

16 July 1987

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

The Queen visits Milton's Cottage at Chalfont St Giles

Prime Minister departs for Washington/Jamaica (returns 18 July)

Publication of public utilities paving bill

STATISTICS

Bank of England: Institutional Investment (1st Qtr)

DEM: Labour Market Statistics: Unemployment and Unfilled vacancies (June-prov); average earnings indices (May-prov), employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs; industrial disputes

HMT/CSO: Public sector borrowing requirement

SO: Road Accident Statistics for Scotland 1986

PUBLICATIONS

DES: HMI Report on Kingsbury Green Junior Mixed School, London Borough of Brent

DES: HMI Report on Torpoint CE Primary School, Cornwall

DES: HMI Report on Linton Village College, Cambridgeshire

DES: HMI Report on Gloucester College of Agriculture: Non-Advanced Further Education

DES: HMI Report on Wembley High School, London Borough of Brent

HO: Broadcasting Complaints Commission Report 1986

HCDC Report Implementing the Lessons of the Falklands Campaign

PAY

National Health Service; Ancillary Workers; 171,800

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Home Office; Northern Ireland; Prime Minister

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)

Business: Consideration in Committee of the Finance Bill

 Remaining stages of the British Shipbuilders (Borrowing Powers) Bill

 Motion on the Redundant Mineworkers and Concessionary Coal (Payments and Schemes) (Amendment) Order

Adjournment Debate: The system of funding of universities (Mr M Bruce)

Lords: Channel Tunnel Bill: Third Reading

 British Railways (London) Bill (HL): Third Reading

 Pharmaceutical Qualifications (EEC Recognition) Order 1987: Motion for Approval

 Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 1987: Motion for Approval

 European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (International Convention on the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System) Order 1987: Motion for Approval

 Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 1987: Motion for Approval

 Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1987: Motion for Approval

 Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1987: Motion for Approval

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

Poindexter clears President Reagan of knowing of Iran/Contras deal.

You are challenged to veto EC Commission's proposals to extend VAT. Mail, among others, says you are prepared to do so. Telegraph says you are heading for fresh confrontation with EC.

Andrew Neil, Editor, Sunday Times, says he intends to publish second series of extracts from Peter Wright book on Sunday, notwithstanding Appeal Court ruling yesterday.

Kinnock orders a revamp of Labour policies with a warning to Left not to stand in the way - "a high risk strategy" (Today).

B/Rail to slim down by up to 9,000 jobs, through wastage.

Strike in British Coal's Doncaster area against new disciplinary code - may spread in Yorkshire; Polmaise, Scottish pits to close.

CPSA votes against all-out strike against pay - 3-1 against.

Independent continues to pursue its story about the use of radioactive dust in Army training; Roger Freeman says exposure to it is no more dangerous than smoking a cigarette; Mirror says that if this is so, Mr Freeman might volunteer to hold the next exercise in his constituency.

Ian Posgate among 5 arrested in City by Fraud Squad investigating missing £15m.

Adam Raphael tells libel court that Jeffrey Archer told him he had met prostitute in case six months earlier.

Jeffrey Archer's play, opening in Bath next month, sells double normal number of tickets.

Three London policemen found guilty of beating up a group of youths - sentences yet to be imposed.

Government orders new investigation into RUC's procedures following Sampson report.

Idea of ending May Day holiday and substituting it with, eg a St George's Day, canvassed in Lords; Labour furious.

Don Dixon, Jarrow MP, elected Labour's deputy Chief Whip.

Robin Day retires as presenter of 'World at One'; Jimmy Savile's disc jockey contract ended by Radio 1 after 20 years.

Julia Somerville, TV news reader, leaves BBC for ITN.

Polly Elwes, TV personality, dies, 59, of bone cancer.

Canadian press attack - indeed abuse - Duke and Duchess of York on arrival for 25-day tour.

Daily News cancels contract with Ken Livingstone to write a column after his pro-IRA speech.

You turned a deaf ear to row over King Hassan's 4-day visit.

King Hassan expected to hold most controversial meeting yet with George Younger over possible sale of arms to Morocco (Times).

FT: Morocco wins UK credit, with picture, page 3.

Paul Johnson, in Mail, says Enoch Powell is right in saying he will have an hereditary peerage or nothing.

Honecker to visit West Germany for first time as East German leader.

Gorbachev tells media: we must never forgive Stalin.

YOUR VISIT TO USA

Daily News editorial suggest you lack the vision for putting your asset of seniority to work as go-between. Your first problem will be to satisfy the American press over British involvement in Irangate.

Today: Maggie flies through strain barrier - 11 talks in 12 hours for packed trip.

Express: Maggie's mission to wake the sleeping giant. Her aim is to put Reagan back on top.

