

18 January 1989

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister launches "A New Look for London" at Royal Fine Art Commission

Conclusion of CSCE conference, Vienna

? Action on Viraj Mendis

EC: Fisheries Council, Brussels

EC: Political Committee, Madrid (to 19 January)

HO: Section 141 of Criminal Justice Act, 1988 on the banning of Designated Offensive Weapons, comes into force

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STATISTICS

HMT/CSO: Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (Dec)

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Trade and Industry; Environment; Scotland

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Elimination of Poverty in Retirement. (Mr Jeremy Corbyn)  
Opposition Day (1st allotted day): Until about 7.00 pm., there will be a debate on an Opposition Motion on Child Benefit

There will be a debate on an Opposition Motion on Government Provision for Pre-School Education and Child Care  
Motion to take note of EC Documents on the Beef Regime 1988-89. Details will be given in the Official Report

Adjournment Debates: The imprisonment in Iran of Mr Roger Cooper (Mr N Baker)

Select Committees: AGRICULTURE  
Subject: Salmonella in Eggs  
Witnesses: Institution of Environmental Health Officers; Association of District Medical Officers; British Veterinary Association; Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)Select Committees(Cont'd)

## ENVIRONMENT

Subject: Toxic Waste

Witness: National Association of Waste Disposal Contractors

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union

Witnesses: Dr J Eyal, Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies; Mr T Garton-Ash, "The Spectator" and Mr G Schopflin, London School of Economics

## TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: Privatisation of Harland and Wolff PLC

Witnesses: Harland and Wolff Management and Trade Union Representatives

## WELSH AFFAIRS

Subject: Follow-up to the Committee's Reports of Session 1986-87 on the Condition and Repair of Privately-owned Housing and Tourism in Wales

Witness: Rt Hon Peter Walker, MP, Secretary of State for Wales

## AGRICULTURE

Subject: Salmonella in Eggs

Witnesses: Retail Consortium; Food and Drink Federation; AFRC Institute of Animal Disease Research and Institute of Food Research

## EMPLOYMENT

Subject: Employment and Training White Paper

Witnesses: Rt Hon Norman Fowler, MP, Secretary of State for Employment and Rt Hon John Cope, MP, Minister of State, Department of Employment

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Subject: Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union

Witnesses: Dr J Eyal, Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies; Mr T Garton-Ash, "The Spectator" and Mr G Schopflin, London School of Economics

## PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Subject: Stocktaking in the Ministry of Defence; Service Hospitals

Witness: Sir Michael Quinlan, KCB, Permanent Secretary, MOD

## SOCIAL SERVICES

Subject: Resourcing the NHS; Whitley Councils

Witnesses: National Association of Health Authorities; National Association of Health Service Personnel Officers

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

(Select Committees Cont'd)

## TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Subject: Privatisation of Short Brothers PLC

Witnesses: Short Brothers Management and Trade Union  
Representatives

## TRANSPORT

Subject: Roads for the Future

Witnesses: The AA (at 4.15 pm)

Friends of the Earth (at 5.00 pm)

## COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS

Associated British Ports (No.2) Bill

North Killingholme Cargo Terminal Bill

Lords: Starred Questions

Short Debate to call attention to affairs in Scotland

Short Debate to call attention to the circumstances under which  
Parliamentary debates during the passage of a Bill or Statutory  
Instrument might be taken into consideration by the Courts in their  
interpretation of the resulting statuteTo ask HMG, particularly in the light of the Annual Report of the  
Director General of Fair Trading for 1987, what steps they are taking  
to improve money management education in schools and elsewhere

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTMain News

Front pages dominated by "Rambo" gunman who killed six children and wounded 35, 15 critically, when he sprayed playground with bullets and then shot himself in California.

A wide variety of Rambo weapons are banned by law in UK from today.

Mail worries about deeply disturbing fall in Boeing quality standards and, in a new twist to air disaster stories, Sun says Boeing workers took drugs - cocaine and marijuana - while building aircraft; you declare war on "crack".

Government promises £7million to help Lockerbie recover - to meet the bill in full avoiding cost falling on rates. Some describe it as "a blank cheque".

Police find where bomb was hidden in Pan Am jet.

80% of Britons back soccer national membership card scheme and want a similar scheme for young people buying alcohol, according to survey.

Welcome for scheme in Star, Today, Express, Mail and Times. Telegraph lukewarm and grudging. Mirror wants national identity card scheme. Independent against and Guardian says it won't work.

Chief Executive designate of National Power to deliver speech saying that a privatised electricity industry would not sacrifice profit to keep the lights on. He will say that the company will only go ahead with new nuclear power station if the right terms can be negotiated with the Government (Independent).

Nationwide Anglia closing 50 estate agencies because of slump in trade.

