

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

Prime Minister opens new premises of London Enterprise Agency; attends All-Party Ladies Committee for Westminster Hospital reception

Institute of Personnel Management annual conference, Harrogate (to October 24)

TUC General Council

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STATISTICS

DOE: Construction - new orders (August) (11.30)

WO: Index of production and construction for Wales (2nd qtr)

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PUBLICATIONS

DHSS: Social Security (Claims and Payments) Amendment Regulations 1986

HOC: 4th Report Foreign Affairs Select Committee - Session 85/86 ODA Supply Estimates 1986/87 - observations by Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs (15.30)

HOC: 6th Report Foreign Affairs Select Committee - Session 1985/86 - south Africa - observations by Government (14.00)

FCO: US No 3 (1986). Exchange of Notes between Government of UK and Government of USA amending Supplementary Treaty of 25/6/85 concerning Extradition Treaty of 8/6/72 (14.00)

NIO: NI Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum of 15,30 and 31 Reports Committee of Public Accounts - Session 1985/86 (15.30)

SO: Scottish Hospital Trust annual report (11.30)

HMT: Treasury Minute on the 32nd-49th Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 1985/86 (15.30)

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PAY

DEM: NHS - admin and clerical grades; (130,500); continuing discussions on improvements to allowances for computer staff; settlement date 1.4.86

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PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Scotland; Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Business: 10 Minute Rule Bill; Kidney Dialysis (Elimination of Waiting Lists) (Mr R Flavell)

Sex Discrimination Bill: Progress on Remaining Stages

Adjournment Debate

The operation of the Housing Defects Act 1984 in Cannock and Burntwood (Mr G Howarth)

PARLIAMENT (Cont'd)Select Committees:

TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
 Subject: to be announced  
 Witnesses: to be announced

SOCIAL SERVICES  
 Subject: Primary Health Care  
 Witnesses: Royal College of Nursing; Royal College of General Practitioners

Lords

Housing and Planning Bill: Report

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MINISTERS - See Annex

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PRESS DIGESTEDUCATION

- National Association of Teachers gets a hammering for its strike plans. NUT refuses to back idea which it says is "premature".
- George Walden tells NAS conference "You can't expect anyone to understand this damaging, self-interested piece of malice.
- Star says British education, once the envy of the world, is now a tatty mess. Top of the list to blame must come the teachers who are fast becoming one of the most petty and pathetic of professions. You have said you are determined to bring order and standards back to the classroom; no one can argue with that.
- Sun says teachers are entitled to a fair deal but if the public now treat teachers with contempt they've only got themselves to blame.
- Mirror says strikes are the coward's way of conducting industrial relations and the Education Secretary is right in calling the teachers' proposed strike shameful and disgraceful.
- Telegraph says Kenneth Baker can easily turn the NAS's irritant threat to Government advantage. The NAS is isolated.
- Guardian leader on "A silly step too far by teachers" says it is hard to see the point of their call for half day strikes. The teachers have won. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the NAS has become irresponsibly strike happy.
- Independent in an editorial, says that the society gets the teachers it deserves. It is critical of the move to strike by teachers but says the government along with local politicians and some newspapers are to blame for the low morale in the profession.

BBC

- Settlement of libel case, at cost of £0.5m, presented as a BBC climb-down. Mrs Christine Hamilton, wife of one of MPs in the case, says her family has been through "absolute hell".
- BBC journalists describe Alasdair Milne as "Judas" for backing down.
- John Vincent in Sun describes it as an individual victory over a great institution which thought it could get away with anything.
- Today reports Labour claims that Tory party leaders influenced BBC's decision to climb down. Robin Corbett MP wants Attorney General to investigate reports that senior Tories pressured witnesses; leader on the "BBC's bad mistake" says the damage caused by the case to the BBC's reputation for impartiality and integrity could be enormous. It must show it has the courage to redeem itself.
- Express leads with "Crisis at the BBC" - feud between Government and BBC over allegations of Left wing bias now threatens to explode; leader headed "Time for action at the BBC" says the case proves that the BBC is professionally and financially out of control. No wonder there is mounting pressure for the smug head of Alasdair Milne".
- Excellent, balanced leader by the Mail which says the latest blunders are symptomatic of a deep and continuing BBC malaise. There should be resignations at the top. What BBC lacks is its own strong internal sense of editorial direction.
- Telegraph leads with "BBC heads must roll, say Tories." 100 Tories sign motion calling for restoration of professional standards and high integrity; feature says the BBC is not wicked - just woefully out of hand.
- Independent lists 15 incidents, from a "long trail of banana skins" in which the BBC has caused controversy because of management decisions.
- Times leader says that to begin to fight a libel action and to settle so soon afterwards puts a question mark over the competence of the management involved.

