

PRIME MINISTER

DIARY

First match of English cricketers in South Africa.  
Hijack charges; victims return home?  
NEDC.

Reserve Forces Statement.

Announcement on Public Sector References to the MMC.

Sport sponsorship agreement - DoE, DHSS, Tobacco Advisory Council.

Reappointment of Civil Service Arbitrator.

HM The Queen opens Barbican Arts and Conference Centre.

HRH The Prince of Wales presents MSC 'Fit for Work' awards, Bridgend.

President Mitterrand in Israel.

Sir Douglas Haig addresses City Financial Services Conference on  
International Reinsurance, London.

OECD Ministers of Manpower and Social Affairs meeting, Paris.

Public inquiry into the East Croydon train crash (16 January 1982),  
Fairfield Halls, Croydon.

Electricity Council Conference, Harrogate.

International Light Show, Olympia.

Hydraulics and Pneumatics Exhibition, Birmingham.

International Electrical Exhibition, Birmingham.

Drawing Office Show, Wembley.

International Oceanological Equipment and Services Exhibition, Brighton.

International Production Engineering and Productivity Exhibition and  
Conference, Olympia.

French Minister for Consumer Affairs visits UK (until 4 March).

Statistics:

Advance energy statistics (Jan).

Pay:

Primary and Secondary School Teachers, England and Wales: Discussion of claim.  
Scottish Further Education and Higher Education Lecturers: Discussion of claim.

Parliament:

Commons:

Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth, Foreign and Commonwealth

Business:

Further progress in Committee on the Canada Bill.

Select Committees:

DEFENCE: Ministry of Defence organisation and procurement. (Witnesses: Electronic Engineering Association; Mr F E C Gregory and Dr J Simpson, Southampton University).

SCOTTISH AFFAIRS: Rural Road Passenger Transport and Ferries. (Witnesses: Orkney Islands Council; Shetland Islands Council).

WELSH AFFAIRS: Water in Wales. (Witness: Secretary of State for Wales).

HOME AFFAIRS: Police complaints procedure. (Witnesses: Scottish Home and Health Department and Procurators Fiscal).

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: Opticians: Reimbursement of costs. (Witnesses: Sir Kenneth Stowe, DHSS; Mr Rennie, Scottish Home and Health Department; Mr T P Hughes, Welsh Office).

SOCIAL SERVICES: Age of retirement. (Witnesses: National Pensioners Steering Committee; National Federation of Old Age Pensions Association; Help the Aged).

Lords:

Debate on the deteriorating situation of less developed countries, etc.

U.Q. on the planning permission for development unjustly given by the Beverley District Council on land they had bought next to Beverley Minster.

Ministers - see Annex

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PRESS DIGEST

Economy

- BNOC cuts oil price by surprisingly large amount of \$ a barrel and puts the squeeze on OPEC but some division in press over whether this is good or bad news; £ holds up well.
- Express and Mail few doubts.
- Express: jobs boost and cheaper oil, though a bit of a headache for Chancellor though he will not by any means lose £1bn in revenue all things considered.

- Mail: Could herald end of slump and leader says that those with eyes fixed myopically on next week's budget temptation is to bewail it as bad news but a much more dynamic view can be taken of it - a return to economic growth is the most reliable recipe for revenue.
- Lower interest and mortgage rates reckoned to be in prospect.

#### Budget

- Mr Lawson gives a broad hint of gas and electricity price help for industry in Budget - and also for domestic consumers after October rise.
- You hint at some tax help for widows.
- CBI says many firms are delaying labour cutbacks until they see shape of Budget.
- Enoch Powell in FT says that if Government cuts and runs in Budget they will be yielding ground to the principle of a planned authoritarian economy - coincidence between tyranny and inflation not accidental.

#### Shore's Budget

- Unveils £9bn spend, spend, spend alternative which would increase inflation by 2.5%; says you have settled for a norm of 3m unemployed.
- Express: Nonsense from Shore - like giving a man recovering from flu a dose of double pneumonia; rejects his idea that you have created a mood of doom and gloom - instead a mood of realism.
- Telegraph City Page says it looks like a re-hash of failed policies with new ingredients protectionism and planning agreements - are these the X factors we have been missing all along?

#### Unions/Pay

- Ford Halewood strike over good for nothing shyster ends; Sun hopes this belated common sense will spread.
- Commending record pit productivity, Sun says isn't it a blessing Scargill was not allowed to wreck productivity deal.
- NUAgricultural Workers calls for a nationwide boycott of Matthews turkeys over pay dispute.
- Some bus crews don't want to join LT's March 10 fares strike.
- Telegraph says ASLEF executive will have more strikes if there is any attempt to impose flexible rostering.
- Laurence Scott dispute in Manchester ends after 10 months as pickets call off fight.
- Treasury suggests regional variations in Civil Service pay to match reward more closely to market.

#### Industry

- Students think industry and commerce is boring - must improve their image on campus - result of survey of 11 universities and colleges.
- Former Trot says firms should keep records of Left-wing militants who manipulate workers, wreck union meetings and stage manage strikes.
- Paul Foot, Mirror, lists Tories who are names at Lloyds.
- Mail leader in favour of C & AG following Govt money to where it goes in industry.

