

15 July 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister has talks with the King of Morocco (photocall); is host at the Government lunch in his honour; later hopes to have an audience with the Queen

The Duke and Duchess of York visit Canada (to 25 July)

Protection of Animals (Penalties) Act 1987 comes into force

Crossbows Act 1987 comes into force

European Nuclear disarmament annual conference, Coventry

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STATISTICS

CSO: Cyclical indicators for the UK economy (June)

WO: Index of production and construction for Wales (1st qtr)

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PUBLICATIONS

HMT: Reply to PAC reports 8-10, 1986/87

HMT: Economic Progress Report

HO: Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary: Annual Report 1986

HO: Data Protection Registration Report 1986

HO: Report on Accounts of Cable Authority 1986-87

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PAY

Local Authority Manual Workers; 999,600: 1 July

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Environment; Scotland; Foreign and Commonwealth

Business: Consideration in Committee of the Finance Bill

Motion on the Rate Support Grant Supplementary Report (England) (No. 2) 1986-87 followed by Motion on the Welsh Rate Support Grant Supplementary (No. 2) Report 1986-87

Motion on the Urban Development Corporations (Financial Limits) Order

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

Adjournment Debate:      The proposed closing of the primary and middle schools, Aldermoor School, Lordshill, Southampton (Mr J Hill)

Lords:      Debate to call attention to the state of Primary and Secondary education

Debate to call attention to the state of the mercantile marine

Sunday Sports Bill (HL) : Second Reading

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MINISTERS      -      See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

You clear the way for phasing in community charge over a number of years - 5 years says Telegraph.

Church of England join revolt against community charge.

Independent claims that Britain's armed forces have carried out secret nuclear weapon accident training with radioactive material.

First copies of Wright book arrive from USA; you threaten to seek a slice of profits; Heinemann forecast the book will be on sale in Britain next month.

David Steel says closer links between Liberals and SDP were impossible because of the way in which some members of SDP had insulted Liberals. Cyril Smith, Russell Johnston and Geraint Howells, however, to try to talk Owen round, according to Daily News.

Suspicion that £10-£20m safe deposit raid might have been an inside job; one woman claims to have lost £5m. Mirror says haul was £26m.

Telegraph ebullient about the economy, with factory production racing ahead in industry where staid working practices have given way to a new dynamism, "making the country a world beater in growth terms". Guardian thinks it is some achievement not quite yet returning to levels of manufacturing output in 1979.

US Magazine says 10 of top 25 corporate profit earners outside USA are British - Express says we are establishing an impressive business empire.

Hattersley calls for more immigrants to be let into Britain on grounds of arranged Asian marriages.

Select Committee calls for random breath tests; Today backs idea and says just knowing you could be stopped and tested will keep a lot of drivers off the bottle. Mail says it would only be justified if present campaign fails.

Eric Hammond, EETPU, suggests an end to individual unions and the formation of one single union of 9m members to avoid competition between unions.

Equity lifts ban on performances in South Africa.



Civil Servants reject call for all-out strike.

Finance Houses Association toughens up its code of conduct to curb easy credit.

BBC appoints present editor of BBC radio news and current affairs as controller of editorial policy.

Col North says he turned down a \$1m bribe by an Iranian middleman to facilitate arms sales. Some of the focus remains on Maj David Walker, of RMS, who blew up an arms depot in Nicaragua with, it is said, the knowledge of the White House.

Your interview with Spanish journal covered - main point seized on is your impression that Gorbachev wants to increase contacts with the West and to treat us more as a potential partner.

50 killed, 200 injured, in Karachi car bombing during rush hour.  
Mail says 72 dead.

Express leads with attack by Lords on King Hassan as despot raging "bloody colonial war" in West Sahara, here to buy arms.

New scandal breaks over Reagan: former adviser, Michael Deaver, goes on trial accused of lying to Congress.

Britain calls for international monitoring agency to be set up to police chemical weapons ban.

#### WRIGHT AFFAIR

Star says it moves from Whitehall farce to pure pantomime. Just another example of how the Official Secrets Act is in many cases outdated and ineffective. That is a very real danger because it is vital highly sensitive intelligence material and military secrets should be properly protected.

Sun: Maggie set for US fight over Spycatcher - she wants book's profits seized.

Mirror: You put your foot in it by implying that America's Secret Service is inferior to Britain's.

Daily News: Bid to catch the Spycatcher cash.

Express: Spycatcher Maggie sets big money trap. You are determined to haunt Wright for breaking his oath of silence and to dissuade others from doing so.

