

PK 53

March 6, 1990

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Queen holds an Investiture

Princess Royal visits HM Young Offenders' Institution, Aylesbury

HO: Race Relations Seminar at HM Prison Long Lartin

STATISTICS

OPCS: Longitudinal study No 5: Socio-demographic difference in cancer survival 1971-83

PUBLICATIONS

DES: National curriculum final order for English key stage 2-4

DES: National curriculum final order for technology

DES: Education Science and Arts Committee report on Teacher Shortages

DES: HMI report on Business Management Courses in Higher Education

DTI: Research report on CFC's

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Defence; Prime Minister

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Tax Relief for Household Employers (Mrs Teresa Gorman)
Opposition Day (10th Alloted Day)
Debate entitled "The Balance of Payments Deficit, High Interest Rates and the Impact on Industry" on an Opposition Motion
(Nicholas Ridley will open for Government
Douglas Hogg will wind up)
Motion on the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989 (Continuance) Order

Preshwicke

Adjournment Debates: Compensation for persons infected with HIV through blood transfusions (Mr R Cook)

Select Committees: FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Subject: UNESCO
Witnesses: Mr Tim Sainsbury MP and FCO officials

COMMITTEES ON PRIVATE BILLS
Cardiff Bay Barrage Bill [Lords]
King's Cross Railways Bill

PARLIAMENT

Lords:	Starred Questions	
	Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill (HL):	} Motions for Approval
	Report (1st Day)	
	Representation of the People (Amendment)	
	Regulations 1990	
	European Parliamentary Elections (Amendment)	
	Regulations 1990	
	European Parliamentary Elections (Northern	
	Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1990	
	Local Elections (Northern Ireland) (Amendment)	
	Representation of the People (Northern Ireland)	
	(Amendment) Regulations 1990	
	Representation of the people (Scotland)	
	Amendment Regulations 1990	

PRESS DIGESTMain News

Newspapers especially qualities give Kohl a pounding today.

Mail headline: "Fears grow over Kohl's plans for one Germany" - unleashes dismay throughout Europe. Alarms you first sounded have spread to his own closest political colleagues. What began as a lone campaign by you for caution has spread to other leaders.

Two of East Germany's most prominent newspapers say Kohl is a megalomaniac and unfit to govern.

Kohl rejects peace treaty with Britain and other allies and admits "things are strained" within West German coalition over his call for Poles to give up claims for war damages. Lambsdorff says Chancellor's statement on the border question are "unnecessary and useless".

EC partners tell Bonn to settle status of Polish border straight away as concern grows over Kohl's policy on war damage claims (Independent).

Kohl remains defiant about his two controversial new pre-conditions for guaranteeing the western border of Poland. meanwhile Douglas Hurd throws his weight behind Genscher at EC foreign ministers meeting in Brussels.

Warsaw Pact foreign ministers to meet in Prague on the eve of East German elections to discuss European Security (FT).

Times leader under the heading "A Major Test of Nerve" says the explanation is largely political. Discontent with the community charge has overflowed the boundaries of Westminster and is seeping corrosively into financial markets. With such new opinion seeming to give Labour a bigger lead, holders of sterling are beginning to ask whether there is now enough time before the next general election for you to pull the Tories' chestnuts out of the fire.

Scargill at bay in the press today - with a variety of allegations confronting him and his executive which is to meet on Friday.

In addition to the basic allegation that Libyan money was used to settle property debts or bridging loans for Scargill, Heathfield and Windsor, these are:

- Union auditors could not unravel NUM funds after 2 years (Mail).

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- Nine million dollars made available from Libya for striking miners' hardship fund
- Doncaster shopkeeper claims Scargill bought a revolver from him to keep in his car; Sun says Scargill asked Libya for guns through Doncaster go-between.
- Soviet diplomat confirmed cash had been donated to NUM by Russian miners' union, according to Geoffrey Dickens MP.

Scargill denies the NUM got any money from Libya - "viscious lies".

Libel action against newspapers will depend on executive which may call for a public inquiry.

Many pictures of Scargill's "luxury" £250,000 home.

Police launch an investigation into the TGWU ballot rigging scandal.

The pound had a rocky day after Peter Walker's announcement, fears that inflation would rise and that Labour would win Mid-Staffs by-election and the next election. £5billion dollars wiped off shares. Bank of England intervenes.

\$1billion intervention was temporarily successful and the dollar closed in London below Friday's level against both the D-mark and the yen (FT).

Today: Shares plunge in Kinnock poll panic.

Sun leader says it may be tough out there at the moment owning a house but you can't beat investing your cash in bricks and mortar.

Enoch Powell advises Mid-Staffs to vote Tory because you and your Ministers stand for the important principle of self-govt.