Graduate survey shows 55% of employers have been unable to fill vacancies (Times). Report by Price Waterhouse predicts graduate shortage this year, with particularly acute problems in public sector (FT).

Value of acquisitions of US companies by UK companies reached record \$33.5billion, 15% up on 1987, according to financial advisers, J P Mervis (FT).

PRESS DIGEST

BR unlikely to satisfy Government spending constraints on Channel tunnel rail link if it matches spending on environmental protection planned by SNCF. This is likely to cause political embarrassment in the light of your green policy initiative (Independent).

Shop stewards representing 400 Channel Tunnel workers on the Isle of Grain threaten industrial action over pay and conditions (FT).

Big windfall heading the way of worker-shareholders in the NFC which is going public.

CPS director David Willetts hints at end of dock labour scheme (FT).

Southern Water and joint venture partner launch counter-bid against Compagnie Generale des Eaux for Folkestone and Dover Water Company (FT).

NACODS vote 4-1 for 7% pay settlement.

Lord Young appeals in court today against High Court ruling that he should refer Al-Fayed's takeover of Harrods to MMC.

Times business comment says Lord Young was wrong in not allowing either the MMC or the publication of his inspectors' report to clear the air but whether he should have his mistakes corrected by the courts is another matter.

Business and industrial demand for MPs services has grown significantly in the last year with nearly 90 more consultancies and more than 50 extra directorships, mainly by Tory backbenchers in 1988, the new register of Members' interests will show (Independent).

British companies to share important defence contracts with European firms (Times).

Government announces extra help to create jobs for more than 2,000 workers made redundant by closure of River Wear shipyards (Times).

Telegraph expects Italy to order 25 Harriers for its Navy.

Couple who waited 2 days for a gas man to arrive have won £100 compensation.

John MacGregor planning a new Food Act to give him tough powers to protect the consumer.

PRESS DIGEST

Egg producers set up a legal fund of £500,000 to meet cost of legal action against Edwina Currie.

Government starts an inquiry into the microwave cooking as part of investigation into food poisoning.

Sun wants May Day holiday scrapped.

Sun says Home Secretary, in re-opening Guildford and Woolwich bombing cases, has given way to pressure and that he is doing the dirty work of so-called progressives who wish to undermine respect for our rule of law. When Court of Appeal meets he will also be on trial.

Tory MPs back campaign against jailing of mother of raped girl who poured boiling water over rapist.

Jonathan Aitken MP says MI5 branded six Tory MPs as security risks and unsuitable for Government jobs.

BMA wants cigarette tax raised by 16% - 24p or 28p a packet - to deter smoking; smoking said to be on the increase for the first time in 10 years.

Jet knocks 2p a gallon off unleaded petrol to encourage switch to cleaner fuel.

Turkish peasants have been paid to donate kidneys for transplant operation at private London hospital. At least one claims to have been duped (Independent).

Royal College of Art set to charge private fees to its students, opening the way for other universities and colleges to impose charges (Independent).

DES says specialist teacher shortage will reach 15,000 by 1985 (Independent).

Energy Select Committee take the almost unprecedented step of inviting you to give evidence to them on green issues (Times).

High Court grants leave for judicial review over ban on broadcasting interviews with Sinn Fein and others (Times).

Observer agrees to pay substantial damages to Winston Churchill MP and Stephen Hastings MP in libel actions (Times).

PRESS DIGEST

Newspaper article published by Roger Cooper in Tehran seen as Iranian response to William Waldegrave's warning that Anglo-Iranian relations cannot improve until he is released (Independent).

West tells Soviets to pull down the Berlin wall at Vienna conference.

Foreign Secretary shocks delegates to ESCE with a reference to cannibals in context of Soviet reform over human rights. "It is hardly progress for a cannibal to use a knife and fork", he said.

George Shultz attacks East Germany, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria for breaches of the terms of a new code of conduct for East and West Europe but praises Soviet Union, Poland and Hungary for progress on human rights (Times).

Black riots in Miami after a police chase of a motorbike left one dead and another seriously injured.

Leftwing fanatics who have kidnapped former Belgian Prime Minister threaten to kill him.

SOCCER

Star page 2 - Rebel soccer chiefs face threat of jail. Clubs which refuse to comply with Bill will have licences withdrawn and will have to play to empty stadia. Leader says the plan is a sledgehammer to crack a nut but it is a very tough nut and that is why all those who love the sport have to back it. The cards were inevitable but they will do nothing to stop the violence outside grounds.

Sun - Soccer ID cards "key to Europe". English soccer teams, Mr Moynihan says, could be allowed back into Europe when membership card scheme comes into force.

Mirror page 2 - Offside. Soccer cards scheme takes a hammering. Leader says there is a problem in soccer. Violence is also a problem for society. Identity cards for everybody would help the police enormously. At a stroke they would also wipe out under-age drinking and credit card fraud.

