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TO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI

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IMMEDIATE - "FOLLOWING FOR PRIME MINISTER AND CHIEF PRESS
SECRETARY"

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FOLLOWING IS LPS SUMMARY OF FIRST EDITIONS OF PAPERS OF SUNDAY 4
NOVEMBER:

THE FUNERAL OF MRS INDIRA GANDHI IS THE MAIN NEWS STORY IN ALL
THE FIRST EDITIONS WITH THE OBSERVER CARRYING A PARTICULARLY
STRIKING FRONT PAGE PICTURE ACROSS SEVEN COLUMNS OF MRS THATCHER
PAYING HER LAST RESPECTS BESIDE THE BODY OF THE MURDERED PRIME
MINISTER. THE REPORT BY ROBIN LUSTIG AND SHYAM BHATIA IN NEW DELHI
POINTS OUT THAT ONLY A FRACTION OF THE EXPECTED MILLION-PLUS CROWD
TURNED OUT FOR THE FUNERAL PROCESSION AND THAT EVEN AS THE BODY WAS
BEING CARRIED ON TO THE FUNERAL PYRE, POLICE WERE CHARGING INTO THE
CROWD WELDING RIOT STICKS. JUST HOW MUCH OF A DYNASTIC RITUAL THE
FUNERAL WAS COULD BE GAUGED BY THE FACT, SAY LUSTIG AND BHATIA, THAT
TELEVISION COMMENTATORS REFERRED REPEATEDLY TO RAHUL GANDHI, RAJIV'S
YOUNG SON AS "THE FOURTH GENERATION." INEVITABLY, THE REPORT
CONCERNS ITSELF VERY LARGELY WITH THE PREVAILING UNREST IN INDIA AND
THE LIKELY IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF THAT COUNTRY. SENIOR ARMY OFFICERS,
THE OBSERVER REPORTS, ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE TIGHT
RESTRAINTS UNDER WHICH THEY ARE OPERATING IN DELHI. IN AIDING THE
CIVIC POWER THEY CANNOT ACT ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE WITHOUT SPECIFIC
CABINET AUTHORITY, INCLUDING THE USE OF FIREARMS. IN INSIDE PAGES,
THERE ARE PICTURES OF THE WOMAN WHOM THE HEADLINE WRITER REFERS TO
AS "THE NATIONS MOTHER." THERE IS A CLOSE UP PHOTOGRAPH OF THE
BODY BEDECKED IN PETALS AND GARLANDS AND THERE IS ALSO A PICTURE OF
MRS THATCHER AND RAJIV GANDHI LEAVING FOR THE FUNERAL. IN ADDITION
TO A PROFILE OF RAJIV GANDHI HEADED "BORN WITH A SENSE OF
DYNASTY", THERE IS A DOUBLE PAGE SPREAD ON WHAT IS CALLED "INDIA'S
AGONY". A LEADING ARTICLE STATES: "IN THE CONTEXT OF THE AWFUL
EVENT WHICH TRIGGERED THE VIOLENCE, THE NUMBER OF DEATHS IS NOT,
ALAS, SURPRISING, BUT THEIR MANNER, WITH ITS TERRIBLE ECHOES OF THE
MAYHEM THAT PRECIPITATED PARTITION IN 1947, IS A EARNING OF THE ABYSS
THAT COULD OPEN UP IF THE MOBS ARE NOT QUICKLY CHECKED." ON MRS
GANDHI HERSELF THE PAPER SEES HER LEAVING "A MIXED LEGACY. THERE
HAS BEEN SOLID PROGRESS DURING HER PERIOD OF LEADERSHIP -- A HIGH
IMPROVEMENT IN FOOD PRODUCTION, CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS ON THE
INDUSTRIAL FRONT. ON THE DEBIT SIDE, THERE HAS BEEN A DANGEROUS
GROWTH OF COMMUNALISM IN INDIA, FED BY HER APPARENT WILLINGNESS TO
PLAY FOR THE HINDU VOTE AND TO ALIENATE SUPPORT FROM BOTH MUSLIMS
AND SIKHS." THE LEADER ALSO CRITICISES THE SUCCESSION OF RAJIV WHICH
IT SEES "MORE IN KEEPING WITH THE MOGHUL EMPERORS OR THE
NAHARAJAHS." IN A TRIBUTE, MICHAEL FOOT WRITES: "IN SERVING THE
GREAT CAUSE OF THE UNITY OF INDIA, INDIRA GANDHI NEVER ACTED IN
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"ARMY CLAMP DOWN AS DEATHS TOP 1,000" IS HEADLINE IN THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH LEAD NEWS STORY WHICH ALSO CARRIES AN ITEM ON THE FUNERAL HEADED "MOTHER INDIA'S FIERY END." A FEATURE BY GORDON BROOK-SHEPHERD HEADED "CAN RAJIV RELY ON THE ARMY NOW..." STATES: "AFTER LAST WEEK'S EVENTS, ANY HINDU COLONEL COMMANDING AN INFANTRY BATTALION COULD NOT BE BLAMED FOR LOOKING ACROSS THE MESS-ROOM TABLE... IN A RATHER SPECULATIVE WAY AT HIS SIKH ADJUTANT. AFTER ALL, DESPITE THE LOYALTY OF THE SIKH SOLDIERY AS A WHOLE, THE MEN WHO STRUCK DOWN MRS GANDHI WERE SIKHS FROM HER OWN BODYGUARD, THE MOST TRUSTED AND CAREFULLY SELECTED OF ALL MEN... IN THE SHORT TERM, THE STRAINS AND SUSPICIONS GENERATED BY THE LONG-RUNNING SIKH CRISIS ARE BOUND TO AFFECT THE ARMY JUST AS THEY AFFECT THE NATION."

