

4 May 1989

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister's 10th Anniversary

Prime Minister meets Herr Walter Momper, Governing Major of Berlin (photocall)

Vale of Glamorgan By-Election

Local Government Elections

The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh open the British Food and Farming Festival and visit the MAFF Centenary exhibition, Hyde Park, London

Prison Service industries and farms exhibits at Festival of Food and Farming, Hyde Park, London (to May 6)

Home Secretary meets Fire Brigade Union to discuss value for money initiatives

---

PUBLICATIONS

DES: Design in Partnership

---

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Treasury; Home Office; Prime Minister

Business: Police Officers (Central Service) Bill (Lords): 2nd Reading  
Afterwards,  
Motion to take note of EC Document on Controls of Persons at Intra-Community Frontiers. Details will be given in the Official Report  
Followed by,  
Motion to take note of EC Documents on Public Procurement. Details will be given in the Official Report

Adjournment Debates: Chess in inner city schools (Mr M Stern)

Lords: Starred Questions  
Prisons (Scotland) Bill (HL)(Consol): Second Reading  
Water Bill: Committee (2nd Day)  
Employment (Age Limits) Bill (HL): Second Reading

---

PRESS DIGESTMain News

Sun, Today, Express, Mail, Telegraph and Times put your picture with Michael on their front page.

And most of them go for the tigress in your tank aspect of the Press Association's interview - even the FT covers the interview on its front page "Decade of the tigress undimmed by threat of by-election defeat".

The interview is described by many as your frankest yet.

Mail says Tory hopes are high in the crucial battle for county hall.

MORI poll indicates free market message has left the masses unmoved (Independent).

Dreadful red wine leaves bitter taste in mouth of 1922 Committee after celebratory lunch with you (Guardian).

Kinnock says "tightfisted Tories" had let down "Thatcher's children" - generation who have started school since 1979 have suffered an 18% cut in Government spending in schools.

Dramatic transformation in Labour policies on the economy, defence, industry, the unions, Europe and taxation is set to be approved by party leaders next week (Times).

Lord Young makes a scathing attack on attempts to forge closer union within the EC, fully supporting your tough stand against the growth of regulation by Brussels (Times).

Guardian says you are today to take personal control over the day-to-day handling of key EC directives in an attempt to block the Brussels Commission extending its influence to cover British law on health, education and employment.

You hit out at EC lack of fair competition in PA interview.

Nicholas Ridley tells Helsinki conference that Britain is against the idea of a world fund to protect the atmosphere (Times).

Nicholas Ridley pledges swift aid to developing countries to phase out CFCs.

PRESS DIGEST

Sam Brittan, in FT, looks at the green power of market forces and believes that many people who are instinctively suspicious of the market economy will be disappointed if they think that concern over the global climate will end it.

Four days of violence and destruction at Risley end when 54 prisoners call off their roof top protest.

Claims that IRA bomb squad in Britain is using a 12 month old baby as cover while they play hide and seek with police.

Hopes rising of a settlement in dispute over doctors' contracts but Kenneth Clarke said to be pessimistic about prospects in today's meeting with BMA.

Telegraph leader calls for compromise from the Government for both NHS and legal profession reforms.

DES report says more than a quarter of all lessons in state secondary schools are given by teachers who have no qualification in the subject beyond A-level (Telegraph).

Lord Tonypany taken to hospital last night after launching new charity to help abused children.

Today forecasts 11% mortgage rate by the end of the year because of dramatic slump in demand for home loans.

Sales boom in durable goods with 6% increase in household expenditure (Times).

Tube management go to court to try to stop strikes planned from next week. Rail unions to ballot over BR strike.

FT leader on threatened transport strikes argues that the boom in the South-East economy has created both blades of the scissors which are cutting LRT and BR - the increased demand for services on the one hand and the reduced availability on the other. It calls, in part, for greater investment in the public infrastructure.

BR may have to realign Channel Tunnel rail link because of engineering and safety problems (Independnet).

Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety has recommended new powers for random breath tests (Independent).

BBC to introduce merit pay to try to solve dispute with staff.

PRESS DIGEST

Ford report record pre-tax profits of £673million last year.

Paul Foot features 22% increase in Associated British Ports profits and higher directors' remuneration while Government seeks to abolish National Dock Labour Scheme.

Lord Young accuses brewers of pushing up the price of beer too fast in last few years.

Lord Young makes clear his determination to act on MMC's recommendations over beer monopoly (FT).

Murdoch considers relaunch of Sky TV after performance falls far below expectations (FT).

Audit Commission report says police are wasting £25million a year on needless car maintenance (Telegraph).

Errors over LAW80 light anti-tank weapon cost extra £50million (Independent).

Oman shelves planned purchase of Tornado from UK (FT).

Survey shows that brand name food labelling gives customers little idea of nutritional value.

John MacGregor moves toward support for food irradiation (Times).

Ted Heath, in broadcast tonight, says Government is issuing misinformation and No 10's unattributable briefings should be banned because they damage democracy.

Peter Brooke says too few Cabinet Ministers were drafted in to help Tory candidate in Vale of Glamorgan (Guardian).

Government will seek to overturn Lords decision granting shareholders the right to block political donations by companies.

Another college - School of Oriental & African Studies - decides to honour murderer of policeman in Tottenham riots. Raises risk to Student Unions' funds. Son of an Iranian surgeon said to be behind LSE's election of murderer as President of Students' Union.

Telegraph deplores the election of Silcott at LSE saying it has been an unsavoury and ridiculous episode.

PRESS DIGEST

Leon Brittan is understood to have told Defence Select Committee that he stands by what he said recently about the Westland affair that he had Downing Street's express approval to leak letter (Times).

Pop mania at concert in Norwich; hundreds of girls collapse in hysterics and dozens require treatment.

Two men who admit helping to spring spy George Blake from prison arrested.

Two IRA suspects blown up when they bungle a mortar rocket attack on army post near Crossmaglen; both injured.

Six officers acquitted of false arrests at Wapping (Times).

Interflora reveals £2million was spent on floral tributes to 95 Hillsborough victims. Prince Charles criticised for praising police in controlling football crowds during visit to Liverpool.

Ron Brown MP claims Gaddafi has offered to help free Terry Waite.

Haughey facing election pressure (Independent).

You are poised to make a new bid for Middle East peace in meeting with Shamir (Mail).

President Botha calls General Election for 6 September (Times).

Botha has sent you a personal apology for the attempted arms deal with loyalist groups in Northern Ireland (Independent).

Danish police have discovered a giant arms cache in a flat belonging to a terrorist group which has been linked with the Lockerbie bombing (Independent).

Trade unionists to be given right to strike under new Russian law.

SNF

Times - Although President Bush has dug in his heels on SNFs in Europe, senior Foreign Ministry sources in Bonn say a special NATO working group is to be set up in next few weeks to discuss possible future negotiation with Soviet Union to reduce their number (Times).

PRESS DIGEST

Times says President Bush stands firm in his refusal of missile talks as Democrat's senior defence expert and the top arms control adviser of the Reagan Administration join growing chorus calling for Washington to back down.

Express says Lubbers backed you in lobbying Kohl yesterday.

FT - US is prepared to consider eventual cuts in short range nuclear weapons in Europe, though not as a result of early talks with Moscow and only after substantial progress on reducing imbalances in conventional forces, according to State Department spokesman.

NATO diplomatic activity approaching fever pitch in attempts to resolve SNF dispute before NATO summit (Telegraph).

Canada yesterday urged compromise proposal calling for the modernisation of LANCE while beginning negotiations with the Soviet Union. It rules out reducing arsenals to zero (Independent).

YOUR TEN YEARS

Star - picture of you with Michael beside a page 7 story "Ten great years by Gran Maggie - "Tigress" vows to keep fighting". Feature "tests your memory of Mrs T's decade in power".

