

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister is host at a reception for farmers at Downing Street

The Princess of Wales attends a dinner with British and American Cancer Surgeons at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London

Wales TUC Annual Conference, Tenby (to 2 May)

Rolls-Royce prospectus published

Foreign Secretary and Trade and Industry Secretary see Mr Tomura of Japanese MITI

PUBLICATIONS

CSO: Preliminary estimates of consumers' expenditure (1st qtr prov)

DEN: Energy Trends (Feb)

OPCA: Parliamentary Commisisoner for Administration, Third Report
Session 1986-87, Select cases 1987, Volume 2

PAY

University Clerical Consortium, 17,500: 1 July

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Treasury; Home Office; Prime Minister

Business: Consideration in Committee of the Finance Bill: Committee
Stage (2nd Day)

Adjournment Debate: The future role of the University College of Wales,
Aberystwyth (Mr G Howells)

Lords:

Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc. (Scotland) Bill: Report (2nd Day)

Crossbows Bill (L Brougham and Vaux): Second Reading

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- Sun asserts you will go to the country on June 11 - date leaked "by senior Government sources closest to Mrs Thatcher". A number of other papers agree on date. Mail says you were beaming with confidence at the small business conference.
- More speculation of another cut in interest rates as £ forges ahead.
- Nigel Lawson tells House yesterday that Britain is at its strongest for 40 years and outlook rosier than at time of Budget.
- MI5 story dying on its feet. Wilson accepts that you are not going to have an inquiry. Attorney General given permission by High Court to bring contempt proceedings over MI5 case against 3 newspapers. Campbell-Savours says he is to reveal names of more MI5 conspirators under cloak of privilege.
- New row in Labour Party over veto by Labour Party NEC 19-6 against Sharon Atkin standing in Nottingham East, and imposition of new candidate.
- Labour Party to launch today its law and order stance, using Islington as an example of how local crime prevention initiatives pay off.
- Rolls-Royce prospectus launched today.
- Express says Government and B/Aerospace are edging towards a deal on Airbus launch aid.
- Westland expected to announce 900 redundancies at Weston Super Mare.
- Express says new leader of IRA in Belfast is a bloodthirsty fanatic - but does not name him.
- No action to be taken against Eric Cockeram MP in respect of share dealing.
- Row over sentence of only 8 years on rapist who had previously done 3 years for raping 4 year old girl; 'Pathetic' (Star); Incredible (Sun)

MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Mafia crook gets 9 years for cocaine dealing - light sentence for telling police all he knew. Mafia now threaten his life.
- Blow for Reagan in Irangate scandal - Contra fund raiser pleads guilty to defrauding US Government and names Col North as co-conspirator.
- DHSS owed £87m in overpayments due to fraud or mistakes - C&AG. Express says this is shocking - overpayment thought to have increased 66% in 2 years.
- Today says ACAS report shows you have killed off the closed shop - only 1 in 700 now covered by deals under which an employee must be in a union to get a job.
- Featured is Martin Hartley, 8 year old Zeebrugge victim, at funeral of parents and grandparents yesterday; Mirror highlights family of 20 year old son who will get nothing by way of compensation because he wasn't a breadwinner - this shows Townsend Thorensen is hard-faced and mean.
- Star examines, through Penny Junor, Prince Charles' relationship with his guru - Laurens van der Post.
- Waldheim warned he will not be welcome in Canada. US Justice Department "reveals catalogue of crimes by him" (Express).
- Musical Cabaret goes on without orchestra at Strand - players dismissed for going on stage drunk and playing out of tune; performed as a play.
- Chancellor receives "begging" letter from Kinnoek addressed to 11 Downing Street asking for donation to Labour Party.

