

PRIME MINISTER

MAIN EVENTS

MOD: Omani Defence Minister visits Britain

EC: Agriculture Council, Brussels (to 9 February)

EC: Political Cooperation Ministerial meeting, Bonn

EC: European Parliament Plenary, Strasbourg (to 12 February)

EC: ECOFIN Council

The Princess Royal visits Wakefield Prison, West Yorkshire; later attends a Banquet given by the Sports Aid Foundation and the Sports Aid Trust, Mansion House, London

House of Commons Select Committee on European Legislation: Visit to European Parliament (to 10 February)

Bow Group reports on the abolition of the CRE

STATISTICS

DTI: Producer prices index (Jan)

DTI: Retail sales (Dec-Final)

DTI: Credit Business (Dec)

PARLIAMENT

Commons

Questions: Wales; Energy; Transport

Business: Statement by the Home Secretary on War Crimes (prov)
Employment Bill: Progress on Remaining Stages
Motion on the Local Government Act (Police and Fire and Civil Defence Authorities) Precept Limitation Order

Adjournment Debate: Supplementary Benefit appeals (Mr E Loyden)

Lords: Starred Questions

Arms Control and Disarmament (Immunities and Privileges) Bill:
Third Reading
Legal Aid Bill (HL): Report (2nd Day)
Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Board) Order 1988: Motion for Approval

PRESS DIGESTMAIN NEWS

Ford strike-bound - digs in for long stoppage; 75,000 workers in Europe likely to be affected.

Thousands of ferry workers still on strike, though backlog of lorries at Dover is being cut; P&O go to court for damages. Mail says the real issue in the strike was the companies' aim to get rid of Spanish practices.

Miners being sent home today because of NACODS overtime ban.

Telegraph says Stock Market will be jittery because of strikes.

MPs demand inquiry into near miss between BA and Bulgarian jets over Lydd on way to Heathrow; two air traffic controllers suspended to take part in inquiry.

BA engineers threatening strike over pay.

Government may try to seize profits from Stalker's book; Anderton accuses Stalker of telling untruths in his book and says he will eventually have something to say about them.

Max Hastings, in Telegraph, says Stalker book reveals him as a man whose naivety ill-equipped him for his Ulster task.

Confusion over whether Commons will vote for TV or not tomorrow.

Express says AA and RAC up in arms over alleged plan by Chancellor to replace road tax with extra tax on petrol.

Consumers' Association complains about poor postal delivery and says that disgruntled customers would like to take their business elsewhere but have nowhere else to go; Express calls on you to end monopoly.

Radio 4's consumer show will reveal readers think national newspapers should contain less sex and be more accurate.

Today claims that BBC TV are throwing integrity out of the window in their single minded campaign to stay on top in ratings war with ITV.

Allegations of Militant cash fiddling in CPSA.

Birmingham family practitioner committee calls in Fraud Squad - into selling at a profit of drugs obtained on prescription and

exchanges of prescriptions for other goods.

Probation Officers say people who refuse to pay fares should not be sent to prison but obliged to do community service.

Douglas Hurd's measures fail to stem 2,000 rise in prison population, says Peter Evans in Times in the first of two articles analysing the new initiatives and the dilemma facing the authorities.

Kinnock tells Benn to put up - ie stand against him for leadership - or shut up; Today thinks Benn will duck challenge this year; and Mail says he has angered his allies by pulling out.

Bow Group say you should move your office North.

Claim that a man who asked you at perfume factory on Friday when you were to give nurses more money has been sacked for lowering the tone.

Mirror identifies "the most dangerous school in Britain" - in Birmingham; a crumbling monument to Britain; one heavy fall of snow would bring down roof - in fact it looks like a church.

Sun says Cecil Parkinson has gagged Walter Marshall from conducting an expensive campaign against Government plans for electricity privatisation under new legislation.

Telegraph says Government is to impose new labelling rules on furs to identify the method of trapping or killing the animals.

Guardian says John Moore is in for a new battering over new social security regulations which will hit Tory voters on low incomes but with savings.

Home Secretary to tell Church of England Synod on Wednesday to stay out of politics and preach simple moral code.