Sun page 1 - "That's Grand Son" above picture of "Maggie cuddles Michael". Page 2 - I'm a tigress and the fight's not over - Maggie talks of her battle for Britain". Centre page of pictures - "He's just like Mark" over a story about the photocall.

Mirror, predictably sour, has pictures on page 3 - "Mark Two - I'm not taking the Michael, he's just like his father". Page 2 - The tigress in me by Mrs Thatcher below a leader which is headed "Yesterday's woman". It says to complete 10 years in power is remarkable enough for anyone but talk of another 10 years is nonsense. "We have seen the best of her" it adds. "She has passed her peak and no amount of propaganda and flattery can disguise that". Centre page - feature asks if you have gone too far, alienating public opinion, especially over the NHS; This is a boil down of public opinion polls. It claims Britain has changed for the worse.

PRESS DIGEST

Today - page 1 picture "Little Boy True Blue". Inside page 5 - Another picture under headline "The Iron Babysitter - I'm a tigress says grandma Maggie on her proudest day". Leader headed "The Green Challenger" says you deserve much credit, having ridden a turbulent decade with skill. There has been a release of energy. A surge of enterprise. It is no longer the fashion to sneer at success. But there are signs you are losing your grip on the nation's respect and political agenda - eg NHS. Unless you can show the same skill and fervour as in the past in bringing about a green revolution you will not survive the next election.

Express page 1 picture - On her 10th anniversary as Prime Minister, the feminine Thatcher pledges to battle on - "I'm so proud of being a tigress" is the main headline. Leader headed "Britain with a tigress in its tank" says you were right to insist your 10th anniversary should be marked by business as usual for a great deal of business remains to be done. You are not for resting, especially not on laurels. And what laurels! You have restored the country's spirit and status. All this would have been inconceivable without you.

Times - Picture of you holding Michael outside No 10 on front page. On back page are two pictures of the 1989 Cabinet under the heading "Guardian of Thatcher's revolution '89 ..." and 1979 Cabinet "... but few faces remain from Cabinet of '79".

Times leader looking at your decade as Prime Minister says you have had a uniquely long continuous period in which to stamp your mark on politics. Such has been the strength of your leadership and your personal responsibility for its policy that a fourth victory depends almost entirely on how you approach the next phase of Government. Although you are celebrating your anniversary under a tide of personal criticism you are still setting the agenda and Kinnock is conforming to it. It concludes by saying that for the moment, some of the voters seem sceptical. But in their minds you are this Government. It is a measure of your achievement and, perhaps, a penalty of your success, that only you can retain their faith in it.

FT - Decade of the tigress undimmed by threat of by-election defeat (page 1). Hattersley tells meeting of Institute of Contemporary British History that Britain is now more divided - economically, socially, racially and geographically, than at any time this century. Joe Rogaly, setting the scene for a six page 'Audit of Revolution' supplement, argues that the 1980s may be seen by historians as the decade in which Britain's spirit once again proved willing, while the flesh turned out to be as weak as ever.

PRESS DIGEST

Mail page 1 picture - Maggie and her bundle of joy. Little sailor sleeps through it all. Leader headed "Decade that blew away two cobwebs" says those tired of you should cast their minds back to what things were before you came to power. Nobody now asks who rules Britain? What made you different was your will and energy. But there must be worries for the future about how restricted is your vision of Europe. But faults and all we rate her the greatest peacetime Prime Minister this century. And Britain still has need of her.

Centre pages of Mail with pictures has Press Association's Julie Cockcroft's full interview - the Tigress Defending Britain.

Hugo Young in the Guardian says you are the most intensely adored leader this country has ever had and you are surrounded by admirers and always have been. If there is a single feeling coming from on high, it is of unrestrained ecstasy, accompanied by the sincere belief that no person of honesty could fail to share it. Yet many people do reject it; and that is surely the most riveting aspect of today's moment in history. What matters is not your continuing popularity but the extravagant contrast between the unique devotion of those who adore you and the steady refusal of most of the people to get the message.

