

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

BA sale offer closes.

M. Delors visits Dublin

Labour Party Local Government Conference

Prime Minister becomes longest continually serving Prime Minister since the war

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STATISTICS

DTI: Car and commercial vehicle production (Dec - final)

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PUBLICATIONS

DII: British Business

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PAY

Prison officers; 19,300

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Business: Private Members' Bills

Human Rights Bill: Second Reading (Queen's Consent to be signified)

Hedgerow Protection Bill: Second Reading

Motor Cycle Noise Bill: Second Reading

Right to Interest Bill: Second Reading

Gypsies (Control of Unauthorised Encampments) Bill: Second Reading

Criminal Justice Act 1982 (Amendment) Bill: Second Reading

Schools of Self-Management Bill: Second Reading

Adjournment debate

Prosecution policy in relation to the Official Secrets Act (Mr J Dayell)

Select Committees:

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- SOGAT calls off-Wapping dispute; will NGA follow today? SOGAT "surrender" (Sun) because it faced bankruptcy.
  - Attorney General goes on sick leave quietly in pops but qualities cast doubt on his political future.
  - The animal rights extremists jailed for up to 10 years after a 12-month terror campaign.
  - Spanish police jubilant after smashing drugs ring involving six Britons.
  - Unsubstantiated claims that Terry Waite has been seen in Beirut, walking with 10 gunmen; and that he was shot escaping.
- Iranian
- British businessman admits on TV that he was a spy; FCO seek clarification and explanation of his appearance on TV; say if there is a case against him he should be brought to trial.
  - Hopes of a solution by Monday in B/Telecom dispute - strikers vote on Sunday; Today again says BT has caved in and you are unhappy about it. But Mail says it looks as if the management has got its way.
  - Express celebrates your record as longest serving post war Prime Minister
  - Russians launch space mission which could last six months.
  - Argentina sends us a 3-page message which includes the first hint of cooperation with Britain (Mail).

ATTORNEY GENERAL

- Not front page stuff in pops - qualities cast doubt on his political future.
- Star: Havers health scare.
- Sun: Law chief in spy rumpus told to rest - political future in doubt - and so, to judge from the Sun's leader, should be that of Lord Hailsham.
- Mirror: Hot seat Havers takes sick leave.
- Today: Law chief Havers is ordered to rest; Christopher Monckton writes about "the accident-prone Attorney".
- Express: Havers rests from the storm; MPs believe it is unlikely he will be back before the election.
- Mail: Weary Havers takes a rest - growing uncertainty over his health could end his ambition to be Lord Chancellor; Julian Critchley on the perils of a lunch too far when shared with the wrong person.
- Telegraph P1 lead: Future of Havers in doubt.
- Guardian P1: Havers forced to rest amid controversy over security policy; he is determined to return to make a statement on Wright affair.
- Independent: Havers on sick leave, may soon resign. Speculation in the Commons was that the Zircon row had proved too much for him and he would resign when the affair died down. Cartoon diagnoses his illness as Thatcher's Syndrome.
- FT: Havers ordered to rest.



POLITICS

- Extensive interview in Star of Norman Tebbit who blames permissive society for tide of lawlessness.
  - Star leader on Labour's housing policy says it has introduced a new sentence into the politicians' directory of excuses: don't blame us, blame the printers.
  - Times: Political editor, Robin Oakley, says not once in the last seven election campaigns has Labour increased its share of the vote during the campaign. They are too low in the polls to win.
  - FT: Mr Tebbit chooses Civil Servant as economic adviser and strengthens his pre-election Central Office team.
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- Ferdy Mount, in Telegraph, wants fewer MPs.
  - Editor of Tribune appointed editor of Labour Party's magazine Labour Party News.

INDUSTRY

- Government to give public and possibly limited financial support to new Northern Development Company to promote NE and Cumbria (FT).
- Car imports in January dropped below 50% for first time since 1981.
- Telegraph suggests Government will pull Rover out of the volume car market if it wins next election.
- FT: Scottish Office consider the possibility of other earthmoving equipment manufacturers taking over the Caterpillar plant.
- FT: Austin Rover halts slide in share of car market.
- FT: Takeovers total record £13.5bn in 1986.
- FT: Government defeated on Banking Bill clauses. Tony Nelson MP successful in bringing through amendments to improve levels of investor protection for bank depositors. Treasury Ministers say the clauses are unworkable.
- FT: Institute of Chartered Accountants reject Government proposals affecting the way company auditors are allowed to operate.
- FT: 4 members of Lloyds Council resign to hasten implementation of some of the Neill inquiry recommendations.

UNIONS

- Union bosses like Scargill and Knapp face re-election under new labour law being planned by Government.
- Times leader says the Labour Party and the TUC should look at their record alongside that during the miners' strike and ask themselves where they stand when the hard choices need to be made. They have shown aspects of themselves in this past year that have appalled many of their own supporters and given ammunition to their enemies.
- Unions urging BA staff to sign over their share voting rights after privatisation.

EC

- Telegraph says you remained unmoved in the face of Delors case for larger budget; leader says before agreeing to any increase in the budget the burden of CAP must be shackled.
- Independent: 'Guidance on the Exercise of the Presidency' booklet circulated to British officials said it contains Machiavellian suggestions on how to use Britain's Presidency to tilt the negotiations in Britain's favour.
- Independent: Delors cash mission gets short shrift in Whitehall. Your meeting described as friendly but forceful. You made it clear that there must be stricter control of spending, especially on agriculture.
- FT says you made clear UK is not prepared to put up more money - unless there was a thorough overhaul of CAP and financial control.

SELECT COMMITTEES

- FT: Government attempts to defuse row over accountability of Ministers and Civil Servants. The language of the Government response represents a retreat from the strong phraseology of last September but in practice it does not involve any major concessions on recent practice.

