

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Conservative Central Council annual meeting, Felixstowe (to March 15)

EC Transport Council

STATISTICS

BSC/BISPA: Usable steel production (February)

DOE: Construction - output (4th qtr)

PUBLICATIONS

FCO: Treaty Series No 18 (1986) Agreement between Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (14.00)

HOL: EEC Sub-Committee E - 7th Report milk production (outgoers scheme) (08.30)

DTI: British Business' - includes feature on Queen Elizabeth II conference centre; market report 'doing business in the USA - consumer goods'

PAY

DEM: UKAEA; (4,700); substantial increases sought; settlement date 1.4.86

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Business: Private Members' Motions
Management Reorganisation in the National Health Service (Mr S Norris)

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (Mr T Favell)

Adjournment Debate
The future of the special support units at Crayford School (Mr D Evennett)

MINISTERS - See Annex

PRESS DICESTCRIME STATISTICS

- Rape and crime dominate today - rape up 29% in Britain; 56% in London, but burglary down. But rape figures possibly represent only one tenth of attacks (D/Star).
- Home Office considers changes to anonymity rule for alleged offences and complete protection of identity for victims.
- Police Federation comes out in favour of right of prosecution appeal against acquittal.
- D/Star says Britain is the in the middle of a rape epidemic.
- Mirror leads with "Bloody, brutal Britain" - Kaufman claims that since you came to power crime has gone up 41%; violent crime 40%; burglaries 54%; and vandalism and criminal damage 76%.
- Today says Home Secretary landed in a row when he denied that rape had reached epidemic proportions.
- Express P1: Shocking facts on soaring villainy, violence and rape in Britain today; leader says maybe there is something in a comparatively affluent society, long at peace, which produces its own mindless brutality but we must do as much as possible to protect the innocent with more police on beat, draconian sentences, more efficient prosecution and above all wholehearted support for law enforcement.
- Mail P1 says Douglas Hurd's plans to change the law on rape got a mixed reception from Tory MPs; leader on an "explosion of crime", says mercifully there is some exaggeration about the increase in rapes because of a wholly commendable improvement in the way police treat complaints. But the evil nonetheless needs to be stamped on with draconian vigour. You must square up to the widespread anxiety about crime generally. The great test of your will now is to change the nation's attitude to crime.
- Telegraph P1 lead: Hurd horrified by 29% rise in rape.
- Guardian P1 lead: Hurd ready for change in law in rape cases. Reinforced London force likely after rise in crime; leader says we should hold on to perspective. The 1842 rape cases in the entire country does not justify claims that rape is widespread. Government will get no help from rape obsessed Fleet Street tabloids but it needs to learn lessons of success on burglary.
- Times leads with "police record 29% increase in rapes". Your concern over rise in barbaric rape offences; leader argues case for more neighbourliness and assisting police in work of detection.

OTHER LAW AND ORDER

- Two charged with Ealing rape and aggravated burglary; another man and woman on burglary charge only.
- Mother of 8-year old girl, alleged to have been raped by a top doctor against whom there is said to be insufficient evidence, to start private prosecution. Geoffrey Dickens MP supporting her after case taken up by Norman St John Stevas. Sun says it is paying her costs. Terry Dick MP wants Sun to publish man's name. Mirror, reporting "horrifying case of assault against young children" say a society which fails to protect those who must need protection has no right to call itself civilised. When there is evidence of a child being sexually abused and the person responsible is identified, he must be prosecuted.
- George Gale, in Express, says public interest requires a prosecution even if it is thought evidence may not yield conviction.

- Labour MPs to defy new Home Office guidelines on handling of immigration laws.
- Loophole found in gun law which allows Army rifles adapted with air gun mechanism to be bought over the counter.

NORTHERN IRELAND

- An extra 550 troops being sent to NI.
- Evelyn Glenholmes, alleged terrorist, in Dublin court today. Judge will decide whether to allow bail - wants to know on what ground she is being held.
- Guardian says Chief Constable of RUC says responsibility for Ulster parades should be removed from police and given to special body to take pressure off RUC.

MEDIA

feudalism.

