

PRIME MINISTER

DAIRY

Launch of Small Firm publicity campaign.

Rolls Royce announce \$300million contract for jet engines.

BMA publish report on medical effects of nuclear war.

House of Commons vote on revised constituency boundaries for Scotland.

NUM National Executive meets.

EC Development Council, Bonn.

Protest marches against the Queen in San Francisco.

Publications

Public Bodies, 1982.

Public Accounts Committee: 3rd report - Financial Provision for, and Development of an Exchequer and Audit Department.

Public Accounts Committee: 4th Report - Excess votes.

Industry and Trade Committee: Report on United Kingdom's trade with ASEAN countries.

Environment Committee: Report on the Private Rented Housing Sector.

Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on London Electricity Board.

Statistics

Unemployment (Feb-prov).

Unfilled vacancies (Feb-prov).

Census 1981 County report Part II Greater London.

Pay:

Electricity supply manuals.

Parliament

Commons

Questions:

Prime Minister, Home Office.

Business:

Debate on CAP Price Proposals for 1983-84 and other measures.

Motion on the Parliamentary Constituencies (Scotland) Order.

Select Committees: COMMITTEE ON A PRIVATE BILL. (To consider the Epsom and Walton Downs (Regulation) Bill (Lords)).

Lords: Mental Health Bill (HL) (Counsel) Committee.
Transport Bill: Committee (3rd Day).
Currency Bill: Second Reading.

Ministers - see Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Miners

- Shadow Cabinet worried about effect of strike on Darlington.
- Scargill calls emergency meeting of NUM executive today with objective of national strike; but Grimethorpe colliery in Yorkshire says no; so does Markham, Derbyshire.
- NUM seeks support of triple alliance with steel and rail unions.
- Scargill won't accept imposition of MacGregor "with mandate to destroy steel".
- John Smith, Labour spokesman, wants meeting of tripartite machinery and ditching of MacGregor.

Treatment

D/Star: Page 2 - Everybody out, says Scargill - we are united in battle for survival; switching of MacGregor to NCB will cost £2m and is simply not on, according to one of your aides.

Sun: Page 2 - Scargill slammed as miners revolt over strike; let us vote, say rebels; unrest in almost every Yorkshire pit; scuffles in Derbyshire as men accuse NUM officials of bullying; feature on South Wales colliery - last stand of gypsy miners.

Mirror: Page 1 - Scargill calls for all out strike; Scargill says there is no need for ballot, predicts a long strike and says big coal stocks are a myth.
Page 2 - Labour Party launches campaign to stop MacGregor becoming chairman of NCB.

Express: Page 1 - Scargill losing his grip; first cracks appear; discontent surfaces in Yorkshire and Scotland; you are sitting back and letting unions stew.

Mail: Maggie: No surrender to Scargill; Premier takes up MacGregor challenge. You will not move. Trevor Bull says rule book has been ignored so far in dispute. Miner quoted as saying, "Nothing to do with closures or MacGregor - it's just Scargill".

Telegraph: Page 1-Backlash threat to Scargill - signs of growing rebellio miners split over ballot; plenty of coal for power - stocks to last 5 months; some Welsh miners who could have influenced vote deprived of ballot.

Guardian: Page 1 - MacGregor row spreads as pit strike nears. John Smith says Labour, if elected, would probably sack MacGregor. Government maintaining air of injured innocence.

Times: Page 1 - Propaganda war intensifies as pit strike spreads; report from Barnsley says Scargill said yesterday "I see a full scale dispute as likely to involve other sections of trade union movement. No-one can predict kind of escalation that will take place."

FT: Page 1 - Scargill to call on all miners to back strike. GMWU and EEPTU doubtful whether sympathetic strikes would be forthcoming.

Comment

D/Star: Swift way to end strike - all Government has to do is to say no MacGregor, new chairman respected figure; all pit closures delayed until new man takes over and will then only proceed after full discussions with workforce. Government playing into hands of militants with MacGregor - Scargill can hardly believe his luck.

Sun: Scargill always gives impression his prime purpose is to cause trouble and today he will be at it again; if NEC any concern for rank and file and future of industry they will reject him.

Express: Under heading "the Price of MacGregor" says Scargill, most dangerous and destructive trade union leader, back with a vengeance only 4 months after humiliation because of intention to appoint MacGregor the ultimate bogymen. Scargill could be defused if MacGregor were dropped - price of coal strike too high to pay for him.

Mail: Under heading "Slavering for confrontation" says Scargill has never ceased to play on fears of closure. Rumour of appointment of MacGregor a gift in this respect. And long strike would dig deeper political grave awaiting disintegrating Labour Party.

Telegraph: NUM executive could well be advised to hesitate before endorsing strike - least advantageous time to call one. Some indicatio Scargill knows he is on a losing wicket. No use pretending industry is not sorely in need of MacGregor or someone like him. Miners may yet learn to welcome tough management.

Guardian: Even since Scargill took office he has been a pit strike waiting to happen. Sheer demagogery to aim to keep open every pit regardless of whether falling apart at seams. And he is playing fast and loose with union's democratic traditions.

