

PRIME MINISTER

LIAISON COMMITTEE - DIARY OF EVENTS, 1982

Liaison Committee, meeting on February 10, 1982, commissioned an annual diary of events in order to facilitate a longer term look at the presentation of Government policy.

I attach at:

- Annex I: a summary of the main presentational considerations to Easter;
- Annex II: a diary for the rest of this year from March 1.

The Committee may feel that the diary should be rolled forward for each meeting. The diary does not pretend to be - nor can it be - exhaustive. It is, however, much fuller for the next two months to enable the Committee to take a more detailed look at the period immediately ahead. Each rolling forward would, of course, fill in the detail for the two months immediately ahead.

Prime Ministerial speaking engagements are underlined. Major events appear in capitals.

B. INGHAM

22 February 1982

LIAISON COMMITTEE - MAIN ISSUES TO EASTER

The main issues affecting presentation during the period to Easter may be summarised as follows:

- BUDGET: relevance to unemployment problem; how it reinforces recovery; extent to which it satisfies the various lobbies.
- ECONOMY: US interest rates; mortgage rates (meeting of BSA, March 12) unemployment and IRP figures; evidence of recovery.
- INDUSTRY: Rail rostering (deadline March 19); Times Newspapers; De Lorean (deadline March 26); gas/electricity charges up (April 1).
- LABOUR LAW: TUC conference to plan campaign against Employment Bill (April 5).
- PAY ROUND: Nurses, gas, electricity, Civil Servants with railways to come.
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Run up to local elections in May; cuts, rates and fares; teachers' unions' conferences (Easter).
- NATIONAL POLITICS: Hillhead by-election; First anniversary of founding of SDP (March 26); SDP/Liberal Alliance deadline for share out of seats (March 31).
- DEFENCE: Trident, its cost and its effect on conventional forces.
- NORTHERN IRELAND: New Republic Government; possibly White Paper on rolling devolution; Belfast South by-election (March 4).
- EUROPE: European Council, Brussels (end March) - Mandate row.
- INTERNATIONAL: Patriation of Canadian constitution; Poland; Middle East; El Salvador elections (March 28).

The Prime Ministers's speaking engagements are:

- March 13 - Conservative Party Local Government Conference.
" 27 - Central Council.
April 7 - FCS Speech.

LIAISON COMMITTEE: DIARY TO EASTER

MARCH

- 3 NEDC; Queen opens Barbican conference centre; Mitterand in Israel,
- 4 BELFAST SOUTH BY-ELECTION; Liberal PPB.
- 9 BUDGET (Social Security uprating); Dail meets after election.
- 10 Labour PPB on Budget.
- 11 Liberals on Newsnight on Budget.
- 12 YOUR VISIT TO SUNDERLAND; YOUNG CONSERVATIVES CONFERENCE; BUILDING SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION CONSIDER MORTGAGE RATE.
- 13 CONSERVATIVE PARTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE, London.
- 14 GLC London fares rally.
- 15 CHILD BENEFIT PAYMENT GOES MONTHLY.
- 16 Glasgow rape case private prosecution decision.
- 17 Sultan Qaboos' visit; Labour PPB.
- 18 TUC Women's Conference, Bournemouth (to 19).
- 19 SCHMIDT BILATERAL, CHEQUERS; INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES; DEADLINE FOR BR/ASLEF FLEXIBLE ROSTERING PROCEDURE.
- 21 LONDON TRANSPORT FARES RISE.
- 22 EC Foreign Affairs Council, Brussels; MRS GHANDI'S VISIT (to 24th).
- 23 UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES.
- 24 TUC General Council; Labour Party National Executive.
- 25 ? HILLHEAD BY-ELECTION; FCO BI-CENTENARY LECTURE, LORD CARRINGTON.
- 26 DEADLINE FOR DE LOREAN RESCUE; FIRST ANNIVERSARY, FOUNDING OF SDP; National Consumer Congress, Guildford (to 28).
- 27 CENTRAL COUNCIL SPEECH; Boat Race.
- 28 ELECTION, EL SALVADOR; Clocks go forward.
- 29 EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS (Mandate etc) with AG, AND FISH COUNCILS (to 30); Two tier motor cycle test starts.
- 30 NUJ Conference, Coventry.
- 31 SDP/Liberal Alliance deadline for seats share out; Conservative PPB.

