

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister buys flag for Alexandra Rose Day (photocall); and attends dinner for Crown Prince Abdullah

EC: Environment Council, Luxembourg

BMA: Senior Hospital Staffs conference

Hong Kong Government announce new screening procedures for Vietnamese refugees

STATISTICS

CSO: UK balance of payments (1st qtr)

DEM: Labour Market Statistics: unemployment and vacancies (May-prov); average earnings indices (Apr-prov); employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes

DTI: Capital expenditure by the manufacturing and service industries (1st qtr-rev)

DTI: Provisional figures of vehicle production (May)

HMT/CSO: Public sector borrowing requirement (May)

PUBLICATIONS

HO: Parole Board annual report 1987

HSE: Essentials of Health and Safety at Work (and press conference)

Armed Forces Pay Review Body Report on Service Medical and Dental Officers

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Treasury; Home Office; Prime Minister

Business: Criminal Justice Bill (Lords): Progress on Remaining Stages

Motion to take note of EC Documents on Weights and Dimensions of Certain Road Vehicles. Details will be given in the Official Report

Motion to take note of EC Documents on Proposals to extend Roadworthiness Testing. Details will be given in the Official Report

Adjournment Debate: The proposed closure of Carrickfergus and Smiley Hospitals (Mr R Beggs)

16 June 1988

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)Select Committees:

AGRICULTURE

Subject: Chernobyl: The Government's Reaction

Witnesses: Meteorological Office; Natural
Environment Research Council; Convention of
Scottish Local Authorities

STANDING ORDERS

Subject: London Docklands Railway (Beckton)

Lords: Starred Questions

Local Government Finance Bill: Committee (8th Day)

Licensing (Retail Sales) Bill: Second Reading

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Five soldiers killed and eight civilians injured as booby-trap van explodes among women and children after fun-run in Northern Ireland.

200 yobs, mostly German, arrested in Dusseldorf as riot police thwart attempt to ambush England fans. All papers report fights and picture features appear in pops of rampaging jobs.

You are accused of blackmailing Labour over Short Money when they fail to deliver deal on Housing Bill.

Government attacked over BAT funding CTC at Middlesbrough.

Denzil Davies goes to ground and fails to respond to Kinnock's letter demanding his future plans about Shadow Cabinet.

Peter Clowes arrested in fraud squad ambush. He will appear in court today charged with perverting the course of justice.

Beirut newspaper says Syria and Iran have done a deal to free hostages.

Child sex abuse figures soar by 21%.

Government urged by CPS to sell off British Rail.

Girl paid £18,500 too much through computer error cleared of theft.

Japan to halve tax on whisky from next April.

Cynthia Payne, Britain's most famous madame, to stand for Parliament in Kensington and Chelsea by-election.

More stories about locals making lots of money by letting Wimbledon homes to tennis stars.

British and Irish law officers are studying whether extradition procedures will have to be changed.

Barnet Council votes to oust all Labour supporters from its 64 school governing boards "to get rid of disruptive, zany attitudes and behaviour".

PRESS DIGEST

Sir Gordon Manzie, Chief Executive of the PSA, tells MPs that taxpayers would have to pay more for private industry to run the PSA than the cost of the existing civil servants.

SOCCER HOOLIGANISM

Express leader wants more than Ministerial handwringing from today's meeting on soccer thugs. It calls for tough punishment for hooligans and says they should serve sentence in country where they committed offence; centre page spread looks at the "rampaging English thugs" under the heading "Shame of a Nation".

Mail - Home Secretary says sorry to Bonn Government.

Mail leader calls for tough action for all yobs. If convicted of thuggery on the Continent they should forfeit passport; drink adverts with yob appeal should be banned, liberalised licensing laws should be reversed, and if young have too much money and drink is too cheap, then the duty on alcohol must be increased. Keith Waterhouse in the Mail says hooliganism is a growth industry ... it has few redundancies.

Times - The Government made it clear last night it would support the withdrawal of the England team from the European championships. This is likely to be discussed at your meeting today; although withdrawal is formally a matter for the FA.

Mirror - leader says we have all been dragged into the gutter. We all bear the stigma. We deserve it. You and your Ministers should agree on stern measures today and call upon main Opposition leaders to add their support as this is an all-party issue.

Independent - Whitehall despair at football hooliganism. Colin Moynihan says a 'tough' package of measures will be put to you today. But officials admit that options are running out. The possibility of bringing in legislation to force all football clubs to adopt a membership scheme is almost certain to be rejected on the grounds that it would be unworkable. A total ban on English clubs and national teams is likely to be imposed by international football authorities this month.

