

13 July 1988

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister holds lunch in honour of President of Turkey
Princess Royal attends recording of Save the Children record, London
later attends a Save the Children Fund charity ball, London
? European Commission decision on British Aerospace/Rover
British Coal results
Parades by Junior Orange Order, Northern Ireland

PUBLICATIONS

HO: Cable Authority's annual report and accounts for 1987/88

HO: Data Protection Registrar report 1987

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Trade and Industry; Environment; Scotland

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Education (Right to Nursery Places)

Ways and Means Resolution relating to the Finance (No 2)
Bill

Finance (No 2) Bill: Progress on Remaining Stages
Motion on short speeches

Adjournment Debate: Mentally disordered offenders in prisons
(Mrs G Shephard)

Select Committees: ENVIRONMENT
Subject: Toxic Waste
Witness: South Yorkshire Hazardous
Waste Unit

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ARTS
Subject: Scrutiny Session
Witnesses: Rt Hon Kenneth Baker MP,
Secretary of State for Education and
Science and officials from the
Department

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

TRANSPORT

Subject: Airline Competition: CRS
Witnesses: Civil Aviation Authority;
Department of Transport

HOME AFFAIRS

Subject: Police Complaints Authority
Witness: Home Office

Lords: Starred Questions
Road Traffic Bill (HL): Cttee on Re-commitment (?to be discharged)
Road Traffic Offenders Bill (HL): Cttee on Re-commitment (?to be discharged)
Road Traffic (Consequential Provisions) Bill (HL): Cttee on Re-Commitment (?to be discharged)
British Steel Bill: Third Reading
Local Government Finance Bill: Third Reading

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Much coverage of the Greek holiday boat attack with pictures of three men and a woman wanted for questioning. Headlines include "Deadly Grin of Girl Assassin" - Today; "Pirates of Death" - Star.

Much praise for gutsy Worthing girls who feature in number of pops with headlines "You're Great Girls" - Mirror; "The Pride of Britain" - Express; "Maggie Praises the Ferry Heroines" - Mail; "Prayer and pluck saw Convent girls through" - Today.

You tell MPs that the girls are enormous credit to their families, school and Britain.

No-one has claimed responsibility for ferry massacre but Greek authorities believe attack may have been aimed at winning the release of a Palestinian held in Athens.

Hattersley accuses you at Kensington by-election of glorying in a system where the poor were more likely to die than the rich.

Government accused of breaking promise to fully fund nurses' pay rise.

Dewsbury parents win row to send children to school of their choice.

Indefinite stay of execution for Sharpeville Six.

Brussels poised to clear BAe bid for Rover.

Eight British thugs who ran an illegal bus racket in Majorca in jail last night after bar room rampage - Mail.

Dukakis spurns Jackson and picks outsider Lloyd Bentsen as running mate in presidential race.

US orders Nicaraguan ambassador to leave Washington in retaliatory move (FT).

Japan's trade surplus narrows by more than 10% in June thanks to growing imports (FT).

12 arrests as more than 100 Turks and Cypriots protest at Turkish President's State visit.

Commons select committee accuses you of "fixing poverty statistics".

PRESS DIGEST

Rogue estate agents getting away with cheating home buyers because of legal loophole in Trade Descriptions Act.

Air strike chaos grows because of Greek air traffic controllers action.

Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh vote to defy Moscow and secede from Azerbaijan (Times).

Metal fatigue may have caused Piper Alpha disaster (Times).

Court halts rebel Super League soccer split - Football League wins a week's injunction.

Derek Hatton and 46 other ex-Labour councillors from Liverpool play Stock Market to pay off £400,000 in fines and legal costs.

Shoppers warned to be on lookout for fake pound coin.

More going to church as people seek an antidote to permissiveness and violence - Express.

Supermarket alert as Black Widow spiders are found in Californian grapes.

Drought is likely to cut US grain production by nearly a quarter this year, according to US Department of Agriculture (FT).

Food poisoning cases soaring in Britain and official figures are only tip of the iceberg.

Lovers accused of burglary and possessing drugs stick hands together with superglue in court so that they can share same cell. Police prise them apart after three hours of scrubbing.