APRIL

- 1 Gas, electricity and dental charges up.
- 3 Grand National; ACTT conference (to 4th).
- 5 TUC CONFERENCE ON CAMPAIGN AGAINST EMPLOYMENT BILL; EPEA (Engineers' & Managers' Assn) conference, York (to 7th)
- 7 PM'S FCS SPEECH, Loughborough; NEDC.
- 8 EASTER RECESS (? to 19th).
- 9 Good Friday; Co-op Party conference, Ayr (to 12).
- 10 NUT conference, Scarborough (to 15); Labour Party Young Socialists conference, Bridlington (to 12).
- 12 NAS conference, Blackpool (to 16).

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LIAISON COMMITTEE: DIARY FOR 1982 (AFTER EASTER)

APRIL

- 17 Association of Broadcasting Staff conference (to 19).
18 Banking, Insurance and Finance Union conference, Blackpool, (to 21).
19 European Trades Union Confederation Congress, The Hague (to 23); SCOTTISH TUC ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Perth (to 23); AMALGAMATED UNION OF ENGINEERING WORKERS conference, Eastbourne (to 23).
20 SPAIN/GIBRALTAR BORDER OPENS: negotiations begin.
21 AFGHANISTAN DAY.
22 PM'S CIVIC TRUST DINNER SPEECH.
23 INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES.
25 SINAI WITHDRAWAL/MFO; USDAW conference, Eastbourne (to 28).
26 PM'S PANORAMA INTERVIEW.
27 UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES.
Council of Europe, Strasbourg (to 30); AUEW Foundryworkers' conference (to 30); NATKE conference, Guernsey (to 30).
28 TUC General Council; Labour Party Executive.
30 PM'S VISIT TO BEDFORD (speech); Wales, TUC, Llandudno (to May 2).

MAY

- 2 Launch of "Mail on Sunday".
3 Bank Holiday.
THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF GOVERNMENT.
4 Queen on Merseyside; Institute of Personnel Management Conference (to 6).
5 Queen visits Manchester; NEDC; PM's reception for World Cup teams.
6 LOCAL ELECTIONS.
8 EC Foreign Ministers' informal week-end.
10 CPSA conference, Brighton (to 14); SCPS conference, Southport (to 14); TSSA conference, Bournemouth (to 14).
11 IRSF conference, Peebles (to 13).
12 Colliery Managers' conference, Scarborough (to 14).
13 Assn. of First Division Civil Servants conference.
14 PM'S SPEECH TO CONSERVATIVE SCOTTISH CONFERENCE.
15 FRANCO-BRITISH COUNCIL, EDINBURGH; APEX conference, Blackpool (to 18).
16 SOGAT conference, Bournemouth (to 21).

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MAY

- 17 Visit of French Prime Minister; NATO MINISTERIAL meeting (to 18); IPCS conference, Bournemouth (to 20); National Union of Seamen conference, Tenby (to 21).
- 18 Mugabe visits UK; ASLEF conferences, London (to 26).
- 19 Western European Union Ministerial Council; Fire Brigades Union conference, Bridlington (to 21).
- 20 OPEC, EQUADOR; Association of University Teachers' conference, London (to 22).
- 21 INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES.
- 22 FA Cup Final; Amalgamated Society of Textile Workers' conference, Leek; ASTMS conference, Harrogate (to 24); National Union of Dyers, Bleachers & Textile Workers Conference (to 25).
- 23 GMWU conference, Eastbourne (to 27); NUPE conference, Scarborough (to 27); Union of Communication Workers (postmen) conference, Bournemouth (to 28).
- 24 UCATT conference, Gt Yarmouth (to 28); Prison Officers' Assn. conference, Southport (to 28); AUEW/TASS conference, Bournemouth (to 28).
- 25 UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES.
- 26 PM'S CONSERVATIVE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE SPEECH; Queen opens Kielder Reservoir; TUC General Council.

END MAY

- POPE'S VISIT TO BRITAIN
- 29 National Association of Teachers in Further Education, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (to 31).
- 31 Bank Holiday.