Sun leader says for the soccer thug, this must be the end of the long, evil road. It urges the seizure of the passports of all soccer thugs who are convicted saying their names and photographs should be put on file so that they cannot get new passports or visitors' cards.

PRESS DIGEST

FT - Tough measures to curb football hooliganism, including the introduction of a compulsory national membership card, will be considered at Downing Street today. Ministers are expected to broaden their discussion to steps to combat street violence generally.

Today - Riot-shame Maggie sends her apologies. 9 out of 10 people want soccer louts stripped of passport; leader says we must turn a disinfectant hose on the game until every germ of the hooligan bacillus has been scrubbed out. It tells Millichip that he is wrong when he says the problem is social, so everyone else must sort it out. Thousands of Britons streamed to Le Mans last weekend with never a problem. It's no use expecting football's guardians to act. You must take up the challenge they refuse to face.

Guardian - Ministers plan sweep against the hooligans. You seem sure to insist that Ministers propose a specific plan to demonstrate that the violence has been taken seriously. A Commons statement can be expected this afternoon. In Germany, a police operation of intelligence and tenacity seemed to have smothered the threat of serious violence during a potentially explosive day.

Guardian leader says the problem is much bigger than football. If football grounds are sealed the problem will merely be displaced elsewhere. This is evidenced by the rampaging Britons on the Costa Blanca where there is no football in sight. The common denominator is a sort of perverted patriotism, fuelled by gallons of drink.

Telegraph - Home Secretary's apology to Germans on soccer thugs. You and senior Ministers will meet this morning ready to take "tough and determined" action. 200 people, mainly Germans, were arrested in Dusseldorg last night. Ministers want admission to games and sales of tickets for matches to be limited to holders of membership cards, which could be withdrawn from fans convicted of hooliganism or violent behaviour. Leader says we should reject with contempt the claptrap arguments advanced in the letters column of the Guardian that soccer hooligansim is somehow a product of Thatcherism. Many people would like to see the Government preventing known delinquents from travelling abroad. It is to be deplored that no computerised record of nationality documents is kept.

PRESS DIGESTPARLIAMENT

Mail - Labour accuses you of blackmail threat over Short Money after they fail to deliver over Housing Bill debate deal. Whole case referred to Speaker as possible breach of parliamentary privilege.

Mail - Beleaguered Kinnock challenged to TV duel by Benn.

Times - You are accused of attempting to blackmail the Opposition by threatening to withhold Short Money after Labour Party fails to honour agreement to get the Housing Bill through the Commons. John Wakeham declines to confirm or deny an alleged conversation with Hattersley.

Mirror says Labour furious at Maggie's threat with Shadow Cabinet saying it is an absolute disgrace.

Star - Thatcher named in cash blackmail row.

Independent - Thatcher threatened to hold back Labour funds. You are accused of threatening to fine Labour £350,000 for breaking parliamentary deal, as Ministers attack Labour as undisciplined and dishonourable.

FT - "Blackmail" uproar in Commons, with further arguments likely today when Government is expected to announce guillotine motion. Business managers instructed that, while they would continue to honour the agreed rise in short money, they would have to consider very carefully when to debate the issue.

Guardian - Labour alleges funds blackmail as furious row breaks out between Government and Opposition at the end of marathon Housing Bill debate.

Telegraph - "Blackmail" row after Labour's fillibuster, amid accusations that you and Mr Wakeham are threatening to withhold Short Money.

POLITICS

Independent - Membership of SLD is now lower than the 65,000 Liberal and SDP members who voted for merger in March.

Independent - Peter Jenkins looks at the background to Denzil Davies' resignation, and says that Labour's negative image on defence is so deeply engraved on voters' minds that it must be changed now. The reason Kinnock cannot do so is that he is not

PRESS DIGEST

clear exactly where he stands. But he could only shed his CND image by unequivocally abandoning unilateral nuclear disarmament, in practice as well as in weasel words.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Crucial passages of evidence relating to the sale of cemeteries by Westminster Council are missing from confidential transcripts released to Council members - this is said to be because recording equipment malfunctioned.

LAW & ORDER

Mail - Diplomatic row looms after Arab double agent who spied for Israeli intelligence in Britain, is convicted at Old Bailey of being a "quartermaster" for PLO.

Times - The security authorities have failed to remove 13 names of former MI6 officers from a new book by Nigel West: "The Friends - Britain's Post-War Secret Intelligence Operations".

