

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Announcement of main rates of student grants for 1987/88

Rosyth Dockyard workers stage 24 hour strike

Prime Minister attends 'Action for Jobs' breakfast seminar; and later attends launch of BBC/ITV Super Channel

Audit Commission report on Local Authorities

Lord Young on Robin Day's 'Question Time' BBC1

STATISTICS

Energy Trends (November)

New vehicle registrations (December)

London sterling certificates of deposit (December)

UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (December)

PUBLICATIONS

CSO: Social Trends 00.01 hours

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Treasury; Home Office; Prime Minister

Business: Debate to take note of the White Paper on Developments in the European Community January - June 1986

Adjournment Debate

Royal Regiment of Wales and Cwrt-y-Gollin Camp, Crickhowell
(Mr R Livesay)

Select Committees: COMMITTEE ON A PRIVATE BILL
South Yorkshire Light Rail Transit

Lords: Consumer Protection Bill: Committee (3rd Day)

- Gaming (Amendment) Bill: Committee

Agriculture and Fisheries (Financial Assistance) (Northern Ireland) Order 1987: Motion for Approval

MINISTERS - See Annex

MAIN ISSUES TODAY (Cont'd)

- Relatives of Britons who lost money and property in Russian revolution can claim compensation from today.
- George Younger resists pressure from MPs to introduce ethnic monitoring into Armed Forces.

SOCIAL TRENDS review published today.

- Sun: Life's booming good as Britain bounces back; we're working harder, playing harder and spending more.
- Star says a plague on the doom and gloom merchants. The survey shows life is far from being all bad.
- Mirror rather negative feature - eg sick have to wait.
- Today: Rich man, poor man. Top 20% pick up nearly half the nation's total wage.
- Express leader headed "Dividends for all in share owning Britain" says the take-up of shares will change our attitudes and politics for the better. And there is a lesson for Labour - the spread creates a national opposition to the renationalisation. Labour should start changing with the nation. News story headed: "Britain on the money-go-round".
- Times: Britons are becoming more and more middle class, according to the latest issue of Social Trends. 8m people have a mortgage. Real disposable income is 24% higher than in 1975.
- Telegraph : Gap between rich and poor is growing.
- Guardian : Britain is becoming increasingly divided under your rule.

AUDIT COMMISSION

- Star says the Commission has unearthed some deeply disturbing facts about policing of inner city areas; warning that if virtual warfare between Left wing councils and police does not stop, certain districts will degenerate into mayhem. Ratepayers part company with their cash to see their streets are properly policed, not to subsidise pea-brained political prejudices.
- Paul Foot, in Mirror, says no music could be sweeter for you than this heavily leaked report but he points out that its chairman went into bankruptcy with 3 companies.
- Today: Hard Left councils risk turning parts of London into disaster zone, says Commission.
- Express: Left's legacy of city decay - allowing Britain's inner cities to slip into crime-ridden American-style ghettos.
- FT: The inner London boroughs most deeply in debt are to cooperate in an effort to avoid a potentially disastrous financial crisis.
- Times ; John Banham says many parts of London are in danger of spawning a poverty-stricken "urban underclass" locked into a vicious circle of family breakdown and crime.
- Telegraph: 491 Labour councillors face surcharges. Cash crisis similar to Bronx.

POLITICS

- Frank Chapple, in Mail, says Kinnock should quit quietly and quickly; it's time he laid down his political ambitions for his party. Neither his personality nor his policies are suited to No 10. He is a prisoner of Labour's past.
- John Ryman accuses Labour Party of a massive whitewash of his constituency party in Blyth.
- Times: Local authority spending financed by the rates would be removed from central government controls under far-reaching plans approved by Labour yesterday.
- Times: Geoffrey Smith says the Conservatives stand a good chance of neutralising the Sizewell issue in electoral terms. It should not be a decisive factor in the election.
- John Cartwright thought likely to succeed Shirley Williams as SDP president.
- Guardian says 5 out of the 6 1987 polls show Conservatives ahead and as the election draws nearer so does prospect of a Conservative third term. Voters must begin to decide on tactical voting.