Woman pensioner banned from jury service for life because she objects to smoking in jury room.

Chancellor saves half-dead budgie found on his windowsill at No 11.

Miss Janet Lacey, first director of Christian Aid, has died - aged 85.

Israeli Nazi hunter, Tuvia Friedman, says Waldheim is not a war criminal.

PRESS DIGEST

Prince Sihanouk has asked the West never to allow the Khmer Rouge to regain power in Kampuchea.

Queen's speech is expected to be on November 22. Commons likely to rise on July 29, Lords may soldier on into first week of August, Telegraph.

Cleveland Inquiry likely to cost £1.5million.

GREEK ATTACK

Mirror leader praises Worthing girls for keeping their heads while there was understandable panic all around them. They showed Europe there is more to young Britons than drunkenness and hooliganism.

Sun leader describes the girls as magnificent saying so often the behaviour of British youngsters abroad makes us squirm. This smashing bunch make us proud.

Star carries pictures of "the faces of evil that brought carnage to a Greek cruise ship"; under heading "True Brits" leader says sometimes, doesn't it make you feel extra proud to be British.

Today leader says only vilest scum in the world would throw grenades and loose off machine guns on a holiday ship. It praises the teenage girls saying their grace under terrifying pressure goes some way to redeem the vileness of the terror.

Express - US diplomats in Athens warned two weeks ago that a terror group in Greek capital was planning to attack "unsuspecting targets"; leader says Greece has been a happy hunting ground for international terrorists in recent years and will only believe Papandriou's reassurances to eliminate terrorism when it sees results.

Guardian - Attack has hallmarks of Abu Nidhal.

ROVER/BAe

Mail - BAe preparing to sweeten its takeover of Rover with an offer to car group's workers to buy shares in company.

Express - BAe takeover of Rover expected to be given Common Market all-clear today.

PRESS DIGEST

Today - Common Market will tell BAe they will have to pay £250million more for Rover.

Times - Pressure rises for agreement on Rover deal. European Commission sources remain cautious about final approval today, emphasising that talks have not been brought to a conclusion.

Guardian - Under new Rover deal, Government will reduce financial aid while mitigating the impact on BAe by allowing £500million of tax allowances to be offset against BAe's profits rather than Rover's.

EDUCATION

Mail leader discusses parents' victory to send children to school of their choice rather than one with large number of immigrants saying the last thing Kenneth Baker wants is that more choice would result in less racially balanced schools. Our view, says leader, is that the more choice you give parents the less prejudice they will feel.

Today leader says parents in Dewsbury have won a justified victory in their battle to send their children to the school of their choice.

Express features a British Soviet Union school pupils' swap saying there should be more as they are extraordinary, eye-opening experiences.

Express - Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association give Government's inquiry into classroom violence a catalogue of terrifying knife incidents in schools. Their members now get special insurance cover because of threat of attacks.

CLEVELAND

Mail - Cleveland social services chief tells London conference he is proud of his valiant staff. He accepts that they did not get it absolutely right adding "I stand before you unbowed, unashamed and undefeated".

LAW & ORDER

Express - The £1million race training school set up for policemen after Brixton riots is closing - as a costly failure.

Express - Home Secretary wants to use electronic tagging for soccer hooligans for a trial period.

PRESS DIGEST

Telegraph - Home Office is expected to be against a ban on under-16s using amusement arcades but to urge local authorities to use their powers to refuse permission for a shop to be used for fruit machines in proposals to be published this month.

Telegraph - Plans for limited use of electronic tagging of offenders, possibly including football hooligans, look likely to be contained in a Green Paper published next week.

Telegraph - Judge Pickles describes cannabis as "victimless"; but sentences dealer to three and a half years.

KENSINGTON BY-ELECTION

Mail - Hattersley accuses you in by-election speech of glorying in an age in which you allowed the poor and sick who cannot afford private treatment to die. Gordon Greig says it was the most savage attack yet on the Thatcher years by a credible Labour figure - a virulent, ugly outburst totally outside Hattersley's normal electioneering rhetoric.

Express - Tories fears growing that early holidays and complacency could threaten their victory hopes in Kensington.

