

THIS WEEKEND - HIGHLIGHTS

The main events this weekend are:

- "The Day After" on TV Saturday night and a series of CND demonstrations over the weekend (Greenham Common, Molesworth, Portsmouth, St. Albans, Islington) to mark "Refuse Cruise" weekend;
- Mr Shah goes to court after breakdown in NGA dispute; threat of national strike;
- Inauguration celebrations of President Alfonsin, Argentine, including your message, arms supplies etc (on Human Rights day tomorrow);
- Nobel Prize awards presentation tomorrow (Walesa).

Other events are:

Saturday: Labour Party/Trade Union Conference on YTS (to Sunday);  
International Development Association discusses new resources,  
Paris (to Sunday).

Sunday: Vice President Bush in El Salvador;  
Labour Party selects Chesterfield candidate;  
The Pope preaches in Lutheran Church, Rome.

Media

Mr Heseltine has arranged saturation retort to "The Day After" - 6-7 minutes immediately after the programme; LWT Weekend World; BBC Radio 4 World this Weekend; BBC and ITN news, plus Sunday Express and News of the World articles.

We ought to consider whether anything should be done on Sunday programmes to counter Anti-Americanism. I shall be at work with the Lobby, including Sunday lobby today.

But should we make more capital out of antics of local authorities - Brent, Liverpool, Camden, Southwark, Islington, not to mention GLC.

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BROADCASTING

Saturday, December 10

Radio 4	10.05am	<u>The Week in Westminster:</u> Lord Windlesham on televising Parliament; Lord Shackleton and Lord Annan on the Falklands; Tony Marlow and David Penhaligon on the Lebanon.
Channel 4	7.00pm	<u>Seven Days:</u> Review of "The Day After" by General Sir John Hackett; Dipak Nandi of EOC on ethnic minorities in Britain.
Channel 4	7.30pm	<u>Union World:</u> Privatisation plans for the Gibraltar Dockyard.
ITV	9.30pm	<u>The Day After:</u> An American film which gives a graphic depiction of the effects of nuclear war on one town in the USA.

Sunday, December 11

Radio 4	11.15pm	<u>Broadcasting Tomorrow:</u> Alasdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC, on the future of broadcasting.
ITV	noon	<u>Weekend World:</u> Examination of intermediate nuclear forces (INF). Interview with Michael Heseltine.
Radio 4	1.00pm	<u>The World this Weekend:</u> Michael Heseltine on "The Day After"; Baroness Young on Belize; the right wing in France.
BBC 2	6.25pm	<u>The Money Programme:</u> Looks at the economy of Hong Kong and interviews Norman Tebbit on the financial institutions of the city.
Channel 4	10.30pm	<u>The Elephant and the Monorail:</u> A Week in Politics special - report on missile deployment in Europe.
ITV	10.30pm	<u>The South Bank Show:</u> Arts Minister, Lord Gowrie, is interviewed about cuts in the Arts Council budget.
Radio 4	11.15pm	<u>Inside Parliament:</u> Items on Standing Committees on video recordings and Police and Criminal Evidence Bill; Public Accounts Committee on customs and excise evasion; MPs' requirements for new technology; Charles Irving MP on merchandising the Commons.

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Main Events:

You open new UPITN Headquarters, London.

North Atlantic Council meeting, Brussels.

Outcome of High Street banks' staff ballot on opening on December 23.

Peace vigil begins outside US Embassy, London.

High-level International Development Association meeting, Paris.

BBC Microcomputer exhibition opens, St Vincent's Square.

Pay:

Motor Agents' Association/Unions: further pay meeting.

Publications:

"British Business" review of industrial research and development.

HMI report on a school in Kent.

Red Deer in Scotland annual report.

Annual report of the Registrar-General for Scotland.

Parliament  
Commons

Business:

Sex Equality Bill: Second Reading.

Nurses living-in accommodation at NHS hospitals  
(Adjournment debate).

Ministers - see Annex

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PRESS DIGEST

Argentine and Deficit

- Populists make a meal of supposed rift and reflect next to nothing of our briefing, unlike Telegraph, Guardian and Times which actually says that Ministers were wholly untroubled. Telegraph says Argentine Government would have preferred Reagan's certification to wait until after Alfonsín inauguration.
- D/Star: Argentina arms fury - US snubs Maggie again; special friendship on verge of collapse. You are spitting mad.



