

9 November 1988

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

US Presidential Election result

The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh open the new Chapter House of Southwark Cathedral

Prime Minister holds talks and lunch for President Diouf of Senegal

Unveiling of Charles Parnell bust in Palace of Westminster

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STATISTICS

OPCS: General Household Survey 1987: Preliminary results

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PUBLICATIONS

HO: Welsh C4 Report and Accounts 1987

OAL: Museums and galleries accounts for the year ending 31 March 1987, Command Paper

ODA: Government reply to Foreign Affairs Committee Report on FCO/ODA expenditure

DES: Student Support White Paper

DOE: Football Hooliganism Report published

NAO: Report by Comptroller and Auditor General on Derelict Land Grant

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Scotland; Foreign and Commonwealth; Trade and Industry

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Parental Leave  
Housing Bill: Consideration of Lords Amendments  
School Boards (Scotland) Bill: Consideration of Lords Amendments

Adjournment Debate: Financing of the hospital service in Leicestershire (Mr M Latham)

PARLIAMENT (Continued)Select Committees:

## AGRICULTURE

Subject: Land-Use and Forestry  
 Witnesses: Nature Conservancy Council;  
 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

## ENVIRONMENT

Subject: Toxic Waste  
 Witness: Cheshire County Council;  
 Derbyshire County Council (at 11.30)

## EMPLOYMENT

Subject: The employment patterns of the  
 Over-50s  
 Witnesses: Professor N. Bosanquet,  
 Professor of Health Policy; Royal  
 Holloway and Bedford New College;  
 Mr P Ashby, Director of Action and  
 Mr C Heginbotham, Trustee of Action

## SOCIAL SERVICES

Subject: The responsibilities of the  
 Secretary of State for Health  
 Witness: Mr Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP,  
 Secretary of State for Health;  
 Mr David Mellor, QC, MP, Minister of  
 State, Department of Health

## TRANSPORT

Subject: Air Traffic Control Safety  
 Witness: Ministry of Defence

## TREASURY AND CIVIL SERVICE

Subject: The Autumn Statement  
 Witnesses: H M Treasury officials

## COMMITTEES ON PRIVATE BILLS

## UNOPPOSED

1. London Regional Transport (No 2)

## OPPOSED

Associated British Ports (No 2)  
 North Killingholme Cargo Terminal

Lords:

Starred Questions

Debate to take note of the Report of the European Communities  
 Committee on Integration of Disabled People

Debate to take note of the Report of the European Communities  
 Committee on Farm Price Review 1988/89 (15th Report, 1987-88, HL  
 Paper 85)

UQ to ask HMG what they propose to do to establish better  
 relations between the public and the Metropolitan Police.

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTMain News

Bush wins presidential election easily; Dukakis concedes at 2am.

Labour MPs try to make a "Lawsongate" out of briefing with Sunday Lobby.

Kenneth Baker blames TV stars for setting a bad example to youngsters; as role models they have feet of clay. Blames Swinging Sixties for helping to wreck traditional family life.

He also urges CBI members to serve as Governors of schools as an act of good citizenship and self interest.

Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux says thousands of low paid workers are worse off than ever before because of new social security rules; and British Legion "swamped" with stories of ex-Service hardship after war pensions treated as income.

Tory rebels lose battle to block eye and teeth check charges.

Today, while acknowledging need for a Second Chamber, says it needs to be appointed or elected.

Mail says it would have been constitutionally improper for the Upper House to reject what the elected chamber had seen fit to pass.

Ombudsman to investigate whether DTI was negligent in Barlow-Clowes affair.

Express leader says John Banham (CBI) should have felt uncomfortable complaining about foreign bids for UK companies when British firms have been picking off foreign companies at a breathtaking pace.

MoD orders 40 Tornados at cost of £800million.

Express says that so far not one of hundreds of Nissan Bluebirds shipped from the UK to France and Italy has been sold.

British Steel faces EC allegations of price fixing.

Mail puts your message about unleaded petrol on its front page.