JUNE (ROYAL BIRTH)

- Recess to June 6.
- 2 International Labour Organisation, Geneva (to 23).
- 3 SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE (to 5).
- 4 ~~EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS (to 6)~~; TUC Trades Councils conference, Bournemouth (to 6).
Economic Summit PARIS
- 6 Bakery workers' union conference, Bridlington (to 9).
- 7 NEDC; EEPTU conference, Scarborough (to 11); POEU conference, Blackpool (to 11); Society of Post Office Executives conference, Southport (to 11).
- 8 VISIT OF PRESIDENT REAGAN (to 9).
- 9 £1 and 20p coins introduced.
- 10 NATO SUMMIT, BONN; Educational Institute of Scotland conference, Oban (to 12).
- 11 Mauritius General Election.
- 12 Trooping The Colour.
- 13 Labour Women's Conference (to 15).
- 14 Western European Union Parliamentary Assembly (to 17); National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers conference, Bournemouth (to 17).

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JUNE

- 14 COHSE conference, Bridlington (to 18); NALGO conference Brighton (to 18).
- 15 UN CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT, NEW YORK.
- 18 INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES.
- 21 Wimbledon Fortnight opens; NACODS conference, Cardiff (to 25); ISTC conference, Cardiff (to 25).
- 22 UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES.
- 23 TUC General Council; Labour Party Executive.
- 27 NGA conference, Eastbourne (to July 2).
- 28 EURO-COUNCIL, BRUSSELS (to 29); NUR conference, Plymouth (to July 5).
- 29 Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, Llandudno (to July 2).
- 30 Assn. of District Councils' Conference (to July 2).

JULY

- 1 Princess of Wales stamps issued.
- 2 Prime Minister visits Montgomery, Brecon and Radnor.
- 3 PM AT GLOUCESTER/WEST MIDLANDS RALLY.
- 4 Blasfurnacemens' conference, Blackpool (to 8).
- 5 NUM CONFERENCE, Inverness (to 8); Royal Show opens.
- 6 Eisteddfod, Llangollen.
- 7 Association of County Councils conference.
- 14 Visit of UN Secretary General; Council of Local Education Authorities, Sheffield (to 16).
- 16 INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES; Prime Minister's Regional Tour.
- 22 PRIME MINISTER AT 1922 COMMITTEE.
- 26 PM gives ASHBY MEMORIAL LECTURE.
- 28 TUC General Council; Labour Party National Executive.
- 30 PRIME MINISTER, GUILD OF BRITISH NEWSPAPER EDITORS' DINNER, Hendon.

AUGUST

- 13 Recess.
- 25 TUC General Council; Labour Party National Executive.
- 30 Bank Holiday.

SEPTEMBER

Recess.

Early Sept: Prime Minister visits Scotland and Balmoral.

- 6 TUC CONGRESS, Brighton (to 10).
- 16 PRIME MINISTER STARTS FAR EAST TOUR; Scottish Prison Officers' Assn. conference, Peterhead (to 17).
- 17 INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES.
- 20 LIBERAL PARTY ASSEMBLY, Bournemouth (to 25).
- 22 TUC General Council; Labour Party National Executive.
- 27 LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE, Blackpool (to Oct 1).

OCTOBER

- 5 CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE, Brighton (to 8).
- 8 PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH TO PARTY CONFERENCE.
- 11 SDP CONFERENCE at Cardiff (to 12).
- 13 SDP CONFERENCE at Derby (to 14).
- 15 SDP CONFERENCE at Gt Yarmouth; INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES.
- 19 PLAID CYMRU CONFERENCE (to 21).
- 20 INTERNATIONAL MOTOR SHOW; Institute of Personnel Management conference, Harrogate.
- 24 Clocks go back.
- 27 TUC General Council; Labour Party National Executive.

NOVEMBER

- Early: Queen's speech.
- 12 INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES.
- 13 Lord Mayor's Show.
- 14 Remembrance Sunday.
- 15 PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH, LORD MAYOR'S BANQUET.
- 16 Visit of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.
- 17 PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH TO NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY, London.
- 24 TUC General Council; Labour Party National Executive.
- 26 St Andrews' Night Dinner, Glasgow.

DECEMBER

- 3 EURO-COUNCIL, COPENHAGEN (to 4).
- 8 PRIME MINISTER OPENS CONFERENCE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, Barbican.
- 15 Association of University Teachers' conference, Bradford (to 17).
- 17 INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES; PM's Regional Tour.
- 22 TUC General Council; Labour Party National Executive.