MEDIA

- Today newspaper, hit by declining sales, last night admitted that the independent Audit Bureau of Circulations had refused to endorse its six-monthly figures.
- Times: Oxford University students are likely to ban The Times from attending a controversial debate this evening on David Selbourne, the former Ruskin College lecturer who wrote in The Times about Militant.
- Association of British Editors wants to make the Lobby system more open and attributable.

EAST-WEST

- US expels 55 Russian diplomats in retaliation for Soviet's expulsion of 5 Americans following departure of 25 Russians.
- George Younger, at NATO press conference, emphasises importance of reducing imbalance in conventional war power.
- You are to visit Camp David on November 15.
- Mail leads its front page report of the US expulsions: "Return of the cold war?".
- Guardian: The USA takes a gamble in its relations with Russia, hoping that the expulsions will not prevent "business as usual" on arms control.
- Independent says that the US decision to expel a further 55 Soviet diplomats is a major escalation of the diplomatic expulsion war. But only 5 are spies, the other 50 are expelled to balance Soviet diplomatic strength in the States with American representation in Russia.
- Times: Western diplomats in Moscow predicted that there would be rapid and tough reaction from Mr Gorbachev.
- Gorbachev yesterday called for the setting up of working groups from NATO and the Warsaw Pact to discuss proposals for sweeping cuts in the number of conventional forces on both sides.
- Chancellor Kohl, in Washington, urged President Reagan to act cautiously on disarmament proposals.
- George Younger and other NATO ministers gave the clearest warning to President Reagan yesterday that Europe was not yet ready to live without nuclear weapons (Times).
- FT: General mood of the Nuclear Planning Group meeting was one of seeking to close ranks after NATO military commanders and European politicians expressed serious misgivings about the proposals tabled at Reykjavik.

ARCHBISHOP

- Runcie and wife issue statement to kill "ill-founded rumours" about their marriage after Bishops had earlier condemned "scurrilous, baseless" stories.
- But D/Star maintains that an unnamed lay member of the Synod confirmed the accuracy of its reports.
- Sun, which first printed allegations, has a page feature on "20 fascinating facts about Runcie's trouble and strife".
- Express says Ministers fear a dirty tricks campaign is being waged against the Archbishop to undermine his position; well known his moderate style is disliked in some quarters. You have a high regard for him and are upset by the reports.
- Mail says he does not see eye to eye with you and his continued demand for full scale sanctions against South Africa is a source of irritation.
- Mail feature by A N Wilson says cruel and smutty stories would do nothing to shake a strong leader who was beyond reproach; Runcie is not that man.

YOUR INTERVIEW WITH EXPRESS

- A second instalment today, a two-page spread with pictures, headed "I'm here to stay for a fourth term".

POLITICS

- Harris poll puts Conservatives level with Labour - 39/39/Alliance 19.
- Today feature on "Kinnock's ghosts" - Mansfield where a Scargill man has been selected; Knowsley N, Bernie Grant, Pat Wall etc.
- Tories walk out of Lambeth Police Committee in protest at presence of Sinn Fein members.
- Jack Warden, in Telegraph, puts long distance money on Michael Portillo as a future Chancellor and Richard Ryder as Foreign Secretary.
- The Independent unattributably claims that the Liberals are close to agreeing their policy on nuclear defence. The formula is expected to endorse the retention of Polaris.
- Black sections of the Labour Party criticise their own front bench for being behind "even the Tory Government" in their approach to ethnic monitoring.
- Times: The Liberals are considering a solution to its defence split based on retaining Polaris into the 21st century.
- The Tory Party direct mail operation aimed at floating voters has clocked up its 1,000th member.
- Leslie Huckfield, the Left winger, has pleaded to Labour's national executive to let him stand in the Knowsley North by-election.

