

PRIME MINISTER

MEDIA MEETING - MONDAY, JULY 4, 1983

A G E N D A

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THE WEEK AHEAD

This is a fairly quiet week domestically. The main event is Chancellor Kohl's visit to Moscow. Five other issues seem likely to dominate the political scene:

- the supposed row over Labour peerages in Dissolution honours;
- your meeting with the Hong Kong Executive Council;
- the special Euro Council on financial reform of the Community;
- the CND blockade of Greenham Common; and
- the NUM and TGWU conferences (Labour leadership, pay, redundancy).

Details

International:

- Chancellor Kohl in Moscow (today);
- Laker negotiations (and Court of Appeal hearing today);
- your meeting with Hong Kong Executive Council;
- your meeting with Mr Shultz.

European Community:

- Fisheries, Transport and Energy Councils (today and tomorrow);
- EuroCouncil on Budget (Friday);
- EuroParliament (all week).

Trade Unions:

NUM and TGWU conferences (all week); Scargill's rant (today); NUM pay debate (tomorrow); NUM debate on coal industry's position (Wednesday).

Economic Indicators:

- Retail sales, credit business and housing starts and completions for May (today);
- official reserves (June) (today);
- money supply (June) (tomorrow).

Industry:

- Queen opens Nippon Electronics factory, Livingston (today);
- NEDC (Wednesday).

Law and Order:

- Mr Brittan meets Association of Chief Police Officers (Thursday).

Defence:

- Greenham Common demonstration and blockade (all week);
- CND rally, Central Hall, Westminster (Wednesday);
- Defence estimates published (Wednesday).

Others:

- Mr Pym on Panorama (tonight);
- Government Actuary's report (tomorrow);
- OFT annual report (Wednesday);
- University Grants Committee annual survey (Wednesday);
- Intervention Board for Agriculture annual report (Thursday);
- New Archbishop of York (today).

Ministers:

- Mr Parkinson at National Free Enterprise Awards (today);
 - Mr Tebbit at City Liaison Group (Wednesday);
 - Mr Jenkin at Liverpool (Friday).
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BROADCASTING

Monday, July 4

Radio 4	12.02pm	<u>You and Yours</u> : Phone-in programme for consumers examines the merits and de-merits of our education system.
BBC 1	8.10pm	<u>Panorama</u> : Richard Lindley interviews Mr Pym. Also includes a feature on Klaus Barbie.
ITV	8.30pm	<u>World in Action</u> : Complaints against police. Two Deputy Chief Constables appear.
BBC 2	10.15pm	<u>Solzhenitsyn</u> : talks with Malcolm Muggeridge. <u>Mighty themes</u> are discussed: the possibility of nuclear war; the survival of Christianity in Russia; and the fate of the Western world.
Radio 4	11.15pm	<u>The Financial World Tonight</u> .
Radio 4	11.30pm	<u>Today in Parliament</u> .

Tuesday, July 5

Radio 4	6.30pm	<u>The Curious World of Politics</u> : Guardian political commentator Michael White takes a look at the lighter side of politics and the odder corners of the political stage.
BBC 1	9.25pm	<u>After the Massacre</u> : a feature on British soldiers with the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon on and off duty.
BBC 1	10.15pm	<u>People and Power</u> : Labour and SDP - will the changes at the top really affect the views of the voters?
ITV	10.30pm	<u>First Tuesday</u> : Includes a piece on a struggling family cotton business in Lancashire.
Radio 4	11.15pm	<u>The Financial World Tonight</u> .
Radio 4	11.30pm	<u>Today in Parliament</u> .

Wednesday, July 6

Channel 4	6.00pm	<u>Ulster Landscape</u> : A review of the impact of changing technologies and of the social organisations associated with them on the countryside of Ireland's Northern province.
Radio 4	10.00pm	<u>The World Tonight</u> .
Radio 4	11.15pm	<u>The Financial World Tonight</u> .

