

PRIME MINISTER

DIARY

Budget.

Ford Halewood strike vote on stoppage.

Princess of Wales visits Baring Primary School, Lee, London.

The Duke of Edinburgh at GLC lunch.

EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels.

EC Agriculture Council, Brussels.

EC Company Law Harmonisation Conference, Edinburgh.

NATO Economic Committee.

Newbury Council decision on eviction of Greenham Common Women.

New McCarthy award on BR productivity dispute.

Statistics:

Index of industrial production (Jan-prov).

Construction output (4th qtr).

Infant and perinatal mortality by birth weight 1980 estimates.

Electoral statistics 1982.

Publications:

Occupational Pensions Board Report: Contracted out employment (misc. provisions) Regulations 1983.

Select Committee on Science and Technology - 2nd report on Engineering Research and Development.

Pay:

Electricity supply/power engineers and technicians.

Parliament
Commons

Questions: Social Services, Prime Minister.

Business: 10 Minute Bill: Broadcasting of Parliament (Annual Review).
The Chancellor of the Exchequer will open his Budget.
Motion to give provisional effect to any changes in
taxation and duty levels (if required).
Budget Debate (1st day).
British Railways Bill: 2nd Reading.
Disincentives affecting small businesses and private
employers in the employment of staff (Adjournment Debate)

Select Committees: EMPLOYMENT: The Manpower Services Commission's Corporate Plan 1983-87. (Witness: the MSC).

Lords: Mental Health Bill(HL)(Consol): Report.
Dartford Tunnel Bill(HL): Second Reading.
Data Protection Bill(HL): Report (2nd day).
British Fishing Boats Bill: Second Reading.

Ministers - see Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Budget

D/Star: a boring Budget may be a wise tactic.

Sun: Hard pressed motorists facing double blow - no cuts in petrol prices because of oil price fall and 5p a gallon more tax.

Mirror: Howe hit by oil price cuts - may have to have a mini-Budget later in year.

Express: City page says after oil price cut Chancellor can safely err on the generous side; pressure on £ will ease; and all this will cause gilt edged market to take off - heralding cut in interest rates.

Mail: Front page lead - Good news and Howe! Oil pact agreed, exports shoot up and Budget boost for Tories. Ministers back from US say US economy about to lift off.

Guardian: series of features suggests that if a strong enough growth rate to stem growth of unemployment is to be achieved there will probably have to be another devaluation.

Times, Graham Searjeant, says Britain's economic problem today is lack of production, just as it was identified by some in 1979. Will that provide agenda for your second Government?

|| FT: burden of income tax on typical British family higher than in any European country except Netherlands, according to Treasury. ||

35p.

VAT.

Economy

- OPEC agrees to cut price to \$29 and to hold production at 17.5mbd; pressure now likely to be on BNOG to cut its prices.
- £ rises to \$1.5090. Hopes of early cut in interest rates (Tel); retail sales buoyant.
- Telegraph says we have been pushed back into centre of oil price battle; OPEC says responsibility for avoiding oil price war rests with us; scepticism in US among oil analysts whether deal with hold.

Pay

- Waterworkers arbitration confirms there is no case for bringing water pay into line with gas and electricity.

Politics

- Mori poll shows big jump in Alliance popularity but Conservatives in strong lead: 41/30/Labour 27; bookmakers make SDP 2-1 on; Alliance claims it is neck and neck with Labour.
- Kinnock, in new blast, talks of "oafish 'Toryism'"; Mikardo says you are "worse than Goering" for closing factories.
- Guardian leader says you are more hostile to corporate state than a succession of Prime Ministers before you; little to be gained by pretending you are a fascist.

EC

- French queue at banks to buy £500 foreign travel currency allocation
- to sell at profit after devaluation.
- Foreign Affairs Council agrees to our 1982 refund; Mr Pym finds a much greater understanding of need for long term budget reform.

