

15/3

PRIME MINISTER

THIS WEEK - HIGHLIGHTS

This is potentially a light week and much depends on how three issues build up: Law and Order; EC Mandate (with EC Agriculture Council and visits by Cheysson, Tindemanns/Thorn and Schmidt); and the ASLEF dispute (deadline Friday).

The Reagan visit remains to trouble us. But some of the economic indicators could spread more cheer around.

LAW AND ORDER

- Tonight - Mr Whitelaw on BBC Nationwide on crime prevention.
- Tues - Glasgow rape case - private prosecution decision. →
- Friday - Mr Whitelaw addresses Manchester Community Relations Council.

INDICATORS

- ← Today - Index of industrial production (Jan) and retail sales (Feb).
- Wed - Average earnings (Jan).
- Thurs - Cyclical indicators (Feb); bank assets, liabilities and money stock (Feb).
- ← Fri - Retail prices index (Feb).

UNIONS/PAY

- Today - Scottish teachers.
- Tues - Electricity supply power engineers.
- Thurs - Council of CS Unions discuss technology agreement; Professions supplementary to medicine; Management side considers primary and secondary teachers' pay; TUC Women's conference opens.
- Fri - BR/ASLEF dispute deadline.

SELECT COMMITTEES

- Tues - Welsh Affairs - water (Nicholas Edwards).
- Wed - Treasury - 1982 Budget and Govt expenditure plans to 84-85 (Treasury officials).

INTERNATIONAL

- Assessment of French cantonal elections.
- Wed - St Patrick's Day - Haughey sees Reagan in Washington.
- Thurs - Lords 2nd Reading Canada Bill.
- Fri - Anglo-German Summit; TCCB considers cricketers in South Africa.

MINISTERS (and broadcasts)

- Big effort on welfare/social security policies.
- Panorama tonight on extradition between North and South (Ireland).
- Tonight - Mr Whitelaw on Nationwide - crime prevention.
- Thurs - Mr Fowler on BBC TV Question Time.
- Fri - Mr Howell on Brian Hayes phone-in show.

B. INGHAM
15 March 1982

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DIARY

Parliamentary lobby on NHS pay.
Mr Foot launches Labour Party: "Plan for Jobs"
Internees in Poland can apply for emigration from today.

EC: Agriculture Council, Brussels.

EC: Finance Council, Brussels.

HRH The Prince of Wales visits FCO.

Child benefit payments go monthly.

Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, Earls Court.

International Glass and Glass Technology Exhibition, Birmingham.

Autoquip Exhibition, Olympia.

Materials Testing '82 Exhibition, Birmingham.

Public meeting on London News and Information Service Franchise,
Caxton Hall.

RSNT hears ASLEF and BR evidence.

Your meeting with Invergordon deputation.

B/Caledonian annual report.

Statistics:

Index of industrial production (Jan-prov).
Retail sales (Feb-prov).

Publications:

Annual Review of Research Establishments.

Pay:

Scottish school teachers: Joint Negotiating Committee.

Parliament:

Commons:

Questions: Wales, Industry.

Business: Conclusion of the debate on the BUDGET STATEMENT.
Motion on the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary
Provisions) Act 1976 (Continuance) Order.

Select Committee: ENERGY: Combined Heat and Power. (Witnesses:
British Gas Corporation).

Lords: County of Lancashire Bill(HL): Second Reading.
Travel Concessions (London) Bill: Committee.
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill:
Committee. (2nd Day).
Civil Aviation (Amendment) (No 2) Bill(HL): Second
Reading.

Ministers - see Annex

PRESS DIGEST

Law and Order

- Some Tory MPs want Rhodes Boyson as Minister for crime; Ivor Stanbrook wants all violent criminals made bankrupt to compensate victims; Bendall to table clause in Criminal Justice Bill to bring in capital punishment for certain crimes.
- Boyson says bullies need to be disciplined and teachers and parents should be left to decide whether schools should use cane.
- Telegraph says most of the attack about law and order takes the form of unreasonable personal attacks on Mr Whitelaw; time to realise great change is coming in political climate which will make application stronger, more effective policy possible.
- Guardian says Liberal Tories increasingly concerned you may seize on law and order as effective election issue if economy fails to improve.
- Guardian leader says that unless you do what you have so far conspicuously failed to do and give Home Sec unequivocal support and call off ignorant and prejudiced hounds ugly mood that is building up could turn into self fulfilling prophecy of violence; Mr Whitelaw stands accused only of failing to eradicate sin and suspicion that attempts are being made to block his modest reforms.

