

PRIME MINISTER

PRESS DIGEST

VISAS

- Mail, Telegraph and Guardian lead with the decision and FCO makes it clear it opposed it, according to Telegraph.
- D/Star ignores the issue. Sun confines it to P6 - "Visa curb for migrant fiddlers".
- Mirror P2: "Anger as visa rule gets OK" - Labour says it is a bureaucratic nightmare and racist and the Liberals also complain of racial prejudice.
- Today P2: "Race fury as Thatcher approves visa curbs"; claims there are signs of beat-the-visa flights; Today feature queries whether it is fair that Americans should not need a visa to visit Britain when people from Black Commonwealth will.
- Very small piece in Express P2, with Home Secretary warning Africans and Asians who want to try to beat the restrictions not to try it.
- Mail leads with "Clampdown on illegal immigrants". You slapped down FCS's objections about the "enormous damage" he believes it will do to relations with the Commonwealth.
- Telegraph leader says the Home and Foreign Offices have fallen out over the problem, but there seems no adequate reason for the FCO to resort to inflammatory phraseology. It must buckle down to its responsibilities.
- Guardian leader says the Government has bowed to union pressure. It is not an immigration issue but one of tourism and the ability of Civil Servants to cope. But it will be interpreted by many as one dominated by race.
- Times P1: FCO defeated on visas; leader on the case for visas says it is more sensible for all parties if a would-be illegal immigrant is found out before he steps upon the aircraft.
- FT P1: Racialism alleged in visa rule changes.

RACE

- Today leader takes Terry Dicks "unpleasant Conservative MP" to task for being ignorant, unfair, irresponsible and grossly offensive for calling West Indians "bone idle".

INDUSTRY

- 1000 protestors prevent engineers from starting test drilling at Bradwell for possible suitability as nuclear waste dump.
- Hopes of 1000 more jobs at Talbot and plant at Coventry through the assembly of another car model.
- NRPB estimates Chernobyl will claim 45 lives in Britain and 2000 in rest of Europe. Labour Party would scrap Sizewell (Guardian).
- Telegraph says you are expected to announce a change of policy on acid rain next week, before your trip to Norway, and to join the "30% Club".
- ICI production workers reject strike action over 5.3% pay offer.
- B/Aerospace announces \$100m order from USA for its 146 whispering jet airliner.

MEDIA

- Sam Brittan in FT advocates Lord Barnett as best conventional approach chairman of BBC; but would prefer a new approach with Peter Jay or Alastair Burnet as professionals.

ECONOMY

- Telegraph feature on where unemployment strikes hardest in the Midlands; and leader says a degree less rigidity in the labour market would offer a degree more hope to youngsters.

HEALTH SERVICE

- Joint report by Royal College of Nursing, BMA and Institute of Health Service Management says NHS needs extra £300m a year.

POLICY UNIT

- Guardian records Labour criticism of the appointment of a Consolidated Goldfields man to policy unit as "insensitive".

POLITICS

- Labour Party suspends Broadgreen Labour Party, Hatton's Liverpool power base.
- Hugo Young seriously doubts whether Labour has even begun to assemble an intelligible answer to Thatcherism.
- MORI poll in Times finds that nearly two-thirds of young people who have got the vote since you came to office feel that you are out of touch with them.
- Times leader wants politicians to show more concern for science policy and to commend it to voters.

LAW AND ORDER

- Welsh RU player gaoled for a month for assaulting an opponent on the field - a sentence, the Express says, which serves notice on all thugs that violence will not be tolerated on the field any more than off it.
- TUC ordered by Congress to campaign against the use of plastic bullets.

RUSSIA

- Old liner sinks in Black Sea with 1200 on board.
- White House suspects US journalist, accused of spying, was framed by KGB.

BERNARD INGHAM