

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Fire Brigades Union Annual Conference, Bridlington (to 15 May)

Inland Revenue Staff Federation Annual Delegate Conference, Blackpool (to 15 May)

OECD Ministerial Council, Paris

Handover of Hermes to the Indian Government

EC: Internal Market Council

STATISTICS

DTI: Producer price index numbers (Apr - prov)

OPCS: Recorded internal population movements in the United Kingdom (Mid 1985 to mid 1986)

OPCS: Live births, stillbirths and deaths; registrations (28 February to 27 March 1987)

Law Commission Annual Report

PUBLICATIONS

DES: HMI Report: Quinton Kynton School, Camden

OPCS: Visiting the National Portrait Gallery

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Employment; Social Services; Prime Minister

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill: Proper Representation of the People
Dartford-Thurrock Crossing Bill: 2nd Reading, Ways and Means
and Money Resolutions
Motion on the Parliamentary Constituencies (England)
(Miscellaneous Changes) (No 2) and (No 3) Orders

OPPOSED PRIVATE BUSINESS

London Regional Transport Bill

London Docklands Railway (Beckton) Bill

A Motion to suspend the ten o'clock rule for the Ways and Means Resolution will be moved at 10.00 pm

Adjournment Debate: Youth employment in the Rother Valley (Mr K Barron)

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)Select Committees:

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATION
 Subject: Reports of the Parliamentary Commissioner
 for Administration for 1986
 Witness: Mr A M W Battishill, Chairman of the
 Board of Inland Revenue, and officials

COMMITTEE ON A PRIVATE BILL
 Harwich Parkeston Quay

Lords: Conveyancing Services Bill (HL) (Consolidation): Second Reading
 Criminal Justice Bill: Committee (1st day)
 Deer Bill (E Radnor): Committee
 Crown Proceedings (Armed Forces) Bill: Committee
 Agricultural Training Board Bill (L Stanley of Alderley): Third
 Reading
 Parliamentary and Health Service Commissioners Bill: Third Reading

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

- Since June 11 was a foregone conclusion, your aim to win a third - and a fourth - election takes over as the news; Sun leads with "1997 - Maggie plans to rule for another 10 years"; you are 17-2 on to win with the bookies.
- Today's Audience Selection poll gives you 16% lead - 45/29/24 - an overall majority of 158.
- Stock Exchange soars to new heights with £15bn added to shares over last 2 days.
- Kinnock challenges you to a TV debate. Steel says ordinary people don't want your spiv society or Labour's bureaucrats and State Socialism.
- Denis Healey in Fussia claims Kremlin wants Labour to win. Today describes his claim as the first clanger of the election. Express says Healey realised this mistake almost immediately.

MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Sun reports an "astonishing plot" by Labour MPs to ditch Kinnock if he loses election. Up to 60 moderate MPs are planning to quit Labour and join Liberals while the Left will try to kick out Kinnock.
- Some journalists refusing to pay £5000 to travel with Owen on his election tour; SDP having to cut price.
- Mirror alleges you have done a deal with Gallaher to get prime billboard advertising space - presented as a "vote now, die later" issue.
- Mail says Alliance leaders are to have talks with Sir Robert Armstrong today about changes they would want in Government machine should they win.
- IRA issue threat of revenge against you and your Ministers: through through Gerry Adams.
- TUC expected to boycott latest special employment scheme - could have implications for union membership of MSC (Independent).
- Chelsea headhunters - soccer gang who stirred up violence across the world - sent to prison for terms of up to 10 years.
- Case of crazed father who batters 3 members of his family to death in Essex and then kills himself.
- Black youth stabbed to death on Broadwater Farm Estate, Tottenham.
- John Paton, Housing Minister, orders crackdown on local authority rent arrears, now totalling £211m.
- NUM to be told to take or leave the package accepted by UDM in ballot.
- CPSA, largest Civil Service Union, rejects demand for all out strike.
- Mail says National Confederation of Parent/Teacher Associations has found only 3% of schools have received enough help to teach GCSE courses properly. Ray Honeyford writes in Mail on danger of new racialists who refuse to allow black children to be fostered by whites.
- Mail says Nissan is to boost car production 6 months ahead of schedule in move to create over 2000 jobs and cut imports by £80m.
- Experts attack idea, propagated in Times yesterday, that smallpox vaccine may have triggered AIDS.
- Two British shows - Me and My Girl and Les Miserables - top of list of Tony Award nominations.

MAIN NEWS (Cont'd)

- Robert McFarlane says Reagan knew of efforts to arrange cash aid to Contras after official US help was outlawed.

- West Germany instructs border police to turn back all foreigners suspected of carrying AIDS virus.

