

25/3

PRIME MINISTER

DIARY

HM The Queen visits Home Office for Bicentenary Exhibition.

Hillhead by-election.

Mrs Gandhi visits UK.

25th Anniversary, Signing of Rome Treaties.

Nuclear Planning Group, Colorado Springs.

High Court action by Ronald Smith over Helen Smith inquest.

N. Ireland widows in USA.

Budget Day, Irish Republic.

FCO Bicentenary lecture by Lord Carrington, Chatham House.

European Parliament, Strasbourg.

European outlook Conference, London - Mr Rippon and Mrs Williams to address.

Economic and Social Committee Plenary Session, Brussels.

Whaling Commission, Brighton.

National Society for Clean Air Spring Workshop, Nottingham.

Institute of Municipal Entertainment conference, Cardiff.

Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, Earls Court.

British Ski Trade Show, Harrogate.

London Fashion Exhibition, Olympia.

Electro-Optics/Laser International Exhibition, Brighton.

Scottish Building and Public Works Exhibition, Glasgow.

London Beauty and Fashion Show.

Metal-cutting Tools Exhibition, Birmingham.

Metal working '82, Birmingham.

Columbia space shuttle.

Conservative attempt to exclude NU Seamen from closed shop provisions of Employment Bill.

Statistics:

Financing of the Central Government borrowing requirement (4th qtr).
UK Banking Sector statistics (4th qtr).
Money stock (4th qtr).
Energy Trends.

Publications:

Bank of England Bulletin.
Lord Chancellor's Offices: Government's response to the Duncan Wilson Committee report on Public Records.

Pay:

Local Authority building trades operatives: further discussions following rejection of £4.60 a week.

Parliament:

Commons:

Questions: Prime Minister, Northern Ireland.

Business: Supply (16th allotted day): There will be a debate on LAW AND ORDER.

Lords:

Canada Bill: Third Reading.
Travel Concessions (London) Bill: Third Reading.
Dissemination of Pornography Bill(HL): Second Reading.
Salmon Fisheries (Protection)(S) bill(HL): Report.
U.Q. on HMG's intention to establish a bunker at Naphill, Bucks., on National Trust Land.

Ministers - see Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Hillhead

- Three polls put SDP 6 points ahead:
NOP - 34/Lab 28/Con 24
MORI - 33/Con 27/Lab 26
Audience Selection - 35/Con 29/Lab 25
- Sun leader says a Jenkins victory would not necessarily be a good thing; your policies are beginning to work and it hopes that message from Hillhead is carry on, you're looking good.
- Mirror says if Jenkins loses it will be the beginning of the end; best result would be a Labour victory; worst a Tory win; SDP success in between.
- Express: Electors will not deserve plaudits if they elect Jenkins; will have made their contribution to preserving a ramshackle band of carpetbaggers.

Law and Order

- Lord Chief Justice blames pornography for massive rise in violence and crime and says there can be no kid glove treatment for recidivist burglars; Mrs Whitehouse says Mafia are behind porn and it is out of hand.

- Lord Scarman says troops may have to be drafted into clear our streets unless police can win public support.
- Mail says most people believe that sentences handed out by courts are too lenient. - will Mr Whitelaw have courage to give prosecution right of appeal.
- Muggings exaggerated but those most vulnerable are males under 30 who go out on Saturday night - Home Office figures.
- Chief Probation Officers praise Home Sec in letter to you.

Education

- Parents at Rugby school for under 8s vote overwhelmingly for cane.

Economy

- France now has worst inflation record of main industrial economies (Japan best) but currency storm seems to be subsiding thanks to high interest rates - economy needs a stimulus after 3% fall in industrial production in January.
- Mr Tebbit says Britain has now kicked its bad habits and is no longer drinking at the Last Chance Saloon.
- Chancellor predicts further fall in living standards to Select Cttee after 17% rise in 1980.
- Telegraph says concern is growing in D/Trade about effect on our exports of falling oil prices on OPEC business; Nigeria cuts production by half because of falling demand.
- New car and van registrations in Britain in Feb 5% up on 1981.

Unions/Pay

- Telegraph says country is awash with teachers and there is no method of rewarding diligent ones; militancy is a curious idea when jobs are at risk.
- Nurses reject 6.4%; Mr Fowler to see them on Monday as threats made of industrial action.
- FT says State industry directors' salary kept broadly in line with limits.
- Joe Gormley says Scargill will mellow in time; but he is likely to start with a 27% pay demand.
- B/Cal has its first industrial dispute after disciplining a baggage handler convicted of theft; TGWU says he shouldn't be punished twice.
- TUC defers internal reform to preserve unity in fight against Employment Bill; sends off first juggernaut consignment of £250,000 gifts of food and clothing to Poland.
- Times says MPs deserve a bit more but they should not equip themselves with a lifeboat (of indexation) until passengers have been taken off.
- Moderats set to win deputy general secretary ballot over militant Macreadie.