Paul Johnson, in Mail, says the country is divided into two classes - the ordinary majority who hold decent, sensible practical views but have little chance to make their views known, and the chattering classes who dominate the media.

Mail says the Synod, starting today, is an opportunity to give the nation the moral lead it surely needs.

3 arrested, 10 taken to hospital, in brawls following the throwing of CS gas canister at world boxing title fight in Stafford; Sports Minister says it was sickening.

4 Palestinians shot dead by Israeli soldiers in West Bank.

Report on Waldheim, to be delivered today, said to be very critical.

Gorbachev sacks man in charge of economic planning, Talyzin.

Independent feature on Professor Alice Coleman's work on crime in inner city housing.

FORD

Today leader says out-dated examples of class distinction go a long way to explaining strike at Ford; it draws a distinction between conditions in Ford and at Nissan, Sunderland, where the only difference in treatment of employees is in the pay cheque.

Times leads with Government to stay out of Fords dispute which it describes as most serious since ^{miners} nurses' strike. Ministers admit that improved economy and profitability, together with prospects of Budget tax cuts, have encouraged workers to seek larger pay increases. Further stories show how German plants still ahead of British on production; and how the dispute will hit Europe.

INDUSTRY

Independent: British Coal has threatened to dismiss deputies refusing to abide by the new seven-day rosters which management has drawn up.

Times: Conservative political centre report calls for more nuclear power.

Times: Industrial Society says anger and aggression are part of normal working day for millions of employees in the stress-filled 1980s.

Times: General Motors plans to switch a further £200m of components from mainly West German suppliers to British companies over next two years.

Times: British Steel Corporation now close to £400m profit aim.

Times: Construction boom shows no sign of slowing with more civil engineering contractors reporting fuller order books than a year ago.

FT: Privatisation of Girobank may be advanced warns postal union, as DTI acknowledges that legislation may not be needed.

FT: Break up of the CEEB would not result in a competitive market, Professor George Yarrow of Oxford who is a leading supporter of privatisation claims. On Wednesday Lord Marshall is due to give evidence to the Energy Select Committee.

ECONOMY

Times: Bank of England to issue stern warning on pay and inflation and may raise base rate.

Times leader discusses last October's stock market crash as Stock Exchange report is to be published this week, saying it does not appear that either Bank of England or the Stock Exchange will recommend radical reforms, or indeed any reforms at all.

NHS

Independent: The Government could maintain a tax-based NHS while encouraging more private health insurance and private medicine - but with the long-term aim of having everyone privately insured, according to a Government report on alternative means of financing the NHS. The report was commissioned in 1981 by Patrick Jenkin and is now being re-examined as part of the current review.

Times: Lords report on medical research expected to tell Government that lack of funds threatens development of cures.

Times: Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association send you proposal for compulsory insurance system to fund NHS.

BUDGET

Independent: The Chancellor is under renewed pressure to restrict tax cuts in next month's Budget as industrial unrest and high pay awards threaten to undermine his anti-inflation strategy.

Times: Centre for Policy Studies says Chancellor should aim for reductions in all higher income tax rates in Budget.

FT: Chancellor may opt for single high rate tax band of 40%, James Capel Securities house believes

POLITICS

Independent leader says Neil Kinnock and his beleaguered deputy, Roy Hattersley, merit congratulation for having produced a revisionist "statement". But while stressing continuity in order to assuage Labour's true believers, Mr Kinnock is in danger of defining the essential elements of socialism out of existence.

Times: Disputes over allocation of party political broadcasts and disposal of assets set to damage launch of SLDP.

Times: Bryan Gould attacks impotence of Left wingers seeking to challenge Kinnock's leadership.

COMMONS TV

Express says the arguments against televising the House are weak; 65% of people favour it and they should not be denied.

Guardian leader explains why Commons must vote to let in the cameras. It says if MPs against take their case to its logical conclusion, they might also be throwing out the press. By the same logic the cameras ought to be admitted.

John Biffen, in Independent, urges the Commons to vote for TV.

EDUCATION

Times: Government's plans to raise standards in maths in disarray as Kenneth Baker's top aide, Professor Prais, quits working group because he says it has been "hijacked" by education establishment. Two others also considering resignation.