- PAC will go into secret session on Monday taking evidence on disposal of BL tractors.
- British Shipbuilders set out on 3-year programme to raise productivity 50%.

#### Local Authorities

- Social worker employed by Hillingdon sent bill for £1,313 spent on training her because she didn't carry on working but had a baby.
- South Yorkshire decides it is legal to retain cheap fares.
- Livingstone to declare London a nuclear free zone and to put up signs to prove it; also plans to surface bus lanes red; Benn to introduce a Bill to make nuclear or biological weapons illegal in Britain.

#### Cricket

- Papers lead (and sketchwriters have a ball) on your refusal personally to condemn English cricketers for going to South Africa; Liberal Tories said to be dismayed and put down rival motion; many think your attitude in House a reflection of your true feelings - or Denis's influence.
- SDP want Government to ban any South African sportsman from visiting Britain with intention of breaking Gleneagles Agreement.
- Boycott reported to have been trying to contact you by phone because he thinks criticism unfair.
- Jon Akass, Sun, says the 12 have brought new meaning to term "flanneled fools".
- West Yorkshire CC, for whom Boycott does promotional work, angry over his participation.
- Donald Woods, former South African editor who fled to Britain after being put under house arrest, advocates statutory backing for Gleneagles in Times.
- Much speculation about effect on tours and Commonwealth Games and much dismay in West Indies, Indian Sub-Continent and Australia.
- Bitter Mirror leader on the comfort which the 12 may derive from postponement (until after tour is over) of Aggett inquest - Aggett just as much a victim of racial thugs as any Jew who died in Belsen.

#### Welfare

- 5m people will have SB cut by 2p in £ as a result of new method of calculating housing costs; Times says Govt is plunged into new dispute by this and you appeared not to know anything about it.
- Ralph Howell, in Mail, says real reason for Britain's poor performance is soul destroying system which destroys incentive; remarkable how hard working and conscientious most people are considering that many are only marginally better off working.

#### Education

- Sun, referring to militants' interference with reporters at St Saviour's press conference, says new headmaster would have better chance if adults in Toxteth set a better example instead of behaving like unrestrained polecats.
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- Oxford MSc comes to defence of his former head - St Saviour's headmaster who has taken early retirement a shattered man.
- Gloucestershire may turn down plan to provide cheap milk in school, subsidised by EC, to prevent obesity.

#### Law and Order

- Governor of Parkhurst says it is misinformed tittle tattle to suggest Ripper has turned to religion; wife gets judicial separation.
- Essex CC ask Government to meet cost of hijack; Express asks what shall we do with hijack families if Nyrere refuses to give assurance about their treatment - they would then become refugees and be entitled to stay here.
- Police have to use riot shields to fend off bottles when they try to arrest woman who is alleged to have assaulted teacher who is alleged to have been told by magistrate that she could expect to be assaulted another 6 times in class during career.
- Toxteth residents, polled by Council, say crime prevention is most important problem, over and above unemployment and housing.
- Shell and BP to get 33,000 legal aid for defending case brought by parents over lead in petrol.

#### Defence

- Govt to be asked to clarify view over position of men involved in Salerno "mutiny".

#### Northern Ireland

- Attempt on life of Lord Chief Justice fails when bullets bounce off reinforced car windows.

#### Politics

- MORI poll in D/Star shows SDP on slide with Labour (most) and Tories benefitting - Alliance down 9 points to 34%, lowest in 12 month history, Labour 33- Tories 30; Liberal 12; SDP 11; biggest swing away from SDP among skilled workers.
- Some newspapers predict Tories will hold Hillhead.
- Arthur Lewis likely next victim of militants; AUEW to ask Euro MP to stand down in favour of Mulley.
- Mark Carlisle being canvassed as next Speaker.

#### Labour Law

- Govt embarrassed by SDP who put down amendments to require secret ballots for election of union officials and freedom to contribute political levy to party of individual's choice.

#### Mr Heath

- Fierce attack on Reagan's policies in Fulton, Missouri; Mr Reagan on tour says he will not back down on defence spending or tax cuts.

#### Poland

- Brezhnev accepts invitation to visit Poland; ex-wife of Deputy Premier Rakowski defects.

USA Republican considering Bill to withdraw some US troops from Europe because Europe won't spend more on defence.

UN claims oil pollution of seas has been nearly halved as a result of tightening of regulations.

ANNEX

Ministers:

Mr Tebbit at NEDC.

Mr Fowler attends Association of British Pharmaceutical Industries dinner, Cafe Royal, London. (7.45 pm).

Mr Pattie speaks at Aberdeen University Centre for Defence Studies.

Lord Trenchard attends Pilkington's reception.

Mr Mellor visits SEA/CLAM, a wave energy device at Coventry Polytechnic, and makes an Energy Conservation visit to Brush Ltd, Loughborough, and meets the Society of Chemical Industries, London.

Mr Clarke launches 2-part motor-cycle test, Cardington.

Mr Baker speaks to British Institute of Management.

Mr MacGregor visits PERA, Melton Mowbray.

Sir George Young pays PSA visit to Portsmouth.

Mr Rees addresses Scottish Council on Industrial Development, Hamilton.

Mr Finsberg addresses DHSS/NHS/DOI seminar on Public Purchasing, King Edwards Fund Centre. (10,00 am).