POLITICS (Cont'd)

- Neil Kinnock yesterday intensified Labour's attempt to win over the 6.2 million young people who have reached voting age since you came to power. He has labelled the government "anti-young".
- Times: Conservative strategists are jubilant over privately-commissioned opinion polls which put the party level with Labour.
- FT: Alliance agreed on the formation of a central campaign organisation to fight the next election although they will operate separate campaigns at constituency level.

ECONOMY

- Oil price firms after OPEC agreement and sterling has a better day.
- Oil prices should rise by \$18 a barrel by December (Independent).
- MSC gives cautious welcome to Lord Young's scheme to help unemployed under 25 but would monitor the pilot scheme which could be seen as a down market Youth Opportunities Scheme (Independent).
- Times leader criticises Labour's attempts to make something of the unemployment assumptions used to get EEC funds for run-down areas. Nor, it says, are the regions some kind of wasteland which can only be reclaimed by pouring in public money.
- FT says the OPEC agreement on output control is likely to be a muddled compromise which can only polarise OPEC and embitter feelings.
- FT: CBI urges tax reform to improve competitiveness and lower business rates in their submission to the Chancellor. Profit-related pay proposals likely to be given a cautious welcome.
- FT leader strongly criticises "the absence of any clear financial strategy of any kind" and says the Government is doing little to regain the confidence of the markets. Now Parliament will join in the pressure for clarification before full EMS membership is forced upon us by adverse economic statistics.

PRIVATISATION

- Launch of B/Airways £1bn privatisation gets good coverage.
- Telegraph: BA will stay British after shares float.
- FT welcomes tough measures to be introduced to stop overseas shareholders from building up substantial stakes in B/Airways after privatisation. Flotation expected to raise £1bn.

INDUSTRY

- CBI expected to name John Banham, Audit Commission, as new Director General.
- FT: First scheme created by Richard Branson's UK 2000 project gets under way at Trafalgar Square.
- Times: More than 130,000 British Telecom workers could become the first trade union with shares in a privatised company to endanger its market performance if they decide next month on industrial action.



### UNIONS

- Sam McCluskie, moderate, beats Left 3-1 to win general secretary of NU Seamen.

### TRANSPORT

- B/Rail to cut its staff by a further 1,799 following new Government targets. Rail unions say they can only lead to fares increases.
- Mail: Outcry at '25% rise in rail fares' - a prediction by Robert Adley MP.
- The Department of Transport is to appoint private consulting engineers to supervise motorway repairs in the West Midlands in order to bypass anti apartheid policies of the Birmingham City Council (Independent).
- Latest BR financial targets indicate BR's progress much slower than envisaged (FT).
- An ever-higher success rate is being achieved by small businesses making use of the Government's loan guarantee scheme (FT).

### HOUSING

- Halifax puts up mortgages one-and-a-quarter per cent and other societies expected to follow.

HEALTH/WELFARE

- Mirror says no fewer than 3 Ministers hit back at its campaign against NHS "cuts"; Labour claims 217 hospitals have been closed in last seven years.
- Today forecasts a storm over 80p pensions - demands for rises in line with average earnings, not inflation.
- Express feature says Edwina Currie came out on top at her first Questions; they couldn't shoot her down.
- Independent says that Mr Fowler's statement today will protect child benefit against inflation.
- An American company gets cold feet in building a chain of private hospitals. They want a partner to share the risk (Independent).

IMMIGRATION

- This issue is off the boil.
- Star: Hurd to close the migrants' loophole - ie "privilege" of temporary admission on an MP's intervention; Sun New Tory blow to immigrants; Mirror ignores issue. Today: "Visa claim twaddle, says Hurd".
- Express which devotes six lines to the news story, says in leader that Kaufman showed himself up yesterday when he clashed with Mr Hurd. His every word was "total twaddle!". Kaufman ought to admit that what the Government is doing makes sense.
- Guardian front page, down page: MPs right to help UK visitors will end.