JOB MEASURES

- Times P1 lead: 'Tories pledge £250m to cut jobless total. YTS promises work for all under-18s'. Labour says it is a further attempt to massage the jobless figures. TUC says the measures may bring some assistance, but will hardly dent the real problem.
- FT: Charter for Jobs says recent job losses have widened the North/South gulf more than previously supposed.

UNIONS

- Rodney Bickerstaffe, NUPE, wants Labour Government to make national minimum wage a priority.

INDUSTRY

- Sun praises decision to give B/Airways employees a special deal on shares. Look what happened to National Freight Corporation.
- Inland Revenue investigating sports perks given to executives by big business, including boxes at soccer matches.
- Michael Heseltine, in Mail, says we must back the Airbus; there must be a continuing British role in a European civil airliner capability.
- Vauxhall plans to increase UK production by a third; but Times says it is braced for a £50m loss.
- Marks & Spencer plan to open a store in Prague - its first behind the Iron Curtain.
- FT: The SIB proposes to issue rules to allow market-makers and others who have lost because of insider dealing to sue the wrongdoer for civil damages.
- An Austrian bank has admitted it was paid by Guinness to buy the company's shares.
- The London International Futures Exchange is investigating apparent breaches of its rules by a small number of member-firms.
- Independent: Selizmann Harris the stockbroking firm named as a partner in bogus deals with Ivan Boesky.

ECONOMY

- Telegraph says the trade figures eased fears that we are heading for a balance of payments crisis that could wreck the Government's strategy.
- FT: Rumours of a G5 meeting strengthened the dollar.

MEDIA

- Dugal Nisbet-Smith, Newspaper Society, says long term survival of newspapers is being threatened by Government bias towards broadcasting.
- Times: Successive British Governments have been operating a secret policy that has given a safe haven to Nazi war criminals since 1948, says a Scottish TV documentary to be shown tonight.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Star calls for banning of drug Ativan which, it says, is harder to kick than heroin.

AIDS

- Norman Fowler says it is vital to educate teenagers about the disease.
- Mirror says doctors at St Mary's, Paddington, warned Mr Fowler yesterday that AIDS was bringing hospital to breaking point and that they would not be able to cope unless more money was available.
- Mail says AIDS revenge may be the motive behind the killing of two prostitutes in London.

EDUCATION

- Times: Ministers are considering introducing annual standardised tests in basic subjects for all children in state schools.

SPY SATELLITE

- Guardian says MoD agreed to pay for Zircon to increase its role inside GCHQ and that industrial action in 1979 and 1981 strengthened its case. It was a major factor behind the union ban.
- Campbell claims letter seized by Special Branch shows Attorney General agreed to provide information for his TV series.
- BBC asks for return of film to be shown in Cardiff by Welsh Campaign for Civil and Political Liberties and Cardiff branch of NUJ.
- Independent: Campbell confirms existence of second hand written note from Sir Michael Havers offering to help Campbell in any way he could in making the BBC 2 series.

LAW AND ORDER

- Immigration officers said to be preparing themselves for a rush of Nigerians trying to beat the new visa regulations deadline.
- More people in prison than ever before, according to new figures putting average inmates in 1985 at 53,000.
- Today says Kate Adie, BBC reporter, has forced a police inquiry into her treatment/^{at Wapping} after she lodged a complaint; outside police inquiry goes ahead. Telegraph says she was hit by a truncheon.
- Frank Chapple, in Mail, asks what else were the police supposed to do when anarchists overturned vehicles and hurled petrol bombs? The right to demonstrate is being destroyed by violent extremists.
- Pictures of PC Blakelock, hacked to death in Tottenham riots, are too horrifying for the jury to see.
- Times leader on Wapping says violence has not stopped Labour support. It has not stopped Labour MPs from speech-making while spears and darts fly at the police. The party's leaders need to look and think again.
- Times : Sir Michael Havers had lunch with Duncan Campbell while he was researching the BBC programme which was banned, according to an article in the New Statesman today. "Friendly" notes were exchanged when Sir Michael declined to take part in the programme; the defence select committee is believed to have asked to see the film at the MoD.
- A Police Authority critic of Chief Constable Anderton says he might have been sacked had you not spoken up for him. Guardian says Anderton has divided the Bishops on difference between speaking the truth and claiming to be instrument of God.
- Independent: Fred Silvester MP for Worthington argues case against bill of rights and folly of giving judges power over Parliament.