Industrial

- "Superstar" salary of "£100,000" for Graham Day as chairman of British Shipbuilders - Ted Garrett MP says he could become a bounty hunter; £1 for every job lost; Confederation of Unions says it is "blatant provocation".
- Spain agrees to cut import taxes on cars. - will help Leyland sales.
- Ford tells Halewood workers to pull their socks up.
- Maestro expected to sell 8,000 in first month - best figure for new car for many years.
- Tilbury at standstill over pay parity with white collar workers strike by dockers.
- 721 jobs cut at 3 Lanarkshire steel plants. →
- Alan Grimshaw, initiator of several NCB inquiries, dies.

Local Authority

- Chartered Institute of Public Finance forecasts average rate increase of less than 7% - lowest for five years.

Housing

- Private Developments report a big increase - 25%/- in sales of houses; Government moving Britain swiftly to home ownership (Express) in 6 months

Welfare

- Tadworth Court reprieved - D/Star and Sun claims credit. Telegraph says Mr Fowler should not be surprised to find a queue of equally worthy supplicants stretching 3 times round his Department.
- Guardian says reprieve does not prove Government's commitment to NHS.

Media

- Two Yorkshire TV men feared drowned in Humber helicopter accident.
- BBC may scrap Nationwide.

Education

- ||| Sir Keith Joseph unveils proposals to give Government direct control over part of LA education spending.

Law and Order

- ||| Serious crime rose 10% last year after 10% rise in 1981 - Sun wants you to send for "Blood and Guts" Tebbitt.

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- Lord Salmon says Police Bill could bring Britain nearer to a police state - it will turn people against police (Mirror); Mail leader says it does not believe Bill will do anything to help police catch criminals.

- Policeman gaoled for 4 years for covering up a den of crime and vice.
- Chief Constable of Thames Valley says Slough and Reading being inadequately policed because of Greenham Common.
- Labour MPs accuse Ministers of covering up names of Tories who wanted to make peace with Hitler.

- } Home Office to expel 5 year old Iranian boy who has lived here since 3 months old - unless his guardians can find a way of putting him into private school.
- Dartmoor prison officers start work-to-rule over manning cuts and victimisation..

Defence

- Mail leader thinks that the one thing that might make Greenham Common women go away is to patronise them; provide them with a mod-con protest park because they dread domesticity most of all.
- Warspite home today after record 112-day underwater patrol; Mr Heseltine flying to welcome.

Shergar

- Still alive and in Ireland and secret negotiations going on, according to Express stable; but part owner knows of no negotiations.

Falklands

- Telegraph says only 59 farmworkers have so far shown interest in buying farms.
- Guardian reports Davidsons giving up their guest house and returning home to England.
- || Senior British Church leader to go to Argentine next month to study tensions between 2 countries.

International

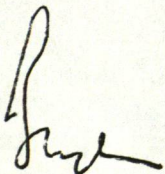
Angola: Hope for early release of British mercenaries.

Nkomo: Express says Government is ready to act as peacemaker with Mugabe.

New York: Mail feature on "The Shame of this Shamrock Parade".

Germany: Strauss demands (unspecified) top Cabinet job.

France: Cabinet reshuffle expected.



B. INGHAM
15 March 1983

Ministers

Mr Tebbit speaks to Food Manufacturers' Federation, London.

Mr Heseltine lunches with Vladimir Bukovsky and speaks to Monday Club.

Mr Younger visits Blairgowrie.

Mr Waldegrave visits Newcastle-upon-Tyne Polytechnic.

Mr Stewart meets Institute of Transport, Perth Station Hotel and visits Renfrew District Council.

Mr Macfarlane speaks at Cyril Gadney Memorial Lecture.

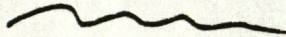
Mr Baker opens Science Museum gallery to mark STC's centenary and speaks at Newspaper Society seminar on Cable. Waldorf Hotel.

Mr Waddington visits "New Life" magazine, London.

Mr Raison speaks at conference on agribusiness in Commonwealth Africa. Royal Commonwealth Society.

Lord Trefgarne speaks at League of Jewish Women, Woburn Hall.

Dr Vaughan visits Nigeria for bilateral trade talks (until 18 March).



TV/Radio

Mr Stanley on Tyne Tees TV programme 'Briefing' on housing policy.