

9 April 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Princess of Wales opens new AIDS unit, Middlesex Hospital, London

House of Lords rises for Easter Recess (to 22 April)

Sir David Wilson takes up post as Governor of Hong Kong

Teachers' Pay and Conditions Order made and published

?Statement on Westland

Sir Geoffrey Howe visits USA for talks with Shultz

?Mr Gorbachev visits Czechoslovakia

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STATISTICS

DEM: Detailed analysis of employment, unemployment, earning, prices and other indicators (Apr)

DTI: Figures of vehicle production (Mar) (prov)

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PUBLICATIONS

DEM: Employment Gazette

HO: Police Complaints Authority Annual Report

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PAY

University Technicians; 13,300

National Health Service Ancillary Workers; 171,800; 1 April --

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PARLIAMENTCommons

Questions: Northern Ireland; Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Prime Minister

Business: Debtors (Scotland) Bill (Lords): Remaining Stages

Afterwards,  
Pilotage Bill (Lords): Remaining Stages

Adjournment Debate: The decision to allow opencast mining at the High Lane site, Newcastle-under-Lyme (Mrs C Golding)

Lords: Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc. (Scotland) Bill:

Prayer to annul the Merchant Shipping (Light Dues) (Amendment) Regulations 1987.

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- Marplan in today's Guardian puts Labour back in second place, but trailing Conservatives - 38/32/27. Your personal rating up 6 points.
- General feeling that we got nowhere with Japan and complaints that our rhetoric was out of line with achievements of Michael Howard's visit.
- Black sections new albatross round Kinnock's neck (Express) - new row over meeting in West Midlands.
- Keith Best not to stand at next election; decision followed pressure from Whips; but Labour MPs say he should resign now.
- Harvey Proctor bailed on four indecency charges until next Thursday.
- Allegations that Ernest Saunders, Guinness, plotted to put £3m of the firm's cash in his own pocket.
- Claims that man in charge of closing doors of Zeebrugge disaster ferry has admitted being asleep in his bunk when ship sank; 103 bodies recovered so far. Harrowing stories from divers. Chairman of Townsend Thoresen admits a series of errors. Survivors and dependants each to receive at least £80,000 compensation from P&O.



MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Young mother beaten unconscious on Islington towpath by black mugger who then throws 2 year old daughter into canal; child rescued by student.
  
- 600 more police and clerical staff being recruited for five regions.  
Express: Huge boost for bobbies on beat.
  
- Alliance pledges £2bn to improve education and fabric of schools, and would clobber public schools and phase out Assisted Places Scheme.
  
- New series of teacher strikes from April 27.
- Halifax says house prices are rising at 4 times inflation rate.
- AEU demands £30 a week more for Ford workers.
  
- Delegates to Royal College of Nursing conference claim hard up nurses are moonlighting. RCN condemns another review of recruitment.
  
- Former Left supporters of Scargill now demanding that he should face re-election.
  
- Claims that you refused to nominate Bishop of Stepney as Bishop of Birmingham because he was too Left wing.
  
- Management consultant's report presents unflattering view of BBC's management and method of running itself (Mail).
  
- Princess Diana to shake hands with AIDS victims today, but not in front of the cameras.
- Prince Charles suggests that Royal Family should be privatised and is ready for a backlash from his family (Today).
- Loyalist siege at Macgilligan jail ends.
  
- Murdered IRA man buried at third attempt amid violent clashes between "mourners" and police. Express leader says the easy way to ensure dignified funerals is for the IRA 'ghouls' to stop using them for their own "ghoulish purposes".
  
- Siege of Palestinian camps in Lebanon lifted.



JAPAN/TRADE

- President of CBI wants clampdown on Japanese goods for British made products.
- Star: Tokyo snubs Britain - Michael Howard's visit a flop.
- Sun feature on "dirty" tricks the Japs play on Britain; leader wants to know how much longer we will go on kow-towing to Japan. Michael Howard is coming home empty-handed and this must be the last time that happens.
- Today: Japan calls bluff on trade threats.
- Daily News: You have a sharp word for Japanese when you open Better Made in Britain exhibition. Mail devotes a lot of space with picture to your visit.
- Express: Opposition anger over "bungled" Japan talks.
- Times leader says Michael Howard's Tokyo visit produced nothing immediate and tangible to ease war of words over Anglo-Japanese trade. You look certain to come under pressure in Parliament to put Government's strong words into discriminatory action.
- FT: Michael Howard snubbed by Japanese rejection to admit three UK security houses to Tokyo Stock Exchange.
- FT: British and Japanese Governments sign pact to combat international security frauds.
- FT: Japanese economy doubts cast shadow over currencies deals.
- FT: CBI president supports sanctions against Japan but warns consequences could be disastrous!
- Mail leader headed "No joy for our junior in Japan" says if we allow ourselves to be provoked into a full blown protectionist war with Japan we are likely to be losers. But if we ask nicely for access to Japan equal to what they enjoy here, we shall get nowhere. So it is time we replied in kind with some discreet British bloodymindedness of the kind our communters are subjected to every day.
- Telegraph: British Lion's roar fails to frighten Japanese traders; leader says Cable and Wireless is not worth a war.
- Guardian says Michael Howard is ready to use trade powers.
- Independent: Japanese suppress the hard line message delivered by Mr Howard in their media. Editorial says that fuelling anti-Japanese feeling is a dangerous strategy.
- Japanese bought Van Gogh's Sunflower painting for £24,750,000.