IN ITS "WEEK IN FOCUS" REPORT, THE SUNDAY TIMES GIVES A GLOOMY PROGNOSIS ON RAJIV STATING: "INDIA'S LIFE AND VALUES HAVE CHANGED RAPIDLY OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS., A DECLINE IN TRADITIONAL MORALITY WHICH HAS STILL TO BE MATCHED BY A GROWTH IN THE RULES WHICH REGULATE MODERN SOCIETY. RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM, HINDU AND MUSLIM AS WELL AS SIKH, APPEARS AS A SALVATION AND REFUGE AND A THREAT. RAJIV GANDHI HAS TO COPE WITH A MUCH MORE TROUBLED COUNTRY THAN HIS MOTHER INHERITED, AND ALL HE SEEMS TO HAVE WANTED FROM LIFE WAS A CAREER IN INDIAN AIRLINES AND A HAPPY FAMILY TO COME HOME TO. WHO WOULD WANT TO CHANGE PLACES WITH HIM NOW?"

THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, ALONG WITH THE NEWS OF THE WORLD (THE ONLY OTHER OF THE FIRST EDITIONS AVAILABLE), GIVES PARTICULAR PROMINENCE TO MRS THATCHER'S CONDEMNATION OF SIKH DEMONSTRATIONS IN BRITAIN SUPPORTING MRS GANDHI'S KILLING. THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH GIVES ELEVEN PARAGRAPHS ON A BACK PAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S REVELATION IN NEW DELHI THAT POLICE IN BRITAIN HAD CONSIDERED BRINGING A PROSECUTION AGAINST DR JAGJIT SINGH CHAUHAN, THE SIKH LEADER WHO LAST JUNE PREDICTED THE ASSASSINATION OF MRS GANDHI AND HER FAMILY. THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH REPORT CITES A REUTERS ITEM THAT MRS THATCHER STATED THAT POLICE HAD INVESTIGATED THE REMARKS BUT "COULD NOT FIND ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO PROSECUTE HIM FOR INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE." THE PAPER REVEALS THAT DR SINGH HAS SET UP HEADQUARTERS IN WESTBORNE GROVE, BAYSWATER, FROM WHERE HIS FOLLOWERS ARE ISSUING "KHALISTAN" PASSPORTS, POSTAGE STAMPS AND CURRENCY.

ON OTHER TOPICS, MR ARTHUR SCARGILL CONTINUES TO COMMAND A GOOD DEAL OF SPACE, NOTABLY IN SUNDAY TELEGRAPH WHERE GEORGE JONES AND CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT FILE A STORY STATING THAT DETAILED INVESTIGATIONS ARE UNDER WAY BY THE BUSINESS GROUP AIMS OF INDUSTRY TO DETERMINE WHETHER MR SCARGILL'S STRIKING MINERS ARE RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER EASTERN BLOCK COUNTRIES. THE GROUP IS SAID TO BE INVESTIGATING A SERIES OF VISITS MADE BY MR SCARGILL TO THE SOVIET UNION, CUBA, BULGARIA AND EAST GERMANY. THE SUNDAY TIMES DEVOTES AN "INSIGHT" INVESTIGATION INTO DISCUSSIONS BY THE MINERS LEADER WITH LIBYANS. THE STORY STATES: "ARTHUR