PEOPLE

- Peter Walker poorly with pneumonia.
- Sun leader headed "Arise, Lord Muck", says Basnett's scale of achievement ranks slightly below zero.
- Mail claims Prince Edward was to be a TV presenter - and says he would be wiser to stand behind rather than in front of the camera.
- Independent: Heath and Jenkins in race for Oxford Chancellorship.

USA

- Star says it is refreshing to find a politician with the humility and bravery candidly to admit he made a mistake over Iran as Reagan did.
- Today accuses Reagan of being two-faced over trading with terrorists.
- Telegraph: President gains public support in crucial test: leader says the speech was an important step in the process of rebuilding confidence.
- Guardian concedes Reagan can still put on a good show.
- FT: President Reagan's "star performance" in his State of the Union address has failed to convince Congress
- Times: Shultz has had discussions with Oliver Tambo.

RUSSIA

- Mirror notes that there has been a political earthquake in Russia and while Gorbachev isn't proposing our kind of democracy it is an important beginning.
- Christopher Monckton, in Today, asks Gorbachev if he really means it; "in the democratic world we judge governments by the way they treat their citizens."
- Times: Gorbachev scored a personal triumph last night when the ruling Central Committee of the Communist Party removed his main remaining opponent on the Politburo, elevated a close personal supporter and backed his plan for increasing democracy.

EC

- Express says we are close to reaching agreement to end trade war with USA.

BEIRUT

- Today says you gave the go-ahead for talks with extremist militia groups to try to find Waite.
- Mail leader hopes you are not put to the test by the capture of Waite but it does not think you will be found wanting.
- US Navy ships sail to Middle East trouble zones.
- Independent: Editorial says that for the moment the best the Government can do is make clear to the world that it will not deal with terrorists. Any lessening of this resolve will increase the dangers faced by Waite and other hostages.

SPAIN

- Mail says 300 Britons selling time shares in Spain were fired last night because their American company is unwilling to accept a new code of conduct introduced by British firms.

LEBANON

- Times: The US yesterday said it was banning its nationals from setting foot in Lebanon.

PHILIPPINES

- FT: Armed forces loyal to President Aquino split last night when it became clear they might be asked to fire on rebel soldiers occupying a TV station.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DEM: Lord Young, Mr Clarke, Mr Lee and Mr Trippier at Action for Jobs Breakfast presentation, Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London

HMT: Mr Lawson addresses a political supper with David Sumberg

DEM: Mr Trippier at meeting of ABTA national training board, Woking

DES: Mrs Rumbold visits Kent

DES: Mr Walden visits Netley Primary School

DHSS: Mrs Currie visits Maidstone Health Authority, Maidstone, Kent

DOE: Dr Boyson visits Local Authorities Management Services Advisory Committee (LAMSAC)

DOE: Mr Patten visits Manchester

DTI: Mr Howard addresses Oxford Union, opposing motion on City of London

FCO: Mrs Chalker addresses Executives Association of Great Britain lunch

MAFF: Mr Gummer attends East Anglian Consultative Council lunch, House of Commons

MOD: Lord Trefgarne addresses the Financial Times conference

MOD: Mr Stanley meets Gordon Jewkes, Governor of the Falklands

ODA: Mr Patten addresses the Water Industries Group Annual lunch, London

WO: Mr Roberts visits Manpower Services Commission headquarters, Sheffield

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

MAFF: Mr Thompson attends "Green Week", Berlin

TV AND RADIO

"An Ever Closer Union"; BBC Radio 4 (19.40): A perspective on the European Community through portraits of Britain's fellow members. This week looks at Spain

"Opinions: The Red Flag"; Channel 4 (20.00): David Widgery, ex-editor of 'Socialist Worker' examines the future of socialism in Great Britain; asks how improvement will come about for those in British society who are disadvantaged

"This Week"; ITV (21.30): With Jonathan Dimbleby

"40 Minutes"; BBC 2 (21.30): report on a community development in Stonebridge Estate, Brent

"Question Time"; BBC 1 (22.10); Sir Robin Day with John Edmonds, Daphne Park, Dick Taverne and Lord Young

"Their Lordships' House"; Channel 4 (00.30)