Telegraph: Thatcher threat to seize spy book profits.



Times lead with Government considering legal action to force publishers of Peter Wright book to hand over profits. Also Ministers considering what further action they might take to stop other MI5 members publishing secrets, including docking pensions. Book could be available in Britain in August, say publishers; Customs officers turn blind eye to book as ITN bring in copies through Heathrow.

Guardian leads with Ministers wary of plan to block Wright profits. It says that at least four other former senior members of MI5 and MI6 are planning to publish books.

Independent: Anthony Bevins says Government showing increasing signs of desperation in its campaign against Peter Wright book; Ministers were advised back in May that legal action for an account of profits made from the publication in the US would fail in the American courts; leader says British Government would deserve unstinted praise if it were in the book promotion business. The publicity it arranged for Peter Wright's memoirs has been a sensational success. Certain secrets have to be kept secret. The mistake of the British Government is to try to keep many more secrets from Parliament and the public than necessary or practicable. Wright case shows that reform of the Official Secrets Act is not a luxury. It is essential.

FT: Spycatcher book slips into the country unhindered by Customs.

#### COMMUNITY CHARGE

Star: Maggie's time bomb tax - Commons revolt looming.

Daily News: All change on Tory plans for a poll tax - back in melting pot.

Express: Poll tax bill set to soar. Extra cost could be between £400 and £600m.

Mail: Premier moves to beat rates outcry.

Telegraph leads with "setback to Ridley" - rates to be phased out over 5 years.

Guardian says Tory Backbench critics of community charge claimed supposed concessions by Ministers were bogus and damaging.

Independent: General Synod yesterday vented its anxieties over the effects of the poll tax which could cost the Church of England an extra £4m a year.



## INNER CITIES

Sun appreciative of Prince Charles' efforts to improve their lot, says immigrants have a tough time in the East End but it is a far better time than they ever knew in Bombay or Calcutta.

Paul Eastham in, Times, continues his look at inner city decay with visit to Middlesbrough. He describes what is happening in the area under the heading "Multimillion pound search for life on urban moonscape".

Times: Prince of Wales returns to East End to open £300,000 watersport clubhouse in what was once a decaying part of London's docklands.

Times: Michael Heseltine warns that dereliction is disease spreading and polluting its surroundings.

## POLITICS

Daily News says some surprisingly respectful noises have greeted Kinnock's Shadow Cabinet allocations. The praise is merited.

Times: Steel and three of SDP's original "gang of four" launch concerted attack on Owen's conduct over merger.

Continuing the series in the Times "Can socialism survive?", V G Kiernan, writing from a Marxist viewpoint, sees education and informal unity as the key to an eventual renaissance. As things are, a single party cannot perform the practical spadework required for defeating Thatcherism and also campaigning systematically for socialism.

Independent: Bernie Grant voted against Labour Left in Haringey on borough's chaotic finances.

## MP'S PAY

Telegraph leader comes out in favour of Ministers maintaining their differential over MPs. It says it is not conducive to good government that Ministers, having completed their boxes in the small hours, should then lie awake agonising how to meet their household bills.



INDUSTRY

Nissan promises another increase in jobs in buying another 436 acres from Sunderland council for expansion. Mail says firm is aiming to treble output.

Times: Kenneth Clarke announces that Government to postpone decision on further funding of Alvey.

Times: Privately funded institute aimed at boosting work on energy discoveries to be launched in London today by Sir Ian MacGregor.

Times: US companies coming here to sign up top researchers in ceramic superconductors.

Times: Oftel tells BT to improve.

Times: Government will finalise plans to move entire electricity supply industry into private sector by end of year.

Alan Clark attacks Britain's foreign aid policy - Ministerial split revealed on aid and trade.

SCIENCE

Tom Wilkie in feature in Independent on the folly of a science policy that puts science before scientists, and concludes that basic science in Britain will lose out because our generally poor performance of exploiting results of science and technology has got poorer.

WELFARE

Brent to close two old people's homes after revelations that staff beat up and tormented inmates.

HEALTH

Times: Midwives to consider pressing Government to have AIDS classified as industrial disease so they can claim compensation if infected at work.

Times: Group of doctors call for licencing and regular screening of prostitutes to protect them and their clients from AIDS.

Times: Government urged to keep large institutional hospitals for mentally handicapped open.



EDUCATION

Express says predictably teachers' unions are up in arms against a no-strike deal. Yet why should they do so when other workers are accepting it? But NAS says it will accept no-strike clause in return for assurances over pay.