Thursday, July 7

ITV	9.30pm	<u>TV Eye: The End of the Good Times.</u> A report from the Shetland Isles on the effect of the end of the oil boom on local economy and life-styles.
Radio 4	10.00pm	<u>The World Tonight.</u>
Radio 4	11.15pm	<u>The Financial World Tonight.</u>
Radio 4	11.30pm	<u>Today in Parliament.</u>

Friday, July 8

Radio 4	11.15pm	<u>The Financial World Tonight.</u>
Radio 4	11.30pm	<u>Today in Parliament.</u>
ITV	11.30pm	<u>The London Programme:</u> Second part of the investigation into the drift of business and enterprise from London to the Home Counties.

Main Events

Prime Minister meets Malcolm Fraser.

Prime Minister meets Hong Kong officials.

The Queen visits Livingston and opens Nippon Electronics (UK) Factory.

Court of Appeal hearing on Laker.

EC heads of mission conference, London.

European Parliament, Strasbourg.

EC Transport Council, Brussels.

EC Fisheries Council.

EC Energy Council, Brussels.

Chancellor Kohl visits Moscow.

Transport and General Workers Union conference, Douglas.

NUM conference opens, Perth (Scargill speaks).

US 4th of July celebrations.

Petition to No 10 on "Save Woodgate School".

Statistics:

Retail sales (May-final).
UK official reserves (June).
Capital issues and redemptions (during month of June).
Housing starts and completions (May).

Publications:

Central Arbitration Committee annual report.
Housing Corporation Annual Report and Accounts 1982/83.

Parliament
Commons

Questions: Energy, Transport.

Business: Petroleum Royalties (Relief) Bill: 2nd reading.
Opposition Prayer relating to the Rating (Timetables
Procedures) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations.
Motion on the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973
(Section III) Amendment Order.
Unemployment in Liverpool (Adjournment Debate).

Lords: Medical Bill (HL).)
Value Added Tax Bill (HL)) Consolidated. 2nd reading.
Car Tax Bill (HL))
Debate on the Report of the Science and Technology Committee
on Engineering Research and Development.
UQ on Government funding of a British component in the
European Airbus.

Ministers:

Mr Younger and Mr Stewart accompany HM The Queen at opening of Nippon
Electronics (UK), Livingston and to Gala Concert, Edinburgh.
Mr Parkinson presents National Free Enterprise Award of Aims of Industry,
International Press Centre.
Mr Edwards opens Welsh Agricultural Sales and Export Council stand, Royal
Show, Stoneleigh.
Mr Jopling speaks at Royal Show, Stoneleigh, and attends EC Fisheries
Council, Brussels, with Mr McGregor.
Mr Hurd at reception, US Embassy, London.
Lord Avon meets Angus Marland of Lothian Energy Group.
Mr Raison meets Mr P McPherson, US AID.
Mr Butcher visits Thorn Ericsson (Sweden).
French Chief of Defence Staff, General Lacaze, visits MOD.

PRESS DIGEST

Honours

- Mirror, under heading, "Iron Lady Bountiful" reports Gwynneth Dunwoody saying you are doling out coronets like Victorian workhouse doled out crusts; not for you to decide who Labour's candidates should be.
- Express leads paper with "Foot's Lord Nobodies - Labour MP attacks list of nonentities and mediocre hacks" - reference to letter to Foot by John Ryman MP; Albert Booth says he won't take a peerage. Jack Warden lists 27 election casualties from whom Foot has nominated life peers; leader says squabble is squalid - few of those on Foot's list come in category traditional for dissolution honours of long serving distinguished servants of State - Foot's list should be very short indeed - anything else insult to Parliament and people.