- Kinnock's attack on Rupert Murdoch attracts little coverage - accuses Murdoch of /
- You pay tribute to 79 policemen injured at Wapping (Sun).
- Sun commenting on Kinnock's speech about Wapping to print workers' rally last night, says that now Fulham by-election approaches he is eager to gain maximum publicity for Labour so he is prepared to lift the ban on talking to Murdoch newspapers. "Well, we have news for the Welsh windbag", it says, "get lost. So spout to the valleys".
- Rank fails in High Court to quash IBA's blocking of its bid for Granada

ECONOMY

- Sun says interest rates - and cost of mortgages - will fall with next week's Budget.
- Terence Beckett, of CBI, calls for a Budget of hope which shows that top quarter of population cares for bottom quarter - time has come to do something tangible for unemployed.
- Express says in spite of record unemployment, one in seven manufacturing companies is likely to have its output cut by a lack of skilled workers
- Telegraph say radical proposals to end the married man's allowances and introduce separate taxation of husbands and wives will form a key part of next Tuesday's Budget
- FT: The recent euphoria in the financial markets and on expected cut in interest rate has masked a distinct increase that the City may not escape unscathed in the Budget.

INDUSTRY

- Jaguar's record profits of £121.3m last year - 33% increase in its first full year of privatisation. Hands out £600 worth of shares to each of its 10,000 workers as bonus.
- Japanese firms in Britain plan to create 7,000 new jobs by the end of the year.
- Nearly 3.5m believed to have taken part in No Smoking Day on Wednesday.
- Today praises your "wise words" in remarking that the City is only as healthy as its reputation. If the City does not heed them, the Government should beef up the fraud squad and put more legal teeth into Securities and Investment Board.
- Banking union urging its members to strike for more pay against Barclay Lloyds and NatWest.
- Tam Dalyell MP to question Ministers on use of dirty tricks against James Gulliver (Argyll).
- Mail says rebellion among NACODS members against leaders call for an overtime ban in protest at closure of Bates colliery is growing. Peter Walker turns down union's approach to discuss closure procedure.
- Andrew Alexander, in Mail, says international cartels like the tin agreement exist to maintain artificially high prices.
- Telegraph says Laker lawyer offers to settle out of court to smooth way for B/Airways privatisation.
- Mick McGahey rules out of order 3 motions in NUM depriving Scargill of his job for 11
- FT: A leading metal trader, Philipp & Lion, headed by the Chairman of the LME, is quitting the exchange in the wake of the tin crisis. The LME has now lost 4 of its 2 members.
- FT: GWB Industrial Boilers, one of Britain's biggest manufacturers of coal-fired boilers, has gone into receivership because of the effect on its orders of the fall in oil prices.
- Post Office extends its price freeze on first and second class postage to July.

BL

- Little coverage in pops. Express has a feature on boss of GM who wants to buy Land-Rover and he says he is talking of making 10,000 more Land-Rovers immediately to sell world-wide.
- Telegraph says GM executives have hinted to the Government that they might wind up Bedford if their bid for BL does not succeed. Leader says if sale of Land-Rover to GM proceeds the Government will be wantonly squandering political capital and public goodwill.
- FT says Tory Party Whips have warned of a very strong view on the backbenches that an outright sale to GM is politically unacceptable and would lead to a major revolt: the BL Cabinet Committee now includes Lord Young and Nicholas Ridley. One "participa said that ministers were still looking for "a conclusion acceptable to supporters of the Government."

BJ. (CONT'D)

- FT: GM's net loss in Europe increased sharply last year to £253m. The Group ended 1985 with borrowings and other liabilities in Europe totalling more than its assets.

GCHQ/CIVIL SERVICE

- Guardian says Government is expected to announce today that it has decided to separate GCHQ from Civil Service.
- FT: A sub-committee of the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee is believed to have decided that the Government should appoint an Ombudsman to give an independent line of appeal to civil servants asked to carry out a duty with which they disagree.