Norman Tebbit in the Times looks at the high cost to the country if the electorate reject the Tories for Labour. He doubts, however, that Labour will ever be put to the test.

Peter Walker's departure from the Cabinet is expected to be delayed until the early summer when it could form part of your last reshuffle before a general election (Times).

Much coverage of Mrs Peter Walker today. Express says Kinnock would refuse Walker's explanation for leaving Cabinet. Lacking

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any experience of Govt he must find it almost impossible to understand someone might want to call a day after 15 years.

Community Charge

- BBC Today says household charge will go up by 33% above average level of rates
- Militant Tendency is driving force behind leading anti-community charge group, says Independent.
- Twenty "Robin Hood" protestors break into Nottingham City Council, debating community charge, and give councillors custard pie treatment.
- Public gallery demo at Haringey which council proves conclusively, says Sun that community charge is a Socialist problem.
- Lambeth expected to top Haringey's estimated £572 at £650.
- Lambeth Council to use legal loophole to delay setting community charge level until end of March - causing problems for Govt charge-capping policy (Independent).
- Lord Bath and Duke of Westminster to pay the charges for their estate workers.
- North and midlands councils - some in deprived areas - to lose £200million in business rates under new system (Independent).
- Head Teachers warn that they will go to court to stop attempts to cut school budgets because of charge-capping (Independent).
- Phone-in at Wirral Council opts 8080 to Democrats 4467 for Tories lower community charge - £339 compared with £360.
- Tory MPs it seems have the stamina to panic only for a few days at a time. After the tumultuous poll tax rows a strange if temporary calm has descended on the lobbies of the HoC - gone is talk of political suicide has been replaced with speculation and intrigue over the Peter Walker announcement (FT).

Reformist candidates do well in Soviet elections: Yeltsin romps home in Sverdlosk and is favourite to become president of Russian Republic.

Buthelizi praises your contribution to South Africa and urges you

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to stand firm against sanctions.

Times leader says there has been much talk of a Southern African Marshall Plan, but a world taken up by the more interesting claims of Eastern Europe is unlikely to keep a socialist South Africa alive with development aid. What is now necessary is to convince South Africa's have-nots that their expectations can best be met by the continued creation of wealth rather than a division of its diminishing spoils.

South Africa has backed coup in Ciskei by sending troops to quell unrest and support black nationalist rebels (FT).

Tickets sold out for Wembley (Mandela) concert

Chris Patten transforms North Sea policy by announcing end of sludge dumping - but alternative disposal methods could prove unpopular (Independent).

Greater contribution of European countries to pollution of North Sea beginning to come through. £1.7 billion to be spent in alternative to dumping at sea.

Today wants British Govt to lead Europe in clean up.

7,000 workers crossed picket lines yesterday at Halewood to break strike - first time this has occurred in plant's 30 years.

Unions surprised as BAe workers reject deal for shorter hours (Independent).

Agriculture workers demand 43% pay rise, partly to help to pay community charge.

Yarrow shipbuilders proposing superfrigate as an alternative to the NATO joint warship project which collapsed last year (FT).

ICI seeking to buy-back up to 10% of its shares as prices have fallen over last 2 years (FT).

Mme. Cresson accuses Britain of acting as an accomplice in Japanese plan to conquer and kill Euro car industry.

Bishop of Manchester tells Lords that the law of blasphemy should go (Times).

John Browne MP faces 20 day suspension without pay for failing to disclose his commercial interests - this is presented as a £2,250

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"fine". Sun says this slap on the wrist is ludicrous; he should be booted out for a session.

Adam Smith Institute report calls for the privatising of the education system to break the Socialst grip on it (Times).

Today claims that the worst school in Britain - in Hackney - can still give Oxford graduates a pasting on general knowledge.

Three miles away, Mail reports, DES Ministers praise a school which proves good teaching can make successes of even the most deprived children.

Govt dealt blow over NHS reforms with Gallup poll commissioned by BMA showing that less than a third of its own supporters approved of the plans and 73% of the electorate thinks the service is unsafe in Conservative hands (Times).

Thirteen people have died from AIDS infected blood transfusions and another 19 are awaiting compensation.

Charity opens help line for children who are targets of bullying at school (Independent).

EC deadlocked on the issue of removing restrictions of Japanese car exports, after angry clashes between Britain and France (Times).

Broadcasting Complaints Commission agrees that BBC's Eastenders portrayal of Brownies as drinking, shop-lifting tearaways was unfair.

Major of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, takes over Sheffield United soccer club for £5million.

Heathrow on full alert for a time when Foreign Secy's plan for a time finds itself unable to lower undercarriage.

Tehran Times says an effort is underway to free 17 hostages held in Lebanon.