- Sun: Reagan gets freeze - Britain entered a new ice age in its relations with America last night - you slam US economic policies and US Embassy strongly denies US action over arms is a betrayal.
- Mirror: page 1, Reagan sells out Thatcher - Fury over arms for Argentina. Your nightmare comes true. Anglo-American relations to worst point since Suez; news story about your "amazing attack" on US economic policy.
- Express separates arms and economy stories on inside pages: Lifting of embargo undoubtedly a blow for you but feelings tempered by belief it will take months before any hardware is bound for Buenos Aires.
- Mail: page 1 lead - Reagan delivers a major new snub to Maggie; relations now at rock bottom. Information in advance did not lessen your anger. You had made resumption of arms sales a test of special relationship.
- Telegraph, page 1 lead - US lifts Argentine arms ban; two front policy clash for Thatcher. Outburst at US deficit. US says decision is not a threat to British forces. You surprise MPs with attack on US economic policy. Healey says he thinks your relationship with Reagan is falling apart. Jim Wightman says however that reports you were furious with Reagan were officially denied.
- Guardian, page 1 lead - Lifting of arms ban widens Anglo-US rift. PM reacts with attack on Reagan economic policy; America pledges Falkland safeguard.
- Times - your exasperation with size of US budget deficit suddenly revealed; but Ministers wholly untroubled by expected news of re-certification.
- FT, page 1 lead - Thatcher and Reagan at odds over US interest rates. Your open attack on economic policy likely to be strongly supported in Europe; Government seems seriously upset by certification. FT leader points out that Reagan told a press conference in London that American deficit is certainly unsustainable and must be reduced.

Comment:

Sun, under heading "Pack it in Maggie", says not happy with attacking USA over Grenada you now give Reaganomics a blast. Sun would be glad if we had grown at US rate. We have enough enemies in world without attacking our friends.

Mail says forget the public posturing. It was inevitable USA would resume arms sales when Argentina embraced democracy. But you should be enough of a realist to ride it. Real issue is what arms will America sell. If they turn out to be missiles, war planes and submarines he will have betrayed trust.

### Politics

- David Butler in Times asks why Tories still ride high in opinion polls after 6 indifferent months - answer current attitudes to key problems; on almost every subject apart from NHS you outrate Labour.

### Invincible

- Sun says Australians are supposed to be our kith and kin. Whole point of Invincible is to protect them - and rest of free world. Come off it coppers.
- Express says carrier is marooned to shame and anger of many Australians; leader says it is pathetic and childish of Mr Hawke. Have things sunk to this level after only 9 months of Socialist Government? Hawke has put himself in the same puerile nuclear free zone company as Livingstone.



### Local Authority

- Express says millions of ratepayers face big rise in rates because of clash between councils and Government.
- Liverpool Council to give £16 a week Christmas rebate to tenants, including those in arrears, in drive for bankruptcy and confrontation with Government; Express - latest loony move by Britain's maddest Left wing council.
- Camden Council appoints a prostitution resources officer - not apparently to conserve them but to persuade girls to give it up.
- Lambeth to spend £25,000 on ethnic - ie. black - toys for children - a comeback for the golliwog?
- You attack fascist left in Brent for denying democracy; Kinnock issues statement condemning invasion of council meeting.
- Sun says GLC's plan to give £34,000 to NCCL to investigate police treatment of Irish terrorist suspects is like putting a rapist in charge of a convent.
- Mail leader, under heading "The New Fascism", says gutter politics routed democracy in Brent. And Kinnock said nothing. His dithering silences say more than his diatribes; Andrew Alexander says Kinnock-baiting in the House is clearly a growth activity.

### Housing

- No early cut in mortgage rates expected today.
- Mail says Cabinet seems likely to back end of solicitors' conveyancing monopoly.

### Health

- Labour attacks 'paltry' £100m cut in drug company profits - Mr Fowler accused of sell out.
- Mail leader says there is a funny kind of staff shortage in the NHS when we have twice as many doctors and nurses as 20 years ago and a third fewer beds occupied.
- Surgeon bans smokers from heart by-pass surgery, they must agree to give it up.
- Ralph Howell MP claims massive overmanning and ineffectual administration is ruining NHS; staff should be cut by 0.5m.

### Warrington NGA Dispute

- Talks break down. Shah goes to court today. NGA threatens all-out printing strike.

### Unions/Pay

- Local authorities say they can't afford a pay increase because of Government cutbacks.
- Ford settle for 7.5%.



### Education

- Telegraph says thousands of future schoolleavers may be denied a university education because DES statisticians have seriously underestimated future demand, according to AUT.

### Industry

- More than 1m cars will be made in Britain this year - highest since 1980.
- Express leader attacks B/Airways for over booking and for regarding practice perfectly acceptable.
- Share prices forge ahead again.
- OPEC pegs prices and output, but how long can it last in view of low demand.
- Guardian says Government expects to raise £8-900m for B/Airways flotation
- Scott Lithgow shipyard faces closure, says Times, with loss of 4,500 jobs.
- Record oil drilling in North Sea.
- FT leader in support of Crown Agents.

### Defence

- Russia breaks off all nuclear disarmament talks by walking out of START.
- Lord Carrington becomes new NATO Secretary General - takes over in June. Times says his calm pragmatism is just what is needed at moment.
- Mr Heseltine's article in Express on "The Day After" film - on why this TV fiction will never become fact.
- Telegraph leader wonders whether Mr Heseltine's reaction is not being overdone.