B/Rail

- White collar staff to be cut by 10% or 3,000; TSSA thinks they are being made scapegoats.
- New big investigation into pilfering in Derby - anything from chimney pots to garden sheds from BR stores.
- New advanced train mothballed because of dispute over guardsmaning.

Industry

- Keith Showering dies at 51.
- Oil companies mount new assault of North Sea tax regime as Shell turns in a very poor result.
- John Dent, MD of Dunlop, to become chairman of CAA.
- B/Airways launches security subsidiary to advise airports and airlines off crime fighting and terrorism.
- Egon Ronay sings praises of the Great British hamburger and other fast foods.
- HMSO makes a gross profit of over £13m, according to first annual report under new system.

EC

- FT, marking 25th anniversary, says word most associated with Community is crisis.
- We can't fill all our places at King Baudouin's celebratory dinner.
- Guardian says our partners seem convinced that you are within an ace of winning the argument over our Budget contribution.
- BBC poll shows that 60 per cent of people are in favour of pulling out of EC.

Politics

- Labour Party on verge of lot more trouble after Hornsey defies Foot and votes Tariq Ali into membership; two defectors from militants help Labour inquiry into infiltration; Tatchell calls for extra-Parliamentary activity with march of unemployed on Westminster and setting up of tent city; NEC endorses selection of militants to replace Mulley and Hooley.
- 100 hard Left Labour candidates in London borough elections come out in favour in manifesto of refusing to obey district auditors in courts.
- Kensington and Chelsea seeks to have GLC rate declared illegal in courts.

Reagan

- Decision to go for Royal Gallery widely reported as climbdown; defeat etc; giving Reagan B movie status; putting him in wings; not according him 5-star treatment etc etc.

Defence

- Agreement between UK and USA on measures to help our firms get Trident sub-contract business.
- Telegraph, the Admiral's friend, says that Navy will not be able to fight a war of any duration or perform peacetime commitments within 5 years.
- IBA rejects according to rules £600,000 peace advertising plan by businessmen.

Transport

- Plan being considered to charge motorists £1 a time for entering central London.

Race

- CRE threatens to prosecute doctors who advertise for Christian partner - Mail says once more CRE seems intent on covering itself with ridicule - non-whites are Christian you know.

Sport

- Jockey Club trying to raise £7m by public subscription to buy Aintree.
- Telegraph says cricket tour by India still in serious doubt but Times does not think there will be any problem.

Ireland

- Mirror says Whitehall has set up a special fund to help supergrasses with money, plastic surgery and re-settlement abroad.
- Father Paul says supergrasses are doing it out of fear of IRA and are being blackmailed by RUC.
- RUC says informers are crippling IRA.

International

Pope: bare majority in favour of his visit but only 12% actually opposed.

Central America: Telegraph leader says problem for USA is how to contain social and political upheaval south of the border without throwing its weight behind maintenance of social order which is disgrace to West.

West Bank: 4 youths shot and 11 injured in further clashes with Israeli troops.

Israel: Begin may now call early election.

Russia: Brezhnev tries to play on disaffection between USA and Peking by welcoming talks with China.

Falklands: We send a gunboat - Endurance which sets off argument over whether Endurance should be scrapped; D/Star says clear off Argentina.

Bangladesh: another coup puts Gen Ershad in charge.

B. INGHAM
25 March 1982

Ministers:

Mr Tebbit on two-day regional visit to Yorkshire.
Mr Whitelaw attends Justices' Clerks' Society dinner.
Mr Morrison visits Ibstock Building Products, Leicester.
Mr Morrison addresses Institute of Directors on "Employment and the role of Business", London. (5.00pm).
Mr Fenner addresses the Society of Chemical Industry Symposium, London.
Mr Mellor addresses the Wind Industries Association at the Cranfield Institute of Technology, Bedford.
Mr Blaker visits Portsmouth Dockyard and meets trade union representatives.
Mr Rossi visits Exeter.
Mr Clarke visits Walsall and West Bromwich.
Sir George Young pays PSA visit to Eastern region.
Sir George Young speaks at International Cerebral Palsy Society dinner.
Dr Vaughan attends reception to promote European Trade Marks office campaign.
Mr Rees attends British Exhibitions' Promotion Council AGM lunch.
Mr Channon addresses the Society of Industrial Designers dinner, London Liverpool. (7.30pm).
Mr MacGregor speaks at West Midlands Engineering Employers Federation conference, Dorchester Hotel.
Mr Wakeham gives opening address to Telephone Users' Association Conference.
Mr Baker at Schools computer prizegiving.