

July 6, 1990

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

- Prime Minister has breakfast with President Bush
 - NATO Summit, London
 - Wales Conservative Party conference
 - Numbers of students in higher education
 - Publication of article on EMU - The Way Ahead to appear in EC newspapers (not UK press)
 - Commons: Debates: Private Members' Bills - 2nd Rdg,
 Safeguards for homes' residents;
 ? Consumer Guarantee Bill
 - Chancellor speaks to CBI, North Wales
 - Home Secy addresses Crime Concern conference; visits West Midlands Probation Service; and safer cities projects
 - Lord Chancellor opens Wood Green Crown Court
 - Malcolm Rifkind meets Scottish Local Authorities on finance
 - Kenneth Clarke to speak at post-grad Medical Ed. conf, York
 - David Hunt addresses Welsh National Eisteddfod
 - Nicholas Ridley interview in Spectator
 - C4 Parliament programme - Kenneth Clarke reviews week
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PRESS DIGESTMain News

Labour's lead at 11% according to Gallup - a fall of 12.5% in a month. Labour drops 6 and Conservatives gain 6.5%. Express: an amazing about-turn.

Extensive Summit coverage with substance of communique substantially leaked - invitation to Gorbachev. You come over as more cautious (with Mitterrand) than most but on the whole there is a picture of reasonable unity of purpose.

Reports of an alert in Moscow against an army coup to oust Gorbachev.

FT leader on Gorbachev says his delay in seeking a mandate for his presidency was mistaken. But if the 28th Congress can precipitate a severance between party and state it will have been momentous indeed.

Soviet Communist Party will today be asked to consider renaming the party and dropping all reference to Communism Times.

OECD says East Germany will take 15 years to catch up with the West FT.

John Redwood tells Independent that EC and NATO aid for Eastern Europe should be related to progress in economic and democratic reforms.

G7 to review official loans policy to Eastern Europe and developing countries. Leaders expected to ask Paris Club to reconsider Toronto terms, which provide relief for the debts of the poorest nations, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Caution about extending debt forgiveness to middle income countries because of cost FT.

Japan to take lone stand at Houston over aid to Soviet Union and relations with China. They want to settle territorial argument with Soviet Union before extending aid. Also looking to restore aid to China FT.

Albanian Foreign Ministry says it is prepared to grant passports to refugees in foreign embassies. Mail describes situation as "Last of the Dominoes".

Polish Agriculture Minister resigns as Solidarity crisis deepens Independent.

PRESS DIGEST

3 die and 600 "fans" arrested after orgy of World Cup madness in England.

You condemn the thugs.

Sun devotes 2 pages to rampage by soccer fans after England's defeat in penalty shoot-out with West Germany - the night Britain went mad. Wine bar thugs kicked to death a 33 year old man in Southampton after he told them to stop damaging a neighbour's fence.

Sun leader says more and more we are at the mercy of mindless vicious hooligans who delight in destruction and suffering. We live in the age of the thug. They should face at least 5 years in jail.

Today says Govt must ban TV in pubs and wine-bars whenever matches are likely to spark a mob.

Irish Govt blocks unveiling of Peter Brooke's initiative - but all sides insist progress is still possible Independent.

Once again, Today says, Haughey has fouled up progress in Northern Ireland.

Times leader says if Haughey is as serious as he claims to be about the welfare of both communities on his northern border, he will give his blessing to the exploratory talks. The path ahead of Mr Brooke is already littered with obstacles. He has no need of an extra one.

Sun says additional funds being pumped into community charge should hold rise next year down to 50p on average.

Conservative district council leaders tell Ministers that the average poll tax bills in England could be cut by £15 a head next year if the Govt agreed to defer the introduction of its community care policy Times.

Telegraph says the new agreement is a significant achievement for Chris Patten.

Guardian says Govt is considering postponing community care reforms for a year to ease community charge imposition.

Car sales 18% down on first six months of 1989.

PRESS DIGEST

But Chancellor says that consumer credit is growing too fast to permit a cut in interest rates Times.

NALGO wants more than 10% for local govt workers.

Soviet miners demanding the return of money loaned during the 1984-85 strike to NUM; some put figure as high as £10million.

More calls for Scargill to resign.

Today says nothing more obscene in public life has ever been uncovered than Scargill getting a bridging loan on the backs of Soviet miners.