Oil

- FT: Britain set to reject OPEC plea to co-operate in production and pricing pact; oil stocks in non-Communist world being used up at double normal for this time of year, reflecting view future supplies will be plentiful and cheaper.
- D/Star says Arabs to hold talks with you on oil prices; Yamani due in London today.
- Mail says Government doing its best to keep its distance from OPEC Ministers gathering in London.
- Telegraph: Page 1 - OPEC leaders in London for price Summit - aim to cause maximum embarrassment to Government. Regarded in Whitehall as clumsy attempt to put extra pressure on Britain. I am quoted as saying "OPEC is a cartel and must run its own affairs. It must stop involving the British Government."
- Times: Page 1 - Britain rules out oil cutback deal with OPEC. Govt. anxious to rebut suggestions in any way working with OPEC.
- FT leader - any policy of alignment with OPEC looks highly questionable and not simply because it would not serve wider British interests. Highly implausible Britain, with output of 2.2mbd, holds key. Right course is market related one.

*Review of
U.S. & S-
OPEC*

Economy

- Big jump in US economic indicator - biggest rise in 33 years - spells recovery.
- D/Star says £ rallied yesterday only after strong Bank intervention; hundreds of millions poured in according to Sun.

- Mirror features Ian Gilmour's comment "The Conservatives have become the party of natural unemployment".
- Cost of living for rich dropped 5% in 1982 but rose 7% for poor - survey.

Unions/Pay

- Len Murray says unions prepared to discuss no strike agreements in return for fair wages and conditions; wants guaranteed high wages - permanent pay regulations system.
- Vauxhall carworkers attack advert in AUEW journal for cheap loans to buy LADA cars.
- EEF says universal system of compulsory strike ballots not practicable.

- NAS welcomes plan to wee out worst teachers, provided there is money attached to it.
- Mr Tebbit reprimands chairman of Shop Wages Council for 8% rise.

Politics

- Foot not consulted over date of Darlington by-election; says a Labour Government would save Shildon railway works.
- Bristol University research shows even modest Alliance support could damage Government.
- Liberals agree self-denying ordinance not to discuss leadership with Alliance in public.

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EC

- Labour will work hard to reform Community as long as Britain remains member - Alex Kitson.
- Community proposes sharp cut in milk price to step tide of production.

Welfare

- Sun leader wants to know where money will come from to pay for Foot's pledges to pensioners.

Local Authorities

- Bradford librarians supplementing stocks by snapping up jumble sale book bargains.
- } GLC to spend more on adverts for homosexual staff in Gay News; grant of £300,000 to build homos' centre.
- Mail leader on GLC exhibition "60 years of USSR" at Festival Hall says Livingstone and colleagues now stand accused of being accessories in cover up of mass murders; no word in exhibition of Gulag etc.
- Brent Council plans to teach children in native Asian tongues.

Law and Order

- Seat-belts ahve saved a life a day - Birmingham doctor.
- BMS⁹ strongly against right of police to search medical records under new legislation.
- // John Carlisle MP, complains his phone is being tapped because of his South African interest.

Norther Ireland

- Policeman shot dead by IRA while shepherding young children across road.

Media

- BBC ready to introduce pay as you view if Cable TV goes ahead.

Defence

- Bradford University's school of peace studies says nuclear war would wipe out Britain as industrial nation; recovery unlikely for a generation.
- 25 Labour MPs come out agains unilateralism.
- Bruce Kent, CND, describes disarmament campaigning unit in MOD "extraordinary abuse of public funds".

Queen

- Palace action against Sun over disclosures by member of staff settled out of Court with Sun paying up and giving undertakings.
- Benn demands resignation of Queen as head of Church of England; wants to break link between Church and State.

International

India: Mrs Ghandi sends troops to Assam to prevent further massacres.

Israel: You sent David Wolfson to tell Israeli Government not to send Lankin here as Ambassador. Mail says it has left FCO wounded and bewildered with this go it alone diplomacy.

Costa Rica: greets Pope.

Russia: Express says action to recover Camden rate arrears moves to Moscow - special team of diplomats flying there for negotiations.

B. INGHAM
3 March 1983

Ministers

Mr Jenkin visits Merseyside (until 4 March).

Mr Walker hosts lunch for Premier of Ontario, The Hon William Davis, Lancaster House.

Mr Howell and Mr Shaw meet Prime Minister of Ontario.

Mr King visits Liverpool (until 4 March).

Lord Ferrers visits International Food Exhibition, Olympia.

Mrs Chalker visits Transport and Road Research Laboratory and the Cement and Concrete Association, Slough.

Mr Gray at opening of the new ARCO offices, London, SW1.

Lord Avon talks to the backbench energy committee.

Mr Sproat visits Westland Helicopters, Yeovil (until 4 March).

Mr MacGregor at small firms publicity campaign launch.

Mr Edwards attends International Food Exhibition, Olympia.

Mr Shelton at reception for Fulbright Scholars, Zoological Gardens, Regents Park.

Lord Elton visits Swansea Prison.

Sir George Young presents awards to Glass and Glazing Federation, London.

TV AND RADIO

Mr Prior on Newsnight about Harland and Wolff.