- Mail leader asks was there ever such a Rt Hon Hobbledehoy as Michael Foot? He wants to get rid of Lords but to compensate for failing to recommend people for New Year and Birthday Lists he attempts to foist in Lords democracy's rejects. He wants it both ways; report says you are objecting to inclusion of two ex-MPs who were never Ministers - Messrs Stallard and Stoddart.
- Telegraph says it appears Foot has resigned himself to far smaller peerages list, but deadlock over names continues.
- Guardian says Canavan says Mr Foot is in danger of undermining his own credibility and increasing that of House of Lords by insisting in his right to nominate substantial numbers of new peers.
- Times leads paper with story that says his insistence that two former Whips, Stallard and Stoddart should be made peers lies at centre of difficulties.

MP's Salaries

- Express leader says there is something especially hypocritical about MPs clamouring for 30% when Government is talking about 4% "norm" - but they are not overpaid and high time salary linked to Civil Service grade. (Meanwhile Jack Warden reports Chief Whip has put Tory MPs on shifts because there are so many of them - aiming for majority of 70).
- Telegraph leader says at a time when Government is seeking 4% settlements it is a pity to say the least that MPs should be seen to be pressing for prompt payment of 30%; but it notes fact that MPs now get more in no questions asked expenses than salary; MPs should make it clear they have nothing to hide on this score.
- Times advocates 2 or 3 year staging of TSRB award.

Politics

- D/Star MORI poll suggests Labour would have been pushed into third place if you had opted for later General Election. Latest poll 47/Alliance 49/Labour 27.
- Moss Evans, TGWU, says unions can't afford £800,000 for individual ballot of members on Labour leadership; Mirror says shopfloor is threatening revolt over block vote.
- Kinnock clear favourite to win, according to public opinion poll; 50/21 Hattersley/9 Shore/ 3 Hefer.
- Du Cann expected to step down soon as chairman of 1922 Club to become chairman of Lonrho.
- Douglas Jay, in Telegraph, says Labour leadership's first priority should be to rebuild party.
- Mr Pym, in Guardian article, says strong opposition indispensable to good Government; no Government is perfect; sees little prospect of end to Labour wrangling; expects Alliance to play major role; he will try to provide independent individual viewpoint.

Unions/Pay

- MacGregor to offer only pit by pit pay deals in coal industry; proposes to reduce losses and leave NCB healthy like British Steel which now has highest productivity in Europe; Sun says that unless Scargill, who is threatening trouble, changes his policies he will be left at barricades by his members; Selby pit in production today.
- Terry Duffy says those who call for protest strikes against Government are "fools".
- Public Service unions says they want what police get (?8%).
- Showdown expected today in BL Cowley washing time dispute; management determined to end it.
- FT talks run into new trouble - fail to meet deadline.

Industry

- John Lyons, Engineers' and Managers' Association, resigns from board of B/Telecom in protest over privatisation.
- John Redwood, Fellow of All Souls, in Telegraph, calls in Industry Secretary to split BL into separate marketing and trading units, "cut down size of problem and leave yourself less open to blackmail".
- BSC set to break even this year but 10,000 more jobs could go, according to Times.
- Government expected to give go ahead to £50m open cast coal project in Northern Ireland.

Petrol

- Mirror says Britain is Europe's top oil producer but our petrol is more expensive than anywhere else except Italy and Ireland - and price has gone up twice since last February when price of oil went down - all too high.

Economy

- Joe Ashton, D/Star, asserts unemployed won't get pensioner uprating of 3.7%.
- Mirror, page 1 - Dole cash cut 'is on way' - Chancellor's hint last night; many unskilled jobs available; Peter Shore says Chancellor's philosophy is loathsome.
- Telegraph leads with "Lawson hint of curb on dole cash"- unease by 'wets' of spending review; Chancellor sets scene for political storm.
- ITEM forecast in Guardian expects Britain to grow for 3 years and Chancellor to have more good than bad news over next 6 months.
- Guardian says Britain faces first deficit in manufactured goods in 200 years' trading.