New Director of Broadcasting Standards Council says his appointment does not automatically mean he is on a clean up mission.

PRESS DIGEST

North West Times, Manchester based daily newspaper launched in September, is to close.

Leader of West Indian Yardies crime syndicate deported from UK after being accused of drug offences. Sun, delighted, says "Good riddance".

OPCS survey shows infant death rate last year lowest on record.

UK AIDS deaths top 1,000 mark.

Steve Norris selected as Tory candidate for Epping Forest by-election (Independent).

British tourists leaving Sri Lanka because extremists are threatening to attack hotels.

Hopes for British hostages rise as talks with Iran to fully restore diplomatic links are started.

Walesa threatens to quit as hundreds of Solidarity militants rebel against him and go ahead with shipyard strike after he had decided to back off from showdown with Polish Government (Times).

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Sun page 1 lead - It's a Bushover. George for White House as Dukakis rally fades. Leader says Bush benefitted from the weakness of his opponent who never measured up to leading the Western world.

Mirror page 1 lead - It's Bush. George is the new President. But Dukakis fought him to a closer finish than expected.

Today page 1 lead - Hail Bush the Brit - they say his ancestors came from Messing in Essex where they were Yeoman farmers.

Express page 1 lead - Bushwhack - George ends Dukakis White House dreams. City Editor says now the real political battle begins to deal with American overspending and the Budget deficit.

Mail - Big stay away at US polls.

Times page 1 lead - Bush sweeps home to victory. London dealers anticipating a dollar rally in all-night trading.

Guardian page 1 lead - President Bush sweeps in.

PRESS DIGEST

Telegraph says George Bush's win is good news for Europe and for the superpower relationship.

CHANCELLOR'S BRIEFINGS

Today - Reluctant Maggie praises Lawson. You make clear your irritation with him but are also said to have some sympathy for him.

Express leader says Chancellor and his officials have not covered themselves in glory this week. The journalists' interpretation seems to have been perfectly justified. And the Treasury's tape story is the most half-baked we have heard since the Nixon secretary managed to erase Watergate tapes.

Mail - Maggie praises Lawson. And most Tories back Government line that Mr Lawson had been misinterpreted.

You suffered one of your rare defeats at Question Time when Kinnock harried you over Chancellor's briefing on pensioners benefits (Times). Under the heading "Never on Friday" leader says whether the criterion is the Government's political interest or pensioners' peace of mind, Nigel Lawson could hardly have made a more unfortunate job briefing Sunday lobby correspondents. Five days later the ripples are still radiating. It recognises the value of individual non-attributable briefings but says collective non-attributable briefings, though a convenient device, are always more liable to backfire on the briefer.

Guardian leader considers Chancellor's reputation has suffered in the light of the weekend. He no longer looks the miracle worker. People do not attribute wisdom to a man who first hauls interest rates down and then keeps on shoving them up and who gets involved in unseemly public bickering with you. He does not seem cut out for the task of diplomacy at the Foreign Office.

Independent - Labour Treasury spokesman, Gordon Brown, challenges Chancellor to provide a transcript of his briefing to journalists and to specify how journalists misrepresented him. Comment says you failed to say whether you agreed with him that a small minority of pensioners had difficulty making ends meet during Question Time.

PRESS DIGESTHEALTH/WELFARE

Times - Government's proposals on primary health care could lead to piecemeal and fragmented service with different authorities working against each other, says King's Fund Institute report.

Birmingham's children's hospital facing fresh crisis after management say they cannot improve gradings for intensive care nurses (Independent).

Charges for teeth and eye tests will be introduced by the end of the year, Kenneth Clarke said last night (Independent).

BROADCASTING

Lord Thomson of IBA says broadcasting faces near anarchy in the 1990s as a result of Government's White Paper. BBC would become a cultural ghetto with poorer people unable to pay for programmes as subscription or pay-as-you-view TV took over from licence fees (Times).

Independent - Radio pirates threaten to swamp Britain despite the fact that from January 1 anyone committed of illegal broadcasting will be disqualified for 5 years from applying for a franchise.