Telegraph says another Communist domino appears to be falling - Mengistu, in Ethiopia, proposes sweeping economic and political reforms. Ethiopia must adapt or perish", he says.

Gordievsky to reveal in book the name of the fifth spy recruited alongside Burgess, Maclean, Philby and Blunt (Times).

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Ukraine parliament calls for closure of Chernobyl within five years (Independent).

Israel-US relations at new low as Bush argues against East Jerusalem Jewish settlements (Independent).

GERMANY etc

Today says it is vital the whole of Europe agrees how Germany should be unified. You are often accused of dragging your feet over Europe but in this case you are right to be cautious. We need a major international conference to thrash out a settlement.

Mail leader under heading "The naughty big boy of Europe" says Kohl is like an enormous, fractious baby who refuses to part with his favourite rattle when bedtime approaches. In his self-inflationary and every more impatient ambition to go down in history as a latter day Bismark - a unifier of his "volk" - he is playing a very naughty game. What the German people are most in need of "is statesman - how tragic for them to have to make do with a blinkered politician.

Independent editorial says Kohl has converted widespread admiration for his German policy into exasperation and growing mistrust. His stance on the Polish war damage claims looks like another own-goal. He is campaigning to become first Chancellor of united Germany - but he is in some danger of ^{ch?}qualifying himself from that role.

David Selbourne, just back from Germany, begins a three-part series in the Times under the heading "Wall of suspicion Britain must raze" in which he appeals for greater sympathy for Bonn's objectives.

Telegraph accuses Kohl of an extremely clumsy gesture in linking Polish border stability with renunciation of claim for reparation. He has failed a major bit of statesmanship.

FT - East German banker hints that monetary union between the 2 Germanys may be achieved in only a few months.

SCARGILL

Mirror, which played leading role in breaking story, says Scargill has always had a talent for dazzling his listeners with confusion and yesterday he excelled himself. The lies are not coming from the Mirror, it says.

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Today - If Scargill has broken NUM rules he should be kicked out. If he has committed a crime he should be charged. If not he is best forgotten. Nothing we can learn now could be more damaging to him than what we know already.

Times leader says that once again inquiries of the press into a matter of public concern underline the importance of ensuring that the protection of the individual's privacy should not impede inquiry into matters of genuine public importance; it is a point of which the Calcutt Cttee on privacy, and its violation by newspapers, should take due account.

Express says there should be an exhaustive investigation. Explanations are due to rank and file members of the NUM above all. They are thie people who suffered most from Scargill's futile and misplaced attempt to bring down a democratically elected Govt.

An Independent editorial says the TUC should investigatge the charges against the4 NUM and Scargill's aggresively authoritarian and secretive style. The charge agianst Scargill is that he squandered the oral and political integrity built up by his union over many decades.

ANNEX

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DES: Mr MacGregor attends Teaching in the City reception, QEII Conference Centre, London
- DSS: Mr Newton meets the Association of Charity Officers, London
- DTp: Mr Parkinson attends Freight Transport Association dinner, London
- FCO: Mr Hurd meets Mr Ulla Ollstan, leader of Tropical Forestry Action Plan delegation, London
- LPC: Sir Geoffrey Howe lunches with Association of British Insurers, London
- WO: Mr Walker flies over North Wales area affected by flooding; later opens St David's Park, Deeside; later visits Liverpool Daily Post and Echo offices and Country Style Foods, Mold; later returns to Towyn area to meet local authorities
- DEM: Lord Strathclyde meets the English Tourist Board regional chairman
- DEN: Mr Morrison addresses the opening of the Combined Heat and Power seminar, Haydock Park
- DES: Mrs Rumbold visits Kensington and Chelsea, London
- DH: Mrs Bottomley meets the Pre-School Playgroups Association, London; later speaks at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain Council dinner
- DOE: Mr Hunt visits Bristol
- DSS: Mrs Shepherd meets Jim Lestor MP to discuss Community Care grants from the Social Fund
- DTp: Mr Atkins addresses Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, London
- FCO: Mr Waldegrave attends farewell reception for Mr Sulman Abdul Wahab Al Sabbagh, Bahraini Ambassador
- MAFF: Mr Maclean visits Public Health Laboratory Service, London
- OAL: Mr Luce addresses Visiting Arts reception, Reform Club, London
- SO: Lord Sanderson addresses Scottish Landowners Federation conference, Battleby, Perth
- WO: Mr Grist presents Wales Play Management Committee awards, Cardiff

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DTI: Mr Ridley attends Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels

MINISTERS (PRESS INTERVIEWS)

- DES: Mrs Rumbold interviewed by Sixth Sense, sixth form magazine, Kings College School, London