Guardian leader says the point today is not to look back in anger or deluded nostalgia. The point is not whether you were mirage or miracle. The point is what happens next. You have set yourself a number of objectives; but now the road grows risky and there is so much more to do.

Telegraph - You began your 10th anniversary celebrations yesterday with a confident declaration that your Government still has much more work to do in rolling back the frontiers of socialism.

Ivor Crewe in the Telegraph, looks at the Prime Minister who set out to change the nation under the heading "10 years on, but will her crusade outlive her?".

Independent leader headed "triumph and tragedy" says an identifiable and surprisingly broad based consensus has emerged about you on this 10th anniversary - You are an historical necessity - a national change of direction had become unavoidable



PRESS DIGEST

if headlong economic decline was to be halted and the corrupting nexus between an over-large public sector and monopoly trade unionism was to be broken. You are to be praised for your steadfastness in the face of obvious evils but, the leader says, you have failed to complete the supply side revolution and to invest in the kind of infrastructure which is vital to a successful modern economy.

Roy Hattersley produces Labour's charge sheet of offences committed by you in last 10 years accusing you of turning selfishness from vice into a virtue and of promoting avarice into an engine of economic greed (Telegraph).

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DSS: Mr Moore addresses Scottish Provident press conference for Millionth Personal Pensioner
- DTI: Mr Newton addresses Butlers Trust, Sheffield
- MAFF: Mr MacGregor and Mr Ryder attend opening of MAFF Centenary exhibition, London
- WO: Mr Walker addresses CBI seminar, London; later hosts reception for ASDA Festival of British Food and Farming, London
- DH: Mr Mellor visits the London Bridge Hospital
- DH: Mr Freeman attends Salford University Business Services Ltd national conference on Income Generation, Manchester; later views material for Drug Free America campaign, St Martin in the Field, London
- DOE: Mr Moynihan visits Badminton Horse Trials
- DOE: Mrs Bottomley and Lord Caithness visit Festival of British Food and Farming, Hyde Park, London
- DOE: Mr Gummer visits Ealing (local government "Listening" visit); later meets Retail Consortium about the Business Rate
- DTI: Mr Maude and Mr Forth attend soiree on Science into Industry, with the Royal Society, London
- HO: Lord Ferrers visits Metropolitan Police, Tooting
- HO: Mr Hogg visits Farm and Gardens display, Hyde Park, London
- HO: Mr Renton visits HM Immigration Service, Dover and the Channel Tunnel Site, Folkestone
- MAFF: Mr Thompson attends Nottingham Sheep conference, Nottingham
- MAFF: Baroness Trumpington addresses British Poultry Federation annual general meeting; later attends Cambridge Foundation trustees meeting, London
- OAL: Mr Luce addresses opening of Media '92 Seminar, National Film Theatre, London; later addresses Brighton Festival Trust annual dinner, Brighton
- SO: Mr Lang addresses Scottish Financial Enterprise conference on "Hostile Bids", Sheraton Hotel, Edinburgh
- WO: Mr Roberts attends National Children's Home; George Thomas Society dinner, London; later addresses CBI Wales dinner, Colwyn Bay
-

TV AND RADIO

"Hard News": Ch 4 (20.00) Raymond Snoddy of the Financial Times looks at the behaviour of the media

"My Country Right or Wrong": BBC Radio 4 (20.00) Repeat of first part of series on security forces

"This Week": Thames (20.30)

"Nature": BBC 2 (20.30) Amazon rain forests

"40 Minutes": BBC 2 (21.30) two redundant men look for new jobs - one in the City, one in Sunderland

"Target": Sky News (21.30) Austin Mitchell and Norman Tebbit interview Paul Channon on Lockerbie and other transport safety issues

"Question Time": BBC 1 (22.00) with Norman Tebbit, John Smith, Baroness Seear and Edward Pearce

"Local Elections Special 89": BBC 1 (23.50) with David Dimbleby, Peter Snow and John Cole

---