Times: £600m cuts dilemma for ILEA councils.

HOUSING

Times: Office of Fair Trading to investigate complaints that a number of building societies are discriminating against licensed conveyancers.

INNER CITIES

FT: Independent report to Richard Luce, recommending increased government spending on the arts to create employment, is criticised by Nicholas Ridley.

DEFENCE

Times: "Rolls-Royce" army boot will add millions of pounds to MOD's hard-pressed equipment budget.

IRELAND

Independent: The Security forces in Ulster have been encouraged to develop a "shoot-to-kill" policy by the failure of the judiciary to clamp down on their use of violence, according to a Northern Ireland barrister.

Independent: Anglo-Irish cooperation on cross border security could be frozen if the Attorney General refuses to prosecute those involved in shoot-to-kill cover-up said John Hume.

Independent: Stalker becomes Irish folk hero after television appearances and signing of 2,000 copies of his book.

Independent: David McKittrick reviews John Stalker's book and concludes that because Stalker agreed that decision not to prosecute the 11 policemen he has put himself in the same camp as the authorities: that there is one version of justice in Britain, and quite another in Ulster.

FT: Irish Government intends to deal "very carefully" with British Ministers over Stalker allegations. In his book, published today, he believes shoot-to-kill trail is cold.

MIDDLE EAST

Independent P1 lead says the violence in the West Bank and Gaza yesterday claimed the bloodiest tally in a single day since the present Palistinian resistance to Israeli occupation. Defence Minister Rabin says there was no end to the unrest in sight and that they now had no recipe to halt it; leader says the only good news from the two-months old Palestinian uprising has come out of Washington. Responding to the urgency of the situation and flying in the face of all precedent, the Reagan administration has refused to accept that nothing can be done and has despatched the most senior State Department official to launch a peace initiative. That is good news. The bad news is that nobody is quite sure what the initiative is.

BERNARD INGHAM

MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DES: Mr Baker receives delegation led by Quintin Davies MP from Lincolnshire about Capital Allocations; later meets with Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Service
- DOE: Mr Ridley plants an elm tree in Hyde Park
- DTI: Lord Young gives Cambridge Union's Earl Mountbatten memorial lecture
- SO: Mr Lang holds press conference on BT Systems Software, Scottish Development Agency, Glasgow
- DES: Mrs Rumbold visits St Albans Teachers Centre, Taster Course; St Albans Girls School; Hatfield Polytechnic
- DES: Mr Jackson meets Association of Researchers in Medical Science, London
- DOE: Mr Waldegrave opens Birbeck Court, London
- DOE: Mr Trippier launches the Management and Business Development Centre, Birmingham
- DOE: Mrs Roe visits Stockbridge (Housing)
- DOE: Mr Chope visits Albert Memorial, London
- DTI: Mr Butcher opens Materials Information Centre, Design Centre, London

MINISTERS (OVERSEAS VISITS)

- FCO: Sir Geoffrey Howe departs for Bonn for POCO Ministerial meeting
- MAFF: Mr MacGregor and Mr Gummer (to 9 February) attend Agriculture Council, Brussels

TV AND RADIO

- "Today": BBC Radio 4 (6.30)
- "Kilroy": BBC 1 (9.20) daily discussion programme
- "You and Yours": BBC Radio 4 (12.00)
- "Business Daily": Channel 4 (12.00)
- "Hospital Watch": BBC 1 (14.15) looks at happenings at three Liverpool hospitals
- "Horizon": BBC 2 (20.10) 'The Greenhouse Effect' examines the effect of power generation on the world's weather
- "Merely Mortal": Channel 4 (21.00) examines counselling for parents after stillbirth
- "Panorama": BBC 1 (21.30) 'The Two Billion Pound Rip-Off' investigates EEC's Common Agricultural Policy
- "Hospital Watch": BBC 1 (22.10) continues its look at Liverpool hospitals
- "The World Tonight": BBC Radio 4 (22.30) followed by "The Financial World Tonight" then "Today in Parliament"
- "Newsnight": BBC 2 (22.45)