials of the NHS Management Board

EMPLOYMENT

Subject: The employment patterns of the Over-50s

Witness: The Institute of Personnel Managers

Lords: Starred Questions

Debate to call attention to the continuing conflict in the Middle East and the efforts of the United States Secretary of State to convene an international conference

Debate on the hunger, poverty and debt in much of Africa; and to the case for policies to develop greater international economic justice

Protection of Animals (Amendment) Bill: Committee

Horses, Ponies and Donkeys (No 2) Bill: Second Reading

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGEST

MPs reject restoration of capital punishment by unexpectedly large majority of 123 (341-218). But campaigners for hanging say they will persevere. Teddy Taylor says it will be a bitter blow for people. Harris poll suggests 81% of public want capital punishment for one or more categories of crime.

Eric Hammond, EETPU, facing prospect of being thrown out of TUC, says: "our union can no longer ignore the stupidity, cowardice and malevolence that underlines attempts to penalise us".

John Edmonds, GMBTU, envisages TUC being 'ruled' by just four "super unions" by the end of the century; he says minnows will have to merge.

NUM moderates want Scargill to accept Government money for NUM ballots.

Honours - Queen's Commendation for Bravery - go to 8 in connection with Hungerford massacre - Mail leads with awards.

Home Office announces comprehensive inquiry into riot at Haverigg Prison; will investigate allegations of use of drugs and alcohol there.

You blame parents and schools for undiscipline in exchanges in Commons over drunken weekend orgies in rural centres.

Express leads with "Maggie hits at dropouts - act like adults, she tells young people who leave good homes to be drifters".

Mirror says you were hard-hearted in telling homeless youngsters yesterday they should have stayed at home.

Girobank for sale for £300million (Sun); £200million (Times).

Benn, who launched bank, says it is a "naked act of the plunder of assets that don't belong to Government". Morning Star: Giro to be fed to City sharks.

Mail looks forward to Giro giving other banks a run for their money.

Government to announce measures to prevent asset-stripping of council estates transferred from local authority control to new landlords.

PRESS DIGEST

Abbey National cuts mortgage rate by 0.5% in spite of base rates rise.

George Younger describes Kinnock's new nuclear deterrent policy as a "sham".

Kenneth Baker scraps plan to shake up A-levels.

Headmaster of Manchester school where racial murder took place to retire early at 50.

NAO says conditions in many doctors' surgeries are below standard.

ITV plans to get rid of religious programmes on Sunday evening and replace them with current affairs causes controversy. Mary Whitehouse says many viewers will be upset.

Paul Greengrass, co-author of Peter Wright's "Spycatcher", has been warned by Treasury solicitor that the Government may attempt to seize his profits from the banned book.

Remarkable escapes as light plane comes down on M62 motorway near Manchester.

Guardian says East Finchley Community Festival has been cancelled because Tory-controlled council objects to groups like Friends of the Earth, Amnesty International and CND setting up stalls.

David Mellor criticises Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg and Denmark for contributing too little to Europe's defence.

Hopes rise for release of British hostages in Lebanon because of Iran/UK talks on Embassy compensation.

Swedish Justice Minister resigns over scandal of private investigator into Olof Palme's murder.

Tenerife throws out 15 young Britons who went on drunken rampage.

Russell Harty dies.

HANGING

Star - Hurd kills off death sentence. MPs turn backs on public opinion; leader asks MPs who voted against to recognise next time a killer is freed from prison and murders again that an innocent life may be on their conscience.

PRESS DIGEST

Sun - No to rope as Hurd vows to nail killers. 20 years minimum for beasts.

Mirror - MPs crush new bid for death penalty. Tory call is beaten by 123 votes.

Today - Hurd attacks hanging MPs.

Express - MPs reject death penalty move.

Mail - Death penalty voted out by 123.

Telegraph page 1 lead - Death penalty is rejected by margin of 123 - Hurd promises longer sentences; leader says vote makes it clear hanging is not likely to return in our time. This will give rise to resentment, but a return of the death penalty would have greatly increased the risk of perverse verdicts. The Commons have decided what will not work.