Chris Buckland in Today says Hattersley's attack on you was seen as a bid to rally support to keep Labour's number two job against strong opposition.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FT - Local authorities consider loyalty clauses in employee contracts to fight poaching of staff by private sector companies.

INDUSTRY

Mail - Ombudsman says Government's role in the Barlow-Clowes affair appears to be "an apparent case of maladministration" over elderly investor who lost £65,000.

Sun - Scargill blamed as pits lose £300million but "lame-duck" industry is poised to make profits.

FT - Brent crude oil prices slide below \$14 a barrel.

PRESS DIGEST

FT - Area electricity boards warn that they will have hardly any scope for lowering prices through increased efficiency after they are privatised.

Guardian - CEGB will not volunteer information on whether nuclear or coal fired stations would be cheaper, to the Hinkley Point inquiry.

Guardian - Oil prices come under pressure as concern grows that Saudi Arabia will boost production to help pay for their £10billion arms deal.

CITY

Independent - Fraud squad is investigating the affairs of DPR Futures - a commodity investment company.

PIPER ALPHA

Mirror - 20,000 oil rig men threatening to make North Sea a no-go area unless Government comes clean over blast on the stricken platform in 1984.

TRANSPORT

Times - British Rail expected to announce tomorrow plans for a high speed link between London and the Channel Tunnel.

Times - DTp accused by transport select committee of complacency over investigating air safety.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Times - Social services select committee accuses Government of having progressively reduced the amount of publicly available information on poverty levels since 1979.

Guardian - Social Fund Inspectors are "constrained and underemployed performers in a charade". 40 inspectors, costing £800,000, had only 53 cases to deal with in their first 11 weeks.

NURSES PAY

Guardian says Government is heading for fresh crisis over NHS after it emerges that it has not, as promised, funded fully the nurses' pay award. Leaked memo from North West RHA says it is at least £3.3million short of funding needed for average 15.3% award and other regions are in similar straits.

PRESS DIGESTCHILD BENEFIT

Independent - Tim Raison has written to the Chief Whip threatening backbench revolt on the decision to freeze child benefit. Separate article says child benefit should not be allowed to wither on the vine - it remained the fairest way of providing support.

MEDIA

Times - BBC is to crack down on TV 'faction' drama such as "Tumbledown".

Telegraph - Government is reconsidering controversial proposal to force destruction of home videotapes after 28 days.

ENVIRONMENT

FT - Water industry is to carry out £700million programme to reduce pollution in rivers and estuaries, Government announces in response to Commons Environment Committee.

DEFENCE

Independent - MoD to seek tenders for vessel able to carry 12 helicopters and 800 marines despite suggestions such a ship would be too expensive.

Independent - Britain's defences could face a crisis of credibility through failure to safeguard the defence budget particularly from money being syphoned off to help fund the annual service pay awards, according to Lord Bramall.

TURKISH VISIT

Times - Arrival picture, page 2. You are expected to emphasise in your talks with President Evren today the importance of restarting a dialogue between Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders.

FT - Evren visit aims to push for membership of EC. Arrival at Victoria Station was marred by demonstrators, 12 of whom were arrested.

PRESS DIGESTGIBRALTAR

Telegraph - Solicitor for the families in IRA shooting suggests that the SAS could appear at the inquest in disguise to avoid recognition.

GORBACHEV

Express leader discusses Gorbachev's Polish speech about reducing conventional forces in Europe saying he must think we are so dazzled by political events in his country that we are unable to study a map of the world. Putting Soviet fighters back in Eastern Europe would be easy. Getting the US F-16s back would be a major logistical and political operation.

SOVIET UNION

Independent - Nagorny Karabakh declares UDI and presents a problem for the Kremlin.

IRAN AIRBUS

Independent - Britain has supplied the US with evidence about the shooting down of the Airbus gathered by Royal Navy vessels - it was denied that we were "sitting on a goldmine" of information about the affair. Leader says we will be expected to play a leading part in tomorrow's UN security council debate on the shooting down of the Airbus yet we have very little idea of what we should say. Our foreign policy is not being conducted at a consistent and professional way with too many anomalies.