You fly to Washington determined to bolster President Reagan's standing as leader of Western Alliance - Times.

Telegraph: Thatcher to tell Reagan "You're our leader". Don't be distracted by Irangate from important world issues; in another story Washington correspondent asks if Irangate has stymied Summit.

Guardian: Thatcher plans to take President's mind off Irangate.

RATES

Sun leader says it has been beaten by small minds and faint hearts; instead of standing firm the community charge is to be postponed at an initial cost of £2,500m. It hopes this is the very last time you will sound such a humiliating retreat.

Mail leader says you are both wilful and cautious and the combination can now be seen to be working on rates reform. Despite all opposition you will have it, but that does not mean you close your eyes to the risks. Transition sounds good sense, but if you are wise you will fund the cost by general taxation.

Telegraph leader says you will get the worst of both worlds if you go ahead with phasing. You can ill afford this "twisting in the wind" at this early stage in what should be a radical and reforming Parliament.

FT: Mr Ridley insists in Commons that no decisions have been taken about transitional arrangements for community charge.

THE COINAGE

Star says the proposals to reduce its size are not right and out of Toytown. It wants the restitution of the £ note.

Today says fiddling about with the coinage is what Governments do when they plunge their countries into inflation. You should leave it alone.

Mail says it believes most people would rather have their coinage left as it is - it may be a muddle but it's a familiar muddle.

LAW AND ORDER

Mail says Chief Inspector of Constabulary, in annual report, yesterday endorsed Bernie Grant's warning that inner cities are a powder keg.

Case of schoolgirl athlete who chases man who snatched £600 from grandmother's van and recovers it.

Star says there is no excuse for drinking and driving and it is depressing to hear Peter Bottomley speaking out against random breath tests.

SPIES

Desmond Bristow, former head of counter intelligence in Western Europe, says in Daily News that he will name two former MI6 men, never previously accused, of working with Russians - in book to be published this year.

Peter Wright says you are "a bitch" for trying to sabotage publication of his book.

Magnus Linklater, Daily News, says rich comedy is in store when you fly back from Washington and may well find yourself an accessory to crime when you discover your 'plane is carrying bootleg copies of Wright's book. Journalists flying with you would be failing in their editorial duties if they failed to purchase copies.

Times: Attorney General wins his first victory over Peter Wright book. Sunday Times editor says he has no intention of agreeing not to publish further extracts and will fight any attempt to stop him.

Picture in Times shows two men with trunks full of books offering them for sale at £100 a time in Parliament Square. They sell seven by end of day, making a loss so far.

Peter Barnard in Times says sicne most of the "revelations" have already been published - or soon will be - the potential buyer of the book is left with the minutiae.

FT: Sunday Times editor, Andrew Neil, says the Government is not entitled to stop his paper publishing further extracts from Spycatcher. He says he has refused to give the Government the undertakings it has asked for.

Guardian leader describes Appeal Court ruling as a serious day for freedom. It seems Whitehall need go to the bother of "injuncting" only one newspaper effectively to injunct all.

Independent: says it is likely to appeal in the House of Lords of the Court ruling yesterday; Andreas Whittam-Smith said that a system of law under which an injunction against one particular newspaper can be made to apply to all, however different their

circumstances, places too much arbitrary power in the hands of the Government.

Kinnock said Government should drop action against Wright now that they have made their point (Independent).

INDUSTRY

National Consumer Council report says people who borrow beyond their means should be protected by debtors' charter.

Times: £250m science park to be developed by Bristol and Bath universities with commercial partners could create 10,000 jobs.

Times: South London firm claims superconductor breakthrough.

FT: Trade and Industry ministers will review their Department's policies and functions at a special weekend meeting in September.

Independent: British Satellite Broadcasting, the new three-channel television service, signs a 15 year contract with IBA today enabling it to start broadcasting throughout the UK by 1989.

ECONOMY

£ gains 2 cents as dollar cut by trade deficit.

Express leader says that the problem for the Treasury, with all the good economic news around, is to fight off the demands of spending Ministers. You have not been very successful at controlling real public spending. To adapt your election slogan "The economy is booming again - don't let spendthrift policies ruin it".

Times: US trade deficit worsens in May. Imports hit record \$34.8bn, up 4.1%, while exports rose by only 1.4% to \$20.42bn. Deficit causes heavy sales of dollar in London.

Times: Number of unfilled vacancies at Job Centres is rising dramatically.

INNER CITIES

Only way Britain's inner cities with high levels of unemployment will begin to flourish again is by revitalising themselves from within, says Times leader. Government's primary responsibility is to create framework within which enterprise can flourish and defeatism evaporate. It calls on private sector to play its role, saying it could certainly prove better investment than loans, a hundred times bigger, to those faded El Dorados of Latin America.