Guardian page 1 lead - MPs vote by 123 to reject hanging call.

Times says attempt to restore capital punishment was decisively defeated and doubtful if it will be debated again during life of this Parliament.

CIVIL JUSTICE REVIEW

Star - A cheaper way to get justice.

Sun - Shake up on the way for courts.

Today - Courts to sit at night; leader says taking legal action is like hiring a broken down taxi with a crazy meter. Government should back review's ideas to the hilt.

Express - Court shake-up to cut cost of justice; leader says it is going to need something little short of a revolution to put injustice right and the Government is considering nothing less.

Mail - courtroom costs and delays to be slashed.

Telegraph - Huge shake up of law system urged. Review body wants litigation to be cheaper, easier and quicker.

Guardian - Report urges cheap and simple justice.

PRESS DIGEST

Independent - Report of the Review Body on Civil Justice enthusiastically welcomed by the legal profession, advice agencies and consumer organisation.

Times - Lord Chancellor gives broad seal of approval to report recommending far-reaching reforms for civil courts, paving the way for "do-it-yourself" justice without lawyers; leader says the changes proposed would bring down costs and remove some of the mystery from court procedure. If litigation thereby becomes more accessible, so much the better.

LESTER PIGGOTT

Sun leader on greatest jockey racing has ever known says Piggott does not deserve to be punished twice and should have kept his OBE. Many will regret last kick at a ruined man.

Mirror leader says double standards are built into British life and hypocrisy is a pillar of the Establishment. It contrasts treatment of Piggott with Queen's handshake for Major Ferguson.

Today, however, says we are entitled to expect people who have been given major awards to behave better than the rest of us. If Ken Dodd is found guilty of tax fraud he will have to hand in his OBE, too.

Jean Rook, in Express, says that with one outstretched, forgiving glove the Queen publicly saved Major Ferguson's arrogant neck. With the other she hammers Piggott when he is down. So there's the law for the daft in-laws and another for the outlawed champion jockey who gave millions, including Queen, so much pleasure.

A-LEVELS

Today leader says Kenneth Baker was right to reject changes suggested by Higginson. When schools are trying to digest GCSE it would be madness to throw them into turmoil again.

Telegraph says proposals for a reform of the system will be received with a tidal wave of scepticism by almost everyone outside the educational profession. It is hard to think of anything more likely to inspire public mistrust than idea of shorter, less academic exams. Your well known misgivings about the inquiry seem to have been fully justified.

Guardian - Fury at A-level decision.

PRESS DIGEST

Independent - Labour criticises Baker's rejection of the Higginson proposals on A-levels. Leader regrets the rejection, saying evidence received by the Higginson committee in favour of reform was overwhelming. This sorry episode illustrates again that your radicalism stops where gut prejudices take over. You fear that tampering with A-levels means diluting standards. But it says there is no reason why it should: reform should be essential to your programme for re-educating and revitalising Britain.

Times - Government rejects proposals for A-levels to be slimmed down in content so that most 6th formers would take five instead of three.

FT leader says the proposed educational reforms fail totally to address the needs of sixth formers. Mr Baker should think again about A-levels - why does a broad curriculum suddenly cease to have relevance at 16.

EDUCATION

Independent - In a guest article, Jack Straw argues that ending student grants in favour of loans would be a disaster for education, damage the life chances of the bright but poor, and aggravate the grave shortage of scientists, teachers and others in the caring professions.

Times - The big banks and building societies are being lined up by education ministers to play a central role in the revolutionary new system of top-up student loans to be announced next month.

MEDIA

Express leader on "politics and naive BBC" says BBC TV is to broadcast live for 10 hours on Saturday a rock concert dedicated to the 70th birthday of Mandela. This is justified by lending their technology without fee to make the concert available to the world, and say that politics don't come into it. This, the Express says, is "disingenuous rubbish".