Times

- Turmoil and allegations of dirty tricks. Will Evans resign today or will he appeal for protection from independent directors?
- + Reports of his golden handshake range from £250,000 to £0.5m.
- Geoffrey Smith claims that Evans is already in Murdoch's pocket on evidence of memos he has sent to proprietor about editorial policy.
- Independent directors to meet this week to sort out tangle.

Economy/Budget

- Sam Brittan says Budget has undoubtedly tightened fiscal policy and contractionary rather than stimulatory on total cash spending.
- Reagan adviser says US recession just about at its bottom and unemployment will soon peak.
- Nigeria expected to cut oil price soon after OPEC emergency meeting on Friday.
- Mr Heath says Budget has dumped monetarist policies and taken credit for success against dogma.
- Voluntary bodies fear they will be unable to meet demand for Community Service Scheme.
- Telegraph says modest as budget looks it is still running risks in form of increase in bank borrowing.

- } Guardian says index linked gilt has angered European partners who feel it will lead OPEC to demand similar facility from them.
- Government hopes to raise £700m this year from sale of assets; mainly from B/Gas and BNOC; Guardian suggests that it may cost £500m to put B/Airways in a position to be successfully privatised; Labour MPs reported furious at Government's plans to speed up sale of B/Telecom.
- Andrew Alexander says Budget achievement essentially negative; by any standard this Govt can't be described as a fast learner.

Industry

- MacGregor expects BSC to be breaking even next year, but doubt/^{over}whether more redundancies will not be required; BL expects to announce £500m loss this year but hopes high for break even on cars in 1983.
- Trunk call charges to be slashed by 35% from May 1 - boost for industry cigarette price war absorbs some of budget rise.
- Rolls-Royce seeking partnership with US rivals to develop new engine.
- Telegraph says price of basic foodstuffs covered by CAP rose by upto 27% last year but prices of other groceries not covered by agreement hardly rose at all.
- FT says NCB is glaring exception to rule that nationalised industries should be exposed to discipline of market-pressure needs to be exerted on it to close worst loss making pits soonest.
- Govt expected to bring in Equal Opportunities charter for women by end of year - Ministers studying draft from EOC; Express leader says draft will have to be trimmed a great deal before it makes sense to give it something akin to force of law.
- British power stations can produce far more electricity than country needs - bad forecasting blamed.

Unions/Pay

- Militant miners want £120 a week minimum and £200 for faceworkers - rise of 37%.
- Buckton threatens more trouble if ASLEF loses argument with McCarthy over flexible manning - will ignore him.
- Sun says those tarmac men who struck in support of BA baggage handlers and disrupted flights deserve sack with air line losing £200m.
- Staff at D/Employment vote for militant in CS union election but only 80 out of 360 members turned up.
- Express says unions are having great difficulty persuading their members why they should bother to fight labour law curbs.
- Joe Gormley's life story starts in Mail.

Local Authority

- Mr Heseltine urges local authorities, in words of press, to spend, spend, spend on capital projects; Mirror says councils are understandably astonished after having their budgets slashed for 3 years running; idea is to start a building boom for next election.
- Govt again considering abolishing ILEA.
- Case of council which has built boundary fence across man's drive so that he has one mile drive to get into other entrance to home.

Transport

- Sun says you are set to give go ahead to Chunnel, creating 12,000 jobs - work expected to start by end of year.

Housing

- Joe Ashton wants you to smash the tightly knit group of union barons known as building societies with their hangers on of solicitors, estate agents and valuers.
- Housing advisory organisation claims that tenants are being conned by landlords into an arrangement which enables them to evict them after an agreed period.
- Crown tenants on edge of Regents Park may have to pay £100,000 to stay there when 20 year lease runs out soon.