MI5

- Only brief report about contempt proceedings in Sun.
- Star: Small piece P3 - Maggie No to MI5 plot probe.
- Mirror: Wilson no to probe; Paul Foot has a piece about Fred Holroyd's file, the original of which was retained by No 10 and a copy of which disappeared from Teddy Taylor's office.
- Today P2: Papers sued over MI5 revelations.
- Daily News P1: Reports go ahead for contempt proceedings; its leader says the issue is arrogance; you have a duty to respond to allegations made about the security services and not let B. Ingham loose to confuse one and all.
- Times: Merlyn Rees says MI5 claim was not checked earlier. This contradicts your statement that Callaghan inquiry had disposed of affair. Owen and Steel urge Callaghan to make public demand for inquiry. Lord Wilson insists passages quoted from "Spycatcher" reveal "nothing new".
- Independent: Anthony Bevins says the fact that the security services can delay implementation of recommendations supported by both the Security Commission and the Prime Minister since 1983 will bolster demands for independent parliamentary oversight of intelligence services; claims in House that Sir Michael Hanley, DG of MI5 1972-79, attempted to protect conspirators in the security service, including Harry Wharton.
- Telegraph leads with new inquiry into MI5 not needed. 1977 checks wider than acknowledged. Jim Callaghan resisting pressure from Opposition to demand an inquiry. Rees reaffirming his belief inquiry dealt only with bugging.
- Telegraph leader says the revelations are composed more of innuendo than demonstrable fact. There is now a need for commonsense which will also argue that there must be a limit to devolution of responsibility for the security services. In the last resort the British system of Government is Ministerial.
- Ferdy Mount, in Telegraph, explains why MI5 farce is no laughing matter - the operations of the security service do not seem to be under proper control.
- Guardian says Callaghan is firmly resisting moves for an inquiry although he believes one might be necessary longer term.
Guardian leader says there is going to be an inquiry sooner or later but the Security Commission won't do since it is drawn from those who were part of the problem.

SHARON ATKIN

- Star: Good riddance. Labour has done well. But how much longer should G on NEC who voted for her be allowed to stay in Party?
- Sun: Kinnock ditches race-row Leftie.
- Mirror: Kinnock boots out black rebel, Sharon.
- Today: 'Racist' jibe woman axed by Labour.
- Daily News: Kinnock ousts black activist Atkin and picks new candidate.
- Express leads P1 with Labour sacks black rebel; leader says Labour has acted wisely though they had little choice. But has Kinnock the guts to tackle the rest of the extremists?
- Mail leads with "Left rage at ban on black"; leader says this action is to Kinnock's credit but he has lacked the will to disown those who support black sections. It carries authentic Kinnock hallmark - too little, too late. More desperate than decisive. Strong on gesture. Short on substance."
- Times P1 lead says Labour row as Kinnock sacks black militant, Sharon Atkin. Notts East, because of her remarks at black section rallies.
- Independent: Labour suspended Sharon Atkin; Kinnock said "We will not advance the cause of black people in this country if candidates call our party racist and simply get away with it".
- Telegraph P2: Labour drops Sharon Atkin.

LABOUR

- Express says Hammersmith Council, held up by Labour as a model of good local government, was besieged last night by angry ratepayers who have been told to pay 50% more.
- Paul Johnson, in Mail, features "The Real Labour Manifesto". He concludes under heading "Quality of life" - And no need to be afraid of the men in white coats. They will be under firm democratic control, too.
- Ronald Butt, in Times, says Kinnock is dealing in illusions over Labour aggregating Labour and Alliance potential votes and asserting there is an anti-Thatcher majority. All the evidence indicates that real national majority is anti-Labour.
- Times: Economics Editor describes Labour's spoof Conservative manifesto as a curious document. Several of the supposedly secret Tory proposals are entirely open Government commitments.

CONSERVATIVES

- Star says British Coal could be sold off to the miners if you win the election - a similar buyout as in National Freight contemplated.
- Sun says Norman Tebbit is too cocky in saying Conservatives will win the election - voters do not like being taken for granted.
- Mirror says a former National Front member is to fight a seat for Tories in Wrekin local elections.
- Times: You have provisionally decided on 11 June for general election having ruled out 4 and 18 June. Senior ministers concede June is the time. Spate of encouraging developments on economic front, lower unemployment and record order books.
- Independent: You are preparing for 11 June election, according to Ministers; speculation increased with Lawson's electioneering speech in the House, promising further tax cuts and optimistic view of the economy.
- Tories increasingly optimistic about local election success (Independent

FINANCE BILL

- Star opposes Finance Bill measure to make insurance companies pay 5% extra tax on investment funds - described by MPs as backdoor taxation.