Times - An Israeli diplomat could face expulsion from Britain. Senior Ministers were last night considering the implications of a court case which ended yesterday with the conviction of a Palestinian, Ismael Sowan, for storing a PLO arms cache in Hull. It was discovered that Mossad agents had been running a secret operation against a leading PLO sympathiser in Britain.

Independent - Political row looms as Israeli intelligence service. Mossad did not tell Britain about a Palestinian terrorist cell it had infiltrated in this country.

Independent - MPs will be told tomorrow that proposals to allow video-recorded evidence from child sex abuse victims in court will be rejected.

Mail - Fathers accused of sexually abusing their children could be the ones removed from home under plans being studied by Government.

DRINK-DRIVE

Experts say Government's £2.5million drink-drive campaign is waste of money as random testing is the single most effective way to cut toll. Peter Paterson in the Mail looks at new advertisements saying the trouble with the mini-saga approach is that inviting us to use our imagination can also distract us from the message.

PRESS DIGEST

Mirror - Police throw cordon round Ascot and stop 360 racegoers in crackdown on drink-driving - seven arrested.

Most papers report case of drunken tycoon jailed for 30 months after killing other motorist.

INDUSTRY

Times - British Rail threaten NUR with an injunction as talks fail to avert an overtime ban by 4,000 rail technicians.

Times - Japan is to halve the tax on imports of whisky from next April.

Independent leader looks at the CPS paper on rail privatisation. It says nationalisation has not been a conspicuous success. The railways' great needs are far more investment and more imaginative middle management. Privatisation might be able to provide both.

FT - Aveling Barford in receivership.

FT - EC expects to end steel output controls at the end of the month.

FT - Government expected to announce today changes for approving Business Expansion Scheme investment funds.

Times - Work on Channel Tunnel disrupted as 300 workers walk out in a dispute over a dismissed employee.

Sun - Lord Marshall warns miners that their coal is too dear and that he may have to buy more cheaper coal from abroad.

Lord Young tells Trade & Industry Select Committee that delays in competing for Government contracts will worsen under changes in EC regulations.

Britain is facing the prospect of a £2billion bill to modify nine coal-fired power stations and bring them into line with EC anti-pollution proposals. An EC directive, if adopted, could cause uncertainty over the Government's plans to privatise CEGB.

The haste to dispose of British Shipbuilders is understandable, a Times leader says. A ragged end to a long and sad story, it is probably the best solution, given the debilitating effects of uncertainty.

PRESS DIGESTUNIONS

Independent - Professional Association of Teachers draw up blueprint for moderate union federation grouped around EETPU.

Independent - NALGO votes overwhelmingly to oppose Government's Employment Training Scheme.

HOUSING

Independent - Kinnock tells Institute of Housing conference that Government's policy on council tenancies was like South Africa's policy on the removal of blacks from certain areas.

Paul Foot, in Mirror, says William Ellis, a company which pays Denis Thatcher as a consultant, has won a long fight to build houses in an area of outstanding natural beauty at Northiam, near Rye in Sussex.

Guardian - Kinnock continues to set pace on Labour's "new realism" as he lends conditional support for the right of tenants to opt out of council control.

ENVIRONMENT

In a guest feature in the Independent, Stephen Haseler looks at Nicholas Ridley's discomfort over housing and the Green Belt. He says the issue discloses a tell-tale contradiction at the heart of modern conservatism - between the "Thatcherite" market vision and that most cherished of Tory interests, rural England.

Guardian leader looks at environmental problems in the North Sea and says that Norway, who is blaming everyone for the situation, should also take some blame itself. There is still no substitute for action by individual governments.

NHS

Independent - Labour says increasingly cautious approach taken by Ministers on NHS reform reflects growing anxiety that the review could backfire on the Government.

Mail - Southampton University professor claims hospital patients are dying of starvation.

PRESS DIGEST

FT - Leader argues case for "topping up" by allowing the health service to offer a much wider range of extra services in return for extra payments. The commitment to equality in medical treatment need not have any implications for non-clinical services.

John Moore confronted by NALGO demonstrators as he addresses health service finance officers about how an internal market might work in the health service.

EDUCATION

Independent - Manchester City Council urges Kenneth Baker to publish report on Burnage school killing with the benefit of parliamentary privilege.

Sun - CBI canes education system for turning out sub-standard pupils as bulk of youngsters are backward in areas like science and maths.

MEDIA

Times - Council of Europe screening group has agreed to restrictions which would limit advertising breaks during programmes to once every 45 minutes: this is seen by ITV companies and fledgling satellite companies as a potential hammer-blow.