IRAN/IRAQ

Iran's run of military defeats continues with their forces losing another crucial border town in Misan province to Iraqi troops.

EC

Telegraph - Britain will have to change its car lighting laws as a result of losing a case in the European Court of Justice.

Telegraph - Commission officials consider operating Community airlines after 1992.

PRESS DIGESTFRANCE

Express - Millions of French people will be unable to afford to visit doctors next year because social security and health service system will not be able to refund their medical payments until months later because service is £4billion in the red.

SHARPEVILLE SIX

Mail - South Africa bows to worldwide concern over Sharpeville Six. Suspension has all the appearances of a face-saving device.

Sun - You are ready to make last-ditch plea for lives of Sharpeville Six.

Independent - South Africa's Justice Minister announces that Sharpeville Six should be allowed to exhaust every legal remedy. Announcement welcomed by Downing Street. You had earlier told Joyce Mokhesi you were prepared to make a further appeal for clemency if the death sentence was confirmed. Independent interprets the announcement as a sign South Africa is seeking to fend off the growing international campaign on behalf of the Six.

Guardian - You signalled readiness to take tougher line with Pretoria when you received Joyce Mokhesi. You have not changed your view that sanctions would do more harm than good but you no longer assume that Pretoria will come to see the logic of dismantling apartheid without considerable external political pressure from world leaders. You are considering a visit to South Africa, Zimbabwe and other front line states in the Christmas recess.

SOUTH AFRICA

Sun leader asks whether Kinnock supports terrorist bombers as he refuses at Press Conference to condemn outright ANC's bombing campaign.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Mr Fowler attends BTA dinner; later visits Liverpool (employment training)
- DES: Mr Baker addresses Georgetown Leadership Alumni conference, London
- DOE: Mr Ridley meets Mrs Smit-Kroes, Dutch Minister of the Environment, London; they then tour Black Country Urban Development Corporation and London Docklands
- DTI: Lord Young opens seminar on the DTI at Australian British Chamber of Commerce
- MAFF: Mr MacGregor addresses Association of British Abatoir Owners annual lunch, London
- DEM: Mr Cope opens Stevenage Small Firms Centre
- DEM: Mr Lee attends Heritage Projects prizegiving and ETB Tourism Competition, Oxford
- DEM: Mr Nicholls attends Women's Employment Advisory Committee; later makes Employment Training visit, London
- DES: Mrs Rumbold addresses Liverpool Institute of Higher Education, Information Technology in Teacher Education conference
- DHSS: Mr Currie visits AMI Portland Hospital for Women and Children, London
- DOE: Mr Waldegrave addresses the Rural Community Council of Essex AGM
- DOE: Mr Howard visits Gainsborough
- DOE: Mr Trippier visits Redhill to unveil statue at Wates Housing Development
- DTI: Mr Clark addresses ECGD Advisory Council dinner
- HMT: Mr Lilley addresses the City Dialogue lunch
- MAFF: Mr Gummer meets members of World Wildlife Fund
- MAFF: Baroness Trumpington visits Great Yorkshire show, Harrogate
- MAFF: Mr Thompson visits Southall Horse Market
- ODA: Mr Patten addresses the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives conference
- WO: Mr Roberts attends Hotel and Catering Association luncheon, Dorchester Hotel, London
- WO: Welsh Grand Committee debate on "Effect of Government Legislation on the People of Wales"

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- MAFF: Mr Thompson visits Munich (to 15 July)

ANNEX

TV AND RADIO

"Today": BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

"Pillars of Society": BBC Radio 4 (11.00) The Zoological Society of London. Last in series

"Take Nobody's Word For It": BBC 1 (11.30) The science of the theme rides at Alton Towers, and a look at the life and work of Michael Faraday

"Business Daily": C4 (12.30)

"The Parliament Programme"; C4 (14.00)

"File on Four": BBC Radio 4 (16.05)

"Party Political Comment": C4 (19.50) This week, a Conservative politician

"Disappearing World": ITV (21.00) New Series. The Whalehunters of Lamalera

"Newsnight": BBC 2 (22.25)

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