TERRORISM

- Mirror claims that a Scotland Yard detective will reveal in a TV programme tonight that the IRA plotted to turn Prince Andrew's wedding into a bloodbath, hoping to blow up Westminster Abbey.

LAW AND ORDER

- Times: Risley Remand Centre is on the brink of unparalleled violence in which both prison officers and inmates might get killed, senior officials believe.

MUSEUMS

- National History Museum to levy £2 charge from next April to meet £1.3m deficit "caused by Government spending cuts". Today leader says the Government will live to regret this. Government should fund our museums properly.

PEOPLE

- Sun says Cecil Parkinson's daughter, Mary, former drug addict, is under guard in hospital after suicide attempt.
- Derek Hatton sets up his own company - publicity.
- Times: Diary item says that John Mogg, Leon Britton's private secretary at the time of the Westland crisis, has not found his career blighted. He has been promoted to Under Secretary.

FRANCE

- Another sheep lorry hijacked by French farmers.

LEBANON

- Security is pulling out a third of our diplomatic staff in Lebanon amid fears of a terrorist backlash over Hindawi trial.

SOUTH AFRICA

- IBM now pulling out.
- Independent editorial says the pull out by IBM and GM will give the first hard evidence on the real effects of sanctions and could create a tidal wave of public opinion that you will find hard to resist. Certainly the waves must worry the South African Government. Independent also lists the growing number of UK firms pulling out of South Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE

- Pilot of Machel's plane says he was shot down; South Africa denies it.
- Mail claims SAS are training Mozambique's counter revolutionary forces with FCO approval.
- After Machel's death there was violence in Zimbabwe against South African property. Crowds protected against alleged South African complicity in President Machel's death.

PORTUGAL

- Times: Picture of you with President Soares.

NEW ZEALAND

- Times: The New Zealand Minister of Defence has shown himself to be totally at loggerheads with the Prime Minister over the effect of a breakdown in defence exchange schemes with Britain.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

DHSS: Mr Fowler speaks at Overseas Womens' Club lunch, London

HO: Mr Hurd speaks to Policy Studies Institute

DTI: Mr Channon holds press conference on "Quality Counts"

MAFF: Mr Gummer visits Midlands (to October 23)

MAFF: Mr Thompson presents Massey Ferguson Awards

DES: Mr Walden visits Liverpool University

DES: Mr Dunn visits East Sussex local education authority

DEM: Mr Trippier opens training school for Norwich and Norfolk Chamber of Commerce and Industry

DEN: Mr Hunt opens Retail Consortium Conference, Manchester; later opens Phase Separation Ltd's new plant, Clwyd

DHSS: Mr Major attends 75th anniversary lunch, RNID, London

DHSS: Mr Newton attends opening of Unit for long-stay patients, Bolingbroke Hospital

DHSS: Lady Trumpington attends Under 5's Initiative Conference

DHSS: Mrs Currie speaks at Birmingham Health Seminar, attends lunch and addresses Annual Study Course for Health Authority Members; gives 'Brass Tacks' interview, BBC Manchester

HO: Mr Mellor addresses NE Council on drug addiction, Newcastle

SO: Mr Ancram meets John Maxton and Gregor Mackenzie on housing and employment issues in Castlemilk

DTP: Mr Bottomley visits Austin Rover's Longbridge plant, Birmingham

DTI: Mr Clark launches SMMT International Motor Show, Birmingham; later attends BOTB export marketing conference

WO: Mr Roberts opens UK Tourism Conference, Swansea

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MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

MAFF: Lord Belstead visits International Food Exhibition, Paris (to October 23)

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TV AND RADIO

Conservative Party Political Broadcast; BBC1 (21.00); ITV (22.00); BBC2 (22.55)

"Mavis on 4"; Channel 4 (16.00): Part 2 of the series on "Our Public Servants"

"Diverse Reports"; Channel 4 (20.30): The Big Bang

"The Big Bang"; ITV (21.00): Narrator Martin Jarvis

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