FT: Lord Mayor of London launches "Awards for Business Involvement in the Community" to encourage community work and job creation projects.

POLITICS

Times: Kinnock sets two-year deadline for far-reaching changes designed to match Labour Party's policies with needs of electorate; Steel in bitter attack on SDP anti-merger faction.

Roy Jenkins, in Times, sets out his case for SDP/Liberal merger. He is convinced the only way SDP can achieve its full original goals is by making a closer Alliance through organic union.

Concluding the series "Can Socialism survive?", Michael Ignatieff in Times argues from the non-aligned left that Labour must learn to live with the market economy.

Mail leader on "Stainless Steel" says he is wondrous to behold as he wraps himself in a mantle of self righteousness. But who has provoked the bust up of the Alliance? He is a "prig".

Independent: SDP Whip accuses Steel of fuelling alliance discord; editorial says everything that has happened, even Mr Steel's pretence of injured innocence, was predictable.

VAT

Times: EC announcement to harmonise VAT by 1992 puts pressure on UK. EEC officials say it is now up to you to go ahead with threatened veto. Peter Brooke says there's no question of accepting anything that conflicts with your pledges.

HOUSING

Paul Foot, in Mirror, says a thousand tenants have been moved out of homes owned by a charity whose trustees are appointed by Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Chancellor, many against their will.

EDUCATION

Professional Association of Teachers calls on Kenneth Baker to clarify what he has in mind by way of no strike deal.

ILEA warns teachers who disrupt classes they will have their pay docked if they carry on.

HEALTH

Times: Edwina Currie tells midwives' conference she is against routine AIDS screening for pregnant women.

Times: Many women doctors risk being edged into dead end jobs and in growing danger of being overtaken by ambitious male colleagues.

Independent: Health Ministers are considering legislation to license private clinics and laboratories which provide tests for AIDS amid concern about standards.

WALES

FT: PAC criticises Welsh Office for its arms-length attitude to public bodies it sponsors.

EC

FT: EC paves way for removal of former tax barriers. Leader says it is questionable whether fiscal harmonisation is as central to member states' concept of what the internal market is about as the Commission thinks it should be.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Mr Fowler meets the Prince of Wales, London
- MAFF: Mr MacGregor breakfasts with US Secretary Lyng, Grosvenor House Hotel, London; later meets with Scotch Whisky Association; in the evening attends National Farmers Union office-holders' dinner, Knightsbridge, London
- MOD: Mr Younger meets King Hassan of Morocco
- DEM: Mr Lee attends Shakespeare Globe Trust ground breaking ceremony, Globe Theatre, Bankside
- DEN: Mr Morrison visits the Claymore Platform and Flotta Terminals, Orkney Island
- DES: Mrs Rumbold visits Council for Educational Technology, London
- DES: Mr Dunn addresses Shakespeare Globe Trust ground breaking ceremony, Globe Theatre, Bankside
- DHSS: Mr Newton lunches with Diabetics Association, London
- DTP: Mr Bottomley addresses the London Voluntary Council on Community Business in London, Greenwich Town Hall; later performs sod-cutting ceremony at Dorchester Bypass
- MAFF: Mr Gummer meets Sudan Minister of Agriculture, Dr Omer Nur-le-Daim, London
- MAFF: Baroness Trumpington attends NFU dinner, London
- OAL: Mr Luce speaks at Shakespeare Globe Trust ground breaking ceremony, Globe Theatre, Bankside, later visits Norwich

TV AND RADIO

Home Secretary Mr Hurd gives interview to LBC

"Analysis"; BBC Radio 4 (11.00): First broadcast on Wednesday

"You and Yours"; BBC Radio 4 (12.00): The boom in credit has caused gloom for advice agencies, overwhelmed by people who have fallen into debt. Organisations like the Citizens Advice Bureaux do not have the funds to provide the advice needed. Should the credit companies, banks and building societies pay for the service? John Howard looks at such a scheme operating in the United States

"Any Answers?"; BBC Radio 4 (19.20)

"From Russia with Long"; BBC Radio 1 (19.30): Tonight's Janice Long Show comes from the studios of Gosteleradio in Moscow, where over a special radio link young people from the United Kingdom and the USSR will swap ideas on everything from arms talks to fashion, drug abuse to unemployment

"Comment"; Channel 4 (19.50): Another guest speaker gives a personal view on a current topic

"This Week"; ITV (20.00): 'A Wing and a Prayer' - the alarming story of the obsolescent computer at the heart of the British air traffic control system at West Drayton

"Their Lordship's House"; Channel 4 (00.55): Tonight's guest presenter is Baroness Ewart-Biggs