Govt departments in disarray as Nuclear Electric float plan for entombing old radioactive cores rather than removing them. Disagreement between DOE and Nuclear Installations Inspectorate over who is in lead Independent.

John MacGregor asks schools to set a minimum number of hours of class time.

Senior advisers to John MacGregor used his influence corruptly to get new degree course approved by DES, Jack Straw claims Independent.

CJD - "human BSE" - may be more widespread than scientists believed, new study says Independent.

Pressure from MPs to freeze BBC's licence fee after its worst ratings for 6 years.

Newspaper Society reluctantly and conditionally accepts Calcutt on Press Council.

Lords back a dog registration scheme by overwhelming majority. Today says it will cost £20 to register. Express: £40.

International ban on whaling to be maintained. Whaling nations fear that it may never be lifted due to power of leading pro-ban countries like Britain Independent.

Paddy Ashdown campaigns for lower homosexual age of consent from 21 to 16.

Lord Graham elected Lords' Labour chief whip.

PRESS DIGEST

Robert Jackson, education Minister, under fire from pops for causing a security scare at Heathrow with a "sick joke" - saying he had a bomb in a dispatch box. He apologises.

Labour Party, and especially Prescott, gunning for him. Mirror leads with story under headline "You stupid Minister".

Senior police should be placed on short contracts so that inept officers can be removed, says editor of Police Review Independent.

Prison Officers to begin ban on new admissions to jails today Times.

Govt comes under pressure to water down plans to break the solicitors' near-monopoly in conveyancing in England and Wales after its decision to drop parallel plans for Scotland Times.

NAO says a new ship for the isolated South Atlantic island of St Helena will cost British taxpayers more than £57million, or the equivalent of paying the 5,500 islanders more than £10,000 each Times.

South Africa right-wingers threaten violence unless de Klerk calls an election to test white views of his reforms Independent.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, writing in the Times under the heading "Poor manipulated Mandela, prisoner of others' words", says his words about the IRA were part of a deliberate concerted, collective, political strategy, of which Mandela is now the spokesman, though not the architect. Why does he not assert his leadership, based on his enormous prestige and popularity? He concludes that in Dublin this week he felt sick at heart, watching Nelson Mandela being manipulated by Sinn Fein-IRA from within the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement.

Times says that according to informed sources six West African states have decided to intervene militarily in the Liberian civil war.

NATO

Star with a picture which confuses James Baker with Woerner - NATO welcome visit by Gorby. Feature on why we must still beware of the bear. Reds still spell danger. Maggie warns West.

Sun - Bush bails out Gorby after begging letter - more cash if you cut arms back.

PRESS DIGEST

Mirror - NATO ends Cold War with offer to Gorby.

Today - Bush invites Gorby to join NATO peace club.

Express - NATO is offering Gorby an olive branch. Soviet president to make personal summit plea for aid.

Independent - Disagreements between Bush and you - over first use and invitation to the Soviets - will not prevent signing of NATO communique. British sources reject US suggestion of a Warsaw Pact liaison office in Brussels.

Times leader says there is a ghost at the NATO feast this week, tapping gently for admittance: Japan. Viewed from the Far East, recent shifts in Europe's politics and security have more than regional implications. It concludes that Japan has a legitimate interest in NATO, or whatever European defence arrangements replace it. Japan's Western allies know well how dangerous an isolated Japan can be; they should offer Tokyo the assured status it seeks.

Times - One of the principal objectives of the Lancaster House summit was to demonstrate to Moscow that NATO posed no threat to the Soviet Union and the invitation to Gorbachev to attend next meeting was hailed as the most practical expression of new co-operation between West and East.

Times says that while everyone was happy that the foreign ministers should work on the text of the final NATO communique on the basis of an American draft, both you and Mitterrand confess they are wary of a new nuclear doctrine proposed by Bush.

Mail - NATO responds to Gorbachev SOS. Leader says the summit comes amid some unrealistic euphoria about the peace dividend. We should be in no hurry to discard the NATO shield.

Telegraph - Gorbachev is invited to address NATO.

FT - Front page picture of Kohl's press secretary kissing your hand as leaders arrive at NATO summit yesterday. Gorbachev invited to address NATO Summit in December. You say NATO should never say 'no' to first use of nuclear weapons but find text rendered generally acceptable by making clear that the essence of the flexible response doctrine remains intact.

Guardian pl lead - Nuclear arms to be last resort.