

MAIN EVENTS

President Gorbachev addresses Guildhall, and lunches with The Queen
The Duke of Edinburgh represents The Queen at the Sovereign's Parade,
Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Surrey
EC: Informal Industry Ministers meeting, San Sebastian (to April 8)

STATISTICS

DOE: Housing starts and completions (Feb)
DTI: Finished steel consumption and stock changes (4th qtr-final)

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Business: PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

Parking Bill: Remaining Stages (Mr Timothy Kirkhope)

International Parliamentary Organisations (Registration) Bill:
Committee Stage (Mr Michael Marshall)

Common Land (Rectification of Registers) Bill: Committee
Stage (Mr Tony Favell)

Adjournment Debates: Relations with Malta (Mr H Barnes)

Select Committees: Not available at time of diary completion

Lords: Starred Questions
Debate to take note of the consultation papers "The Work and
Organisation of the Legal Profession" (Cm 570), "Contingency Fees"
(Cm 571) and "Conveyancing by Authorised Practitioners" (Cm 572)

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTGORBACHEV

An excellent press and massive coverage in which warmth and special relationship shine through differences.

Star page 1 - Maggie and Gorby make historic pact; Lest's Save the World (for grandchildren). Summit atmosphere almost electric. Britain presents a school to Armenia. Two pages of pictures and features on the day.

Cartoon of you and Gorbachev talking in study over caption: "Of course, unlike the UK we Russians now have elections with a serious opposition".

Sun page 1 picture is Mr Thatcher receiving Mrs Gorbachev with a kiss of the hand - "Denis's smacker for regal Raisa". Two pages inside headed "It's Miki Mania". Everyone falls for his charm.

Sun leader says SAS should be sent to Libya to blow up the jets supplied by Russians.

Mirror page 1 - Red Stars - Gorby and Raisa deliver the goods. Turn their charm offensive on Britain and win hearts and admiration. Meanwhile in talks you and Gorbachev agreed on a shared aim of making the world a safer place.

Mirror leader says they came, they saw, they conquered. The brought glasnost to Britain.

Today page 1 lead - Maggie's marathon talk-in for a safer world. "I couldn't shut her up" - its main headline puts words into Mr Gorbachev's mouth. Inside coverage of Gorbachev's walkabout and visit to factory. Elsewhere 2 pages of picture/feature coverage of Mrs Gorbachev.

Express page 1 lead with picture "So happy together". Mr G gave a new word to the language "blizost" - togetherness. Inside 2 pages of picture feature "It's Raisa the Red Star" and another under the heading "We will build a much better world for our grandchildren".

Express leader headed "A relationship of high regard" says if personal chemistry could soothe away East-West tension the world would certainly be breathing more easily now. Yesterday demonstrated the extraordinary rapport between the two of you, notwithstanding differences.

PRESS DIGEST

Mail page 1 lead - The toast is togetherness. Inside 2 pages headed "The day of glasnost and old style charm". No disguising immense regard Mr Gorbachev has for you as a Western voice of authority. Two pages of pictures in centrefold headed "I've got a crush on you".

Mail leader headed "Making the best of Gorbachev" says he is a notable improvement on his predecessors. It goes on to consider trade and says our poor performance partly reflects a lack of Soviet hard currency, but also a certain lack of zest among British exporters.

Morning Star page 1 - Double triumph for Gorbachev: friendly talks and an enthusiastic public welcome.

Telegraph the only newspaper not to lead with Gorbachev. Their second lead is a picture of Mrs Gorbachev with Kenneth Baker over "Crowds cheer Gorbachevs" alongside "Russians seek ban on atom weapons". Inside 2 pages report the visit extensively with pictures.

Guardian page 1 lead - Prime Ministers hails "peaceful revolution". Thatcher tells Gorbachev: "We want you to succeed". Claims that leak of supply of aircraft to Libya came from Bush team to counter "Gorby factor". Inside 2 pages of coverage of all aspects of the visit and lots of pictures.

Independent page 1 lead - Summit seals Anglo-Soviet rapport. Thatcher-Gorbachev talks surmount differences over jets to Libya and nuclear weapons: A day of talks, diplomacy and mutual admiration, which marked a new era in Anglo-Soviet relations culminated with your giving effusive praise to Mr Gorbachev's "peaceful revolution" at a Downing Street dinner last night. Front page picture outside Westminster Abbey.

Independent - Lord Gowrie will present Mrs Gorbachev with the manuscript of Turgenev's "Fathers and Sons" which the Russians have bought from Sothebys.