ELECTION

- Star declares its independence; it will make up its mind at the end of the campaign who to support; meanwhile their columnist Mills says he is among those who believe Labour will never form another government - if elected it would form the most doctrinaire, hard Left government ever seen in this country. Leader says even your sternest critics have to admit you have strength, vision and courage in abundance.
- Sun leader headed "Go get 'im Maggie" says you had no choice but to call an election campaign. You are the most effective Prime Minister since Churchill and they applaud your transformation of our economic prospects and rejoice at your new standing in the world. Kinnock is the worst Labour leader since Foot. Alliance a split personality. But if the Tories are tempted to be complacent or cocky they should beware.
- Joe Haines, in Mirror, complains you tried to beat Kinnock to the punch by grabbing all the radio and tv you could get; leader says you have called the election because you think you can win it now and fear you could lose it later. Timing reeks of cynicism. Voters can expect a campaign of the Big Lie. You don't give a damn - Labour for all its faults cares for all of the people all of the time.
- Today explains where it stands: Mrs Thatcher has presided over Britain which is more divided, more bitter and more desperate than at any time in most people's memory. Leader explaining where Today stands advocates tactical voting to remove you from office.
- Daily News presents you as confidently setting sights for 21st Century and Kinnock as seeing the choice between a united and a divided Kingdom; leader says an alternative to your rule needs to be canvassed and Labour is the party with the best chance of overturning you. Alliance parties remain blurred. But it admits that Labour is a two-headed animal in London.
- Express says "a supercharged Mrs Thatcher left the Opposition standing last night as she promised a dynamic, bold programme to take Britain into the next century". Leader says you are right to call an election on June 11. You would have had to provide a very good reason for not going now. There are vital decisions to be made about how the country should be governed over the next 5 years. Without an election now the country would have had to endure costly and damaging uncertainty. Lord Chalfont says the major issue on June 11 for the first home will be our national defence policy.
- Also in Express, Dr Robert Waller, author of Almanac of British Politics, says you are not as high in the polls as in 1979 or 1983 but you are likely to win as the Opposition is divided. Only way he sees you beaten is if the Alliance shoots up.
- Centre page feature in Express lists "Kinnock's nightmare" - close up on 30 extremist election candidates, with biographies.
- Mail: They're off and Maggie says it's not going to be my last election. More freedom or more Socialism - that is the choice. Leader headed "Her will and our way to freedom" says already, before publication of manifesto, the impression is growing that while the Tories are committed to go forward, Labour is determined to stop the clock and if possible put it back. In this election roles will be reversed: Kinnock will captain reactionaries - you will lead radicals. As for Alliance they have policies to suit every taste and to confuse. It has many attractions but clarity of purpose is not one of them. Could anyone else have achieved what you have? For Britain's sake it hopes you win.

ELECTION (Cont'd)

- Times: Thatcher goes for third win with policies for the 21st century, and with the party further ahead in polls than any PM since the war but victory is not a certainty.
- Times: Kinnock holds tight rein on manifesto combining the theme of a moral crusade against Thatcherism with making the reduction of unemployment and poverty the priorities.
- Martin Fletcher in Times looks at marginal seats naming those in danger.
- Times leader discusses the changes made over the years to election campaigns and says that every campaign adds its own special feature to election history.
- Andrew Gamble in Times discusses tactical voting and says voting tactically means voting for a party which is not your first choice.
- Independent: You name the day with expression of hope that you could lead the Conservatives into two more victories; within hours of returning from the Palace you were talking of a fourth term and listing tasks.
- Anthony Bevin's feature on how tactical votes threaten marginals. He concludes that the theory of the tactical vote is undermined by the general election campaign and its undoubted impact upon the generality of voters.
- The Advertising Standards Authority is about to issue a policy statement on the content of political advertising in newspapers, magazines and posters, to ensure they are honest with the public in the forthcoming election.
- Independent leader says that this should be a thoughtful election because we will be offered an unusually clear choice between alternative visions of how society should organise itself and between very different styles of leadership. Concluding that your great virtues of courage, determination and sense of purpose are in real danger of turning into vices of stubbornness and hectoring authoritarianism. You may be the greatest threat to the re-election of a Conservative Government.
- William Rees-Mogg in Independent says the pre-condition of the past changes in power has invariably been that the governing party has lost confidence in its own ideology and had actually changed its policy. No one can say that of you in 1987.
- Independent: ITN interviewer Peter Sissons writes on party attempts to manipulate TV: "the Prime Minister is the greatest challenge of all.... always the best briefed of the lot she has an instant appraisal of what you're trying to suggest to her. what the question is and if you haven't done your homework, she'll kill you stone dead, not with words, as Healey might do, but with a look".
- FT: Thatcher seeks record third term with June 11 election. London share prices soared in anticipation, but a sense of anti-climax hit sterling and bond prices.

ELECTION (Cont'd)

- Telegraph: Fourth term target for Thatcher. Kinnock needs 1945 swing for outright win. Callup shows interest in tactical voting on the decline in recent weeks, especially among Tories; leader says the campaign will be unlike any other in modern political history. For the first time 3 party groups will have a realistic chance of influencing the content of the next Parliament, and perhaps 4 weeks away from the greatest long term shift in politics since Labour first came to power with possibility of Alliance overhauling Labour.
- Chirstopher Patten writes in Telegraph on how a hung Parliament could tie us all up in knots.
- Guardian says you put your leadership style on the line. You have prepared a reserve strategy which will come into play if you start losing your lead: maximum political capital out of ensuing drop in stock market; leader looks back. somewhat hopefully, to example of 1970 when Wilson lost and Hugo Young rehearses doubts which he says shake Tory confidence.