EDUCATION

- Today polls show nearly twice as many blame Government rather than teachers for dispute but that 53% believe teachers should never strike; leader says only the Government can break the circle of anger and disruption and must act.
- Bishop of London describes Government's education plans as "the road to totalitarianism" re opportunity for schools to opt out of LEA control. Local councils an important check on Whitehall.
- Times leader says parents digging deep into pockets for private education because they are in despair at damage so many teachers are inflicting on a generation of state school pupils.
- Independent leader says British education has always emphasised academic aims - children with technical and practical bents neglected. This is why Britain celebrated for original research, but fails to develop new inventions. Neither the Conservatives nor Labour have the solution.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Times: Health conference told food women eat may play important role in development of breast cancer.
- Times: NHS heading for crisis due to shortage of occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other professions allied to medicine, says Lord Ennals.
- Times: Bishop Montefiore attacks Government's AIDS campaign for divorcing sexual intercourse from personal relationships.
- Independent: Hospitals are refusing to accept patients from outside their boundaries until the health authority from which they come agrees to pay for the treatment.
- Independent: Government cuts forcing economies on teaching hospitals which make it impossible to educate doctors satisfactorily.

LAW AND ORDER

- Times: Pressure growing in Lords to give right of appeal against over-lenient sentences under Criminal Justice Bill.

INDUSTRY

- Express launches "Jaguar's sensational new XJ6 by driving it across USA. US dealer says "We can't build cars like that over here".
- BIM claims managers on average are falling behind workers with pay rises.
- Mail has big coverage with picture of Small Business Conference "Tories give pledge on inner city enterprise".
- Times: BIM report says number of women managers has risen by more than a third in past 12 months but on average paid less than men in same position.
- Times: Lord Young calls for 100 leading companies to launch crusade to improve standards of managers.
- Times: Williams Holdings bid for Norcross fails by 2%.
- Times: John Crowther, one of Britain's fastest growing textile companies, raising about £57m for expansion.
- Times: Amendment to US trade bill, passed by four votes hours before Mr Nakasone's arrival, will require retaliation against America's largest trading partners.
- Paul Channon will reinforce Britain's case for greater access to Japanese markets at meeting with Mr Tomura, Japanese Minister from MITI (Independent).
- Independent: Chairman of Caterpillar rescue company resigns, throwing fresh doubts on the company's £5m plan to produce multi-purpos vehicle.
- FT: Mobil gets go-ahead for £60m projects in North Sea.
- FT: Amstrad boss, Alan Sugar says secret of success is not to be overawed by professional advice, particularly from the City.
- FT: B/Telecom plans £40m savings at its headquarters this year which could entail loss of up to 2,000 jobs.
- FT: Impact of small businesses on unemployment is - and will remain - modest, according to pamphlet from the Employment Institute.

UNIONS

- Times: GCHQ unions to join strike for first time since you tried to ban unions from complex three years ago.
- Independent: Judges are suing Lord Hailsham in dispute over their pay. The judges are accusing Government of refusing to negotiate.

MEDIA

- Times: Government will today reject as completely inadequate BBC's plans to widen access for independent producers.

EAST/WEST

- Times: You reaffirm Government's acceptance of proposals to eliminate medium range missiles and commitment to achieving rapid progress at Geneva talks at meeting with Mr Bessmertnyhk.
- Guardian says West Germany is insisting Britain should deploy its share of new generation of SR nuclear missiles if NATO decides to reject Soviet proposals for their elimination.