POLITICS

- Peter Snape calls for black section activists to be expelled from Labour Party - especially Linda Bellos.
- Sun leader thinks the savaging Hattersley received from Bellos was a bit rough on him; he must have wished he'd never joined the Labour Party.
- Today devotes 2 centre pages to an analysis of "Labour - is the party over?" with such headlines as "Kinnock is making even Foot look good". Leader says Labour is crashing perhaps even to extinction. It has failed to adapt and hasn't had a new idea about how to run the country for years. It refuses to face up to new realities.
- Express leader on Labour's turmoil over black activists quotes Sharon Atkins, prospective candidate: "We must never forget we are still in slavery as long as we remain in Britain"; and Linda Bellos "This (Labour) party suffers from the same institutional racism as does every other aspect of life in this country". Kinnock has failed to rid his party of extremists.
- Times: Support for June election growing in Cabinet and now extends to Government's key business managers.
- Times: Labour to unveil "manifesto for London" next week in attempt to counter influence of "loony left".
- Times leader returns to battle for centre ground. Alliance and Labour education policies bear striking similarities. Neither appears to quarrel with Government's description of what is wrong with education.
- FT: Peter Riddell looks at contenders for another Tory Cabinet and says you have proved to be an effective political butcher gradually moulding the Cabinet to your liking. Only 8 of the original 22 of May 1979 remain.
- Mail P1: Kinnock faces new crisis with calls to kick Loony Left councils out of Labour Party - story built on Snape's comments; Birmingham expel one councillor.
- Independent: Pink politics that bring a blush to Labour voters. Gay rights pose a moral dilemma for Mr Kinnock.
- Guardian says prominent Labour councillors and regional party leaders are reluctantly backing Urban Development Corporations.
- Guardian leader says the election is far from won. Labour needs to recognise that it will now take a miracle for it to win outright. If it wants national power it will have to share it, but it still behaves as though the Alliance does not exist. Labour needs to participate in the re-alignment of British politics, not pretend it isn't happening.
- Frank Chapple, in Mail, says Labour's proposed Ministry for Women smacks of GLC type silliness.



INDUSTRY

- Express leader on Rolls Royce privatisation forecasts 1m people ending up with shares in it - with this people's capitalism will be up, up and away.
- Times: Gas shares inquiry uncovers frauds. Report of about 10,000 suspected multiple applications to go to DPP.
- Times has picture of you and story about "Better Made in Britain" exhibition under heading "Does it say Made in Britain?".
- Times: Government plan to introduce compulsory water metering if returned for third term.
- FT: Graduate unemployment levels dropped by 40% since 1982 because of heavy recruitment by private service industries such as retailing, hotels and catering.
- FT: MoD presses BAe for public commitment to operate Royal Ordnance even-handedly.
- FT: TUC says union reform plans are "irrelevant".
- FT: IPCS members back provisional pay accord with Treasury. Civil Service unions step up strikes over pay by calling out all members in Wales and North West.
- FT; London Underground considering plans for multi-million expansion to cope with 50% increase in passengers over last 3 years.
- FT: Over 1 million council manual workers may get 10.6% rise for flexible shifts.
- FT: Hattersley pledges Labour Government's close relationship with City.
- Independent: Northern Ireland and South East of England were the largest gainers of new business in 1980-1985.

ECONOMY

- FT: Pensions industry worried by lack of detail in pension proposals made in Finance Bill; leader says chief bone of contention among pensions lobby concerns right to tax-free lump sums on retirement.
- Dun and Broadstreet reports 11.6% drop in bankruptcies over first quarter of this year compared with 1986.
- Independent: Finance Ministers of the G7 seek to bolster currency stability in Washington



LAW AND ORDER

- Star leader on revelation by Police Complaints Authority that Met has by far the most complaints made against it and is lackadaisical in dealing with them; says it is putting it mildly to say this is regrettable; it backs the idea of speedier dismissal of police offenders.
- Paul Foot, in Mirror, devotes a page to the "fantastic story" which Colin Wallace has to tell about undermining 1974-79 Labour Government and prominent Tories associated with Northern Ireland.
- Inquiry into behaviour of 21 off-duty Met policemen on cross-Channel ferry - one badly hurt.
- Manchester's Chief Constable calls for political red tape to be cut and international barriers lowered so Governments can finance elite police drugs forces.
- Fraud on a grand scale reported in connection with British Gas flotation.
- Independent: Editorial says that the Police Complaints Body report throws up some urgent questions for Mr Hurd to ask Sir Kenneth Newman.