SELLAFIELD ETC

- Sun feature setting out cases for and against keeping open Sellafield.
- Pops give next to no coverage of Government report which says that nuclear waste can be stored and disposed of safely.
- FT P1 lead: The Government is preparing to take speedy decisions on its nuclear power programme, following the expected delivery in September of the Sizewell report. Four or five stations based on the Sizewell design could be approved early next year.
- Article by Malcolm Rutherford says despite apparent setbacks, the signs are that the Government intends to come down firmly on growth in nuclear generation.
- Times notes strange silence of Peter Walker on nuclear issue.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Labour plans to pay ^{some} /councillors full time salaries of up to £15,000 a year.
- Mail says Government has ordered the shut-down on Haringey's direct labour organisation which has lost £5.5m over 4 years.

POLITICS

- Guardian Marplan poll interpreted as showing you are no longer an asset - but not a liability either.

PEOPLE

- Alfred Cullinane, man whose misfortune Brian Sedgemore raised in Commons, says DT had become a beneficiary in case which had cost him a fortune.
- Telegraph leader says Sedgemore's attack on DT and son goes too far. The onus on him is to provide proof rather than hide behind Parliamentary privilege.
- FT: NatWest last night strenuously denied Brian Sedgemore's allegations that it had been involved in a land fraud.
- Keith Waterhouse to leave Mirror in August. Jo Toley, managing editor, also goes.

HOUSING

- Telegraph says the home buying market is awash with money.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- British Medical Journal attacks Government for holding an international conference on drugs next week which ignores smoking and drinking. .

SPORT

- Express says the drift away from soccer is turning into a landslide. League attendances have almost halved in 30 years.

SWEDEN

- Man arrested in connection with Palme assassination.

SPAIN

- Simon Weston, Welsh Guardsman badly burned in Falklands War, coshed by security guard when he tried to get into Tenerife disco - he says locals took a dislike to him when they realised he had been in Falklands.
- Sun says that in future all British people who have pride in their own country will go anywhere but Spain.

NATO

- Delighted at Spanish vote. Express says this leaves British Labour Party's Left in splendid isolation; they are a disgrace to NATO, Europe and Britain.
- Mail says how welcome it is that the ordinary people of Spain have now so decisively shown their desire to resume their full and rightful part in Europe.
- Telegraph: The best sort of surprise.

GIOTTO

- Telegraph: Euro-triumph on Halley's Comet.

PHILIPPINES

- Mail feature on a wander through Imelda Marcos' bunker getting a glimpse of her life-style.

FRANCE

- Inflation down to 3.2%.

EAST-WEST

- Reagan willing to switch Gorbachev Summit until after Congressional elections in November.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DEM: Lord Young addresses Kirklees Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Huddersfield
- DHSS: Mr Fowler visits National Council for Carers and their elderly dependents, Birmingham
- SO: Mr Rifkind gives Founder's Day speech, George Watson's College, Edinburgh; later meets representatives of National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses, Edinburgh
- DTI: Mr Channon visits Bolton
- MAFF: Lord Belstead visits Van Heyningens Tomato Holdings, Kent
- DEN: Mr Hunt visits British Steel Corporation, Corby
- DOE: Lord Elton visits Tyne and Wear
- DOE: Sir George Young addresses Housing Crime and Security Conference, London
- DHSS: Mr Newton speaks at Scottish Association of Directors of Social Work annual conference, Rothsay
- SO: Mr MacKay visits Grampian TV Studios, Grampian police HQ and Grampian Fire Brigade, Aberdeen
- SO: Mr Stewart attends Schools Debating Competition, Edinburgh
- DTI: Mr Morrison opens Montgomery/Thomlinson new premises, Chester
- WO: Mr Roberts visits Polytechnic of Wales
- WO: Mr Robinson opens sheltered accommodation, Cardiff

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- DTp: Mr Ridley and Lord Caithness attend EC Transport Council, Brussels
- DTI: Mr Pattie visits CEBIT Fair, Frankfurt, FRG

TV AND RADIO

- "A Question of Economics"; Channel 4 (14.30): Debates the role of 'The Market' in the British economy
- "Micro Live"; BBC 2 (19.00): Reports on a new micro-based training aid for RAF air traffic controllers
- "A Week in Politics"; Channel 4 (20.15)
- "Any Questions"; BBC Radio 4 (20.45): With Viscount Etienne Davignon, Norman Lamont MP, the Rt Hon Tony Benn MP and Sue Slipman
-