### Law and Order

- High Court clears new breath test machine for use in court.
- Select Committee calls for tougher action against social security fraud which is costing, they say, £500m a year.
- Special safety plans announced for New Year's Eve celebrations in Trafalgar Square.
- 3 more accused of Heathrow bullion raid.
- Inquest on British banker who died in fall from Moscow flat to be held in public.

### Northern Ireland

- Scuffles between police and mourners at IRA funeral; police officers seize black beret and gloves from top of coffin.
- Mr Prior set to end contact with Sinn Fein.
- Mayor of Galway, Eire, and priest, refuse to co-operate in a Republican meeting with Gerry Adams.
- Report shows Ulster Civil Service still leans towards Protestants.

### Nuclear

- Benn claims that British nuclear power stations have become atom bomb factories for America - waste plutonium being secretly shipped to USA; CEGB says this is emotive and fanciful.
- Sellafield engineering workers stage a "no confidence" demonstration in their employers; Mail says a new report shows that nuclear safety rules have been broken "all over the place".

### Air Crash

- 10 feared lost in plane crash on way to a weekend's shooting in Isle of Lewis.
- And increasing pilot pressure for improved airport safety in Spain.
- Computer error by crew led to Korean airliner tragedy.

### Space Shuttle

- Lands safely in spite of computer faults.



EC

- George Gale, in Express, enjoys his opposition to Common Market - says Athens failure is good news and you deserve great credit for it. Your crowning glory would be to lead us out.
- Geoffrey Smith, Times, says there is no party political advantage to be had from your stand in Athens.

Paris

- Now two British businessmen reported missing - one, ICI man, vanished after claiming he had been contacted by British secret service.

Moscow

- Soviet official suggests Sakharov is mentally ill.

Luxembourg

- 13 England soccer fans jailed for between 1 and 4 months after rampage.
- Mirror leader says that instead of wild boar for Christmas those who will be out for Christmas will have 8 pints in the local, then off to a soccer match and back in the nick for Boxing Day.

Middle East

- Reports that Israel intends to wipe out Arafat's beseiged PLO forces.
- Lancers fly in to relieve MNF force and run into crossfire.
- Italy warns it may cut its MNF force by half to 1,100.
- USA considering moving Marines offshore or further south after renewed attacks from Muslim militia.
- Syria asks Soviet Union to revise agreement so that Soviet ground troops could be sent to Damascus.

Namibia

- France to back Angola's policy of Namibian independence after deciding to quit Contact Group.



MINISTERS (UK VISITS, SPEECHES ETC)

- DOE: Mr Jenkin speaks at Planning and Communications Committee annual dinner, City of London
- DHSS: Mr Fowler opens mentally handicapped children's support unit, Dr Barnado's, Liverpool (12.30)
- DTI: Mr Tebbit visits Humberside
- SO: Mr Younger, with Michael Ancram, meet Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, Edinburgh; visits Leith Nautical College; and hosts reception for Scottish Amateur Athletics Association, Edinburgh
- DOE: Sir George Young chairs Islington Partnership meeting, Islington
- DTI: Mr Baker addresses Sheffield Chamber of Commerce
- DES: Mr Brooke gives opening speech at the North East London Polytechnic Annual Conference, Royal Festival Hall (10.00)
- DEN: Lord Avon attends CBI Energy Policy Committee meeting, Centre Point (noon)
- DEN: Mr Buchanan-Smith opens Teleco Oilfield Services factory extension, Aberdeen
- DTI: Mr Butcher addresses W Midland Export Club, Bromsgrove
- DHSS: Mr Clarke visits George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton (14.00)
- HO: Lord Elton visits Brixton prison and opens new visiting centre (am)
- HO: Mr Hurd visits No 4 Civil Defence Region, Bury St Edmunds ((11.00)
- HO: Mr Waddington visits N Kirklees CRC
- SO: Mr Stewart meets Association of Lecturers in Colleges of Education, the National Library of Scotland Trustees, Edinburgh, and dines with Prof T F Carberry, Strathclyde University, Glasgow
- SO: Lord Grey meets the Scottish Farmers Union, Edinburgh
- DOE: Sir George Young chairs Islington Partnership meeting

MAJOR VISITS

- DTI: Mr Trippier attends Small and Medium Sized Enterprises Conference, Strasbourg

TV AND RADIO

- "Any Questions"; BBC Radio 4; panel of Roy Jenkins; Robin Cooke; Nicholas Fairbairn and Ann Leslie (20.30)
- "Third Opinion"; BBC Radio 3; (21.00)
- "The London Programme"; ITV; compares schools in ILEA with those in Surrey (22.30)
- "Picture of Health"; Channel 4 TV; "Eat your heart out" - looks at the state of the food industry in Britain and the Third World (22.30)