

23 April 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Arms control negotiations resume, Geneva

The Duke of Edinburgh visits USA (to 29 April)

Prime Minister attends National Youth Orchestra concert in Royal Albert Hall

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PAY

National Health Service: Medical laboratory Scientific Officers 17,700: 1 April

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods; Treasury; Prime Minister

Business: Debate on Agriculture and the 1987 Farm Price Proposals on a Motion for the Adjournment. Details of the relevant EC Documents will be given in the Official Report

Adjournment Debate: Responses to the Green Paper on reform of Personal Taxation (Mrs M Roe)

Select Committees: STANDING COMMITTEE A  
Further to consider the Landlord and Tenant (No 2) Bill

STANDING COMMITTEE D  
Further to consider the fire safety and safety of places of sport bill (Lords)

First Scottish Standing Committee further to consider the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill (Lords)

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- 15% polls lead seen as big boost for June election; Kinnock tells Sun he won't be panicked by polls.
- FT says Bank intervened to stop £ rising.
- Chancellor planning another 2p cut in tax in next Budget.
- Express cover your interview in two parts - the second tomorrow - leading today on your urging teachers to put children first and end disruption.
- Cabinet expected to approve pay rises twice level of inflation for nurses; Star says give 'em the money Maggie.
- Mail leads with Labour's "hidden budget" throwing the Labour Party into fresh turmoil. Sedgemore, Banks and Austin Mitchell propose printing money, abolishing mortgage tax relief, extra taxes on industry and devaluation - not endorsed by Kinnock.
- Nottingham East endorses militant Sharon Atkin.
- Express says Brian Walden's Channel 4 interview with James Callaghan will end 20 minutes early tomorrow with Walden declaring there was no point in continuing. The effect on Labour could be even worse than an open statement of disagreement with defence policy.
- Teachers get more hammering in the media - though the Mail and FT think Burnham should be replaced more quickly than planned - while Jarvis attacks militants in NUT and moderates in union pull militants back from extremism.
- Express finds reassuring signs in the USA that European fears about certain kinds of arm control deals are understood at the highest level.
- Fifth of London regional transport disrupted by walk-outs at garages over alleged wage cuts.
- Vauxhall lay off 2,500 today because of wildcat strike by 50 maintenance workers.
- Lord Young tells CBI conference "the day of the strike is dead" - foreign investors pouring in more cash because of drop in disruption.
- Takeover panel strengthened.
- Schoolboy, 15, gunned down in Wembley in front of his mother in what police think was an execution over drug dealing; 3 men arrested.
- 17 soccer hooligans arrested yesterday after 3 month police operation among Leeds United supporters.



MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Mirror highlights twins born 18 months apart as a result of new implantation techniques.
- Paisley and Robinson arrested and questioned after scuffles during a Belfast demo.
- James Callaghan, ex-Prime Minister, gets Knight of the Garter.
- Edwina Currie starts "Look After Your Heart" campaign on an aerobicycle - many pictures; but Meacher claims ill health is rocketing among the unemployed; Mirror says the Government could ease 'damaging stress by increasing pensions, benefits and jobs.
- Michael Crawford returns to Phantom of the Opera from hospital when his understudy was hurt.
- Express says you are moving out of Scotney.
- Lots of coverage for Judge Pickles' book which gives new life to his long running row with Lord Chancellor.
- 2 Arabs arrested for gun attack on British vehicle in Cyprus.
- 6 black railway strikers shot dead in South Africa.
- Sri Lankan 'planes attack Tamil separatists in Jaffna peninsula.
- Prime Minister Mahathir, of Malaysia, in danger of being ousted at party conference tomorrow.



POLITICS

- Kinnock talks to the Sun over 2 pages with main heading "I won't let polls panic me".
- Sun wonders whatever happened to Glenys Kinnock who has "suddenly disappeared".
- Today notes that in the current issue of Marxism Today, Professor Hobsbawn admits that it is "extremely unlikely" Labour will win an election on its own and is advising voters to support the Alliance. And Today supports him.
- Gordon Brown, Labour's regional affairs spokesman, attacks alleged Conservative plans for workfare in "secret manifesto".
- Telegraph leader on the unhappy relationship between the unions and Labour Party says not the least of the advantages which could be expected to flow from a third Tory term would be the abandonment by union leadership of its political ambitions. It would be better for both the Labour Party and the unions if they ceased to depend on each other for survival.
- Guardian joins Today in backing tactical voting. Government, it says, is poised to win a third term unless the majority which consistently opposes it can organise itself. Labour can't win an election on its own. Nor can the Alliance. That means tactical voting. No other option currently on offer will do.
- Times: Massive Tory lead points to June. You are said to be under pressure from your own MPs to go for June election after Evening Standard' NOP poll shows Conservatives 15 points ahead of Labour.
- Times: Campaigning begins in earnest this week for 12,000 seats on 369 district councils and metropolitan boroughs.
- Independent editorial says people should have a right to know the popular mood. But the Market Research Society Panel should stand ready to comment fast and publicly about unsound polls.
- Independent: Election charges focus on fears of VAT boost as Labour challenge on "hidden" tax plans dismissed by Minister as fanciful.
- Independent: David Felton on trade unions which feel unloved and excluded from Labour's election drive.
- Express leader says that after a 15% poll lead the temptation to push the button must be enormous but it should be resisted for the moment. You will want to see more of the same before you accept you have no sensible alternative to June.