Alan Peacock welcomes a challenging and well reasoned White Paper. Independent leader says given the uncertainties of the White Paper it is up to the government and MPs reinforced by their constituents to ensure the pessimists are proved wrong. Peter Jenkins describes it as "dismal" and working of the fourth form.

FT - Cable Authority plans to award as many as 25 or 30 cable TV franchises within the next two years to try to beat White Paper proposals.

EDUCATION

White Paper on student loans likely to set out low-interest cash for undergraduates (Times).

Teachers report 535 attacks in one year at Inner London schools (Times).

First agreement between a school and a trade union (T&GWU) to allow shop stewards into the classroom to be signed in Humberside today.

PRESS DIGEST

The reception given to today's White Paper will be a crucial pointer to the prospects of a much more radical shake-up in the funding of higher education (FT).

LSE lecturers say student loan scheme is deeply flawed, and will deter poorer students entering higher education as it would cost them thousands of pounds (Guardian).

INDUSTRY

Cecil Parkinson, interviewed in the Independent warns that if Hinkley Point, Sizewell and Wylfa are not competitive - they will be the last nuclear power stations built in Britain.

John Banham seeks 25% corporation tax at CBI conference and Kenneth Baker tells them that more businessmen should join school governing bodies (Times).

FT - CBI puts forward 6-point plan for making take-over bids more open and showing the takeover process.

Telegraph - BNF annual report says it has plans to replace military nuclear power stations which make plutonium.

LAW & ORDER

Times - Attorney General delivers fierce attack on selective and inaccurate critics of Crown Prosecution Service.

ENVIRONMENT

Telegraph - Environmentalists claim mystery cloud that swept across North West England two weeks ago contained high amounts of radiation and may have been caused by a nuclear submarine.

CIVIL SERVICE

Guardian - Senior government officials asked to keep watchful eye for changes in behaviour and lifestyle of young people who work in sensitive areas in the civil service and semi-state organisations such as the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

IRELAND

Independent - Bernadette McAliskey (nee Devlin) is once again campaigning on behalf of Catholics in Ireland - now as an independent.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Mr Fowler addresses Youth Skill Olympics lunch; later addresses Eton College
- DEN: Mr Parkinson addresses Institute of Directors annual dinner, Grosvenor House, London
- DH: Mr Clarke, Mrs Currie and Mr Mellor attend CMOs seminar on medical audit
- MAFF: Mr MacGregor visits Wakehurst Place, Sussex
- DEM: Mr Lee launches Caravan Holiday Home National Marketing Campaign, Mermaid Theatre, London; in the evening attends dinner with BTA Board
- DEM: Mr Nicholls attends NCVQ Presentation, London
- DH: Mrs Currie attends Mechanical Engineers reception
- DSS: Mr Lloyd attends RADAR Man of the Year awards
- DTI: Mr Clark meets M. Sagram Senegal, Minister of Industrial Development and Craft
- DTp: Mr Bottomley visits Hertfordshire to see Lorry Management Scheme
- DTp: Mr Portillo addresses the British Parking Association Seminar
- HMT: Mr Lamont addresses the Association of Consulting Actuaries biennial dinner
- HMT: Mr Lilley addresses the Education Training Seminar 'A' Level conference, Central Hall, Westminster
- HO: Mr Hogg addresses Rainer Foundation AGM, about young offenders
- HO: Mr Patten visits Bolton Magistrates
- MAFF: Mr Thompson tours Devon and Cornwall
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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DTI: Mr Maude visits Lisbon
- FCO: Lord Glenarthur visits South-East Asia (to 21 November)
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MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

HMT: Mr Lawson interviewed by Financial Times about Autumn Statement

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TV AND RADIO

'Today': BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

'Kilroy': BBC 1 (9.20)

'The Parliament Programme': C4 (12.00)

'Business Daily': C4 (12.30)

'The World at One': BBC Radio 4

'Party Political Comment': C4 (19.50). This week, an SDP politician

'Dispatches': C4 (20.30)

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

'Newsnight': BBC 2 (22.30)

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