TORONTO SUMMIT

FT - Feature on Takeshita says the Japanese are clearly ready to take a bigger role on the world stage.

FT - Lawson seeks farm subsidy cuts. He says he expects discussions on the general economic outlook in Toronto to be uneventful, because the world economy is in such good shape.

Guardian - Government risks row with its EC partners by pressing for fresh international limits on farm subsidies, including CAP, at Toronto.

Times - You will seek cuts in agricultural subsidies at Toronto, first through freezing farm support then cutting it.

Telegraph - A campaign to reduce agricultural subsidies in the West will be launched by Britain, with an immediate freeze sought on all Government support for farmers. You are to press for a tough new international stand against terrorism.

PRESS DIGESTIRELAND

John Burns in Express looks at the loopholes that let terrorists go free saying the Anglo-Irish accord is a sham.

Guardian - The bombing will be used by the IRA as evidence that it retains the capacity to operate an effective military campaign.

Star - Man named as a loyalist terrorist by an Ulster Volunteer Force supergrass is shot dead by IRA.

Today says there was no warning and that this was Enniskillen over again. Army's blackest day for 9 years.

A proposal for the creation of a joint British-Irish inter-parliamentary commission which should meet twice a year is to be put to both Governments.

TIBET

Independent - Dalai Lama offers Peking deal which in effect acknowledges Chinese overlordship of Tibet.

AFRICA

Independent - Britain to shun Savimbi during his tour of Western countries although President Reagan will probably clasp him warmly by the hand.

IRAN

Independent - France resumes diplomatic links with Iran.

CYPRUS

Independent - The Greek-Turkish summit in Athens ends in deadlock over Cyprus and without satisfying modest hopes of compromise in other areas.

HONG KONG

Leader says the introduction of a screening process for Vietnamese refugees arriving in Hong Kong is described as "reasonable" in Times.

PRESS DIGEST

The UN High Commissioner for refugees has criticised Hong Kong for a change in policy which means all Vietnamese boat people will henceforth be treated as illegal immigrants. Many will face repatriation if Hanoi agrees to take them back.

USA

Times leader considers the implications of a Dukakis Presidency for the Alliance. His stern warnings on burden-sharing are understandable. "If it gingers up some of the more reluctant allies, it could be no bad thing for NATO".

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DES: Mr Baker attends launch of Teesside CTC

HMT: Mr Lawson addresses the Royal Naval College Armada dinner, Greenwich

WO: Mr Walker attends dinner hosted by Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, London

DEM: Mr Cope addresses launch of HSE booklet, London

DEM: Mr Lee visits Southport

DEM: Mr Nicholls visits Scotland

DEN: Mr Spicer addresses the Clean Coal conference, London

DHSS: Mrs Currie addresses Local Dental Committees annual conference, London

DHSS: Mr Portillo visits Deeside local office

DHSS: Mr Newton visits Brook Hospital, Woolwich

DOE: Mr Trippier visits Sheffield for Urban Development Grant canal basin announcement

DOE: Mr Moynham starts off London to Paris sponsored bike ride

HMT: Mr Brooke addresses the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants (CIPFA), Brighton

MAFF: Mr Gummer attends opening of Sea Defences, Burnham on Sea

MAFF: Mr Thompson visits Bristol Poultry Group

MOD: Lord Trefgarne hosts lunch for Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia

ODA: Mr Patten meets Mr Edwin Carrington ACP, (African Caribbean and Pacific countries who signed the Lomi Convention) Secretary General; later addresses the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene annual meeting, London

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

DTI: Mr Clarke attends Eureka conference, Copenhagen

DOE: Lord Caithness attends Environment Council meeting, Luxembourg (to 17 June)

TV AND RADIO

- 'Today': BBC Radio 4 (6.30)
- 'Business Daily': Channel 4 (12.30)
- 'The Parliament Programme': Channel 4 (14.00)
- 'Pillars of Society': BBC Radio 4 (19.30) Repeated from June 15
- 'This Week': ITV (20.30)
- 'Nature': BBC 2 (20.30) From Atomic Power to Zoos - alternative energy sources
- 'Question Time': BBC 1 (22.20) Sir Robin Day with Michael Heseltine, Baroness Seear and John Smith
- 'Newsnight': BBC 2 (22.25)
- 'The World Tonight': BBC Radio 4 (22.30) followed by 'The Financial World Tonight' and 'Today in Parliament'
- 'The City Programme': ITV (22.35)
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