EC

- Tugendhat warns EC Governments that CAP could be brought down unless they agree to curb farm output and bring costs under tighter control; Fred Catherwood calls for an end to unlimited export subsidies and settlement with Americans about agricultural markets.
- Italy rejects proposed cuts in its steel production.

Media

- ITV companies worried about cash because of cost of Channel 4 - cost to them this year put at £100m; Sun has no sympathy for them - they should make better programmes.
- Japan to remodel overseas broadcasting on BBC lines - at cost of £95m.

Medical/Welfare

- Allegations that DHSS has held up experts' report on health and diet - DHSS say they are free to issue it, but without Government blessing.
- Firm tries to persuade families to invest child benefit with official looking leaflets - firm halts plan on DHSS intervention.
- Kenneth Clarke orders review of profits made from NHS by drugs firms.
- Surgeon who operated on farm worker whose arm was torn off says 2,000 of his non-urgent patients are still on waiting list "for ever"; people who continue to get good treatment are those who can't wait like accident victims.
- West Indian Movement claims that 250,000 would welcome Government scheme of voluntary repatriation; says many immigrants feel trapped here.

Education

- ILEA proposing to require a 750 word anti-racist statement to be displayed in all schools.
- Government research project says school governors, local politicians and local Government officers bungle selection of head teachers so badly that they often pick 'duds' and waste millions.

Law and Order

- NUM/NCB inquiry into how pension fund money had found its way into video nasty trade; Express says video piracy now responsible for half £300m a year market in UK; Mail, page 1 lead, says it is now clear Britain's legitimate financial establishment has considerable investment in porn and sadistic videos; Mail leader says video sadism would not have the hold it has if it did not have some respectable, if unwitting, backers. Law can never be enough in any crackdown; society itself has to be on the alert.
- 14 in hospital, 8 Scots Guards bandsmen, after battle with skinheads who gatecrash family day concert at Carlisle.
- Licensed Victuallers want publicans in England and Wales to be able, as in Scotland, to fix their own opening hours between 11am and 11pm.
- Big premium increase (up to 15%) for motorists insured by General Accident.
- Express says Metropolitan Police is already tempering justice with mercy so far as elderly shop lifters and delinquents are concerned.
- Police College setting up course so that lessons of Ripper hunt mistakes are learned.
- Telegraph says increasing number of Conservative MPs feel this could be last vote on hanging if they cannot get it restored with such a Tory majority in House; Guardian says Home Office study shows that restoration of hanging would mean on average at least one execution a week in England and Wales.
- NACRO claims there is no evidence that capital punishment reduces murder rate.

- Most prison Governors oppose any return of death penalty, according to Times.

Poland

- Mail says French religious sources now lending support to idea Pope has decided to sacrifice Walesa in interests of Polish State/Church relationships.

Ireland

- Gerry Fitt's home broken into while he and wife in London and set on fire by IRA.
- Irish Government considering banning Sligo rally by Sian Fein to mark death of Mountbatten.

Defence

- Express says machine-gun guards are part of the security build up at Greenham Common - on full alert for this week's demo and blockade; US sources confirm cruise will be flown in at last moment.
- More than 2,000 jobs in balance as Cabinet decides between HARM and ALARM - Mail.
- Two US naval officers say enemy agents could penetrate US military computers and sabotage weapons systems in wartime.

Religion

- Dr Habgood to be named Archbishop of York today.
- Church of England deaconesses rebel against refusal to admit women to priesthood - hold rival service during ordination ceremony at Southwark.

Falklands

- Sun says Argentine talks with French on purchase of a missile "3 times more deadly than Exocet" should stop at their present early stage; otherwise Mitterrand will forfeit what precious little goodwill is left to him.

International

Majorca: 9 young Britons in jail after street battle with Spanish youths.

Lichtenstein: Europe's oldest reigning monarch to abdicate in favour of son.

Middle East: Ceasefire between warring factions of PLO holds firm as talks go ahead; Shultz, in hastily arranged visit to region, to try to persuade Syrians to leave Lebanon.