LAW AND ORDER

- Government announces it will not extradite husband of US diplomat accused of indecency against child; Peter Bruinvels says this is absolutely outrageous and despicable.
- Mirror accuses you of brushing aside requests for help in prosecuting Nazi war criminals in Britain.
- Liberal councillor jailed for 6 months for receiving information, contrary to Official Secrets Act, to smear Labour opponent.
- Times: You disturbed some of your backbenchers by treating in a political manner some of Neil Kinnock's remarks during yesterday's exchanges in the House about the Ealing rape case.
- Police fear that incendiary devices will be used in arson attacks by Animal Liberation Front activists in the next few days in reprisal for members being jailed for a total of 37 years.
- Independent: Opposition MPs suspect security services of mounting a damage limitation exercise with publication of Nigel West's book, which could destroy Peter Wright's case, and the reported top security of the Zircon project.
- Chief Inspector of Prisons claims overcrowding brought prison system to near breaking point in 1985.
- FT: Licensing law reform could be on the Manifesto agenda.

RAPE

- Star says you are believed to be fuming over lenient jaim terms after Question Time yesterday.
- Mirror and Today say Kinnock accused you of playing party politics with Ealing case.
- Express: Maggie raps Kinnock; Mail; Maggie's pledge on rape justice.

GARDNER BILL

- Telegraph says the case for it is not proven.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Camden to celebrate International Women's Day with a lesbian library evening and other lesbian events.
- Newham to name a street after Count Zeppelin whose airship killed 600 Britons in World War I.
- Sun says loony Left councillors in Islington owe over £2,500 in rent arrears, with the biggest debt owed by a member of the Housing Committee.
- Sun leader lists a bizarre agenda of a typical Lambeth Council meeting and says that if the councillors weren't barmy when they were elected they soon will be as nutty as a bag of Brazils.



AIDS

- Extra £7m provided by Government; health authorities say its nowhere near enough.
- Sun conducts a phone-in poll over whether we should all be tested for AIDS as and when we go into hospital; it says it is a sensible idea but the results should not be kept from the patient who is entitled to know.
- Today say we need to put in far more resources and be much more robust in our approach to dealing with the disease.

EDUCATION

- Independent: Ministers aim to run polytechnics. The move, which was planned in great secrecy and without telling polytechnic directors or education authority leaders, will be revealed in a White Paper likely to be published in the spring.

RELIGION

- Independent: Report by the House of Bishops recommending ordination of women will be debated at the General Synod on 26 February.

TERRY WAITE/LEBANON

- Times: Mr Waite has been shot and critically wounded while trying to escape from his kidnapers in Lebanon, an unconfirmed report in the West German popular daily, 'Bild', claims today. Other reports say Mr Waite has been seen walking in the Shia Muslim suburbs under guard.
- The leader of the Hezbollah militia, Iran's most powerful ally in Lebanon, said Mr Waite was on a propaganda mission for the USA.
- Washington has abandoned plans for high level anti-terrorism talks after Britain and France refused to take part for fear of sending the wrong signals to Lebanon at the height of the hostage crisis.

ARGENTINA

- FT: US has been acting as channel for an exchange of messages between the Argentine and British Governments on fisheries agreements.

US

- Times: Democratic congressmen have warned President Reagan that they will cut off funds for all but the smallest nuclear tests, if the administration continues with its testing programme without restrictions.

SOUTH AFRICA

- Times: Leader says that by trying to out-right the Right wing, Mr Botha has set up countervailing strains on the left. The election he designed to save his party could yet prove the catalyst which hastens its destruction.
- Times: Mr Rae Killen, director general of foreign affairs in Pretoria is to replace Denis Worrall as Ambassador to Britain.

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Mr Clarke opens presentation by the Health and Safety Executive on major hazards, St Baynards House, London
- DES: Mr Baker visits Doway RC Comprehensive School, Uxbridge
- DHSS: Mr Fowler visits Kidderminster Hospital, Hereford and Worcester
- HO: Mr Hurd visits Easingwold Civil Defence College and Leeds; later addresses Frank Dawtry Seminar on public order, Leeds
- MAFF: Mr Jopling meets Mr Vin d'Honneur, New Zealand High Commissioner, New Zealand House; later lunches with the Hon John Kerin, Australian Minister of Primary Industry
- DEM: Mr Lee makes regional visit to Cumbria
- DES: Mr Walden gives keynote address to PICKUP Conference, West Bromwich
- DHSS: Mr Newton plants tree at new Mid Sussex Hospital, then attends RHA/DHA Chairmen's Meeting, Haywards Heath, West Sussex; later attends Czech Ambassador's reception in honour of the Czech Health Minister, Czech Embassy, Notting Hill Gate
- DTP: Mr Spicer visits Fairoaks and Blackbushe Airports with Prince Michael of Kent
- MAFF: Lord Belstead visits AFRC Institute, Reading
- SO: Mr Lang visits Timex Corporation and Dundee Industrial Association, Dundee

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DTP: Mr Moore visits Brussels to meet Herman de Croo, Belgian Minister of Transport

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TV AND RADIO

Education Minister, Mr Walden takes part in 'Cross Question' - Anglia TV

"The Cocaine Explosion"; BBC 2 (14.20): A 'Panorama' report. John Penycate reports on the cocaine barons, who have saturated the American market and are turning their attention to Europe

"Ebony"; BBC 2 (19.50): A report on the task facing David Divine, the newly appointed director of Brent Social Services, with the shadow of Jasmine Beckford's death still hanging over the service

"A Week in Politics"; Channel 4 (20.15): Presented by Nick Ross

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