Independent - Louis Blom-Cooper, new chairman of Press Council, at centre of libel row as South African newspaper which reprinted an article he wrote criticising the Sharpeville Six death sentences is threatened by judge with libel action.

FT - Maxwell Communication Corporation, British Telecom and W H Smith form joint venture to market satellite TV.

PRESS DIGESTLAW & ORDER

Mail finds it heartening that 14 months after Home Secretary took powers to fine airlines which brought in illegal immigrants fines have totalled £5.5million and have curbed the flow.

HOMELESS

Mail report says you issued stern warnings to both teenage tearaways and young homeless - hooligans should grow up and homeless should stand on their own feet or go home to mother.

Times - First comprehensive survey of London's homeless youngsters discloses that majority move to capital in search of work and more than half arrive penniless.

FT - Birmingham University study for Centrepont Soho finds "sudden and dramatic surge" in numbers of homeless in London.

GIROBANK

Times leads with Japanese and Swiss would-be bidders for the £200million Girobank which will be sold off by the end of the year. Labour denounce privatisation and there was surprise in the City that the Government had decided against a public share offer; leader has doubts about Girobank having to operate from Post Offices but feels there will be a long queue of would-be buyers. A key factor for the Government in getting Girobank to market is to increase competition between high street banks. Its privatisation may prepare ground for major building society to move in - and really squeeze the big clearing banks. That would be no bad thing.

INDUSTRY

Independent - Row expected today over Government's new planning guidelines for opencast coal mining.

FT - Nestle extends original 890p bid for Rowntree for a further fortnight.

FT - Further substantial redundancies are expected at Devonport Royal Dockyard in Plymouth.

PRESS DIGESTECONOMY

FT - France to step up pressure on Britain to become full member of EMS at next Monday's EC Finance Council. Mitterrand and Rocard are likely to make the same point to you on Friday.

FT leader says the rise in interest rates has made the Government's policy clearer - a rough rule of thumb would seem to be "an appreciation (depreciation) of 5 pfennig against the DM triggers a half-point fall (rise) in base rate". It is ambiguous however - representing a compromise between fixed-rates and free floating. As such it appeals to the British love of muddling through and the bureaucratic attachment to the greatest possible flexibility.

Bruce Anderson, in Telegraph, foreshadowing completion by Chancellor of 5 years in post says he has already a claim to be regarded as the most successful Chancellor bar none. And as a politician he has been consistently underrated.

POLITICS

Guardian leader on Kinnock's reforms (defence apart) says his problems remain immense. But as party manager he knows what he wants and pursues it with rare endeavour and limited mercy. He looks increasingly formidable.

NHS

Times - Government's review of health policy develops into struggle between Treasury and DHSS with Chancellor declaring his opposition to proposals from John Moore to give everyone a cash incentive to take out private health insurance.

Times - Government setting up committee to review ethical guidelines on medical use of fetuses.

Times - BMA welcomes Government's plans to cut number of hours worked by junior hospital doctors to 84 hours a week.

ENVIRONMENT

Times - Commons select committee to demand urgent Government measures requiring all new cars to be able to use lead free petrol, to stop use of damaging aerosols and to stop acid rain.

PRESS DIGESTEC

FT - In his visit to Brussels, Takeshita calls on Community to keep doors open after 1992. But EC says Japan would have to rebalance its trade if it wanted continued access to European markets.

EAST-WEST

Independent - Geoffrey Howe, George Younger and David Mellor, on three separate platforms, all warn about the continuing Soviet military superiority over the West, and urge their European partners not to be lured into a false sense of security after the Moscow summit. Italy, Luxembourg and Belgium are singled out for their low spending on defence.

Times - George Younger hints at cut in number of US troops in Europe when he tells NATO allies that they should not panic if US decides to withdraw 30,000 troops.

ANGLO/AMERICAN RELATIONS

Conor Cruise O'Brian discusses in the Times the special relationship there is between you and President Reagan. He dismisses Kinnock's claim that it is a personal relationship saying that you are greatly admired in America, and he is not. While you, or some reasonably like-minded successor, is in power in Britain the relationship between Britain and the US will continue to be special, whether the next President is called Bush or Dukakis. But if Kinnock becomes Prime Minister, what will be special about the relationship will be its special frostiness.

