

PRESS DIGESTPRIME MINISTERMain News

Britain seeking a new UN resolution to sanction military action against Iraq if any hostages are harmed.

Gorbachev sends Primakhov to Iraq to persuade Saddam Hussain to get out of Kuwait.

Iraq releases pictures of Saddam Hussain's first visit to Kuwait since invasion.

Mitterrand visits Gulf; 9 French hostages released from Iraq as humanitarian gesture.

Three Britons and two Frenchmen escape from Iraq into Saudi Arabia by boat.

Soviet Chief of General Staff says sanctions are working and force should not be used without UN approval.

Petrol prices falling by up to 5p; Today claims much of the credit.

Mirror says Army nurses have been told to go on pill in case they are raped by Iraqis during hostilities.

Egyptian airline fined £150,000 after they were conned into flying 156 Kurds into Gatwick from Syria. Kurds seek political asylum.

We win cut from 50% to 33% in amount of EC crisis aid to come from EC budget.

Express says our troops would go to war in jungle camouflage while Iraq's will go in British made desert uniforms which we sold to them.

EAST-WEST/DEFENCE

CFE agreement reached in New York.

Italy proposes single defence policy for EC as part of political union.

PRESS DIGESTLABOUR PARTY

Strong majority passes resolution calling for UK defence budget to be cut to Euro average - to distress of Kinnock.

Sun says Labour would restore rates since they can't find another alternative to community charge.

Labour Party prepared to examine proportional representation (Telegraph).

Scargill taken to hospital with pneumonia.

Dick Douglas MP joins SNP.

COMMENT

Sun - Oceans of compassion are being poured out at Blackpool for sick, old and poorly paid. But then a speaker warns teachers who take jobs in opt out schools they would face the sack if Labour won an election. Blackmail!

Today changes its mind about Kinnock. After his conference speech it said he looked like a Prime Minister in waiting. Now he looks like a man waiting for a No 10 bus because he attacked party's decision on defence spending. He appears to be a man who cannot face defeat.

Express on "What Labour really believes" says its mask slipped again over defence spending. Labour still does not believe in strong defences.

Mail says that Kinnock is as keen as his critics in getting his hands on the peace dividend. He needs it to pay for his promises because Labour's talent is for taking not making money.

Express, noting the forecasts of failure for gas and water privatisation, says electricity privatisation is proving critics wrong all the time. But while Labour marches backwards with promises of renationalisation, the people queue enthusiastically for the sale of the future.

Telegraph says it is no surprise Kinnock announced he will ignore the conference's vote on defence spending. But it raises doubts about the party's conversion. It is unlikely to build the electorate's confidence in Kinnock's leadership or his party.

PRESS DIGEST

Times writer, David Lipsey, says a Kinnock Govt could find itself at war with the party over many things. Its civil war is far from won.

Times leader says the Left has exposed the intellectual vacuum at the heart of Labour's defence policy. It has an obligation as an opposition to plan the restructuring of Britain's defence to meet the country's security needs, not an arbitrary budget.

INDUSTRY

2million register for sale of 12 regional electricity companies. Labour criticise incentives to be offered to investors.

Sealink's new owners, Stena, to spend £178million on ferries at initial cost of 850 jobs.

B/Rail fares said to be set to rise 20%; Mirror accuses Govt of neglecting railways.

Euro Tunnel's bankers seek £300million facility from European Investment Bank.

HEALTH

Health & Safety Executive to carry out investigation into childhood leukaemia among Sellafield families.

WELFARE

Church of England report says old folk of Britain are neglected and discriminated against.

LAW & ORDER

2 IRA suspects arrested at Stonehenge had twice previously escaped police traps (Today). Police think arrests have foiled a plot to attack next week's Tory Party conference.

Police foil a £40million computer fraud on B/Aerospace, according to Star; 9 held.

John Stalker brought in by Rover to investigate alleged industrial espionage.

Police claim cash cuts are causing them to buy second-hand cars, reduce staff and cancel orders for new radio equipment.

PRESS DIGEST

Guardian asserts crime and poverty are related.

DOGS

Today says your opposition to a dog registration scheme is muddled, wrong and disgraceful.

INTERNATIONAL

German reunification celebrations marred by Leftwing battles police in Berlin; 130 arrested.

Princess Caroline of Monaco's husband killed in speed boat crash.

Another coup attempt against Mrs Aquino, Phillipines.