

23 December 1988

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister to Chequers for Christmas

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STATISTICS

DTI: Trade Figures (November)

Building Societies' monthly figures (November)

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PRESS DIGESTMain News

The press covers the Pan Am disaster exhaustively, devoting page after page to the tragedy, with many graphic pictures.

There is an assumption that it was caused by a bomb and much concern over the action taken - or not taken - over warnings of a bomb threat to a Pan Am flight out of Frankfurt this Christmas.

Telegraph claims this aircraft had had 24 problems since 1980 but Pan Am says the plane was as good as new after a refit.

At least 276 known to have died; body of a girl found on a roof in Lockerbie.

Express launches appeal with donation of £5,000.

Schoolboys find \$547,000 amid the Lockerbie debris.

YOUR VISIT TO LOCKERBIE

Star - Horror beyond belief - Maggie.

Sun - Shaken Maggie is near to tears.

Nothing in Mirror or Guardian or Independent.

Today - With picture of you, as one of the visitors - shock of two nations captured in three faces.

Express - Picture of you picking your way through the wreckage.

Mail - Picture of you inspecting damage.

Telegraph - Thatcher sees emergency base at school.

Times - Visiting Thatcher extends sympathy.

OTHER NEWS

Government's technical investigation of Piper Alpha disaster fails to add anything to findings of interim report. Leaking gas valve confirmed as cause.

Detectives issue artist's impression of one of wanted IRA men after Clapham incident.

PRESS DIGEST

Management services division of West Midlands Regional Health Authority is to be bought out by management.

Supply ship to Falklands breaks down with Christmas supplies on board.

Robert Maxwell sells British Printing Corporation to managers for £265million.

Maxwell postpones "trial" launch of his new newspaper The European in February because of difficulties over "the melding of British and French journalists".

Joe Rogaly, under heading "Thatcherism until the end of time" says the most significant and worrying development in British politics this year has been the growing acceptance of the population that you will go on and on.

TV AND RADIO

"Today": BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

"Business Daily": C4 (12.30)

"The World at One": BBC Radio 4 (13.00)

"Any Questions?" BBC Radio 4 (20.20) with John Wakeham, Enoch Powell, John Prescott and Shirley Williams

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

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