TEACHERS

- Mail and FT call for more urgent Government action to deal with teachers' grievance over negotiating rights.
- Sun feature says a typical teacher has one of the cushiest jobs in Britain and its leader on "A whiff of hypocrisy by the sea" says teachers hand on heart say they do not wish to harm the children in their charge, but who else suffers?
- Mirror says moderates yesterday dragged the NUT back from industrial action and threw out a militant motion from London calling for support for those teachers who refuse to cover for absent colleagues.
- Express: Appalling! Mrs T raps teachers. You speak out for school-children. You believe sensible majority will create a groundswell against disruption.
- Express news story says children taking exams this summer will be the target of teachers' strikes. Feature on "the helpless casualties of Britain's class war".
- Mail leader, while condemning the "appalling advertisement for the teaching profession" in the conferences of the two largest unions, says Kenneth Baker's image is perhaps a shade too bland. He knows he has won the argument, but he has not yet won the cooperation of teachers. He has been less than clever in allowing a 3 year gap between Burnham and the machinery to succeed it. It should be replaced next year.
- Times: Teachers' "no" to total ban on cover for colleagues. NUT general secretary, Fred Jarvis, led a stinging attack on far-left militant teachers.
- Independent: Teachers' action continues as one-third of a million teachers remain committed to continued strikes. Jarvis says teachers treated like serfs.
- Independent: Peter Jenkins says Mr Baker may just be able to carry far reaching reform of the educational system against the opposition of the LEAs and teachers' unions but not without the goodwill of a great number of individual teachers.



INDUSTRY

- Mail says our travellers are being ripped off by sky-high prices in airport shops.
- Sealink transferring its flag to Bermuda "because of Government policies".
- Telegraph says world beating British scientific installation - £60m ISIS particle accelerator at Rutherford Appleton laboratory - will close unless it gets more money.
- CBI to oppose Government plans to ban trade unions from disciplining members who work in defiance of a majority strike, vote because they feel they will discredit strike laws.
- Independent editorial says Mr Pattie has yet to explain why 11 other European countries have seen the future but Britain alone knows it will not work.
- Independent: Japan stonewalls on agricultural trade issues with USA.
- Independent: Sellafield's emergency procedures in the event of a leak or radioactivity made public.
- Independent: Chernobyl reactor type discarded by Moscow.
- Times: Car makers choose Europe for design, as Ford and Nissan reveal that their European experts will have the greatest say in developing replacements for Sierras and Bluebirds.
- Times: Internal brain drain of bright minds choosing to work for multi-nationals in UK rather than for British enterprises is beginning to affect industry, according to Manchester Business School.
- USDAW to recommend 50% pay offer for 150,000 retail workers.
- NUM chiefs may recognise UDM and negotiate.

LETTER BOMBS

- Star says you have ordered the most intensive security inquiry in Whitehall after the wave of parcel bombs to find out how the IRA got its information.

PRINCE'S REMARKS ABOUT IRA

- Star says that if the IRA were to lay a finger on the Royal Family it would provoke a backlash the like of which has never been seen before.



LAW AND ORDER

- Times: Home Office is holding ten Mauritians after they were searched for drugs at Heathrow on April 12.
- Times: Attorney General confirms that Lord Chancellor will consider claims for compensation "through negligence of court officials for which he is responsible".
- Times: Manifesto pledge to tighten up laws on obscenity is expected.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- Irish Inter Governmental Conference categorised by both sides as friendly and successful. Profile on Tom King who is now much more assured and relaxed in his job (Independent).



JAPAN

- Times: Tokyo Stock Exchange says additional foreign broking firms are not likely to be admitted before May 1988.

ARGENTINA

- Times: Argentine Supreme Court reported to be preparing an order to suspend all human rights trials of military officers for at least three weeks.

BERNARD INGHAM



MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DEM: Mr Lee presents Fit for Work awards, London, as part of regional visits to Liverpool and Cheshire

DES: Mr Walden addresses National Institute of Adult and Continuing Education, Hatfield Polytechnic

DHSS: Mr Lyell visits National Citizen Advice Bureau, London

DTp: Mr Bottomley attends the Volvo awards for schools road safety, Marlow

HO: Lord Caithness visits Liverpool prison

WO: Mr Roberts opens Llanelli Community Resource Centre; later visits Llanelli Library services and Wildlife park

WO: Mr Robinson attends Community Service Volunteers' Reception, London

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

DEM: Lord Young visits New York (to 26 April)

MOD: Mr Younger visits Turkey (to 27 April)

DTI: Mr Pattie visits Philips, Eindhoven, Holland

DTI: Mr Clark visits South America

DTp: Mr Mitchell visits Paris for talks with Mr Duffiagues about channel fixed link railway

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TV AND RADIO

OAL Minister Mr Luce speaks on the Pillars of Society Programme regarding the Royal Shakespeare Company

"40 Minutes": BBC 2 (21.25): Street girls. This week's film in series on "the way we live now" looks at juvenile prostitution in Birmingham city centre

"Last of the Hunters"; Channel 4 (22.45): With shoals of fish on the decrease and the EEC forced to cut catching quotas, the programme looks at the prospects for the future on the Scottish fishing fleet which lands four-fifths of Britain's fish.

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