IRA

- Star says you have congratulated the SAS on its success at Loughgall - "a brilliant job". Catholic priest yesterday described one of the IRA squad responsible for 7 murders, as an upright man and truthful.

INDUSTRY

- Times: Rolls-Royce shares up 50p giving those allocated the minimum 150 shares a £75 profit.
- Times: Housebuilders call for independent ministry of housing to fight for land and resources. They say there is a conflict of priorities within Department of the Environment.
- Times: National Freight Consortium seeks mandate to float the company.
- Times: Paul Channon takes immediate steps to strengthen Takeover Panel and says he is considering tightening up Companies Act in areas related to bid battles.

DEFENCE

- Times: Indians quibbling over paying for all work done on HMS Hermes which will be handed over to them today.
- Times worries over new Polaris rocket after test firing failure.
- FT: Shultz, in Time magazine, rejects suggestions of linking an INF deal with an accord on a reduction in Soviet conventional forces.

EDUCATION

- Times: Kenneth Baker wants management changes at University College, Cardiff, before giving them more money.

HEALTH

- Times: Westminster Hospital likely to close within 5 years in plan to save £17m.

MEDIA

- FT: Greater concentration in commercial radio continues with merger of boards of GWR Radio and Plymouth Sound.
- FT: Robert Maxwell decides to move all his national newspapers over to colour printing and produce them in London and regional plants.

EC

- FT: EC repeats warning that it will use tariffs to prevent diversion of Japanese electronic products from the US.

INDIA

- Independent: Gandhi imposes direct rule on the troubled Punjab.

PHILIPPINES

- Independent: Millions of Filipinos voted democracy back into their troubled country yesterday electing a new two-chamber congress in an atmosphere of optimism. Aquino to win majorities in both Houses.

BERNARD INGHAM

DES: Mr Baker addresses APT Annual Conference

DTI: Mr Channon addresses American Chamber of Commerce, London

DTp: Mr Moore addresses the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors dinner, Hilton Hotel, London

WO: Mr Edwards hosts dinner for Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Cardiff Castle

DEM: Mr Tripper launches Enterprise 2000 London Project, London

DEN: Mr Hunt attends the Energy Sleuth Competition, Kingston Upon Thames

DEN: Mr Goodlad addresses the Forum Atomic European Group, Cafe Royal

DES: Mrs Rumbold addresses launch of Balanced Science for All, Sudbury House, St Pauls, later addresses Pitman Publishing Skills for Jobs Conference, Bath

DHSS: Mr Newton launches information and training pack for general practitioners and community nurses, Royal School of Medicine, London

DES: Mr Walden attends NAB Video launch of High-Tech courses

DHSS: Mrs Currie speaks at the General Dental Council annual dinner, London

DHSS: Mr Lyell launches Helping the Community to Care, Royal School of Medicine, London

DHSS: Baroness Trumpington opens first session of the Council of Europe Committee on Pharmaceutical Questions, London; later attends John Grooms Association for Disabled reception, London

DOE: Mr Tracey visits Hull

DTI: Mr Pattie tours BioTech '87 Wembley; later addresses Banking Information Services, London

MAFF: Lord Belstead meets with the Apple and Pear Development Council, London

MAFF: Mr Gummer chairs regional panel meeting, London

MOD: Lord Trefgarne opens the Defence Manufacturers Association conference and exhibition, Brighton

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe attends OECD Ministers' Meeting, Paris

HMT: Mr Lawson attends OECD Ministers' Meeting, Paris

DTI: Mr Clark attends OECD Ministers Meeting; later attends reception hosted by President Mitterand, Paris

FCO: Mrs Chalker departs for Strasbourg - European Parliament Plenary Session (to 14 May); EC Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Council Meeting, Brussels (to 15 May)

HO: Mr Waddington attends conference of European Ministers responsible for migration affairs, Portugal (to 14 May)

TV AND RADIO

"Hindsight"; ITV (14.30): Christian Dymond, Jimmy Hill, Denis Law and Ian Wooldridge look back to football in the Fifties and Sixties and ask what has happened to our national game in the last twenty-five years

"In Business"; Radio 4 (16.05): Rodney Smith looks at the pros and cons of a company getting listed on the stock exchange

"Comment"; Channel 4 (19.50) A guest speaker gives a personal view

"War on Drugs"; ITV (22.30): Second of three programmes, using hypothetical situations looks at the international trade in narcotics and explores how far governments and enforcement agencies can go to stop illicit drug cultivation and smuggling. Professor Arthur Miller of Harvard Law School confronts the head of Interpol, representatives from the police, customs, the CIA and the drug enforcement fields, plus UN officials and politicians

"Two Nations"; BBC 1 (22.50): In the last programme of the series Fred Emery introduces a discussion of the consequences of the changes in the pattern of employment behind the rapid growth of unemployment and looks at some of the issues raised in the earlier programmes in this series

"Their Lordships' House"; Channel 4 (00.10)