SOVIET UNION

Times - Pravda, once the faithful whitewasher of all Communist Party actions, prints the most outspoken in its recent series of biting attacks against the more obdurate behaviour of party officials.

Times - Agenda for Communist Party conference highlights rift over Gorbachev reforms.

IRAN

Times leader, discussing Iranian officials visit to Britain, says that the best way for Iran to prove its return to respectability would be for it to secure the release of the remaining hostages.

PRESS DIGEST

Iran should underline that this country is not prepared to make concessions or special deals to satisfy the ambitions of a band of brigands in Beirut or a regime of fanatical mullahs in Tehran.

MIDDLE EAST

Independent - George Shultz admits he has made no progress on latest peace shuttle but refuses to abandon Middle East peace quest so long as he is in office.

Times - Algiers summit sets out conditions for Middle East peace.

FT examines arms escalation in the Middle East and concludes: The fear is that the spread of missile technology will bring closer an Arab-israeli nuclear arms race.

DENMARK

Times - Compromise ends Denmark's crisis over visiting NATO warships.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Mr Fowler opens and addresses Berkshire Enterprise Agency, Reading
- DHSS: Mr Moore addresses Institute of Directors annual lecture, London
- DOE: Mr Ridley addresses South Buckinghamshire and East Berkshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Slough
- WO: Mr Walker visits Chubb Fire Extinguishers, Ferndale; later opens National Children's Home office, Cardiff; later addresses American National Chamber of Commerce lunch, Cardiff and visits Allied Steel and Wire Co, Cardiff
- DEM: Mr Lee visits Gosport and the Isle of Wight (to 9 June)
- DEM: Mr Nicholls addresses lunch at Drapers Chamber of Trade, London
- DEN: Mr Morrison attends Esso lubricant blending packaging and distribution plant, Essex
- DES: Lady Hooper visits St Thomas More Primary School, Eltham
- DOE: Mr Waldegrave addresses Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting conference, Manchester
- DOE: Mr Moynihan attends TT race, Isle of Man
- DTI: Mr Maude addresses Money Management Council on Consumer Credit and Plastic Money; later addresses Political Relations on Single European Market, Waldorf Hotel
- DTI: Mr Clark meets Dr Apel, GDR Minister of Foreign Trade
- DTp: Mr Mitchell visits the National Training Museum, Matlock, Derbyshire
- DTp: Mr Bottomley visits British Road Services
- HO: Mr Patten takes part in Action for Cities Roadshow
- HO: Mr Hogg visits Kingston Prison, Portsmouth
- MAFF: Mr Thompson addresses Institute of Meat annual dinner
- MAFF: Baroness Trumpington meets H.E Mr B B Mtawali, High Commissioner for Malawi and Mr Tibor Antalpeter, Hungarian Minister of Foreign Trade; later host FIS (seeds)/ASSINSEL (International Association of Plant Breeders) congress reception, Brighton
- WO: Mr Roberts addresses German Regional Chamber of Commerce, Cardiff

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe departs for Madrid, NAC Ministerial Meeting (to 10 June)

MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

DES: Mr Baker attends Financial Times editorial meeting

DTI: Lord Young interviewed on BBC TV's Panorama on giving to charity

TV AND RADIO

'Today': BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

'Business Daily': C4 (12.30)

'The Parliament Programme': C4 (14.00)

'The Making of Britain': C4 (18.30) The Dark Strangers

'Where There's Life': ITV (19.00) With Miriam Stoppard

'Party Political Comment': C4 (19.50) This week, a Labour politician

'A Week in Politics': C4 (20.30)

'Next Time, Always Next Time': C4 (21.00) The Church and State in Hungary

'Suffer The Children': BBC 1 (21.30) A report from South Africa

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

'Newsnight': BBC 2 (22.35)