Today page 4 - Soccer law will stop thugs invading Europe. Leader says the FL will probably fight the Bill down to the last fan. The Government is right to insist they take their full share of responsibility.

PRESS DIGEST

Express page 2 - Soccer ID plan to combat thugs sparks big row. Hooligans face travel ban. Leader headed "Putting soccer rowdies offside" says the Government has been right to press on with the package. A sensible attempt to rid soccer of hooligansim which could kill our national sport. Labour Party has same attitude to Bill as to measures to combat terrorism. The public will be thankful that someone is at long last tackling the problem with the determination and seriousness it warrants.

Mail page 9 - Identity cards will sort out the soccer thugs, says Maggie. Leader headed "A scheme that must be made to work" says that legislation has been resorted to only with reluctance. It is foolish and unrealistic for League club chairmen to say it is unworkable. It would be better if clubs got on with making it work. As for opponents like Kinnock, who claim the proposals are an intolerable interference in personal liberty, whose liberty do they have in mind? This could be one of the biggest of many political miscalculations by Kinnock.

Times - You and Kinnock exchange harsh words in Commons on Soccer Bill. Leader says the scheme being introduced is not ideal and in an ideal world would be unwanted. But the scheme can be made to work - and to the great advantage of the game. This Bill should help preserve freedom, not destroy it.

Independent - You join battle over football ID cards. You make it clear you are determined to overcome Tory backbench opposition to the scheme. Leader says the astonishingly sketchy Bill is an affront to legislative procedures, to Conservative values and to civil liberties. It says that both the Bill and the manner in which it is being introduced demonstrate an arrogant and arbitrary quality.

Telegraph page 1 - Soccer ID card faces rough ride. You scorn attack on scheme. Leader gives a somewhat grudging welcome saying the one indubitably sensible provision is the power to prevent convicted louts travelling abroad. The scheme can probably be made to work but at a cost.

Guardian - Prime Minister and Kinnock in identity cards clash. ID scheme aims to outlaw football hooligans. Leader bemoans the lack of a free vote in Parliament on this issue. You may have little to lose politically. The trouble with the scheme is not that it was wrongly motivated but that it won't work. But it agrees stopping hooligans from going abroad is good. The scheme could however simply end by accelerating soccer's decline.



PRESS DIGESTMIDDLE EAST/WALDEGRAVE

Sun says you have ordered William Waldegrave to make amends in Israel. Leader says Mr Waldegrave still has an important lesson in diplomacy to learn - when to keep his mouth shut.

Today - Maggie plea to Israelis. You want Shamir to visit Britain to calm his anger over being called a "reformed terrorist" by Mr Waldegrave.

Mail - Maggie to invite Shamir in peace bid.

Independent - Mr Waldegrave talks with PLO backed on both sides of House. You sit beside him throughout the exchanges in mark of support.

Yassir Arafat accepts invitation to address Arab-American convention in Washington in April, re-opening US visa debate.

EAST-WEST

Independent leader says that, before Berlin Wall can come down, the GDR's government will have to liberalise the country's economic and political institutions in a way convincing enough to remove the desire, particularly of the best qualified, to leave for the West.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Mr Fowler signs Employment Training contract with Sir Terence Conran, London
- DEN: Mr Parkinson visits the Offshore Supplies Office, Glasgow
- DH: Mr Clarke, Mr Mellor and Mr Freeman meet RHA Chairmen
- DTp: Mr Channon addresses the County Surveyors' annual dinner, RAC Club, London
- HO: Mr Hurd addresses the County Nat West conference on TV in the 1990's - the opportunities
- DH: Mr Freeman lunches with Dirk Rees, Dutch Junior Health Minister
- DOE: Mr Trippier addresses Institute of Housings Act Seminar on looking into the 1990's
- DOE: Mr Moynihan has press call at Geographical Information launch
- DTI: Mr Atkins addresses Manchester Merchant and International Banking Association
- DTp: Mr Bottomley visits London Cab Company, Kennington
- OAL: Mr Luce holds Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme reception, London
- ODA: Mr Patten hosts lunch for Mr Mersia Ejigu, Ethopian Minister of Planning

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DTp: Lord Brabazon visits Rotterdam
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TV AND RADIO

'Today': BBC Radio 4 (6.30)

'Kilroy': BBC1 (9.20)

'You and Yours': BBC Radio 4 (12.00)

'The Parliament Programme': C4 (12.30). Coverage of the work of both Houses of Parliament on a daily basis - with live coverage of the proceedings of the House of Commons and television coverage of the House of Lords

'Business Daily': C4 (12.30)

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

'File on Four': Radio 4 (16.05). Examines the political costs of cutting America's military debt

'Dispatches': C4 (20.30)

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

'Newsnight': BBC2 (22.30)

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