EDUCATION

- Star welcomes national curriculum initiative.
- Dixons pledge £1m for a new City Tech.
- Times: Alliance not in favour of grammar schools but would leave to LEA's discretion; "completely catholic" over independent schools.
- Times: Birkbeck College faces further cash cuts.

EDUCATION (Cont'd)

- Mail says Libs and SDP are eager to point out they are in favour of a core curriculum, but only after agreement with unions, LEAs and no commitment to testing. Politicians of all parties want to raise standards in schools, but only this Tory Government means business

ENVIRONMENT

- FT: Commons Select Committee says PSA should put its activities on commercial basis.



HEALTH

- Mirror leader on establishment of private cancer screening clinics - vultures hovering over ailing NHS - says the Government's failure to provide an adequate free service are compounded by its failure to regulate private clinics.

ITALY

- Independent: Craxi coalition on its last legs as partners quit.

MIDDLE EAST

- Independent: Long article says that King Hussein will urge you to mend fences with Syria.



EC

- Times: King of Belgium calls on European Parliament for more investment in education. Sir Henry Plumb criticises British Government for refusing to commit funds to EC research. Cabinet expected to discuss contribution today.
  
- Major change in CAP agreed, subject to details; will allow member Governments to provide direct income support for farmers.

BERNARD INGHAM



MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Lord Young at World Economic Forum, Hyde Park Hotel, London
- DEM: Mr Clarke speaks at ESOP conference, Industrial Society
- DHSS: Mr Fowler speaks at Institute of Directors conference on pensions, Pall Mall, London
- DTI: Mr Channon and Mr Shaw visit Better Made in Britain exhibition, London
- MOD: Mr Younger attends and speaks at Brasseys Symposium lunch, London
- SO: Mr Rifkind addresses 8th International Festival of Film and Television in Celtic Countries, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness
- WO: Mr Edwards attends World Economic Forum annual meeting with United Kingdom Government, London
- DEM: Mr Lee joins UK 2000 express to Wigan
- DEN: Mr Buchanan-Smith, guest of honour at SDA Scottish offshore achievement awards dinner
- DEN: Mr Hunt addresses University of Surrey Conference Dinner
- DES: Mrs Rumbold addresses Primary Education Study Group conference, Ambleside
- DES: Mr Walden addressed APA/CUA Conference, Nottingham
- DHSS: Mr Newton attends dinner, Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry, Grosvenor House, London
- DOE: Mr Waldegrave visits Gloucestershire (Farm and Countryside Initiative)
- DTI: Mr Pattie addresses EFT/PDS conference, London; later attends opening of National Weights and Measures Laboratory, Teddington; accompanied by Duke of Kent
- DTP: Mr Mitchell chairs the Taxi Steering Committee, London
- HMT: Mr Brooke addresses the Worcester Group of Chartered Accountants
- HO: Mr Hogg addresses ACPO Drugs conference
- HO: Mr Mellor speaks at ABPI annual dinner
- MAFF: Lord Belstead visits Muck South West, Shepton Mallet
- MOD: Mr Hamilton visits RARDE Fort Halstead
- MOD: Mr Freeman visits RMCS Shrivenham
- OAL: Mr Luce visits Lancashire (to 10 April)
- SO: Mr Mackay visits Borders area
- SO: Mr Lang visits Better Made in Britain, exhibition, London
- WO: Mr Roberts attends Better Made in Britain exhibition, London
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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe departs for Washington and Chicago, USA (to 11 April)

DTI: Lord Lucas attends breakfast meeting with members of Icelandic Chamber of Commerce; later visits events in Keflavik, Iceland

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TV AND RADIO

Education Secretary Mr Baker interviewed by Sunday Times for "A life in the day of ....."

Education Minister Mr Walden interviewed by Dennis McCarthy - Radio Nottingham

"Their Lordships' House"; Channel 4 (14.15): Repeat

"This Week"; ITV (20.00)

"Question Time"; BBC 1 (22.00): Mr Kenneth Clarke MP, Paymaster General; Mr David Clark, Shadow Environment Spokesman; Mr Rod Hackney, President Elect of RIBA; Ms Sue Stapely, solicitor, PPC for SDP

"Their Lordships' House"; Channel 4 (00.25)

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