Safety

- Campaign for stronger glass in doors and windows to reduce accidents.

Defence

- Gavin Strang MP says civil disobedience on massive scale may be needed to stop Trident and urges industrial action to stop it being based on Clyde.
- Express says decision on Trident II was taken in MoD last year and not by Ministers.
- France, according to Times, wants to strengthen European pillar of Western Alliance to enable it to play a greater role in formulating policy - based on Western European Union.

Race

- Benn claims that roots of apartheid are in London and criticises publication of crime statistics to show extent of black mugging.
- London HQ of ANC bombed - ? by Boss.

Crime

- Village pub in Kent holds a party to celebrate killing of village bully.
- Pressure builds up for review of mentally defective youth convicted of 26 killings in 11 arson cases.
- Allegations that Thorpe row in Amnesty International engineered by unnamed foreign power to discredit organisation.
- Attorney General monitoring rape cases to ensure that complaints are treated properly.
- Express asks if BBC "Police" film series, ending tonight, has done harm
- SDP considering legalising pot or ceasing restraint on its use.

Seals

- D/Star's highly emotive feature about cull in Canada.

Ireland

- Telegraph says Haughey will try to enlist Reagan's support on Wednesday for British withdrawal from Ireland.
- Guardian claims that Haughey has dropped his outright opposition to devolution in Northern Ireland, according to one of his supporting parties.

Politics

- Alliance says their Hillhead canvass shows it will be a close run thing; Labour Party Scottish conference subdued by Hillhead.
- Sun says that according to public opinion polls we could soon be seeing the bursting of the SDP bubble.
- Mirror says Jenkins, who could have been monarch of glen now looks like stag at bay.
- Jack ^WArden, Express, notes the astonishing U-turn in your political fortunes; set to win next election - reason already clear you haven't panicked.
- Guardian says local elections last week confirmed trend back to Tories and Labour and away from Alliance.

Pope

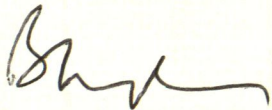
- Mirror says extremists have already turned visit into an occasion for bigotry; Mail says Protestant extremists are unrepresentative and majority of Christians delighted Pope coming here.

International

- Poland: Glempl pleads for release of Walesa; Polish rebels boo opera singer accused of collaborating with regime.
- El Salvador: enormous confusion over who in US Administration wants to involve Russia in settlement; Labour MPs back from Select Cttee visit to Central America likely to press for British dissociation from US.
- France: voters swing away from Mitterrand in cantonal election.
- Libya: Gaddafi says he is prepared to go to USA to clear up misunderstandings about his international role.
- South Africa: Government asks Lord Carrington to hand over 3 Britons accused of sabotage.

East/West

- Times leader on eve of Buckley visit to Europe says time has certainly come when we should tighten up credit policies towards Soviets; behaviour deserves no commercial generosity.



B. INGHAM
15 March 1982

ANNEX

Ministers:

Sir Geoffrey Howe attends EC Finance Council, Brussels.

Lord Carrington meets M. Cheysson, French Foreign Minister.

Mr Nott meets Commander Sultan of Oman's armed forces, General Creasey, Mr Tawfig, Iraqi Industry Minister, and Sheikh Abdullah of Qatar.

Baroness Young speaks to Merseyside Chamber of Commerce, Liverpool.

Mr Younger visits Babcock Power, Renfrew.

Mr Stewart visits Muirhouse Primary School, Motherwell.

Mr Fletcher meets Brampian Regional Council on Assisted Area status, Edinburgh.

Mr Rifkind speaks at Scottish launch of Crime Prevention Campaign, Edinburgh.

Sir George Young attends Ethnic Minority seminar and holds Urban Programme Workshop, Bristol.

Lord Ferrers visit the Wash to view land reclamation scheme.

Mr Raison visits Tower Hamlets to see Community Relations Council.

Mr Channon opens industrial sponsors exhibition, London. (6.00pm).

Mr Waldegrave visits London Business School. (12.30pm).

Mr Walker and Mr Buchanan-Smith attend EC Agriculture Council, Brussels.

TV/Radio:

Mr Whitelaw, BBC 1 'Nationwide', crime prevention.