FT - Prime Minister praises Soviet 'revolution'. You and Mr Gorbachev agree that Anglo-Soviet relations have entered a new era of stability and trust but acknowledge that you continue to disagree fundamentally on nuclear disarmament. Your effusive welcome was combined with an unflinching reaffirmation of your determination to preserve the West's nuclear defences.

FT adds that officials and economists in Estonia propose radical programme for self-government in challenge to Moscow.

PRESS DIGESTOTHER NEWS

Gallup in Telegraph gives Labour 2.5% lead - 40/37.5/SLD 10/SDP 8.

National dock strike likely over abolition of Dock Labour Scheme but Cabinet believes it can defeat it. Dockers leaders expected to meet today.

UN tables plan for ceasefire in Namibia. SWAPO guerillas will be offered 2 choices - hand in weapons to UNTAG and stay in Namibia as citizens or keep their weapons and be escorted back into Angola (Independent).

President Botha gives notice of elections by first week of September, signalling his retirement in favour of F W de Klerk.

Shamir offers no concessions on Middle East peace process to President Bush.

City economists voice concern at threat posed to independence of CSO by its transfer to the Treasury (FT).

Governor of Bank tells TCSC that jury is still out on whether current monetary policy is working (FT).

David Blunkett has called on a future Labour Government to confiscate shares bought in privatised water companies (Independent).

National Council for Civil Liberties calls for public judicial enquiry into Gibraltar shootings.

High Court judgement on leaked Lonrho report due today.

Channon tightens airport security. New rules will restrict access to aircraft parking areas.

You are planning to axe Department of Energy and merge it with DTI later this year.

Royal Ordnance to shed 250 jobs (FT).

Britain's major airports must install computerised systems for checking passes within the next year and must strictly control access to restricted areas (Independent).

PRESS DIGEST

There is no evidence of radioactive and toxic chemical pollution at Piper Alpha (Independent).

British Tourist Authority warns that tourism could be hit if cities are not cleaned up.

FT - Consumers' Association attacks Bar Council's campaign against reform of legal system. Leader, welcoming proposals, says release of market forces will diminish significance of patronage which Government can exercise by appointment of Queen's Counsel and judges.

House buyers have been hit by 62% rise in costs in past 12 months, according to Reward Group Survey (FT).

Paddy Ashdown predicts a net loss of no more than 100 for Democrats in local government elections.

Many routine cases will go to lower courts in a plan to speed up civil justice (Independent).

Roger Birch, Chief Constable of Sussex, claimed failure to share in the 1992 vision of co-operative policing in a border-free Europe could be disastrous for British police, isolating them in the fight against international crime (Independent).

British scientists have won backing from WHO to develop a dried polio vaccine which could be used in the developing world without refrigeration (Independent).

BBC and Channel 4 fear that the BSC is preparing for a two-tier set of programme standard codes which would allow satellite and cable channels greater freedom to screen sex and violence in imported American material (Independent).

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DH: Mr Clark visits Manchester to promote the NHS White Paper
- DOE: Mr Ridley opens sewage sludge incineration plant, Bradford
- HMT: Mr Major addresses the University Centre Business Club lunch, Cambridge
- HO: Mr Hurd opens Wiltshire Sound, Swindon; later visits Thames Valley Police
- MAFF: Mr MacGregor addresses Breckland Print Ltd, Norfolk on opening of extension
- DEM: Mr Cope addresses Business in the Community/Shell conference for enterprise agency chairmen, Sheffield University
- DES: Mr Butcher visits Hereward College, Coventry
- DH: Mr Mellor attends Guild of Catholic Doctors 1989 symposium and AGM; later attends Royal College of GPs spring meeting, Sussex University
- DOE: Mr Gummer visits Wolverhampton and Dudley Councils (community charge)
- DOE: Mr Trippier visits New Line Engineering Group in Bacup, Lancs
- DTI: Mr Clark lunches with Sir Peter Parker and UK and Japanese Businessmen, Savoy Hotel, London
- HMT: Mr Brooke addresses the Institution of Fiscal Studies on indirect tax, Oxford
- HO: Mr Hogg visits Her Majesty's Young Offender Institution, Hindley, Lancs
- WO: Mr Roberts opens new offices of the MRM Partnership, Cardiff
- WO: Mr Grist addresses Council for Protection of North Wales, Aberystwyth

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DTI: Lord Young visits China (to 16 April)
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TV AND RADIO

"Breakfast Time": BBC 1 (07.00) with an analysis of the achievements of the Soviet President's visit

"The Time: The Place": Thames (10.00) with a live satellite link to the USSR

"Gorbachev at the Guildhall": BBC 1 (11.00) David Dimbleby with live coverage of the speech

"Any Questions?": BBC Radio 4 (20.05) with Douglas Hurd, Paddy Ashdown, Tony Benn and Brenda Dean