EAST/WEST (Cont'd)

- FT: Soviets brief Thatcher. You told ~~Fess~~ ~~er~~ ~~tnykh~~ that Western alliance was engaged in urgent discussion of Soviet proposals and hoped a common position would soon be reached. Leader says that, in the end, Europe will broadly acquiesce with removal of all Euromissiles with range above 500Km; but everything hangs on the West Germans.

RELIGION

- Geoffrey Dickens calls for the Church to purge its pulpits of homosexual clergymen (Independent).

WEST GERMANY

- FT: West Germany's trade surplus nears DM28bn for first three months, despite DM's appreciation.

SOUTH AFRICA

- FT: Broader economic sanctions - excluding gold and minerals - could reduce the republic's visible export earnings by a quarter, according to London-based Trade Policy Research Centre.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES, ETC)

DHSS: Mr Fowler attends AIDS Regional Briefing

DOE: Mr Ridley presents awards at the Housing Corporation's International Year for the Sheltered Families Conference, London; later speaks at the Institute of Civil Engineer's dinner, London

DTP: Mr Moore attends BACMI Annual lunch, Dorchester Hotel, London

HO: Mr Hurd presents prizes at Hendon police dog trials

MAFF: Mr Jopling presents Food from Britain Awards for Export Achievements, Barclays Bank; later attends Prime Minister's reception for Farmers, with Mr Gummer, Lord Belstead and Mr Thompson

DEM: Mr Trippier speaks at Nottingham Business Venture AGM

DEN: Mr Goodlad visits Torness Babcock International and Hunterston

DES: Mr Dunn visits Kirk Lees LEA and Schools

DES: Mr Walden visits University College, Swansea

DES: Mrs Rumbold meets with Sir Keith Joseph on Education 2000

DHSS: Mrs Currie speaks at City Liaison Group Whitbread's Brewery, London; later speaks at the Institute of Psychiatry lecture on drinking sensibly, London

DOE: Mr Tracey addresses the Lovell conference on housing issues, London

DOE: Mr Patten addresses Westminster and City Programmes Conference

DOE: Mr Waldegrave addresses the Royal Society of Arts, London

DTI: Mr Butcher attends Industrial Business Studies anniversary at University of Warwick; later speaks at Young Marketeer Awards, Birmingham

DTI: Mr Shaw visits companies in Birmingham

FCO: Lady Young addresses Royal Commonwealth Society, Commonwealth Seminar, London

FCO: Mrs Chalker addresses London Chamber of Commerce, Tropical African Committee, London

FCO: Mr Eggar addresses Commonwealth Foundation Fellowship Scheme, London

HO: Mr Hogg visits Devon and Cornwall police; later speaks at SW Coroners Society, Exeter

HO: Mr Waddington visits Leicester

MAFF: Mr Gummer attends Celebration of Fish dinner, Fishmongers Hall

MAFF: Mr Thompson attends Grain and Feed Trade Association dinner, Grosvenor House, London

WO: Mr Robinson attends Wales Association of District Council's reception, Cardiff

TV AND RADIO

Education Secretary Mr Baker interviewed for Sunday Telegraph Magazine

DTI Minister Mr Shaw interviewed on West Midlands Radio, Birmingham

Party Political Broadcasts by the SDP/Liberal Alliance: BBC 1 (21.00);
BBC 2 (22.40); ITV (21.50); BBC Radio 4 (13.35)

Channel 4 News: (19.15): Richard Luce interviewed: Government policy on arts

"Pillars of Society"; BBC Radio 4 (19.40): Peter Riddell of the Financial Times investigates how much power and influence are vested in the banks

"Comment"; Channel 4 (19.50): A personal view of a topic which is of current interest. (No further details at time of diary preparation.)

"This Week"; ITV (20.00): Looks at Security Services and Agencies

"Question Time"; BBC 1 (22.15): This week with Rosie Barnes MP; Nicholas Horsley; Norman Lamont MP; George Robertson MP; Chaired by Sir Robin Day

"Their Lordships" House; Channel 4 (11.10)