Alliance controlled Sutton council abandon plans to end 4 grammar schools in face of parent power.

DEFENCE

Former member of the RAF tells Independent that a body called the Nuclear Accident Response Organisation carried out an exercise code-named "Senator" in 1981, when radioactive dust was scattered around Staffs site to contaminate an area of about half a mile radius.

ROYALS

FT: Hereditary land possessions of British monarchy are worth £1.22bn, according to Crown Estates Commissioners.

EC

The deadlock between Britain and Community partners over research programme resolved by reduced budget. This appears to vindicate your unyielding and controversial demand for budgetary constraints - Times.

Guardian says your agreement to R & D programme is a climbdown.

MOROCCO

Times leader says King Hassan will call on you today with a long list of requests. But it might just be this country which stands to derive most benefit from the meeting.



DOE: Mr Ridley opens Housing Association Scheme, Brent

DTP: Mr Channon and Mr Mitchell meet the London Passenger Transport Group

MAFF: Mr MacGregor meets Grain and Feed Traders Association and later addresses Sir Stephen Roberts' retirement dinner, London

DEM: Mr Lee visits St Loye's College, Exeter; later visits the National Rehabilitation Centre of the RNIB, Torquay

DEM: Mr Cope addresses the Engineering Employers Federation lunch, London

DEM: Mr Nicholls attends the board lunch of the Barnet Enterprise Trust

DES: Mrs Rumbold visits schools in Lincolnshire (proy)

DHSS: Mrs Currie opens and addresses annual conference, Royal College of Midwives, Manchester, later visits Community Health Service, Bexhill on Sea

DHSS: Mr Newton attends reception for voluntary organisations and language in communications, London

DHSS: Local Skelmersdale opens refurbished Hammersmith Hospital, London

DOE: Mr Trippier launches Urban Trust, Brixton

DTI: Mr Butcher addresses Central School of Art and Design Annual Degree Exhibition at the Institute of Directors

DTI: Mr Atkins visits North Peckham Task Force

DTP: Mr Bottomley gives opening address at the Institute of Alcohol Studies Conference, London

DTP: Lord Brabazon visits a series of London wharves

FCO: Mr Eggar addresses British Caribbean Parliamentary Group, West Indian Committee

HMT: Mr Brooke addresses the Purley Women's Luncheon Club; later addresses the Institute for International Research Conference on PRP

MAFF: Mr Gummer visits Berkshire College of Agriculture and later attends Sir Stephen Roberts' retirement dinner, London

MAFF: Baroness Trumpington visits South Downs, ESA Demonstration Farm, conservation event, West Sussex

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#### TV AND RADIO

"You and Yours"; BBC Radio 4 (12.00) - no details available at time of diary presentation

"Nuclear Weapons"; BBC 2 (12.30): Critics of the US nuclear policy claim that lack of funds has left their nation's defences vulnerable to a pre-emptive Soviet strike

"File on Four"; BBC Radio 4 (16.05): First broadcast yesterday

"Open Space"; BBC 2 (19.35): The first programme in a new series. 'Star Wars' - this film has been made by scientists at London's Imperial College who actively oppose Britain's involvement in research on President Reagan's 'Strategic Defence Initiative'

"Comment"; Channel 4 (19.50): With a Labour politician

"Analysis"; BBC Radio 4 (20.15); 'No Nukes Is Good Nukes?'. President Reagan's proposal at the Reykjavik summit to abolish ballistic missiles alarmed his European allies. Since then, proposals for the elimination of medium and short-range nuclear missiles from Europe have raised similar qualms. Stuart Simon looks at western strategy in the light of developments in military technology and arms control

"Diverse Reports"; Channel 4 (20.30): With the summer wedding season in full swing, Sarah Aspinall argues that it is time to 'privatise' marriage. In the light of a new law that will give illegitimate children full rights, and a steady rise in divorce, State approval of marriage seems increasingly pointless. Could a new style of wedding based on personal commitment breathe new life into a tired institution?

"The Richard Dimbleby Lecture"; BBC 1 (20.10): Sir Denis Forman, Deputy Chairman of the Granada Group gives the 15th in this series of annual lectures, entitled 'British Television - Who are the Masters Now?'. He argues that our television is under threat from increasing political interference, from a vociferous minority concerned about obscenity, and from the current belief that the forces of the market place can solve all the problems of television

"Their Lordships' House"; Channel 4 (00.30)

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