SUNDAY TIMES DEVOTES AN "INSIGHT" INVESTIGATION INTO DISCUSSIONS BY THE MINERS LEADER WITH LIBYANS. THE STORY STATES: "ARTHUR SCARGILL'S MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF LIBYA IN PARIS ON OCTOBER 8, WHICH LED DIRECTLY TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINeworkERS GOING TO TRIPOLI TO SEE COLONEL GADAFI, WAS NOT THE CHANCE ENCOUNTER HE CLAIMS. IT LASTED FOR OVER SIX HOURS AND WAS SET UP IN ADVANCE BY A WELL-KNOWN FIXER FOR LIBYA SPECIFICALLY TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL AID FROM LIBYA FOR THE STRIKING MINERS." ALSO IN SUNDAY TIMES AND ON THE MINERS' STRIKE, DONALD MACINTYRE, THE PAPER'S LABOUR EDITOR, REPORTS THAT THE NATIONAL COAL BOARD HAS STARTED TELLING INDIVIDUAL MINERS FORMALLY THAT IT HAD ENDED ALL ATTEMPTS TO REACH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IN THE 34-WEEK STRIKE. IT IS HOPED, MACINTYRE REPORTS, THAT AN INTENSIVE NEW PROPAGANDA DRIVE, DESIGNED TO COUNTER THE EFFECTS OF MONDAY'S DELEGATE CONFERENCE OF THE NUM AND THE WEEK OF COALFIELD RALLIES PLANNED BY MR SCARGILL WILL LEAD TO A STEADY UPSWING IN THE NUMBERS RETURNING TO WORK IN KEY BAROMETER COALFIELDS SUCH AS LANCASHIRE AND NORTH DERBYSHIRE.

THE FIRST EDITIONS REPORT THE ARRIVAL OF TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT FROM THE RAF IN ADDIS ABABA, SPEARHEADING AN INTERNATIONAL AIRLIFT OF GRAIN TO STARVING PEOPLE IN THE NORTHERN PROVINCES. JAMES MACMANUS IN ADDIS ABABA FOR THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH REPORTS THAT SHORTLY AFTER THREE HERCULES TOUCHED DOWN AT THE END OF A SIX HOUR FLIGHT FROM AKROTIRI THE FIRST RUSSIAN ANTONOV MILITARY TRANSPORT PLANES BEGAN TO LAND AT THE AIRPORT TO JOIN THE RELIEF OPERATION. THE REPORT SAYS THAT THE SOVIET AIR FORCE, WHICH IS SUPPLYING BOTH TRANSPORT PLANES AND HELICOPTERS, HAD NOT BEEN EXPECTED UNTIL NEXT WEEK. SAYS THE PAPER: "DIPLOMATS REPORT THAT THE RUSSIANS, WHO ARE ETHIOPIA'S CLOSEST ALLIES, WERE ANXIOUS NOT TO BE SEEN COMING SECOND TO THE RAF IN THE RELIEF OPERATION AND HAD BROUGHT FORWARD THE DESPATCH OF THEIR OWN AIRCRAFT."

OF INTERNATIONAL STORIES, THERE IS A REPORT FOR THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH BY HUGH DAVIES IN PEKING THAT NEW SINO-SOVIET TALKS, WHICH HAVE ENDED IN THE CHINESE CAPITAL, SHOWED NO SIGN OF ANY MAJOR STRIDES TOWARDS RAPPROACHMENT, DESPITE A RECENT MOSCOW SPEECH BY PRESIDENT CHERNENKO WHO HAD VOICED HOPE OF AN IMMINENT THAW IN THEIR "CHILLY RELATIONS." THERE ARE ACCOUNTS IN ALL THE PAPERS OF THE CROWDS GATHERED IN THE WARSAW SUBURB OF ZOLIBORZ FOR THE FUNERAL OF SOLIDARITY SUPPORTER PRIEST, FATHER JERZY POPIELUSZKO. THE FUNERAL IS REPORTED TO BE ONE OF THE LARGEST-EVER DEMONSTRATIONS OF SYMPATHY FOR THE OUTLAWED TRADE UNION. PRIESTS ESTIMATED THAT ALMOST HALF A MILLION PEOPLE ATTENDED FROM ALL OVER POLAND.

ON THE EVE OF THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, THE SUNDAY TIMES "POLL OF POLLS" PUTS PRESIDENT REAGAN AHEAD OF WALTER MONDAILE BY 20 POINTS. THE LATEST SEVEN NATIONWIDE POLLS GIVE THE PRESIDENT A LEAD RANGING FROM 16 TO 24 POINTS.

ENDS LPS SUMMARY OF FIRST EDITIONS OF PAPERS FOR SUNDAY 4 NOVEMBER.

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